



Town Clerk's Update



Council news and information from Sevenoaks Town Clerk, Linda Larter MBE

13 March 2026

Sevenoaks Community Bus

Our new electric minibus is now available for local community and voluntary groups to hire!

The minibus has been made possible thanks to a Community Transport Grant from Kent County Council. The Community Bus is a Ford E-Transit 13-seater accessible vehicle, equipped with wheelchair and walker access.

Not-for-profit organisations can find further details and book the minibus on our website via the [Hire our community Bus webpage](#).



International Women's Day Event

Thank you to everyone who came along to our fabulous International Women's Day event last Friday. It was an amazing celebrating with businesswomen and students, sharing ideas and experiences - we had a packed hall. Thank you also to our speakers and sponsors and all who supported the event.

Please see below quote from Knole Academy:

"We were pleased to again be invited to the Sevenoaks Mayor's Lunch for International Women's Day! This is an annual celebration, aimed at empowering young women of today. Fifty local businesswomen attended and sponsored places at the event for 50 young Sevenoaks women and girls. The young women heard and met inspirational speakers, networked with local businesswomen and other attendees and shared a celebratory three course lunch. Our students were very enthusiastic, finding the event to be enjoyable, interesting and inspiring. They even won some lovely raffle prizes paid for by the attendees."

Also in attendance were police officers from the Sevenoaks Beat Team, Child Centred Policing Team, and Fraud Coordinator alongside Sevenoaks District Council. They said, *"It was a highly successful day, with officers engaging positively with attendees, offering crime-prevention advice, signposting support services, and providing a range of safety resources."*



Annual Town Public Meeting 2026

Another packed and busy event was the Annual Town Public Meeting held on Monday evening. At the meeting, Sevenoaks Town Council presented its Annual Report highlighting our work for the community over the last year. Please see this link for those wishing to read the detailed report: <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/c715160f5f>

Thank you to everyone who brought along donations for the local foodbank.



Mayor's Fundraising Concert

On 19th March, the community is invited to 'Swing into Spring', a marvellous evening of live music at The Stag, hosted by the Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Tony Clayton.

The Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Tony Clayton, said, "March 19th is the last day of 'official' winter. You can feel spring in the air at last. Please come and Swing into Spring with the Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra and Derek Nash, star of Jools Holland's R&B Orchestra, the brilliant Green Street Blues, and the big community choir Sevenoaks Sings. All are giving their time and talents in aid of two good causes. Sevenoaks Citizens Advice helps local people solve problems with the cost-of-living crisis, housing, employment and many other issues, with professional, quality assured advice – and it's free! Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust helps young people at our House in the Basement youth café as well as out on the street – an essential support to the Town Council's youth activities. This will be a musical program to put winter behind us, and to do what Sevenoaks does best – support local charities who contribute so much to the town."

CHARTY CONCERT

SWING INTO SPRING

19 March 2026 at 7:30pm
Stag Theatre, Sevenoaks

Mayor's fundraising concert featuring:

- KYJO with Derek Nash, star of the Jools Holland Rhythm and Blues Orchestra
- Green Street Blues
- Sevenoaks Sings

Book tickets at www.stagsevenoaks.co.uk or scan QR code
Proceeds go to the Mayor's charities:

SAYT - Believe in Your Worth -
citizens advice North & West Kent
Tickets: Adults: £20
Under 18s: £10

Tickets can be booked via The Stag website at www.stagsevenoaks.co.uk
For more information, contact communityeng@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Mayor's Award

Since 2015 the Mayor has presented an award to a deserving member of the Community. We are now proudly placing the names of all the Mayor's Awards on a new board at the Bat & Ball Centre.

The Board was officially unveiled by the Mayor Cllr Tony Clayton on Monday evening; past winners and past Mayors were invited to attend.



Future of the Stag Community Arts Centre

SIGN THE PETITION

Petition for Sevenoaks District Council to transfer the freehold of the Stag Community Arts Centre to Sevenoaks Town Council at no further cost



PLEASE SIGN HERE



[www.change.org/
stagfreehold](http://www.change.org/stagfreehold)

Councillor Claire Shea, Leader of Sevenoaks Town Council remarked, *“It’s quite astonishing that Sevenoaks District Council is trying to charge taxpayers for assets that they already own. No other council in the entire country is double charging residents in this way. Many of these assets were given to Sevenoaks District Council or its predecessors for the public to use. So why are they in effect being sold to the public now? It makes no sense and, more importantly, will throw the future viability of much-loved assets such as the Stag Theatre into doubt. We would urge Sevenoaks District Council to reconsider and its councillors to stand up for their communities rather than some hypothetical balance sheet.”*

Sevenoaks Town Council is actively requesting and trying to negotiate with Sevenoaks District Council for certain assets to be transferred prior to the District Council’s dissolution and the creation of a new unitary, starting with:

- Stag Community Arts Centre
- Hollybush Recreation Ground
- Land at Bradbourne Vale Road (Horses Field)
- Land at High Street – Market Rights
- The Shambles

Sevenoaks Town Council believes that the local Town Council is the most suitable authority to own and operate these community assets and be custodians for current and future generations, rather than a remote new Unitary Authority who will have considerable financial and operational constraints on resources particularly surrounding social care. The Town Council have also agreed to ‘overage’ conditions to prevent the Town Council trying to gain financially from the transfer of the asset.

Town Councillors maintain that devolution should strengthen local stewardship of assets, rather than impose additional financial burdens on residents.

SIGN THE PETITION - www.change.org/stagfreehold



Tree pruning

Sevenoaks Town Council has recently arranged for the trees to be pruned along Weald Road. This makes it easier for buses to travel along the road.



STC Team

Facility Manager: A successful interview process took place on 10 March for the position of part-time Facility Manager. There was a good level of candidates. Our new Facility Manager will be starting on 7 April.

Work Experience: We have been pleased to accommodate a student from Trinity School, Ewan, for work experience this week. We hope he found it interesting.

My recent meetings included:

- Tunbridge Wells BID
- Annual Town Public Meeting*
- Greatness Pavilion Project Management meeting
- Chair & Vice Chair Meeting
- Arts & Culture Working Group
- Interviews for Stag CEO

*Sevenoaks Town Council's Meetings are open to the public and available to watch live on YouTube see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk for details.

Local Government Reorganisation – public consultation

The Local Government Reorganisation consultation will finish on 26 March.

Please see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk for links to further information.

Local Government Reorganisation

What does it mean for you?

The consultation runs from
5th February to 26th March

A printed summary is available at
Sevenoaks Town Council offices



Save the date

Visit our events page for more information: www.tinyurl.com/STCNewsEvents

Date	Event	Venue
Thursday 19 March	<u>Mayor's Charity Concert - Swing into Spring</u>	Stag
Friday 27 March	Great British Spring Clean - volunteers needed!	Pontoise Mill Pond Wood
Saturday 4 April	Vegan Market	Vine
Saturday 2 May	Climate Fair	Vine
Saturday 30 May	Health & Wellness Fair	Vine
Friday 12 and Saturday 13 June	Beer on the Vine	Vine
Tuesday 4 August	Family Fun Day	Greatness Recreation Ground
Friday 20 November	Sevenoaks Business Awards	Bat & Ball Centre

Well, this logo couldn't be truer for me.



I am pleased to say that fellow Clerks across the world have elected me as the next International Institute of Municipal Clerks Vice President.

The first non-American in the 80-year history of the organisation. All going to plan I will become President Elect in 2027 and President in 2028.

Thank you everyone for your support.

Wishing you a good weekend
Linda

