



From Sevenoaks Town Council for the community of Sevenoaks

March 2019

A message from Sevenoaks Town Mayor

Life is never dull in Sevenoaks and so the mayoral year is rushing by. It has truly been an honour and privilege to represent the Town since May 2018.

Much effort has been going into the launch of the Café and community facilities at the Station at Bat & Ball. The level of public interest in the restoration has been high. If you haven't had a chance to join me at one of the open days, please drop in soon and enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of their excellent cakes.

There will be a Mayoral Breakfast on Friday 5th April at Wildernesse House. Why not come and say 'hello'?

Did you know that Sevenoaks Visual Arts Forum (SVAF) hold regular exhibitions at the Kaleidoscope Gallery at the Library? I've been fortunate to be invited to see the work of several artists this year, and their creativeness and quality is extraordinary. I particularly enjoyed the SVAF Footfall Project which involved decorating footwear. Maybe you or your children participated in it? One of the slippers used the Town Crest in its design and it now resides in one of our display cabinets at our office on Bradbourne Vale Road.

My mayoral year will end in May when I will hand the chain over Councillor Nick Busvine OBE. I wish him all the best for what is certain to be an interesting year in office.



Please consider donating to the Sevenoaks Mayor's Fund.



There are advertising opportunities available in Town Crier!

We currently distribute around 1,300 hard copies across Sevenoaks Town and email it out to many addressees, some of whom send it on to their own distribution lists.

If you are interested in placing in an advert and reaching the whole of Sevenoaks Town, please contact us on towncrier@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Full A4 page - £150 +VAT

Half A4 page - £100 +VAT

Quarter A4 page - £50 +VAT

Copy deadline for the next edition is Tuesday 11th June 2019

**EASTER EGG HUNT ON THE
VINE GARDENS
DARTFORD ROAD, TN13 3UH
SATURDAY 20TH APRIL 2019**

10.45AM REGISTER

11AM HUNT STARTS

**ENTRY £1 IN AID OF MAYOR'S FUND
(PLASTIC EGGS=EXTRA PRIZES)
5 CARDBOARD EGGS = BISCUIT FROM
CAFÉ ON THE VINE**

For more information please contact Sevenoaks Town Council on 01732 459 953 or email osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Sevenoaks
TOWN council

Sevenoaks Mayor walks on fire at the Vine Gardens in aid of charity

On Saturday 2nd February, the Mayor of Sevenoaks, and over 40 other people walked across fire in aid of the Mayor's Fund and Alice's Arc.

Thousands of pounds has been raised, so far, for these two very deserving charities:

<https://sevenoaks.fund/> and <https://www.alicesarc.org/>

Thanks are given to the brave walkers and supporters of this fantastic event which saw a great turn-out of people despite the very cold



weather. The event was kindly sponsored by **Better Body Group, Kall Kwik, Manak Solicitors and Specsavers.**

Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Roderick Hogarth said, "Raising funds for a worthy cause can be a lot of fun and Sevenoaks Town Council generously arranged The Fire Walk at The Vine, giving people the opportunity to show their fearless determination to support these charities. As Mayor of Sevenoaks, it only seemed



right for me to join the other brave souls (or should that be 'soles'), in their ordeal, raising sponsorship for my charity, the **Sevenoaks Powerchair Football Club.** I still feel a warm glow of pride but my feet are fine. As I said on the evening, there are no wimps in Sevenoaks!"

Here is a selection of events taking place in the Sevenoaks Town area from April to June

Litter Campaign

Various dates & venues (see below)

Friday 22nd March (Town Council offices)

Friday 28th March (rear of library)

Thursday 4th April (Greatness Recreation Ground)

Saturday 6th April (rear of Stag Theatre)

All the above from 10am-1pm

Wednesday 10th April, 12noon-3pm

(Upper High Street Gardens)

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday 20th April, 10.45am

Vine Gardens

Come along to the Vine Gardens, look for hidden eggs and win prizes!

£1 entry fee for the Mayor's Fund.

Business Show

Friday 26th April, 10am-2pm

Stag Plaza

The Sevenoaks Business Show will take place once again at the Stag Plaza.

Stands are available to companies on a first-come, first-served basis for £130 + VAT. Sponsorship opportunities are also available at £500 + VAT.

Thanks are given to our sponsors to date: Sevenoaks District Council, Thackray Williams Solicitors, The Stag Community Arts Centre and Wagamama.

The event will be opened by The Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon MP, Patron of Sevenoaks Town Partnership. The Next Generation Chamber part of the Sevenoaks & District Chamber of Commerce will be holding a networking event during the show in the House in the Basement Youth Café.

Wellbeing Show

Friday 17th May, 10am-2pm

Stag Plaza

This free entry event aims to increase public awareness of activities for physical and mental wellbeing and provide networking for professionals. With plenty of stands, free talks and demonstrations regarding a host of different topics around Wellbeing, this is a fantastic event for all.

Stand spaces are available for £100 + VAT (£30 for charities) and sponsorship opportunities are available at £500 + VAT.

For all the above events, contact: Bonnie Tarling on 01732 459 953 or email: admin.tp@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Town Charity Fayre

Saturday 29th June, 10am-4pm

Vine Gardens



Following last year's Charity Fayre, which was held on Armed Forces Day, the Town Council has decided to host the Fayre and Armed Forces Day together once more, with a host of activities to entertain the townsfolk of Sevenoaks.

For details of how to apply for a charity stall, contact: Michèle MacDonald on 01732 459 953 or email: council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

sevenoaks
TOWN PARTNERSHIP



Who's Missing?



Is It You?

You may be just the person your community needs to -

- Represent the views of local people
- Bring fresh ideas about local services
- Help keep this community a good place in which to live

Elections for your local Council will be held in May 2019. Find out what Town & Parish Councillors can do and how to stand for election from your local council or from the Kent Association of Local Councils.

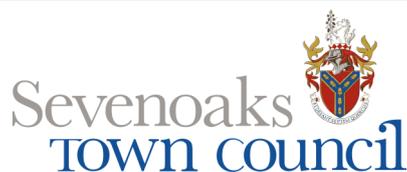
Contact:

Sevenoaks Town Council
Town Council Offices
Bradbourne Vale Road
Sevenoaks
TN13 1SR

Tel: 01732 459953

Email: council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Web: sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Kent Association of Local Councils

www.kentalc.gov.uk



Serving Parish & Town
Councils in Kent

ANNUAL COUNCIL BUDGET 2019-2020

Delivering, enhancing and protecting community facilities



TOTAL REVENUE ANNUAL BUDGET

£1,882,554



61% of the budget comes from the domestic ratepayers precept. The Town Council does not receive any portion of business rates nor government grants.



38% of the budget comes from fees and services such as community halls, sports pitches, markets, cemetery, and cafes.



1% of the budget will be from the Town Council's reserves to enable financial adjustments without increasing rates during the construction phase of the new Bat & Ball Centre.

What will it cost Sevenoaks town taxpayers per average Band D Household:



£118.43
PER YEAR

£2.28
PER WEEK

**An increase of £3.48
per year or 7p per week
compared to 2018 - 2019**

Wherever possible, the council aims to provide community facilities at zero net cost to reduce the burden on local taxpayers.

However, exceptions enable community facilities to continue to be provided even if not commercially viable. This includes maintenance of public open spaces and play areas, which do not generate income as they are free for public use.

Capital investment plans are funded by Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), grants and asset disposals.



Where the money goes

In 2014 Sevenoaks Town Council set out an ambitious £4m Community Investment Plan to restore and improve community facilities. In order to achieve this assets have been disposed of to enable reinvestment and grants obtained to the sum of £2m +.

The Bat & Ball Station refurbishment has taken place, a new 3G Football Pitch installed, additional play equipment supplied, improvements to Sencio Leisure Centre funded, new public toilet and park improvements provided at Greatness Recreation Ground, introduction of the award-winning No. 8 bus, producing Masterplan for Northern Sevenoaks, feasibility work and funding obtained for the new Bat & Ball Centre construction to commence in June 2019.

Sevenoaks Town Council is mindful of the financial resources required to maintain current community facilities and meet the ambitions of its Community Investment Plan adaptable for future opportunities which benefit residents of the town. For this reason, it continues to maintain its 'Development Fund' which enables development work to be undertaken to provide a higher success rate when applying for grants and loans if required to assist with essential cash flow for major capital projects.

Sevenoaks Town Council is also committed to providing funds and support to assist voluntary groups who do so much for the town.

COMMUNITY SERVICES £1045k (55%) (NET COST £368k)	ADMINISTRATION & FACILITATION £616k (33%) (NET COST £578k)	COMMUNITY INVESTMENT £165k (9%)	LOCAL REPRESENTATION £57k (3%)
Public Open Space - £356k (net cost £302k)	Council Administration £493k (net cost £472k)	Development Fund £108k	Planning £36k
Community Events - £102k (net cost £35k)	Council Offices - £64k (net cost £47k)	Local Grants to voluntary organisations £57k	Democracy costs £21k
Cemetery - £102k (net cost £12k)	IT - £24k		
Community Venues £368k (net income £11k)	Insurance - £20k		
Markets £81k (zero net cost)	Professional Fees - £15k		
Youth Provision £36k (net cost £30k)			



STC's no 8 bus extends its loop to include Aldi and Sainsbury's

We are delighted that our very popular number 8 bus service has been extended to include stops at both Aldi and Sainsbury's on Otford Road.

The bus, which has operated six days per week for the past three years, already links the two train stations, bus station, residential areas and town centre, operating on a loose figure of eight route – hence its name.

The bus is used by thousands of passengers every year and is available free-of-charge for 11-18 year olds. Passes are available from STC's Youth Café.

In 2018, the route (along with the Vintage Bus) was awarded national recognition by winning the inaugural People's Award, announced by the Transport Planning Society.



IMPROVEMENT WORKS TO PONTOISE PLAY AREA

Thanks to a very generous grant received from Enovert Community Trust, Sevenoaks Town



Council is pleased to announce refurbishment work has been carried out at Pontoise Play Area.



Improvements include a replacement swing set, repainting of existing equipment and the installation of a new piece of all inclusive play equipment.

New Bus Feedback Portal launched by KCC

During last summer's Big Conversation with residents, many people told Kent County Council that they didn't know who to give feedback to about bus services.

To make this clearer, they have launched a Bus Feedback Portal. It includes information about how to make a formal complaint or complaint about bus services, and who to contact in the event that bus users experience problems.

It also includes a feedback form for residents to let them know about their experiences of using buses and the quality of service provided.

They will use the feedback that they receive to get a greater understanding of what types of problems bus users experience and to spot trends about the areas or on which services they arise. They will use this information to inform the conversations that they have with bus operators through their Quality Bus Partnerships, or more generally, and help improve things for bus users.

KCC is encouraging people to use the form to let them know about their experience of using buses and the quality of service provided. A link to the portal is provided below.

www.kent.gov.uk/busfeedback

If you have any comments about the portal then please email public.transport@kent.gov.uk

Mike Whiting, Member for Swale West, Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste, Kent County Council



Home Care for Seniors by Seniors

Like getting a little help from your friends®



SENIORS Helping SENIORS®
...a way to give and to receive®

OUR LOVING, CARING, COMPASSIONATE SENIORS ARE THERE TO HELP.

There's a huge difference in the kind of home care you can receive from someone who really understands what your life is like as a senior; the concerns you have; your need for independence. Someone who, like you, has a lot of living experience under his or her belt.

Are you looking to help others?

We are always keen to hear from life-experienced, caring, compassionate, active, seniors who have time on their hands and feel they would like to help other seniors with similar interests. Why not be a provider of our non-medical home support services for other less active seniors?

01732 495665

enquiries@seniorshelpingseniors.co.uk
www.seniorshelpingseniors.co.uk

Are you looking for help for yourself or a loved one?

As people get older they often find that they don't have the time or the energy for the things they once took for granted, such as mowing the lawn, preparing good meals or being sociable. Now there is help available for just what you need:

- We carefully match people's requirements and give you the chance to be supported by that one individual
- We arrange for you to meet your helper before any work is carried out so that you know you'll get along
- We offer free consultations and charge at an hourly rate, helping to keep you on budget

Seniors Helping Seniors will help you stay independent longer by providing non-medical home support services

Call us today and schedule a free assessment.



Listen Talk Resolve

Disputes – The Trump Approach? Or a Win/Win Mediation option...

Awareness of mediation is increasing and the word is becoming more widely understood. Often confused with the word 'meditation', it has now become much more familiar because the law has specified that divorcing couples should seek mediation before resorting to Family Courts.

www.wkm.org.uk

West Kent Mediation:
01732 46 96 96 |
theoffice@wkm.org.uk



A Brighter Future

90 minute workshops to help your life after loss

Loss is the
feeling of
grief after
losing
someone
or
something
of value



West Kent Mind are offering a FREE 90 minute workshop for people who want to help deal with loss in Tonbridge, Sevenoaks & Tunbridge Wells.

This may include the loss of a loved one, the loss of employment, a home, your mobility or a pet.

To find out more or to book your place please visit:

www.westkentmind.org.uk/loss or call 01732 744950

New! Support group for Carers



Where:
Live Well Centre, Canterbury Road
Ashford TN24 8GF

When:
Courses start in February 2019

To book onto a course please visit:
www.westkentmind.org.uk/carers

Caring for someone else can have a huge impact on your own health and overall wellbeing. It can also be very lonely and isolating...

West Kent Mind are proud to offer a 7 week support group based in Ashford.

The group will provide a space for you to meet other carers and learn the appropriate tools to help ensure that you are taking good care of yourself too.



Functions & Facilities provided by Sevenoaks Town Council

Precept

The Town Council's portion of the Council Tax for the financial year 2019/2020 is £1,882,554 per year, which is equivalent to £118.43 per average Band D household. This is an increase of £3.48 per year, or 7p per week, compared with 2018/2019.

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
- MIDLINGS 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 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 COMMUNITY CENTRE
Available for hire: meetings, conferences etc.
- 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 x2, St John's Hill x3, Bradbourne Vale Road x1, London Road x4, Seal Road x1, Tonbridge Road x1*)
- JUBILEE CLOCK (*Old Market House*)
- WARREN CLOCK (*above Brewers*)

Town Councillors 2015-2019

NAME	PARTY	NAME	PARTY
EASTERN WARD		ST JOHNS WARD	
Cllr E T Waite	Liberal Democrat	Cllr M A Chakowa	Conservative
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat	Cllr R M C Hogarth	Conservative
Cllr Mrs P C Walshe	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S G Raikes	Conservative
KIPPINGTON WARD		TOWN WARD	
Cllr A Eyre	Conservative	Cllr N J L Busvine OBE	Conservative
Cllr R J Parry	Conservative	Cllr E Parson	Conservative
Cllr R L Piper	Conservative	Cllr O Schneider	Conservative
NORTHERN WARD		WILDERNESSE WARD	
Cllr Mrs R E Parry	Conservative	Cllr S L Arnold	Conservative
Cllr P E Towell	Conservative	To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the following email format:: Cllr.surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk eg. to contact Councillor Piper, the email address would be: Cllr.piper@sevenoakstown.gov.uk	
Cllr M Canet	Liberal Democrat		

Town Clerk/Chief Executive:

Linda Larter MBE:

townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerks:

Ann White:

dte@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Hugh D'Alton:

deputy.clerk@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

Sevenoaks
TOWN COUNCIL

