



Town Clerk's Update

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

19 December 2025

Community Asset Transfers

Sevenoaks District Council has confirmed the following timetable for the consideration of Community Asset Transfers relating to Sevenoaks Town Council. However, the Business Case has not been submitted for Bradbourne Lakes and Park, only an Expression of Interest. The other Expressions of Interest for St John's Hill Car Park and St James Car Park have not been included.

Cycle 2	
Finance and Investment Advisory Committee	Mar 24, 2026
Cabinet	Apr 21, 2026
Council (tbc - if required)	Apr 30, 2026
The Stag, Sevenoaks	
The Shambles, Sevenoaks	
Bradbourne Lakes and Park, Sevenoaks	
Hollybush Recreation Ground and related assets, Sevenoaks	
Land at Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks	
Land at High Street, Sevenoaks	

Greatness Football and Community Pavilion

The building project continues to progress well at these early stages with the contractor reporting being approximately two weeks ahead of schedule. Although some of this has been eaten up by waiting for delivery of steel. Steel is expected to arrive this week and be installed prior to Christmas Eve. We meet monthly for full Project Management meetings.

Mayor opens new community gazebo at Quakers Hall Lane Allotments

On Sunday 14 December, a new community gazebo at the Town Council's Quakers Hall Lane Allotments was officially opened by the Mayor of Sevenoaks. The opening took place at Sevenoaks Allotment Holders' Association's (SAHA) Christmas celebration. Around 50 allotment holders gathered to celebrate the occasion.

Sevenoaks Town Council funded 50% of the cost of the wooden gazebo. Keng Chan from SAHA managed the project to order and install the shelter. The Town Council is grateful to Keng and other SAHA members for their hard work and commitment in delivering this improvement for Quakers Hall Lane Allotments.

The gazebo was completed just in time for the festive event, having been finished the night before. In a light-hearted twist on tradition, the Mayor marked the opening by cutting gardening twine instead of a ceremonial ribbon. Located in Bill's Orchard, a shared communal space next to the Trading Centre, the new wooden gazebo will provide cover for allotment holders. It will serve as a central hub for social events and workshops, and as a place for the allotment community to meet, rest, and connect.

Sevenoaks Town Council owns and manages Quakers Hall Lane Allotments. SAHA is a volunteer-run, non-profit organisation that operates the Trading Centre at Quakers Hall Lane and supports local growers through events and shared resources.



Raleys Car Park

The works addressing the tree roots which were lifting the tarmac and making it difficult for pedestrians to use have now been addressed, and the car park is now far more accessible and functional and looks a lot smarter.



Christmas dates for Market Stalls



A reminder, High Street Market will be open on the following dates in December:

- Tuesday 23rd December: OPEN
- Wednesday 24th December: OPEN
- Wednesday 31st December: CLOSED
- Saturday 3rd January: OPEN (and back to normal)

Bligh's Market stalls will be operating continuously 11-24 December, 9am to 4pm.

My meetings this week included:

- Planning & Environment Committee Meeting*
- Staff Meeting

*All of Sevenoaks Town Council's Meetings are open to the public and available to watch live on YouTube see our website for details.

Sevenoaks Town Council Staff Team



On Tuesday, 38 members of the Team took time out to all have lunch together followed by a quiz provided by myself. Pleased to note we have a willing volunteer to do the quiz next year.

At our annual Christmas lunch there is a fundraising raffle of food and drink hampers, the contents of which have all been donated by staff. I am pleased to report that the raffle raised £203 for the Mayor's charities. Thank you to everyone who supported this.



The Story of Knole Park

A reminder that to assist the Mayor with fundraising, we are helping to promote sales of Bob Ogley's new book – The Story of Knole Park – a recommended Christmas Gift!

Books are available to purchase at the Sevenoaks Town Council offices for £20.

The Story of Knole Park

Bob Ogley



'I was never frightened of Knole. I loved it and took it for granted that Knole loved me' - Vita Sackville-West

Save the date

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

Date	Event	Venue
Wednesday 24 December	Carols on the Bandstand - Vine Baptist Church	Vine Gardens
Saturday 7 February	Mayor's Fundraising Quiz	Bat & Ball Centre
Friday 6 March	International Women's Day Event	Bat & Ball Centre
Thursday 19 March	<u>Mayor's Charity Concert - Swing into Spring</u>	Stag



The Sevenoaks Town Council Offices are closed from 25th December to 1st January inclusive.

Best wishes,
Linda

