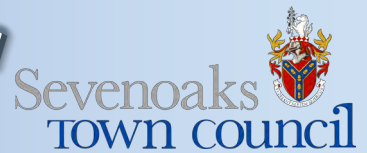


Sevenoaks TownCrier



Scan the QR
code to read
this edition
on your
smartphone
or tablet



From Sevenoaks Town Council for the community of Sevenoaks

Summer 2022

From the Mayor of Sevenoaks, Councillor Mrs Rachel Parry

Wasn't Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee long weekend great and so exciting! I planted trees, lit the Town's beacon, at the same time as countless other beacons across the UK; we held the Big Picnic in Vine Gardens and there were many street parties all across our town.

Since then there have been many events, large and small, including the Family Fun Day at Greatness Recreation ground, and the opening of the Julian's Meadow and Hillingdon Rise Play areas. Both these play areas were refurbished by the Town Council, thanks to a grant from the Enover Community Trust.



Sevenoaks' Beacon Lighting

During the summer I represented Sevenoaks, throughout Kent and Sussex, attending other Mayors' Civic Services as well as their charity events helping them raise funds, as other Mayors will come to my events to raise funds for my charity, SAYT.

To finish off the Bank Holiday weekend there was the Stag Team takeover, with music and amusements in the Vine Gardens. Thank goodness the weather was good. The singers were amazing, both on Saturday evening and Monday afternoon. I hope you'll be booking Pantomime tickets when the season opens.



Mayor and her Consort with West-end performers; Melissa, Rachel & Alice



Mayor with her Consort and Silly Billy at play area opening

Many people have managed to get away on holiday, and we all lived through the unusual days of extra hot weather, learning to be careful with our water use. The very high temperatures and the lack of water made preparing our Town for the South East in Bloom and Britain in Bloom judging very challenging. Despite the difficulties the many volunteers together with the Council's staff worked so hard, rose to the challenge and presented the town in the best way possible. The results will be known fairly soon.

There are still things to look forward to, including two Flag Raising days, for Merchant Navy Day on 3rd September and for the Battle of Britain Day on 15th September. Both these events will be at the Vine flagpole at 10am, followed by refreshments at the Vine Cafe. I should also promote the Mayor's Cocktail Party - Friday 16th September and the Mayor's Tea Dance - Sunday 25th September.

We all face a most difficult autumn; so may I hope that, as soon as possible, the new Prime Minister will provide solutions which, while helping everyone deal with the incredible price increases and difficulties in front of us, will focus on helping those most in need.

Councillor Rachel Parry,
Mayor of Sevenoaks



As you wander around the town centre have you noticed a difference in its appearance? We hope so!

During the summer much of the public realm has been refreshed. That has involved painting 82 lamp posts, wall mounted streetlights and belisha beacons, about 50 bollards, 13 traffic signs and 6 blue and white street name plates.

Much of the town's white traffic road lines and one of the pedestrian crossings have been renewed. Some of the town centre waste bins have been replaced with new, larger ones too.

At Sevenoaks Railway Station, work has taken place to refresh signage, upgrade two garden areas and renew the car park markings.

Between HSBC and the Chequers Sevenoaks Round Table have refurbished the old red phone box which is being repurposed to house a defibrillator.

This project was completed just a couple of weeks before the Britain in Bloom judging and hopefully help with the judge's overall impression of Sevenoaks.

Mike Reid—Town Team Facilitator



CALLING ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS IN SEVENOAKS TOWN

We are currently looking for any local businesses and organisations in Sevenoaks Town who might be able to give any opportunities to young people still in education such as:

- Work experience
- Volunteering opportunities

Please let us know if you are interested as we are working to create a database to help young people to find opportunities.

If you are able to help contact us Via:

Email: Youthwork@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Telephone: 01732459953

South & South East in Bloom and Britain in Bloom



This year Sevenoaks Town Centre was selected to represent the South East Region in the 2022 RHS Britain in Bloom UK Finals in the BIDs, Town Centres & City Centres Town category.

The town was judged on 15 July for S & SE in Bloom and on 4 August for Britain in Bloom. On both occasions the weather was warm and sunny and the purple and gold colour theme of the floral displays was shown off to its best. Various crowns, to coordinate with HM Queen Platinum Jubilee Commemorations, were installed around the town with a variety of plants growing up the structures. Once again, the edible theme has proved extremely popular with residents and 'Pick Me – Eat Me' signs can be found around the town.

The Town is very grateful to the many volunteers who have given hours of their time to plant, weed, water, deadhead, prune and clear litter around the town. Special thanks go to the businesses who have sponsored In Bloom and to the partnership Authorities who have helped make Sevenoaks look its very best.

The In Bloom awards are much more than about flowers and aesthetics, they have a key influence on environmental improvements in horticulture, increasing biodiversity and helping to make the town a greener place.

The South & South East In Bloom results will be announced on 13 September and the Britain in Bloom Awards will be released on 10 October 2022.



News Release:

The Vine Sevenoaks



Sevenoaks Town Council is delighted that The Vine has been awarded Green Flag status for 2022/23

Volunteers and Sevenoaks Town Council staff have worked tirelessly throughout the year to make the gardens look their very best this year.

The Mayor of Sevenoaks, Councillor Rachel Parry, said:
'The parks and gardens of Sevenoaks, especially The Vine, make Sevenoaks one of the best places in the country to live, work and play'.

Keep Britain Tidy's Chief Executive,
Allison Ogden-Newton OBE said of the winners:

"Parks are an essential part of our green infrastructure, playing a key role in our environmental sustainability. They are often the beating heart of a community, providing countless benefits to people and wildlife"

Ann White — Deputy Town Clerk, Sevenoaks Town Council



In Bloom volunteers helping out at the Vine Gardens

PUT YOUR BUSINESS IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Just like our sponsors

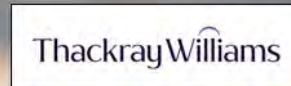


EXHIBIT AT THE SEVENOAKS BUSINESS SHOW 2022

Join the cream of local businesses in a busy, friendly environment and meet new contacts, suppliers and business organisations keen to build relationships.

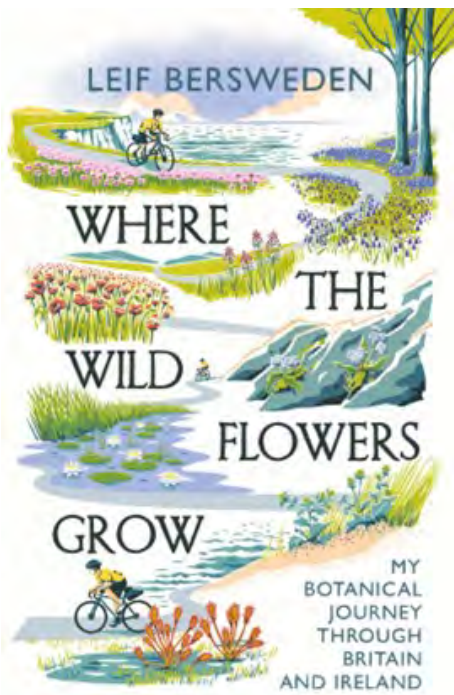
Bat & Ball Centre,
Cramptons Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5DN

10.00am - 2.00pm Friday 14th October 2022

To book stand space email:
townteam@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



SEVENOAKS
TOWN TEAM



Monday 26 September – Sunday 09 October

What is the link between cricket and chemistry; missing government ministers and gardening; a personal history of the holocaust and Catherine the Great?

Answer: all are the subjects of just some of the books to be discussed by their authors at this year's **Sevenoaks Literary Festival**.

And they are far from all. With authors ranging from Alan Johnson, Bonnie Garmus, Felix White, Hannah Lowe, Kat Farmer, Peter Bradley to Susannah Constantine and many more, this year's Festival is highly diverse and features many best-selling and prize-winning books.

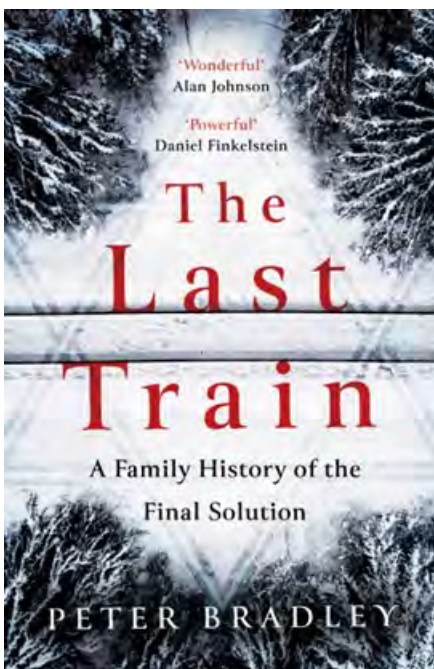


Author— Susannah Constantine

We're very much looking forward to joining you in the fun of listening to and meeting some of the brightest and best of contemporary writers.

As always we are greatly indebted to our sponsors:

Sevenoaks Town Council, Sevenoaks Bookshop and Wildernesses House for their continued support sustained over many years.



Tickets are available from Ticket Source

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk>

where you simply need to type in

Sevenoaks Literary Festival

in the '**Search Events**' box to bring up the list of events for booking.

Website www.sevritfest.com

Instagram [@sevenoaks_literary_festival](https://www.instagram.com/sevenoaks_literary_festival)

Facebook [Sevenoaks_Literary_Festival](https://www.facebook.com/Sevenoaks_Literary_Festival)



PRESS RELEASE:

Council's Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan submitted to Planning Authority for formal progression

Sevenoaks Town Council's Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (see QR Code below for full plan) was formally submitted alongside its supporting documents to the Local Planning Authority on 23rd June 2022.

It is now the District Council's responsibility to arrange for appointment of an Independent Examiner, publicise the plan for a minimum of six weeks, and in due course arrange for Referendum. If the Plan receives over 50% positive votes, it will be made by the District Council and become a part of the statutory development plan.

1. **The NDP is part of the Statutory Planning Process and therefore has 'statutory weight' in considering planning applications.** It will also add local detail to the existing and emerging Local Plan.
2. The NDP precedes the emerging SDC's Local Plan and will therefore introduce important new policies around such issues as biodiversity, net gain and managing surface water to reduce risk of flooding.
3. The NDP identifies design principles and the benefits that should be delivered as part of potential development on vacant and under-utilised sites in the town. This includes guidance on the scale and massing of development that would be appropriate. Whilst site capacities have been removed from the main text of the NDP on planning advice, reference remaining in the consultation appendix, this guidance will be important to delivering appropriate development on the Identified sites.
4. There have been several planning applications submitted over the last year where it was agreed if the NDP had been in place it would have helped oppose such applications. The NDP puts in place a policy whereby 'The Town Council will normally require major planning applications to be submitted to a Design Review Panel for review early in the planning process'. Had this been in place, this could have addressed for instance, public concerns with parking provision and housing density at the Sevenoaks gasholder site, concerns about medical provision at the Tarmac Quarry site, the bulk mass of the design at Berkley House.
5. The NDP has been updated and incorporates climate change aspirations and initiatives.
6. Promoting safe walking and cycle routes via reinvigorating the dormant Cycle Strategy and supporting 20 mph proposals.
7. Introduced proposals for a Cultural Quarter and improvements to Public Realm.
8. Identifying and in some cases progressing enhanced community and sports facilities, including:
 - Bat & Ball Station and Access Ramp
 - Bat & Ball Centre (identified as a priority and refurbished as per Policy COM1, which has been widely successful and benefited the community especially throughout COVID-19)
 - Business Hub
 - Sevenoaks Day Nursery development
 - 3G Hockey Pitch at Hollybush Rec
 - Greatness Football Pavilion
 - Oast House
9. Identified objectives supported by the community.
10. Policies relating to protection of Sevenoaks character, heritage, and identity.
11. Proposals to develop and enhance key areas of the town including Station Square.
12. Proposals for new blue and green infrastructure including additional allotments and further protection of current.
13. Proposals for improvements to Bat & Ball junction.
14. Proposals for development of key sites that would not have otherwise been identified as the District Council requires site owners' agreement and a demonstration that sites are deliverable within the Local Plan period to allocate them. E.g., Edwards Electrical site.
15. Engaged residents in the process formally and informally (see consultation statement), and most importantly reflected these in the NDP and voted for in a referendum rather than local council committee. The initial public response identified the following most important objectives:
 - **Improve the areas that detract from the positive character of the town**
 - **Undertake an Integrated Transport Study**
 - **Improve the gateways into and out of the town, including the stations**
 - **Protect the architectural characteristics of the town**
 - **Retain pathways, historic alleyways and promote for pedestrian use**
 - **Support tree retention and tree planting**
 - **Protect green belt and green spaces**
 - **Promote an effective pedestrian, cycling and vehicle strategy**
 - **Consider inclusion of Sevenoaks in TFL's Oyster Card charging zone**
 - **Consider 20 mph speed limits in areas of town**
16. Due to the length of time to develop the NDP, some supporting documents will need review and updating, although key principles remain – this should be part of the future NDP Action Plan.
17. Provides an overall indicative development plan for lobbying for additional infrastructure e.g., health and education facilities.
18. Having the NDP adopted and in place, with its policies on high quality housing and design guidance reduces the risk of unwanted development from developers that may have otherwise been able to push the application through due to the presumption in favour of sustainable development.

For the full release, as well as NDP documents please scan the QR Code below:





CLIMATE CHANGE YOUTH FORUM

TO BE HELD ON THE 30TH OF
SEPTEMBER FROM 1:30 - 3:30PM

AT THE BAT AND BALL CENTRE
CRAMPTON'S RD, SEVENOAKS, TN14 5DN

Contact Us : cpo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Sevenoaks Town Council invites Schools to send representatives to attend the first Climate Change Youth Forum

We are holding this Youth Forum for schools across Sevenoaks Town to share ideas on the actions your school is taking to make a difference and help tackle climate change. We will also discuss ideas that we can all collectively progress.

CO₂

These actions can include:

- Encouraging you to walk/cycle/use public transport or carpooling to get to school
- Using renewable energy on site
- Your school having separate bins for recyclables
- Your school having a food waste collector
- Having a "Grow your Own" club or allotment
- Reducing plastic use where possible

Come join us to share what your
school is doing to help



Visit Sevenoaks Markets!



For a wide variety of foods, gifts, jewellery, plants etc buy them conveniently, right in the centre of town from traditional market stalls.

On **Saturdays** visit either the **High Street market** by The Chequers or **Blighs Market** in Blighs car park from 9am – 4pm

On **Wednesdays** the market is in Buckhurst car park by the bus station just off the High Street and open from 8am – 2pm



Families enjoy the outdoors at Hillingdon Rise and Julian's Meadow Play Areas

Children, parents and grandparents joined the Mayor at the official openings of the newly refurbished Hillingdon Rise and Julian's Meadow play areas. The ceremonies, held on 18 and 19 August, welcomed children of all ages to enjoy the new equipment and even get a bit silly with entertainer Silly Billy!

The works were carried out with grants totalling £80,000 awarded by Enovert Community Trust.

New equipment at Hillingdon Rise play area includes a junior climbing frame with slides, ropes, mini climbing wall, a basket swing and swings; outdoor Table Tennis table, adult gym skier and cycle along with refurbished bucket swings for toddlers.

New equipment at Julian's Meadow play area includes a Pirate Lair climbing frame, tightrope walk, catwalk balance beam, basket and flat swings, rock and bowl spinner and a double zig-zag twister.



Functions & Facilities provided by Sevenoaks Town Council

Precept

Sevenoaks Town Council's total revenue budget for the 2022/23 financial year is £1,864,485 per annum. The average Band D house would pay £132.67 per annum equating to £2.55 per week.

OPEN SPACES & LEISURE

- ALLOTMENTS:
Bradbourne Vale Road
Quaker's Hall Lane
- BETHEL ROAD BURIAL GROUND
- BRITTAINS COMMON
- BRITTAINS LANE WOOD
- THE GREEN, HILLINGDON RISE
- HANGING BASKETS
- HORSE TROUGHS (*Old Police Station, Rheinbach Gardens, St Botolph's Road*)
- JUDD'S PIECE
- LAND AT:
Letterbox Lane
Littlewood
Tonbridge Road
- MUGA (Multi Use Games Area)
- MIDDLEINGS WOOD
- MILLPOND WOOD
- PLANTERS (*The Shambles, Dorset Street, Pembroke Road, London Road, Buckhurst Lane*)
- THE POUND, POUND LANE
- RALEY'S FIELD & KNOLE PADDOCK
- RHEINBACH GARDENS
- SEVENOAKS COMMON
- SPORTS PITCHES
- UPPER HIGH STREET GARDENS
- VINE CRICKET GROUND & PAVILION
- VINE GARDENS
Public toilet, telephone kiosk with defibrillator
- WAR MEMORIAL

- WHITE HART BEECHES
- WOODSIDE ROAD OPEN SPACE

CAR PARKS

- RALEYS CAR PARK

PLAY AREAS

- BUCKHURST LANE PLAY AREA
- GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND & PLAYGROUND
- HILLINGDON RISE PLAY AREA
- JULIANS MEADOW & PLAYGROUND
- KIPPINGTON MEADOW
- MOUNT CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND
- PONTOISE CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND

SERVICES

- BAT & BALL CENTRE
(formerly Sevenoaks Community Centre)
Available for hire: meetings, conferences etc.
- BAT & BALL STATION BUILDING (*including Café and rooms available to hire*)
batandballstation.com
- CAFÉ ON THE VINE cafeonthevine.com
- CONSULTEES (*Planning, Highways, etc.*)
- GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
- GREATNESS PARK CEMETERY
- HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HITB) YOUTH CAFÉ (*available for hire*)
- INFO-PODS & DIGITAL DISPLAY SCREENS
- LITTER BINS AND GRIT BINS
- MARKETS (*Wednesday and Saturday*)

- MASTERPLAN FOR NORTHERN SEVENOAKS
 - NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
 - ORBITAL NO 8 BUS
 - PUBLIC SEATS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS
 - PUBLIC TOILETS (*The Stag, The Vine, Lower St Johns, Greatness Recreation Ground*)
 - SEVENOAKS TOWN PARTNERSHIP
sevenoakstownpartnership.wordpress.com
 - STAG COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE
Defibrillator in foyer
stagsevenoaks.co.uk
 - STREET LIGHTS IN SOME UNADOPTED ROADS
 - TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES/CHAMBER
Available for hire: meetings, conferences etc.
 - TWINNING WITH PONTOISE AND RHEINBACH
 - VINTAGE BUS
 - YOUTH COUNCIL sevenoaksyouthcouncil.com
- ## EVENTS
- ARMED FORCES DAY TOWN SUPPORTERS
 - CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS IN TOWN
 - CIVIC FUNCTIONS
 - VINE BANDSTAND/FREE SUMMER CONCERTS
- ## PROPERTY
- BUSINESS HUB (*former Red Cross Building*)
 - BUS SHELTERS (*Dartford Road x1, Bradbourne Vale Road x2, London Road x2, Tonbridge Road x1*)
 - JUBILEE CLOCK (*Old Market House*)
 - WARREN CLOCK (*above Brewers*)

Town Councillors 2019-2023

NAME	PARTY	NAME	PARTY
EASTERN WARD		ST JOHNS WARD	
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S Camp	Liberal Democrat
Cllr T Morris Brown	Liberal Democrat	Cllr R M C Hogarth	Conservative
Cllr L Ancrum	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S G Raikes	Conservative
KIPPINGTON WARD		TOWN WARD	
Cllr A Eyre	Conservative	Cllr K Bonin	Conservative
Cllr R J Parry	Conservative	Cllr N J L Busvine OBE	Conservative
Cllr R L Piper	Conservative	Cllr Lise Michaelides	Liberal Democrat
NORTHERN WARD		WILDERNESSE WARD	
Cllr Dr M Canet	Liberal Democrat	Cllr Mrs R E Parry	Conservative
Cllr V Granville-Baxter	Liberal Democrat	To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the following email format: Cllr.surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk eg. to contact Councillor Eyre, the email address would be: Cllr.eyre@sevenoakstown.gov.uk	
Cllr C Shea	Liberal Democrat		

Town Clerk/Chief Executive:

Linda Larter MBE:

townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerk:

Ann White:

dte@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

The Town Council or its Committees meet on most Monday evenings at 7pm and members of the public are welcome to attend. For further details of the meetings please contact the Town Council Offices on 01732 459953.

council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

