

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

## Report to Council 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7:00pm

### Arrangements During COVID 19

Sevenoaks Town Council is endeavouring where possible to continue with its day-to-day activities. Unfortunately, face-to-face meetings are suspended until further notice.

We are trialling the live streaming of virtual meetings via YouTube: please see the link below which will enable you to listen and watch the meeting.

**Amended You Tube link  
Sevenoaks Town Council Meeting  
29<sup>th</sup> June 2020, at 7 p.m.**

Stream URL: <rtmp://a.rtmp.youtube.com/live2>

Stream Key: 77dv-q4b7-8ey7-y7h4-4yt0

Youtube Share Link: <https://youtu.be/BANwquqPOh0>

Comments are welcomed by email. Please submit your comments by 12noon on 29th June 2020 to: [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

**To assist in the speedy and efficient despatch of business, members wishing to obtain information on items included on the agenda are asked to enquire of the Town Clerk prior to the day of the meeting.**

### AGENDA

1 MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

To note that, following the decision by Council to roll over current governance arrangements until May 2021, the following appointments made on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 remain in place:

(a) MAYOR – Cllr Nicholas Busvine OBE

*[Minute 50, 13.05.2019 refers]*

(b) DEPUTY MAYOR – Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet

*[Minute 52, 13.05.2019 refers]*

2 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

To consider written requests from Members which have previously been submitted to the Town Clerk to enable participation in discussion and voting on

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Town Clerk

items for which the Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. (s.31 & s.33 of the Localism Act 2011).

*It is noted that some Sevenoaks Town Councillors are Stag Trustees and therefore the following applies:*

*On a written request made to the Council's Proper Officer (Town Clerk), the Council may grant a member a dispensation to participate in a discussion and vote on a matter at a meeting even if he / she has an interest in Appendices A and B (Declaration of Interests) if the Council believes that the number of members otherwise prohibited from taking part in the meeting would impede the transaction of the business; or it is in the interests of the inhabitants in the Council's area to allow the member to take part or it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.*

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from members in respect of any items of business included in this report.

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4 MINUTES

To consider the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

Copies attached

5 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 To note that, following the decision by Council to roll over current governance arrangements until May 2021, adoption of the following on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 remain in place:

- a) Standing Orders 2019/20 (Minute 62, 13.05.2019)
- b) Standing Committees/Sub-Committees (Minute 63, 13.05.2019)
- c) Appointment of Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen and Members of Standing Committees and Sub-Committees (Minute 64, 13.05.2019)
- d) Representation on Outside Bodies (Minute 65, 13.05.2019)
- e) Terms of Reference – Standing Committees/Sub-Committees (Minute 66, 13.05.2019)
- f) Annual Subscriptions (Minute 68, 13.05.2019)
- g) General Power of Competence (Minute 69, 13.05.2019)
- h) General Data Protection Regulations Policies (Minute 69, 13.05.2019)

5.2 To receive and note the Annual Town Council Report 2019/2020.

Copy Attached

6. THE STAG SEVENOAKS

- 6.1 Report relating to request for Grant Assistance to Stag Community Arts Centre Copy attached
- 6.2 Stag Community Arts Centre: Post COVID-19 Recovery Copy attached
- 6.3 Public Support Copy attached
- 6.4 To consider the following recommendation from the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020 (*Minute 55, F&GP 08.06.2020 refers*):

**RESOLVED:** The Finance and General Purposes Committee agreed in principle, and **recommended** to Council, that, subject to the provision of further information from the Stag setting out its business plan to address different scenarios due to the impact of COVID 19, and the plan to reach a break even financial balance position:

- 1) Sevenoaks Town Council makes a further grant to The Stag Community Arts Centre during the current financial year of up to £220,000, being drawn down at a maximum of £22,000 per month up to March 2021. It was expected that the monthly sum would be reduced if the impact of COVID-19 circumstances and local funding permit;
- 2) Sevenoaks Town Council continues to support The Stag in raising awareness and generating community support and exploring additional methods to obtain funding e.g. crowdfunding, events and sponsorship;
- 3) Sevenoaks Town Council performs a structured review of the level of funding needed and being provided once a quarter; and
- 4) Sevenoaks Town Council formally requests funding support from Kent County Council and Sevenoaks District Council.

7. PRESS RELEASE

To consider any agenda item, which would be considered appropriate for a press release.

**Sevenoaks Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**  
**Held in the Council Chamber**

**Meeting Commenced:** 8.25 p.m.

**Meeting Concluded:** 8.40pm

**Present:**

Cllr Keith Bonin	Present	Cllr Lise Michaelides	Apologies
Cllr Nicholas Busvine OBE, Mayor	Present	Cllr Tom Morris Brown	Apologies
Cllr Sue Camp	Present	Cllr Rachel Parry	Apologies
Cllr Dr Merilyn Canet, Deputy Mayor	Present	Cllr Richard Parry	Present
Cllr Tony Clayton	Present	Cllr Robert Piper	Present
Cllr Andrew Eyre	Apologies	Cllr Simon Raikes	Present
Cllr Victoria Granville-Baxter	Present	Cllr Claire Shea	Present
Cllr Roderick Hogarth	Present	Cllr Edward Waite	Present

**In attendance:** Town Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer, Senior Committee Clerk

**Public Question Time:** There were no members of the public present.

*The meeting was not recorded.*

**530. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted as noted above.

**531. Requests for Dispensations**

There were no requests for dispensations.

**532. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interests.

**533. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**RESOLVED:** To accept and sign the Minutes as a true record.

**534. Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**RESOLVED:** To receive and adopt the Minutes as true records of the meetings.

**535. Minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**RESOLVED:** To accept and adopt the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

**536. Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**RESOLVED:** To accept and adopt the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

**537. Minutes of the Community Infrastructure Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020****RESOLVED:** To accept and adopt the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.**538. Minutes of the Youth Services Committee Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020****RESOLVED:** To accept and adopt the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.**539. Minutes of the Open Spaces and Leisure Committee Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020****RESOLVED:** To accept and adopt the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.**540. Application for Renewal of Local Council Award****RESOLVED,** that the Town Council:

- 1) has met all the relevant criteria to apply for the Local Council Award Scheme;
- 2) publishes online all the necessary documents to comply with the Award Scheme; and
- 3) has in place the documents listed in **Appendix A** to these minutes.

**541. Review of Sevenoaks Town Council Strategy for 2020 – 2024**

The Council reviewed the Sevenoaks Town Council's Strategy 2020-2024.

A number of amendments were agreed and have been incorporated into the final version attached as **Appendix B** to these minutes.

**RESOLVED:** That the Sevenoaks Town Council's Strategy 2020 – 2024, set out at Appendix B, be approved and adopted.

**542. Mayors Engagements**

The Council noted the functions attended by the Mayor or his representative during January and February 2020 and the forthcoming Civic Events being planned by the Mayor during 2019/2020.

**RESOLVED:** To note and accept the reports relating to Mayoral activities.

**543. Press Release: None.**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting.

Signed .....

Dated .....

Chairman

## LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

Confirmed that the following documents are in place:

A Risk Management Scheme
A Register of Assets
Contracts for all Staff
Disciplinary and Grievance procedures
A policy and record for training new staff and councillors
A qualified clerk who has achieved 12 cpd employed according to nationally and locally agreed terms and conditions
Up-to-date insurance policies and mitigate risks to public money
Addressed complaints received in last year
At least 2/3 <sup>rd</sup> elected Members
Annual Report distributed across community
Formal Appraisal scheme
Value for money statement
Biodiversity statement
Crime & disorder statement
Leadership in planning for future of community
Performance of council as corporate body
Performance of each individual member of staff

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2020 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**Meeting Commenced:** 7.15 p.m.

**Meeting Concluded:** 7.25 p.m.

Cllr Keith Bonin	Present		Cllr Nicholas Busvine OBE, Mayor	Present
Cllr Sue Camp	Present		Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet, Deputy Mayor	Present
Cllr Tony Clayton	Present		Cllr Andrew Eyre	Present
Cllr Victoria Granville Baxter	Present		Cllr Roderick Hogarth	Present
Cllr Lise Michaelides	Apologies		Cllr Tom Morris Brown	Present
Cllr Rachel Parry	Apologies		Cllr Richard Parry	Present
Cllr Robert Piper	Apologies		Cllr Simon Raikes	Present
Cllr Claire Shea	Present		Cllr Edward Waite	Apologies

There were no members of the public present.

The Mayor addressed those present with the following message:

*“We have all been shocked by the speed with which the Coronavirus pandemic has disrupted our local community. We are poised on the cusp of an intensification of this crisis. None of us knows quite how the situation will evolve – and that uncertainty makes matters more difficult for all of us. But, in dark days such as these, it is important to remember that ultimately things will get better and that life will go on. For now, we – as a Town Council – must buckle down and do our duty to the best of our ability. As your Mayor, I am proud to be part of such a wonderful team of councillors and council officials and employees. I know that we will not be intimidated by the challenges that face us and that we will continue to do our utmost to support our local community in these testing times. Thank you to you all”.*

**563. Apologies for Absence**

**i) To accept Apologies for Absence from the following Councillors for the meeting:**

- Cllr Michaelides
- Cllr Mrs Parry
- Cllr Piper

**ii) To accept Apologies for Absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 s85 (1) for long term absence due to being identified by Public Health as at increased risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) and to be particularly stringent in social distancing measures:**

- Cllr Piper
- Cllr Raikes
- Cllr Canet
- Cllr Waite
- Cllr Parry
- Cllr Clayton

iii) **To accept Apologies for Absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 s85 (1) for long term absence due to the restrictions from coronavirus preventing Council Meetings taking place:**

- All Town Councillors

**564. Requests for Dispensations**

There were no requests for dispensations.

**565. Declaration of Interest**

There were no Declaration of Interest

**566. Sevenoaks Town Council Business Continuation Plan – Updated 2020**

**RESOLVED:** To receive and accept the updated Sevenoaks Town Council Business Continuation Plan.

**567. Sevenoaks Town Council Pandemic Contingency Plan Policy**

**RESOLVED:**

- i) To receive and accept the **Pandemic Contingency Plan Policy**
- ii) To create a Pandemic Crisis Management Team. The team to consist of the Cllr Busvine, Cllr Eyre, Cllr Parry (reserves Cllr Bonin, Cllr Hogarth), Cllr Dr Canet, Cllr Shea, Cllr Clayton (reserves Cllr Morris Brown, Cllr Camp) Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer.
- iii) To agree emergency measures that if it was not possible to convene a meeting of the Council or Committee in reasonable time or where restrictions are in place, the Town Clerk (and Deputy Town Clerk) shall have delegated authority under s.101 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make decisions on behalf of the Council where such decision cannot be reasonably deferred and must be made in order to comply with a commercial or statutory deadline. This will be



carried out where possible by consultation with members by electronic means or telephone. The Town Clerk will further consult with the Mayor for guidance as necessary. The delegation does not extend to matters expressly reserved to the council in legislation or in its Standing Orders or Financial Regulations. Any decision made under this delegation must be recorded in writing and must be published in accordance with the relevant regulations.

- iv) To enable the balance of the grant budget for 2019 /2020 and 2020 / 2021 to be converted into a ‘Community Resilience Fund’ enabling voluntary groups and local organisations to apply for funds (using current grant application form) to assist the community during the coronavirus pandemic.

Grants Budget 2019 / 20 Balance		£8,575
Grants Budget 2020 / 21		
Local Organisations	£16,500	
Youth Grants	<u>£5,000</u>	
	<u>£21,500</u>	£21,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>£30,075</b>

- v) When possible to adapt the grant application form to a simpler format for COVID 19 applications.

**568. Lease to the Trustees of Sevenoaks Lions Club for Storage Facilities at Sevenoaks Community Centre**

**RESOLVED:** To sign and seal the renewal of the lease as per the details circulated with the agenda in Brachers letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

**569. Press Release**

**RESOLVED:** To issue a Press Release relating to the new Community Resilience Fund to assist the community with coping with COVID 19.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting.

Signed .....

Town Mayor

Dated: .....

## The Stag Sevenoaks

### Background

In 2008 Sevenoaks Town Council took the bold step to take over the management of the Stag using a different business model following its second bankruptcy by other management companies.

The Town Council's original aims were set out in its 2008 Business Plan:

- i) Assisting the sustainability of the local economy of the town, particularly the night time economy and tourism economy.
- ii) Retaining the valuable social and leisure facility for both performers and audiences.
- iii) Enabling the development of youth services both in performing arts and youth outreach services.
- iv) Retaining an iconic building in the town and preserving the street scene.

An independent charity was created to operate the Stag and all elected Town Councillors automatically had the right to be a Trustees. Sevenoaks Town Council supported the facility annually with a £27,000 grant.

Town Councillors, Trustees, Staff, Volunteers, customers, and local businesses invested considerable time and effort to make the Stag the success it had become, a vibrant local leisure facility underwriting the local economy. Pre COVID 19 the Stag was 99% grant free and debt free.

Unfortunately, the Stag as per many leisure facilities finances are now critical due to the impact of COVID 19 and social distancing restrictions.

Members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee set out Recommendation to full Town Council to consider providing grant funding to the Stag to see it through its Recovery Plan stage to become once again successful.

### Stag Grant Request initially considered by members of Finance & General Purposes Committee

#### Finance & General Purposes Committee 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

#### 55. The Stag Sevenoaks

The Committee considered the possibility of grant aid for The Stag Community Arts Centre in the light of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

At the request of the Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order 1(s), a recorded vote was taken:

In Favour of the Resolution:	Against the Resolution:
Cllr Bonin	Cllr Dr Canet
Cllr Clayton	Cllr Waite
Cllr Hogarth	
Cllr Michaelides	
Cllr Morris Brown	
Cllr Parry	
Cllr Piper	
Cllr Raikes	

Cllr Busvine indicated support however was not a voting member of the Committee.

**RESOLVED:** The Finance and General Purposes Committee agreed in principle, and recommended to Council, that, subject to the provision of further information from the Stag setting out its business plan to address different scenarios due to the impact of COVID 19, and the plan to reach a break even financial balance position:

- 1) Sevenoaks Town Council makes a further grant to The Stag Community Arts Centre during the current financial year of up to £220,000, being drawn down at a maximum of £22,000 per month up to March 2021. It was expected that the monthly sum would be reduced if the impact of COVID-19 circumstances and local funding permit;
- 2) Sevenoaks Town Council continues to support The Stag in raising awareness and generating community support and exploring additional methods to obtain funding e.g. crowdfunding, events and sponsorship;
- 3) Sevenoaks Town Council performs a structured review of the level of funding needed and being provided once a quarter; and
- 4) Sevenoaks Town Council formally requests funding support from Kent County Council and Sevenoaks District Council.

### Practicalities for Sevenoaks Town Council.

#### 1.0 Commentary on Stag's Revised Business Plan

Please refer to appendix "SCAC – Post Covid Recovery Plan- Report to Town Council" for full details.

The Stag has put forward 3 options:

- Option 1 – continuing with existing business plan, with a Recovery Plan opening where possible, and using STC grant to cover losses until opening can return to capacity.
- Option 2 – mothball The Stag until April 2021, making majority of staff redundant, and paying the minimum maintenance costs. The Stag does not have sufficient reserves to cover the estimated total costs of c£169,000 and envisages running out of cash in January 2021. It does not consider this to be an economically viable option, requiring further recruitment costs to re-staff The Stag to enable re-opening.
- Option 3 – close the charity, make all staff redundant & return The Stag to Sevenoaks Town Council.

Under Option 1, The Stag is not looking to change its business plan and will use its Recovery Plan. The Stag's long-standing business plan is successful and robust and was only sent awry because of the Covid19 pandemic. Pre Covid 19, the Stag was 99% grant free and debt free. 2020 would have been its most commercially and content successful year ever.

The Stag is getting ready to reopen the cinema in line with 4th July government guidance for restrictions being lifted. Based on a 1m social distancing rule, full capacity for single cinema attendees is 21%, dual attendees 33%, with groups/ families higher. They anticipate that confidence in returning to the cinema will be gradual.

The recovery plan does not include any of the following sources of income, all of which are being sought & will reduce the amount of grant required from Sevenoaks Town Council:

- SDC grant £25,000
- Business Interruption insurance claim £100,000
- Further charitable contributions/ crowd funding (donations to date of £8,000 from 300 individuals have been received)
- Commercial and local theatre hire for performances (once government restrictions are lifted)
- Income from alternative use of plaza, being sought by groups whose usual smaller venues can't meet social distancing requirement
- Kiosk sales, using online kiosk facility
- Impact of less people going away on holiday and looking for entertainment closer to home. Cinema attendance has been modelled on 2019 actual monthly data, with August showing a fall in attendance.

The Stag will not be in a break-even position until other regular income streams (theatre hire, kiosk sales) can be realised.

## 2.0 How would Sevenoaks Town Council fund the grant

Sevenoaks Town Council, along with other Town Councils, are lobbying Government to lift the restrictions on Capital Reserves to allow use of Capital Reserves to support local services impacted by Coronavirus. In line with information provided to CIC 22/6/20, Sevenoaks Town Council Capital Receipts Reserve after completion of currently planned capital projects is c£516k.

We are currently legally restricted on the use of Capital Reserves for capital related projects, so unless the restrictions are lifted, we would need to use Revenue Reserves for The Stag grant. As at end March 2020, revenue reserves balance was £349k.

As with any financial entity, it is essential that Sevenoaks Town Council has sufficient Reserves to finance both its day to day operations and future plans and unexpected community needs. Good practice recommends revenue reserves of 3-6 months precept, therefore following any grant we would have to build reserves balance back up via the precept or movement from Capital Reserves if permitted. Based on 2020/21 budget data, the impact on precept of recovering the maximum £220,000 grant would be £22.70(18% increase) if recovered in 1 year, and £2.27 (2% increase) if recovered over 10 years:

Band D equivalent (as per 2020/21 budget)	9691			
Current Precept per band D household 2020/21 budget	£ 125.41			
Stag potential grant	£ 220,000.00			
Repay over no of years	1	3	5	10
New precept	£ 148.11	£ 132.98	£ 129.95	£ 127.68
Impact on precept £	£ 22.70	£ 7.57	£ 4.54	£ 2.27
Impact on precept %	18%	6%	4%	2%

## 3.0 Risks to Sevenoaks Town Council

Sevenoaks Town Council's own revenue streams have also been impacted by coronavirus.

As reported at F&GP, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020, this is estimated at £70k. The risk to Sevenoaks Town Council of releasing revenue reserves to the Stag Theatre, is that it is exposed to having insufficient funds to cover essential services if coronavirus has prolonged impacts.

As stated above, Sevenoaks Town Council do have capital reserves, and are lobbying government on use to help lessen coronavirus economic impacts.

#### **4.0 Other sources of funding sought by Sevenoaks Town Council**

KCC Stated it was unable to provide any financial assistance due to its own budget problems.

The District Council offered a 0% interest loan of £220,000 interest free loan to be drawn down over 8 months (in practice during the current financial year) and to be repaid during 2021/22. Any outstanding amounts after that would be charged interest from April 2022 at 6%. Advice is that Town and Parish Councils cannot borrow for revenue purposes, additional information is being sought on this.

#### **5.0 Long term viability of the Stag**

Short term, The Stag could be well placed to benefit from theatre goers who are unwilling to travel to London. Unfortunately, some venues have not survived & will not survive the coronavirus economic impacts, which could benefit The Stag from lower competition in both the long and short term.

#### **6.0 Impact to Sevenoaks Town Council as leaseholder and operator of HitB Youth Cafe if Stag became insolvent**

If the Stag was to close, the lease would return to Sevenoaks Town Council who would face either handing back the building to Sevenoaks District Council or a return to a council run Stag.

The House in the Basement youth café is a rare youth facility within town. If the Stag was to fully close & the leasehold sold, it would be difficult to find alternative, possibly costly, other town centre premises for a youth café.

#### **7.0 Impact on local community and local economy**

Economic impact assessment commissioned in 2017 identified economic support to the town from the facility and this has been supported by comments direct from local businesses.

The Stag is the only arts facility in Sevenoaks.

The Stag is well loved locally, with over 1000 messages of support sent to Sevenoaks Town Council asking us to Save the Stag.

Closure of House in the Basement Youth Café.

# STAG

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# SEVENOAKS

**Stag Theatre**

**Stag Cinema**

**Stag Plaza**

**Stag Café**

**Stag Select**

**Stag**

**Theatrical**

**Stag Business**

**STAGE • SCREEN • COMMUNITY**

<b>Stag Community Arts Centre Post Covid19 Recovery</b>
<b>Report to Sevenoaks Town Council</b>

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# Post Covid19 Recovery Report to Sevenoaks Town Council

## 1. Introduction

The Stag Community Arts Centre was set up out of the dual commercial failures of Sevenoaks Playhouse and Kino Cinema in 2006 and 2008. It was taken over by Sevenoaks Town Council from 2009 using a hall-hire business model balanced between income from the theatre, the Plaza, the cinemas and secondary income through the kiosks – a business plan which has overall proven both robust and successful increasing year on year.

The long-standing and on-going success of the original business plan meant that as 2020 dawned The Stag had had its most successful ever pantomime season and was heading for its most successful year ever. The advent of the Worldwide Covid19 pandemic and its subsequent impact on commerce across Britain and the World means we must now look at a recovery plan to use the standing business model to return to that level of success.

Much of the information included here has not changed since the presentation to Trustees at the financial update on May 27 2020 just 20 days ago. In terms of Government restrictions nothing has actually changed for theatres and cinemas, the Government remains silent about how it will handle theatres and cinemas. However overall circumstances have changed greatly with sport, retail and now bars being released to open with differing operating restrictions.

I am glad that our MP has proved to be such a supporter of The Stag and continues to work within Parliament for sector-specific support which if it comes forward will become part of the overall money calculation and will potentially reduce the reliance on the Council's monthly drawdown facility.

There are far too many unknowns and awaited Government decisions to be definitive about the future. We will aim to set out a number of possibilities with the clear proviso that circumstances and these plans will need to be revised quickly as needed by events.

The one definitive which can be made is, unfortunately, that The Stag must receive additional funds as soon as possible to survive.

## 2. UK background

The Government lockdown restrictions are changing rapidly and almost daily. Offices, schools and now shops are opening. It seems likely that the current spatial isolation of 2m will be altered and most likely be reduced to 1m.

The commercial spat between Universal Studios and AMC/Odeon about the release window has died down and been debunked by the UKCA. Disney has expressly told its Worldwide territories to support cinemas in their areas. However the push to re-open in early July appears to have tempered a little; the release date for "Tenet" has been pushed back to July 31 with Disney's Mulan being pushed back to August.

However film distributors are now uniformly talking of support for the cinema sector and have released a 69 page document "Relaunching cinema: content for recovery" detailing a long list of films available to be used to 'warm up' the sector – alongside new mid-level releases – with



## Post Covid19 Recovery Report to Sevenoaks Town Council

the aim of opening up and building audiences. This is the main background to The Stag remaining open – being visible, available and being part of the confidence building in Sevenoaks. The financial difference between The Stag and the multinational debt-laden operators is they can cover their losses by making relatively small increases to their billion-dollar debt mountains. The Stag doesn't have that option but would gradually reduce its dependence on the grant draw down as that confidence increases and lockdown measures reduce.

Cameron Macintosh and the Really Useful Group have both threatened (but not yet carried out the threat) to close down their theatres in London until the beginning of 2021 making everyone in their London theatres redundant. The budgets for West End shows – particularly musicals – have become huge over the last 25 years which has meant a big reliance on high ticket prices (now £100-£300 each) and a big reliance on nearly full audiences – itself reliant on the tourism industry. The Stag is not in that market in terms of funding or audience share required. If the threat is carried out (and at present, like the Universal Studios threat previously it appears to be a commercial prod at the Government) then it would represent an opportunity for The Stag (and other regional theatres) to provide an outlet to demand for theatre which wouldn't then be available in London.

Even without a London theatre shutdown confidence is likely to return more quickly regionally (outside of London) with people avoiding travelling on public transport into London. The Stag Select strand has become a strong contributor to overall income and using it to put on London shows (or films based on London shows such as Les Miserables or National Theatre productions for example) will be a strong theme for the re-opened Stag to persuade people to return – especially rather than visit London.

The content and distribution industry generally is currently trying to get income during lockdown (when it cannot follow its normal large screen (cinema) distribution channels) by releasing films through PVoD (Premium View on Demand – Netflix, Sky Cinema and Amazon Prime for example). At present there is an agreement to release films to cinemas and only release them to PVoD after at least 90 days and it now looks likely that this delay window will continue to operate.

In recent weeks there has been much comment direct from the operators of independent cinemas (and most of the chain operators) is that there is a pent-up demand for 'a night out' and to see film in its designed presentation; a big screen; a big and good sound system and not through the reflections of a glass TV screen. This has been shown most recently in the strong response to retail opening in the main city centres and in shopping centres.

There are two major cinema markets in the World – the US and China. China has around 54,000 screens with the US around 40,000. These markets dwarf the rest of the World and commercially control how and when films are released to the public. There are around 4,500 cinema screens in the UK.

China and much of Europe are now beginning to open up cinemas with differing customer requirements (the use of facemasks for example). Sweden and parts of the US cinema markets

## Post Covid19 Recovery Report to Sevenoaks Town Council

(State by State) never closed. In the UK we continue to wait for the Government to decide on how and when cinemas can re-open and under what control criteria.

The industry has heavily lobbied the Government about the impact capacity restrictions and the loss of secondary sales would have on whether they would actually re-open at all. Given the Chancellor's pressure for employers to 'shoulder some of the (financial) burden' this is an unsubtle route reminding the Government of the potential immediate impact of huge levels of redundancies in the industry. This would be a commercial opportunity if The Stag remained open whilst others didn't - or went further given their levels of corporate debt and went into bankruptcy as AMC/Odeon had threatened to do before taking out another \$500,000,000 of corporate debt.

We have hosted ticket sales for multiple Outside The Box stand up comedy nights (the most recent was Rhod Gilbert on Tuesday June 23) and are talking to providers about hosting remote music and drama sessions which The Stag will promote. Maff Brown has been with The Stag since the re-opening in 2009; he was one of the original regular promoters here. He has donated 50% of his ticket sales to the Save Our Stag appeal. Sevenoaks Entertainers are recording a group song which will be used to ask for donations to The Stag's appeal. These will be visible and helpful but won't make significant dents in the funding that The Stag needs.

The donation appeal now exceeds £8,000 with contributions from nearly 300 individuals but it is clear that crowd-funding alone is not a solution to the immediate cash requirements of The Stag.

### 3. Outstanding grants / monies

- (i) The Stag has applied for a Sevenoaks District Council discretionary grant of £25,000. The decision on this is scheduled for the week commencing June 22
- (ii) £100,000 business interruption insurance claim. The FCA case to clarify the financial coverage believed to be provided by the industry (and which includes Zurich, The Stag's insurers) has started. There will be a second case conference on June 26 followed by a hearing starting on July 20.
- (iii) Sevenoaks District Council has offered a loan of up to £220,000 which has been recommended to Cabinet by its People & Places Advisory Committee and which could be used by the Town Council. The Cabinet of the District Council will meet on July 9
- (iv) The Town Council is meeting on June 29 to consider a month by month drawdown grant facility to The Stag of up to £22,000 per month for up to ten months.

The Stag will continue to look for and apply for external grant funding and to run its crowd-funding appeal. Neither of these two amounts in (i) and (ii) are included in the funding calculations. If either or both come through then the reliance on the Town Council's drawdown grant funding would be reduced by the amounts received.

## Post Covid19 Recovery Report to Sevenoaks Town Council

### 4. Overall strategy

Whether it reopens or not, The Stag cannot survive its current commercial situation without a separate new input of money.

**Option 1** – The Stag’s focus has up to now been on getting the major grant (either from the Town Council or from the District Council) recognising that crowd-funding (as has been shown) would not be able to raise the >£200k required. If The Stag was to receive the commitment for drawdown grants from the Town Council and remain open it would enable forward planning. See section 6 (option 1) below for more details

- (i) The Town Council provides funds to continue operation at a loss until hirer and audience confidence returns. Funding will be set and reviewed quarterly to provide short-term certainty to The Stag while adjusted for changes in circumstances. It is recommended that this first quarter of funding is at £22,000 per month to be provided on the first of the month from July to September. The recommended funding for the second quarter (October to December) will take into consideration The Stag’s actual results for the first three months of the scheme and adjusted accordingly.
  - (ii) Continue essential cleaning and maintenance which stopped when lockdown started on March 23. This would involve bringing some people back from furlough – the new CJRS rules beginning in July (“part-time furlough”) will be used.
  - (iii) Continue post-Covid operational planning (seating, people flow, cleaning regimes and training) setting an opening date for the cinemas when possible.
  - (iv) When they are released, understand the Government criteria under which the cinemas and performance spaces can operate.
  - (v) Open the performance spaces as soon as possible – every Plaza hire or theatre hire and every kiosk purchase will reduce The Stag’s reliance on the Council’s drawdown grant.
  - (vi) Re-focus fund raising with events and launching Stag Stars for donors to get benefits within The Stag and that donations are gift-aided direct to the charity. The Stag is already working with external volunteers with experience in PR alongside our in-house expertise.
  - (vii) Once secure, The Stag can re-launch its appeal for new volunteers off the back of the visibility the current situation has created.
- **Option 2** – Mothball until April 2021 with no new funding stream
    - (i) Majority of staff made redundant (ca. £40,000) to maintain and work on the building.
    - (ii) Ongoing costs to March 31 2021 of ca. £129,000
    - (iii) Depending on how many support contracts can be re-negotiated and safely stopped might slightly extend the point when The Stag has to close. However The Stag would run out of cash around January 2021.
  - **Option 3** – Closure of the charity
    - (i) All staff redundant (ca. £60,000)
    - (ii) Return The Stag to the Town Council to set its future.

## Post Covid19 Recovery Report to Sevenoaks Town Council

### 5. Recovery Plan Work and Options

We have talked to all our hirer companies.

There are broadly three types of show:

- local community shows – it is difficult to rehearse or plan because of the lack of clarity from Government and difficulty about staging large-cast shows with spatial restrictions in place
- stage and dance schools – a favourite at The Stag have similar restrictions about rehearsal time and how many people are allowed backstage and on stage
- commercial companies. These continue to be enthusiastic about appearing and have mostly moved their shows to later in the year or into 1Q21. We have three dozen shows which have moved and are booked in for dates from July 2020 through to April 2021 including a sold-out show with Ruth Jones which has been moved to September.

We continue to monitor the situation daily and will respond quickly to events. We gradually move events to new agreed dates as needed and will of course react quickly once capacity and operating restrictions are decided by the Government.

Once we have a scenario to re-open the performance spaces that we can use we can firm up agreements about capacity and charges.

We have also hosted multiple Outside The Box stand up comedy nights and are talking to providers about hosting remote music and drama shows which The Stag will promote. Maff Brown has been with The Stag since the re-opening in 2009; he was one of the original regular promoters here. He has donated 50% of his ticket sales to the Save Our Stag appeal. Sevenoaks Entertainers is recording a group song which will be used to ask for donations to The Stag's appeal. These will be visible and helpful but won't make significant dents in the funding The Stag needs.

The donation appeal now exceeds £8,000 with contributions from nearly 300 individuals but it is clear that crowd-funding alone will never be a solution to the immediate and short-term cash requirements of The Stag. When The Stag has its future secured then we are developing plans to use the momentum this situation has created to develop fund-raising and volunteers. Step one is securing The Stag's future. The rest will follow.

## Post Covid19 Recovery Report to Sevenoaks Town Council

### 6. Post Covid19 Recovery scenarios

#### Option 3 – Closure

We do not believe this is necessary nor right for the Charity, the Town Council or the Town. However, without external funding to the level of £220,000 this will in the end be inevitable.

#### Option 2 – Mothball

We do not consider this to be an economically viable solution for The Stag.

- (a) The costs of maintaining the building closed are significant (ca. £170,000 to March 2021). Some of these costs could be mitigated by re-negotiating some maintenance and support contracts but the majority of such contracts are annual or multi-year and required for the building to be safe and managed – a requirement if it is to be re-started in 1Q21.
- (b) There would be recruitment costs in re-building a new team for the re-opening which aren't included in the cost estimate of £170,000.
- (c) There would be significant risk that The Stag would not re-open given the loss of service for so many months.
- (d) We have already paused such charge items as refuse collection and cleaning services. Examples of large budget maintenance items which cannot be stopped during the mothball period are:
  - Liability coverage
  - Audit / legal fees
  - Air handling computer and hardware systems
  - Lifting and electrical equipment safety certification
  - Intruder and fire protection
  - Legal / personnel services
  - Water / bacteriological safety
  - Finance software
  - Lightening protection of the building
  - Utility standing and usage charges (even if the building is mostly closed)
  - Internet charges

Some items could be paused but would then have to be re-bought and / or re-installed. There would be cancellation costs which aren't included in the cost estimate of £170,000.

- Cinema equipment maintenance
- Box office software
- Film booking services
- Software / IT support
- Toilet equipment
- Phone system

Most importantly for the mothball option, The Stag does not have sufficient funds to last beyond Christmas if it was closed down. It would need another £50,000 simply to last to 2Q21 and would then need a new and significant investment to restart – aside from being then completely without operating funds.

**Option 1: Moving forward**

There are currently many unknowns in trying to work out a route forward and even if we receive Government guidelines it is clear operations will be at a commercial loss until confidence returns to audiences for both the cinemas and theatre & Plaza events. What is true is that much has changed in lockdown restrictions in the last month and the rate of change is accelerating as the number of new Coronavirus positives continues to reduce.

The effect of a second wave remains a possibility and most importantly for The Stag and Sevenoaks the response of the Government to that second wave is crucial – and unknown. The Government says the possibility of a second wave remains low. Given recent relaxations by the Government, it does seem unlikely that such a Government decision (in the worst case to go back into lockdown) will be taken. However it remains a risk factor and one completely outside of our control. We do not believe it to be a risk which should stop The Stag moving forward positively.

The Stag contains flexible spaces which can address varied audience levels. The Government has looked at many locations throughout the World which have been operating with a spatial distance of one metre without significant differences to the British case of two metres. It is clear that the UK Government is about to reduce spatial isolation distances to one metre and so that is the prime case we will consider.

Unfortunately, there is no clarity about whether the Government will allow food and drink to be consumed (which means uncertainty about the level of secondary spend we would see) but it is likely that the Government will begin to talk about cinemas (and perhaps theatres) soon.

One thing The Stag needs now is stability and the knowledge it can move forward operationally. For that reason the aim is to put in place the full drawdown of £22,000 for three months starting on July 1 2020. Whilst the Town Clerk, the Town’s RFO and The Stag’s CEO and CFO will continually monitor figures the first full report and review will be at the end of the first quarter (the end of September 2020). At that time the figures can be reviewed and re-set according to audience and income figures – looking at progress back to audience levels we had prior to the Covid19 pandemic.

With our box office software partner (Jack Roe) we have installed software which allows for the automatic blocking of seats depending on spatial isolation rules. This means we can continue online booking – more than two-thirds of all bookings are made online.

We have also implemented an online kiosk software module so that people are able to buy coffee, sweets and drinks etc. at the time they buy their tickets. This will split and reduce queues and queueing time at The Stag.

## 7. Cinema Ticket sales and assumptions

The Stag Cinema is popular with all age groups. Before the Covid19 pandemic it was particularly popular with older Sennockians and it is this cohort which might take longer to return.

Given a Government imposed spatial separation of one metre the capacities of the two Stag cinemas would be:

	Normal	Post COVID 19	Revised
<b>SINGLE TICKETS ONLY</b>	100%	Capacity	Capacity
Cinema screen 1 capacity	128	18%	23
Cinema screen 2 capacity	110	24%	26
	238	21%	49
<b>DOUBLE TICKETS ONLY</b>	100%	Capacity	Capacity
Cinema screen 1 capacity	128	32%	41
Cinema screen 2 capacity	110	35%	38
	238	33%	79

The commercial worst case in such a restricted capacity would be if only single tickets were sold (an overall capacity of 49 instead of our full capacity of 238). A more realistic scenario would be if tickets were sold in pairs (who would then sit together). This increases capacity to 79 or around 33%. In reality the true cohort would be somewhere between these.

Family films will have a higher individual ticket sale (The Stag's family tickets are for four people) which will increase capacity slightly (but it won't be doubled).

The first reasonable case scenario is of a gradual ramp up of customers towards the capacity available to sell based on 1m spatial separation against the worst case of only single tickets being sold. An alternate projection is a reasonable case of tickets being sold in pairs. The assumption that restrictions would remain in place until March 2021 is very unlikely.

We can then compare a stronger but still reasonable case – where the Government stop restrictions because of the commercial pressure brought to bear to rescue the high-volume sales in the sector in December and onwards.

## 8. Income from Events

The cash flow analysis completed here and for the May update to Trustees excludes ANY income from theatre and Plaza events and excludes ANY kiosk income.

If as we expect spatial separation is reduced to one metre this will set the capacity of the theatre in the range of 100-125 depending on the makeup of customer groups at the event.

We have already talked to all of our hirers and promoters and will continue to make agile changes as needed when the Government issues guidelines.

We are already being approached and talking to groups needing to use larger areas for their normal activities elsewhere and have hosted socially distanced small meetings. This assists in the visibility of The Stag in the community but income will be negligible.

Key income will begin when we are allowed to open and hire the theatre and the Plaza. Both are flexible spaces with The Stag's large stage allowing music groups to perform and still be spatially separate on stage.

If the spatial separation rule is reduced to 1m then I can see possibilities for theatre and dance schools to put on smaller performances at The Stag in preference to other theatres because of our spaces and our very large stage. If spatial separation rules are removed at the end of the year then there are possibilities for all of our shows to successfully return. Generally, theatre shows and music events are attended by older customers and it is likely that those audiences will only return over Christmas and into 1Q21. However, all of that income will be additive to the financial plan and will reduce The Stag's reliance on the Town Council's monthly drawdown grant.



## 9. Conclusions

- (i) The Stag cannot continue its current commercial situation. Whether open or closed by Government diktat it will operate at a loss at least initially. A decision on additional external funding must be taken quickly. The only viable solution is to move forward and re-open to maintain The Stag's visibility in the commercial landscape of Sevenoaks Town and assisting in the post-Covid19 commercial recovery of the Town.
- (ii) The Stag's long-standing business plan is successful and robust and was only sent awry because of the Covid19 pandemic. 2020 would have been its most commercially and content successful year ever.
- (iii) We are already into our post Covid19 recovery plan – by proactively talking to all of our hirers. This is ongoing and will continue.
- (iv) The success of that plan – how many people come to events - depends on a number of external factors outside of the control of The Stag. However, the Government is currently in the process of relaxing restrictions which will allow people to come to The Stag. Missing that window by closing would be the wrong route to take.
- (v) An underlying risk is the potential for a second wave of infection and a Government reaction to return to lockdown. All the messaging from Government in recent weeks has been that the likelihood of this remains low.
- (vi) It is key to this that The Stag is made to appear safe and welcoming which we are aiming, planning and putting in place. With sneeze guards at all points of sale, visors to protect staff when outside the guard areas whilst still allowing smiles and the moving mouth to be seen to aid the hard of hearing and a cleaning regime in place. We are in the process of moving all kiosk product behind the guards so it is only handled by Stag staff and the individual customer. We will have hand sanitiser stations at the entrances to all our locations.
- (vii) The Stag is known and appreciated (it is probably not an underestimate to say it is loved) in Sevenoaks and beyond. We know people want to perform here and we have around three dozen acts currently booked in place with several dozen more waiting to see the outcome of Government changes. Any income from those reduces the reliance on the Town Council's grant drawdown facility.
- (viii) The financial analysis reflects the likely outcome of Government intentions – an increasing relaxation of lockdown restrictions. It is highly likely that cinemas will be allowed to open in July and likely that the commercial pressure to allow theatre to follow shortly after will be overwhelming.

Public Support for the Town Council Financially Assisting the Stag required due to impact of COVID 19

<p>1.</p>	<p>I am writing to give my support to the campaign to keep The Stag Sevenoaks open. I do not live in Sevenoaks but as I have friends in the area, I am a frequent visitor to the town.</p> <p>The Stag gives us a place to meet and to enjoy cinema and live performances (we used always to meet up in London). It seems to have a loyal local following and attracts visitors from all parts of the community. It is a real asset to Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I would be very sorry to see The Stag close particularly as it is not threatened with closure because it does not have enough customers or demand for its services but because of an international crisis. When the crisis has passed, we will all need a space to gather, to be entertained and to 'feel normal' again. The Stag will be just such a place for the people of Sevenoaks and Kent.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>I am writing to urge you to support keeping The Stag in Sevenoaks open. This facility brings in a great revenue for not just the Theatre but also the whole town, creating a focal point for new visits to the town too. The venue also offers local employment opportunities, whilst being a valuable hub for the community; and on top of this offering a wide variety of top quality entertainment and leisure opportunities.</p> <p>Therefore, it would be an immense loss if it were to close as it would be leaving a gaping hole in the community. The Town Council surely should do everything possible to prevent this from happening, particularly at this difficult moment in time where people need to have some form of escape to look forward to post-Covid.</p> <p>I hope you will do what you can.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>I understand that the future of The Stag will be discussed on 29th June. I hope that the Town Council will do everything possible to ensure that The Stag will remain at the heart of our town.</p> <p>The Stag is a crucial community venue. It offers a local place to go to the theatre of all types, concerts, cinema and other events such as craft fairs. The youth theatre group give budding actors a chance to improve their skills.</p> <p>The Stag has become an increasingly successful community venue. We simply cannot allow the corona virus to destroy a venue that the community depend upon and enjoy. I have lived in Sevenoaks for over 13 years and The Stag is one of the reasons I like living here.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss to the town and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>I am writing to you with regard to the Stag. If it closes a large part of the community will be lost. The restaurants and shops would also suffer as people come to Sevenoaks for the entertainment and then enjoy the rest of the town.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>

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7.	<p><b>Please keep The Stag open.</b></p> <p>It means so much to the lives of so many individuals - of all ages and offers a lifeline to many different groups that contribute in turn to the community.</p> <p>It is a unique organisation and losing it would mean losing part of the character of Seven Oaks; and at a time when community organisations and events that lift people's spirits, that are familiar and where they feel safe to go, are needed more than ever as we come out of lockdown.</p> <p>Please save The Stag. It has so much to offer.</p>
8.	<p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for almost 15 years and truly enjoy the town. The Stag Theatre is an enormous asset with its variety of shows and performances. My child has been on stage various times in pantomimes, dance shows and musicals and will be doing that as long as possible. There are so many memories made at The Stag. It brings the community together.</p> <p>Please help them with funding so they can survive and stay. Sevenoaks needs it.</p>
9.	<p>I write in regards of the wonderful Stag Theatre, that we are so lucky to have.</p> <p>Please, please, please do not allow this wonderful venue to close.</p> <p>I personally have always used the Stag, along with my family &amp; friends, for many years including to see live events, panto &amp; the cinema.</p> <p>Most close to my heart is that my dance school, which has been operating for 20 years now, has used the Stag &amp; Plaza suite at least 4 times a year, for many years now, to host &amp; take part in dance shows.</p> <p>There is no other venue like the Stag!</p> <p>I have 400 students who all bring their family &amp; friends to watch them perform their hearts out on that stage every year.</p> <p>It is so important to have this in the lives of so many people, young &amp; old.</p> <p>The Stag is home from home to my students, myself &amp; so many others.</p> <p>Without the Stag, which I feel is the heart of Sevenoaks, there would be a massive whole in many peoples lives.</p> <p>PLEASE SAVE THE STAG.</p>
10.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>The Stag Theatre is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>
11.	<p>I have heard that the future of The Stag is in doubt due to financial problems that are a consequence of the current Covid-19 crisis. This is so sad. The Stag is such a valuable and much-loved part of our town, and a real asset to our community. Losing the cinema and theatre would be so detrimental to Sevenoaks, and my family and I would truly miss it.</p> <p>Please can I implore you to consider helping The Stag to remain open, and to support it in any way that you can.</p> <p>SAVE OUR STAG!</p>
12.	<p>I am writing in support of the Stag theatre and cinema remaining open. This is a precious local resource I've been using for 10+ years since moving to Sevenoaks. The baby screenings were wonderful when my daughter was little and we've all enjoyed the cinema and theatre/panto performances over the years. It would be such a shame and a huge loss to the local community if it were to be closed permanently.</p>

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13.	<p>I have been made aware that the Stag Theatre is under threat of closing its doors. Many members of my family have used this Theatre for many years. My niece currently runs a Dance school on the premises. My granddaughters attend the Dance school along with many family friends and their younger generations. This is a travesty for many budding stars if this theatre should close.</p> <p>Please reconsider any action that would see this Theatre close as it certainly is not in the best interest for the dance and stage community.</p>
14.	<p>Myself and my family are so upset to hear The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks is at risk of closure! Please don't let this happen as it is a vital part of the community! It would leave such an empty feeling with so many of us to see this happen! I know things are incredibly hard at the moment due to the current situation but this would be a mistake to let this just close! Please can you help!?</p>
15.	<p>I am writing to ask if you could keep the stag open. My children love this theatre for many reason and it is a part of our family time.</p> <p>Happy to arrange events to raise money for the stag.</p>
16.	<p>I am writing to support the funding of The Stag, to ensure it weathers the storm Covid19 and remains a staple part of Sevenoaks' cultural diet for many years to come. Our emotional wellbeing is of the utmost importance - now more than ever - and places like The Stag offer us an opportunity to laugh, celebrate, be entertained, escape...all of which are critical to our mental health.</p> <p>To close it down now would be to resign us to a future that is drab and grim, so I implore you to view keeping The Stag open as a long-term investment into the health of the people of the town.</p>
17.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p> <p>Please, please reconsider and keep this precious facility open so we can all enjoy the benefits that a local Arts centre provides.</p>
18.	<p>I am writing to you to express my concern that The Stag Theatre May close. My family and I love the theatre and the cinema. Having a young family, it means we don't have to travel far to enjoy the wonderful shows you put on.</p> <p>I appreciate how the coronavirus has impacted on so many venues and businesses and to loose such a well loved facility would be a tragedy.</p> <p>I'm sure all of Sevenoaks would come together to assist in any fundraising to ensure the Stag is a permanent fixture for family to enjoy for years to come.</p>
19.	<p>I'm writing to show my support for the Stag Theatre. My children attend the Stag youth theatre and absolutely love it. Having the use of a real theatre is an incredible experience for them. We are moving to Sevenoaks in two weeks and were looking forward to having the Stag theatre as our local cinema and theatre. We'd be really sad to lose this facility and would like to support it in anyway we can.</p> <p>As an ex professional dancer and dance teacher I know many dancers, young and old who would be deprived of performing on stage at the Stag.</p> <p>Please keep me informed of any fundraisers.</p>
20.	<p>I have just heard that the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks may be closed? You cannot close this venue. It is a huge part of Sevenoaks. It hosts many events that are supported and loved by the local people and the wider communities. To lose this site would be a huge</p>

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	<p>mistake! It has been there for more than 80 years. It need support not threats of closure.</p>
21.	<p>I would like to say that possible closure of the Stag Theatre would be a very sad thing for all the many users and audience alike If there is any way you could keep it open that would be good.</p>
22.	<p>Please do your best to save The Stag theatre. It is a really important community venue that local people have enjoyed going to for years. We will need these local places even more now.</p>
23.	<p>Have heard today that the Stag Theatre may have to be closed due to a lack of support. I really hope this can be avoided. We've lost many essential businesses from the High Street over the years like the Newsagents/Bakers/Tesco etc....to lose the Stag would weaken a pretty average HS even more-it's nearly all Hairdressers, Charity and Coffee shops now. I realise that everything must be paid for but surely Sevenoaks is rich enough to support a theatre? If anything is worth keeping for the good of many, many members of the community of all ages it is The Stag. Thanks for your consideration</p>
24.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open. This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time. The Stag Theatre cannot and must not be another casualty due to the Covid 19 pandemic.</p>
25.	<p>The Stag is such an important community hub for the Sevenoaks area. It is much more than a cinema. There are many groups who work together to make music, theatre, ballet, craft events etc. People can meet over a coffee during the day. Teens can meet and share interests. It brings people from the Sevenoaks area together in many ways. This hub is so important to the area for those unable to make it to London. One can see live theatre events etc. I feel as lockdown eases more people will prefer to use local venues.</p>
26.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open. This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>
27.	<p>I heard news that the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks is going to have to close due to the COVID crisis. I just wanted to write to you to ask whether the town council can help and step in to save the theatre please...it is a real gem in Sevenoaks Town and since moving to the area 11 years ago we have experienced many happy times there as a family - including the dance shows that my daughter performed in, to the first ballet I took her to see, to the magic show my husband and I enjoyed immensely and to the great films we've seen there and the vintage fairs I've attended. The facility has so much to offer the local and surrounding communities- it would be a huge and very sad loss to the town and it's very fabric. I for one would be very happy to offer my services voluntarily to help in any way possible to help secure it's future - I am a PR and marketing freelance and previously an</p>

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	<p>administration manager - and I think many people would be happy to help with their skills and even possibly donate via a crowd fund to try and save The Stag. Thank you for reading my appeal to you.</p>
28.	<p>I am writing to you in support of keeping The Stag open. I really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times. I hope we can rely on you to do the right thing.</p>
29.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open. This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time. Also, the community.</p>
30.	<p>I have heard through various Sevenoaks forums that The Stag is at risk of closure. As a family we are hugely sad to hear of this and hope that the council will step in to make sure this doesn't happen. 3 generations of our family enjoy the Stag Theatre, Cinema and the cafe. The cafe is one of the few places we can take our disabled daughter, it has plenty of space, a relaxed atmosphere and somewhere we can all enjoy together. Please please save an important historical building in Sevenoaks and a very special part of the community. It would be so sad to lose this part of Sevenoaks history.</p>
31.	<p>It has come to my attention that there is a chance of the Stag closing. I just wanted to let you know how important the Stag is to us as a Sevenoaks residents. My 4 teenagers use the Stag not just for the cinema regularly but are members of the Stag Youth Theatre, have performed many times on Stage in musical &amp; dance performances. They really hope to continue to do so. As a family we've visited the Theatre for too many shows, music recitals, talks and comedy nights to mention. The Stag is a huge part of Sevenoaks and a very important resource to the town. Please help us save the Stag.</p>
32.	<p>I wanted to send a message of support regarding the Stag Theatre's Sevenoaks council grant application. We live in Otford and use the stag for a wide variety of events. It's one of our favourite places and we and others will be devastated if it closes. These are very difficult times for all, but I sincerely hope the council will do all it can to help.</p>
33.	<p>There seems to be a social media campaign initiating to save the stag. Please count my family in.</p>
34.	<p>I am concerned that our town's artistic treasure, The Stag, is struggling to make it through this difficult time and that there is a possibility of closure. As a professional actress of 25 years, the arts is such a vital part of a community. It is where some children find their voice. It is where some people see themselves. It is where communities unite to live through a common story. As I'm sure you've heard, Churchill was asked to cut funding to the arts in order to support the war effort in WWII and he responded "Then what would we be fighting for?" .  As I'm sure you know, The Stag generates more than £9 million for the local economy, has created nearly 200 jobs and attracts around 300,000 visits per year, which also creates spending in the town. Locally-produced productions enjoy a home there,</p>

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	<p>including youth, community organisations and amateur and touring productions. It also provides a cafe and essential meeting spaces which I've used ever since my daughter was a toddler, eight years ago.</p> <p>The Chronicle highlighted how The Stag generates approximately 6,000 volunteers a year, providing "opportunities for social inclusion, exposure to cultural activities, work experience, and promot[es] engagement with the local community."</p> <p>The closure of The Stag would be a huge loss to our community, cutting a vital lifeline to our artistic community. It would be a shame if the Town Council didn't do everything they could to support this much needed charity during this difficult time.</p>
35.	<p>I have read an article in The Sevenoaks Chronicle that The Stag theatre may have to close due to lack of funding.</p> <p>I am very concerned and upset that this may happen. What measures can be taken to save this iconic institution?</p>
36.	<p>I wanted to email you to express my hope that the Stag will be kept open. I think it is a fantastic asset for the town and we would all be very much the poorer without it. We use the cinema regularly and use the theatre many times throughout the year.</p>
37.	<p>I am contacting you to show my concern in keeping the Stag open. It is a special venue where I and my husband enjoy films and theatre but is also an essential facility for our community which supports local groups and charities providing a wide range of entertainment, education and social space for our youth.</p> <p>Closure of the Stag would be a huge loss to the Sevenoaks district. I urge the Town Council to support the arts by making sure the Stag survives by helping it financially at this difficult time.</p>
38.	<p>I understand that The Stag theatre is at risk of closing so I'd just like to express what very sad news this is for me and my family.</p> <p>We have used the Stag over the last 20 years for so many reasons. It's the heart of Sevenoaks and a welcoming town feature in what is now a town centre full of coffee shops.</p> <p>Having the Stag as a safe place to go for my 13 year Old son has also been a wonderful step into independence. Please do all possible to help save this local treasure</p>
39.	<p>We would like to register our support for keeping The Stag Theatre. It brings entertainment and joy to many people both from Sevenoaks and the wider community.</p> <p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for 44 years and The Stag has always been an integral part of Sevenoaks Town.</p>
40.	<p>I've received news that this wonderful Theatre maybe under threat of closure.</p> <p>I'm just writing to show my full support in the fight to stop this happening.</p> <p>As a family we've have regularly visited the theatre over the years and had such a great time. Please please keep the theatre open.</p>
41.	<p>I have recently heard that the Stag Theatre is at risk of closure.</p> <p>My two daughters have been fortunate enough to have danced and performed at The Stag over the past 10 years. During this time my family, extended family and friends have all supported the performances and Stag by attending many shows and pantos. In addition to this the dance students have seen the opportunity to perform at The Stag as a major milestone and a real achievement which brings with it memories and friendships which last a lifetime.</p> <p>It would be the end of an era and would leave a void in the Performing Arts Community and the wider Sevenoaks Community should the unthinkable happen and The Stag doors remain closed forever.</p>

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	I hope you are able to support what is a worthwhile cause and a piece of history
42.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p> <p>Please, please reconsider and keep this precious facility open so we can all enjoy the benefits that a local Arts centre provides.</p>
43.	Please support our Stag Theatre it would be terrible to lose this facility because of COVID.
44.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>
45.	<p>I have seen on the local news that our wonderful Stag Theatre is at risk of closing. I remember many years ago when this was also the case and we managed to save it.</p> <p>It would be such a shame for the town to lose this wonderful theatre as it's used by the whole community from dance schools, amateur dramatics, school productions, stage shows, pantos and of course the cinema.</p> <p>I hope we can save this valuable asset for our community.</p>
46.	<p>I write following news that the wonderful Stag Theatre may be at risk of closure due to the pandemic effect.</p> <p>Please do everything in your power to keep this valuable community resource. If we lose it this will be a very sad day indeed for the area.</p>
47.	Just voicing my support for the stag theatre and cinema. It is a fabulous asset to the town and it would be a dreadful shame to lose it.
48.	<p>I understand from local messages that the Stag is under threat. Back in 2012-13 I set up PUP cafe in the Plaza Suite .....</p> <p>It was amazingly successful but unfortunately I was not able to resume running it ..... as a decision was made not to rent the room any more to long- term tenants.</p> <p>I would like to suggest that given the change in home-working habits after this crisis that the Plaza suite would serve as a wonderful 'hub' for remote workers who don't want to stay at home - something that is much needed in Sevenoaks. I would be very interested in discussing further if this could be of interest.</p>
49.	I am writing to say that the Stag offers so much to our local community and it would be a crying shame for it to close. From the youngest to the oldest members of our town and surrounding villages, all enjoy the theatre and all the entertainment it has to offer, please , please support it , and keep It open for all of us to enjoy.
50.	<p>We have reason to believe that our Stag theatre is under threat to close.</p> <p>This theatre is a great community centre that provides eclectic entertainment for all age groups. Our future generations provide numerous examples of the entertainment world for our older generations, creating an invaluable experience for everyone. With London becoming more and more inaccessible for the majority of us, through expense, travel and safety, The Stag provides a lifeline for every type of taste in entertainment. Therefore it would be an absolute tragic loss for Sevenoaks and our surrounding areas for this beautiful theatre to close.</p>



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<p>51.</p>	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.                  This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.                  Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.                  Please, please reconsider and keep this precious facility open so we can all enjoy the benefits that a local Arts centre provides.</p>
<p>52.</p>	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open. This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.                  Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.                  Please, please reconsider and keep this precious facility open so we can all enjoy the benefits that a local Arts centre provides.</p>
<p>53.</p>	<p>I wanted to get in touch to voice my support in keeping our Stag theatre and cinema open for the community.                  Throughout my time living in Sevenoaks, the Stag has been a regular go-to for all of my family. From the films with the children on a weekend afternoon or after-school treats, to the date-night outings with my husband and group outings with friends, to laugh and cry and have something to have a good old discussion about in the pub afterwards.                  My daughter was also a member of SYT for many years, enjoying both the Monday evening sessions as well as the film-making workshops in the school holidays. She also danced in more 'Chance to Dance' events than I care to remember and the memories of Christmas pantomimes and parties will stay with us.                  Please don't let our Stag down. We need it in so many ways.</p>
<p>54.</p>	<p>I am writing with regards to The Stag Theatre.                  Me and my family have used The Stag theatre for many years.                  From using the cinema facilities to many enjoyable years in the theatre.                  I have been dancing in the theatre for many years going from performing to now helping to organise shows.                  The Stag Theatre is like a second home for our dance family and it is so important for so many others also that the Stag is kept open for the many Adults and Children who enjoy it so very much.</p>
<p>55.</p>	<p>I am writing with concern that the wonderful Stag is under threat due to the current financial situation.                  We really really do not want our lovely venue to be in danger of closing.                  For me personally, I have performed at the Stag Theatre since the age of 5 years old. Some of my happiest childhood memories are performing on that wonderful stage. I now have the greatest pleasure of teaching children to dance and this is the theatre in which my students come to perform. Some of them perform here up to 4 times a year. Being a part of this wonderful theatre brings so much joy to these children and their families who get to watch them on stage. If we did not have this wonderful venue in our local community, performers would miss out on these opportunities and also the audience too, young and old.</p>

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	<p>I know there are many many dance schools and theatre companies that also LOVE the Stag Theatre venue and it would be devastating for so many, if the theatre could not be supported through this crisis.</p> <p>I also bring my family to see the wonderful pantomime held here every Christmas. I enjoy passing the love of theatre arts and the community spirit on to my own young children. Please help to support the Stag.</p>
56.	<p>I've heard that the Stag May close and for Sevenoaks that would be a real shame. The children love the cinema and theatre and I think it keeps them off the streets. It's a great asset for Sevenoaks and will help local business with people from other towns coming to sevenoaks and shopping before or after seeing a show or movie.</p> <p>Please help to keep the Stag</p>
57.	<p>Have been lucky enough to live in Sevenoaks for over 20 years.</p> <p>A community theatre like the Stag has been an important part of our family life: Chance to Dance/ theatre competitions / festivals etc.</p> <p>To lose a venue like this in the heart of Sevenoaks would be a tragedy. It provides accessible arts for so many.</p> <p>I would beg you to do everything in your power to keep the Stag as a vibrant part of our town.</p>
58.	<p>As a school we have enjoyed use of the facilities at The Stag and taking our children to productions - the pantomime is a highlight for them!</p> <p>As a individual, I enjoy use of the cinema and cafe.</p> <p>We would be very sad if such an important community centre was closed. Sevenoaks is a town with a unique community feel - something very precious and worth hanging on to. The Stag is central to this.</p>
59.	<p>I am writing to you in support of keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>I really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times. Let us all stand together and not give in to the hidden adversary that is distorting our lives and the essence of our culture.</p> <p>I hope we can rely on you to do the right thing.</p>
60.	<p>As a local resident, I am writing to urge you to continue supporting The Stag.</p> <p>The town will be all the poorer without this significant cultural venue.</p> <p>Spending money on the arts is an investment.</p> <p>If anything I believe that Sevenoaks would greatly benefit from significantly more investment in the theatre – making it a nationally renowned venue, adding to its homegrown productions, increasing the quality of the cinema and putting it back on the theatrical touring circuit.</p> <p>It could not be a more important time to be doing just that.</p> <p>When people think of the places they want to move to – to work, to raise families, to establish new businesses – the cultural offering is always high on the list. Without an arts venue, Sevenoaks will lose its reputation as such a desirable location. And with shifting demographics and commuting patterns, that seems like a dangerous gamble to take.</p> <p>According the Government, the creative industries contribute £13M every hour to the UK economy.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-creative-industries-contributes-almost-13-million-to-the-uk-economy-every-hour">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-creative-industries-contributes-almost-13-million-to-the-uk-economy-every-hour</a></p>

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	<p>Sevenoaks has a very high percentage of practitioners in the creative industries. They are attracted by the lifestyle – and the theatre is at the heart of that. People may not even visit the theatre very often but they all benefit from the surrounding economy and the social significance of having significant arts provision on their doorstep. But it is perhaps not those people who need the theatre the most.</p> <p>The most vulnerable and under-represented members of our society are those that most benefit from investment in arts provision.</p> <p>The arts are proven to improve the quality of life. Put simply, people who actively participate in the arts are healthier and happier. Surely health and happiness is what the Council exists to provide.</p> <p>And, with an ageing population and with dementia related conditions on the rise, the arts provide answers to many of the questions being asked by the health and welfare sector.</p> <p>A good quality arts provision and outreach programme is also essential to the welfare of young people. Children who study the arts are happier, more rounded and more successful. But that provision relies on an infrastructure and a community that believes in the power of shared cultural experience. What message are we sending our young people by defunding our theatres?</p> <p>The knock-on effects of closure would be hugely damaging and potentially irreversible – without a platform to perform on, without examples to emulate, without places to experience culture, why would our young people turn to the arts?</p> <p>And if we aren't providing the spark of interest, the training ground, the apprenticeships, and the experience, then how will we have a future of lighting technicians, box office staff, dressers, sound engineers, directors, producers and stage-hands, as well as all of the performers?</p> <p>The investment needed to maintain an existing venue is tiny compared to the potential future costs of having to establish a new cultural facility. Once the venue is lost it is unlikely that Sevenoaks (which serves a huge local reach) will ever be in a position to open a new arts venue. Could that mean the end of Sevenoaks' prestige?</p> <p>Central Government has decimated the funding to local authorities; I understand that. But those decision makers love success stories. Why not be trailblazers for investment? Win one of these awards <a href="https://forthearts.org.uk/campaigns/hearts-for-the-arts/">https://forthearts.org.uk/campaigns/hearts-for-the-arts/</a> and use that as leverage for better investment from Westminster.</p> <p>Thanks for ready this note. If I can help to advocate for the arts in other ways, please do let me know.</p> <p>I'd be happy to put you in touch with people from the National Campaign for the Arts or the Creative Industries Federation if evidence from them would help to make a more persuasive argument to keep supporting The Stag.</p>
61.	<p>Hi just writing to express my support for the stag theatre Sevenoaks And to see if there's anything that you can do to help, or we as a community can do to help it survive. It's been such an important part of so many families' histories. It would be a real shame to see it go.</p>
62.	<p>I am writing to you in support of keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>I really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times.</p> <p>I hope we can rely on you to do the right thing.</p>
63.	<p>I am writing to you in support of keeping The Stag open.</p>

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	<p>I really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times.</p> <p>I hope we can rely on you to do the right thing.</p>
64.	<p>I am writing to you in support of keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>I really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times.</p> <p>I hope we can rely on you to do the right thing.</p>
65.	<p>I am writing to appeal to your council to support the continuation of the Stag Theatre, which is the hub of Sevenoaks and so important to the people who live here, particularly for those of the older generation, of which I am one, and who are residents at Rockdale Housing Association, where I live. Many here rely on the Stag for their entertainment and social life. I became a friend of The Stag soon after I moved here some 11years ago, and I and many others here would be devastated if this wonderful venue were to close.</p> <p>I will be donating some of my income towards this end and hope and trust your Council will support the continuation of The Stag Theatre.</p>
66.	<p>Although I am clearly a staff member who is concerned about my job I feel I must just write to also add my voice.</p> <p>We are very much a 'Community' venue and although many people have visited us over the years to see shows, we are also a fixture in the town where people know they will get a warm welcome.</p> <p>Many, particularly of the older generation, come in to see us just to say hello. It's clear that for some, we are perhaps the only person they will have a conversation with.</p> <p>A lot of these people do also come to see films and shows as well because they know they will see a friendly and familiar face.</p> <p>Many, many come on their own as they know they will be welcomed and need not feel uncomfortable.</p> <p>In this we are a vital support for our older generation who are very loyal.</p> <p>We are also an important place for young people just starting venturing out on their own with friends. Parents are very happy to let their 10/11/12 year olds start their independence at the Stag Cinema as we are in the centre of town and therefore much safer and friendlier than the big complexes.</p> <p>Please do vote to Save our Stag. Thanking you in anticipation</p>
67.	<p>I am writing to say that I was horrified to hear that the council is planning to close the Stag Theatre. I deplore this decision if it is to be permanent. I appreciate that times are difficult but the theatre has good support both for drama and cinema. I trust that this is only a temporary situation and would appreciate a reply to clarify what the decision is.</p>
68.	<p>This email is to add my strong support for keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>To do so would, clearly, be a costly course of action and would have to be felt in the rate of Council Tax.</p> <p>But The Stag is such a powerful centripetal force in the town that its closure would have major repercussions for the future of the Town Centre as a whole with all that that means for local economic and social development.</p>

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	<p>So, if ever there was a moment for radical and imaginative public intervention to support and enhance the locality, it is now.</p> <p>The attached photograph from the <b>Sevenoaks 2020</b> project testifies to the longstanding power and significance of The Stag in its diverse engagement with so many aspects of town life far more eloquently than I am capable of in this note.</p>
69.	<p>Sevenoaks Town Council Please support the Stag Theatre financially during COVID! I would like to say how important The Stag Theatre is to the Sevenoaks community. It brings the community together by putting on regular community-based shows, for example the Sevenoaks Players will have over 100 people engaged in putting on a show with people from all backgrounds. This covers groups from orchestras to opera and musicals. It also attracts the professional tours which bring more people from outside of Sevenoaks into the town centre and creates a better image for the town.</p> <p>Also, as highlighted by the Sevenoaks Council, it is instrumental in bringing millions of pounds into the town centre by attracting audiences over the year in the hundreds of thousands, giving the town a more dynamic feel. If we don't have the Stag Theatre the people and the money will go elsewhere and we will have an empty town in the evenings.</p> <p>Please ensure The Stag's future by giving it the financial support it needs to get through the COVID crisis!</p>
70.	<p>I am horrified to hear of the possible closure of the Stag Theatre. Having performed there a number of times and attended many shows I know how vitally important the theatre is.</p> <p>The arts have suffered terribly through this COVID period and to take away such a hub of the community would be devastating for both local people and drama groups. I know that local restaurants would also feel the loss as they are heaving when there's a show on so please re-think this decision and let your community know what can be done to save the Theatre.</p>
71.	<p>I am writing to urge you to reconsider closing the theatre. I know times are uncertain but this theatre is such a great part of the community and history of Sevenoaks. It has to stay. Amateur companies use it and this cannot die out.</p> <p>Please do not close this wonderful theatre</p>
72.	<p>Please keep the Stag theatre open. It is a good venue and central to many peoples lives. There is nothing else in Sevenoaks that fulfills the same role.</p> <p>It provides a community facility which brings much enjoyment and a sense of well being to many, and must surely be good for other businesses in town.</p> <p>As a centre for the local arts, I would hope that the Town Council will do everything it can to keep the Stag Theatre open and thriving.</p> <p>Thank you for working for our good.</p>
73.	<p>With deep sadness I hear that there is talk of closing The Stag.</p> <p>For my family The Stag has played an important role, we have enjoyed multiple pantomimes, cinema trips and other theatre /performances. It's a pivotal part of Sevenoaks social life and it would be an incredible loss of it were to close.</p> <p>The cinema offers value for money for family trips and the staff are lovely and friendly and make you feel welcome.</p> <p>I hope that The Stag will be around in mine and my children's lives for a long time yet!!</p>
74.	<p>My daughter has just advised me that you need to know if people want the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks to be saved.</p> <p>The answer is yes please. Its so great to have a local theatre - a great place to socialise, enjoy cinema and theatre and make an evening or day of it and enjoy a meal too.</p> <p>My husband often films there (dance shows etc) and people come from miles around into the town and bring with them income into the town.</p>

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	<p>..... we would be happy to publicise fund raising and help in some way. Also I'm sure the people in Sevenoaks would not mind a small amount put on their rates for STC for the next year or so to specifically help towards funding /keeping alive the Stag.</p>
75.	<p>I wish to register my objection to the putative closure of The Stag Theatre. I realise that we are all going through straitened times but this theatre represents a considerable cultural asset to the town. On a more venal note: this theatre brings people to the town, and these people spend money there. A trip to the theatre often includes a drink in a pub and a meal in a restaurant. I would rarely find myself in Sevenoaks town unless visiting The Stag Theatre. Please reconsider this decision, don't turn Sevenoaks into a 'cultural desert.'</p>
76.	<p>I am writing to you in the hope that the Stag Theatre can be saved from permanent closure. The Stag has become the heart of the town and it's closure would be an enormous loss to the people of Sevenoaks (young and old alike). For the town to have no cinema, no pantomime, no comedy, and no live community entertainment venue would very much detract from our town residents every day lives. I hope that you can find a way to save 'The Stag' and lead the way in supporting the arts in this much loved community facility.</p>
77.	<p>I hear that you are considering closing the Stag Theatre. This has deeply saddened my husband ... and I. We have been supporters and dedicated audience goers and participants at the theatre for the last 30 odd years. It would be an absolute travesty if the theatre was to close especially now when we are just beginning to get back on track with socialising and working our way back to normality. The theatre and cinema offer a wonderful variety of entertainment and so important to us all, as it provides everyone with affordable entertainment, it is enormously beneficial to those who need cheering up through difficult times and need to forget their troubles for the odd couple of hours, it also keeps Professional and Amateur groups in touch with each other. Many times we have been to the Theatre and bumped into at least 20 people we know at a time whereby we have bounced ideas off each other for next production ideas we can perform at the Stag. I implore you not to close, Sevenoaks has enough funds to support this theatre, it is one of the richest towns in the Country and I am absolutely certain that if you ask people to dig deep into their pockets they would be only too willing to help. If you need a hand at fundraising ..... and I would be only too happy to help. This is so important please do not fall at the first hurdle, this Theatre has survived for hundreds of years so please, please, please save it and start concentrating on how to keep it going rather than working out how to close it down. Things always have a way of working out positively. I implore you once again....SAVE OUR STAG THEATRE!!</p>
78.	<p>We write to express our concern over the potential closure of 'The Stag' theatre. Having a local theatre and cinema is very important to us and to our children. We would not have bought a property here in Sevenoaks if 'The Stag' did not exist, it was one of the reasons for settling here. We would hate our children to grow up in a town without a cultural hub. We strongly believe that the Arts should be high on the council's agenda, surely it is an aid to health and wellbeing for the residents of Sevenoaks. The Stag enriches the life of our community and we would be truly devastated if it were to close. It is crucial to the life and soul of the town.</p>
79.	<p>I would like to add my name to those writing to you in support of the application for a grant to enable the Stag to continue operating, Sevenoaks would be a much sadder place without it, the variety of 'offerings' from films to craft shows to band and</p>

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	comedy nights is much appreciated, and proves a big draw which in turn supports the local hospitality industry.
80.	<p>We have been informed that there is a possibility that Sevenoaks Stag Theatre May close!</p> <p>Can we please express our concerns against this!</p> <p>The Stag Theatre is extremely popular and an important amenity to the town.</p> <p>The cafes/restaurants would suffer hugely.</p> <p>There would be less footfall which means less revenue for everyone.</p> <p>Please register our opposition to this move.</p>
81.	<p>I am disappointed to hear that there is a possibility of closing the Stag.</p> <p>This would be a huge loss to the local area both financially and culturally.</p> <p>Both my daughters are involved in dance, drama and music and often their shows are performed here. We have enjoyed many productions here along with seeing a variety of film.</p>
82.	<p>I am sad to hear that The Stag Theatre is struggling due to the COVID 19 outbreak. The Stag Theatre has been a part of my life since I was 16. (I'm now almost 42) Mr Mcewen's costume hire store is my earliest memory of the Stag and I experienced some of my first shows there performing and viewing.</p> <p>Roll on to when I was in my early 30's I decided to go back to performing and I have personally been on the Stag Stage in over 50 shows in the last 10 years. Both my young daughters who were in local dance schools, school performances and amateur dramatic groups, had their 1st experiences of performing on stage at the Stag and these are precious memories. We also frequent the cinema, and have had birthday parties there! But the great thing about the Stag Cinema is that it was a safe place for my children as they have grown to view films independently and meet their friends. It's so important for young people to have a place like this in their community.</p> <p>My family and I regularly use the Stag I go to the Panto every year, I see the musicals and comedy shows that they put on and it is always a good day out without having to trekk to a different town, whenever we see a show there we always eat in town and this will also mean that without the Stag other businesses will suffer. I love taking my children, my 92 year old grandmother (who without the theatre so close could never go) and it's always a treat with my mum. In fact we had tickets pre booked for shows that have now been cancelled and if the Stag cannot survive we will truly miss it.</p> <p>My eldest daughter got her first job here, and over the last 5 years I have been a casual worker at the Stag because I love it, and even though I have a full time job I do shifts when ever I can. Please do not think that my passion for the Stag is because I work there occasionally!</p> <p>The Stag is really unique and I hope that you know how much it means to the people who live in Sevenoaks, without it the community and town will not be the same.</p> <p>Please help the Stag during this difficult time. It will be a travesty if this amazing building and community centre has to close its doors.</p>
83.	<p>We read with genuine dismay that the Stag is in peril. We live in Otford, are in our middle eighties and the Stag is our cultural lifeline. We never go into London now and to be able to go to the Stag to see the latest films, the streaming of major productions from The National Theatre or Stratford on Avon is just wonderful, and so easy. The thought of losing that amenity is just so depressing. We will be donating to the appeal from the Stag and hope, sincerely, that the theatre will be saved.</p>
84.	<p>I have heard that the council are considering closing the stag theatre in Sevenoaks. This would be a great miss judgement. People travel some distance to go to different shows there. And more often than not they eat locally and use the local shops. Sevenoaks would be half a far less interesting place without the stag theatre.</p>

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85.	I am against the closure of the Stag Theatre.
86.	<p>I understand you will shortly be discussing the future of our local and much loved Stag Theatre. I do hope you will be able to agree to securing the continuation of this important feature of our locality.</p> <p>The contribution of this Theatre is not only an essential for the community, but provides employment, fun for it's patrons, and the visitors contribute to the local shops and restaurants.</p> <p>Hopefully the Council will give approval to the continuation of one of the Districts landmarks, and historical traditions</p>
87.	<p>I would hate the Stag to close, it is the heart of our town.</p> <p>I go often to see most of the films , also to see very good shows .</p> <p>One I have just had postponed is Giovanni Pernice I do hope I will see him next year .</p> <p>Also all of all the hard work that the people who do not get paid work so well .</p> <p>Please Please do all you can to keep the Stag open when we try to get back to normal.</p>
88.	<p>Please help the residents of Sevenoaks to keep their theatre and cinema.</p> <p>The Stag is central to the town and to many of our lives and everyone would be devastated to lose this much loved amenity.</p> <p>Whether it is attending an Amateur or Professional performance, enjoying a coffee, celebrating an event or watching a film The Stag is where it is at.</p> <p>My family and I really hope The Stag will be able to re-open soon and with your help carry on opening its welcoming doors to local audiences and visitors for many years to come.</p>
89.	<p>I am writing to you in support of the Stag Theatre. Since I moved to Sevenoaks eight years ago with my husband, pregnant with my first child, the theatre has played an important part of our life here. It was at the Stag that my son had his first trip to the cinema (to see Thomas the Tank Engine: Sodor's Legend of the Lost Treasure) - I kept the popcorn cup as a memento! As a family, we have also enjoyed the fantastic pantomime's at Christmas, as well as the cafe which has always been welcoming to children and been a pleasant place to enjoy a refreshment. We are also lucky to have experienced some of the best comedy acts around at the Stag, making what would otherwise be an expensive trip into London more accessible to us and others in the local community. A trip to the cinema at the Stag is a much more pleasant and affordable option than going to one of the big screens outside of the town. We would absolutely be lost without the Stag, and I really hope that it can be saved for us and future generations to enjoy.</p>
90.	<p>I am contacting you to express my strong support in favour of keeping the Stag Theatre open.</p> <p>The Stag is a vital hub of our community. It draws business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. This it has done for decades.</p> <p>Any call for the closure of The Stag seems counterproductive, at a time when the Town Council could be looking to redefine the town centre with integrity and a view to drawing our community together. It's closure would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>
91.	The stag sevenoaks. This is the flag ship of seveñoks
92.	I understand that you are considering the closure of The Stag Theatre. As a ser and rate payer residing in Sevenoaks I would not support this.
93.	<p>Please support the stag it has helped my daughter become part of the theatre world.</p> <p>Last year was her first year performing in panto and she couldn't wait to audition for this years Alice in wonderland.</p>



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	It's such a great theatre please support it with some extra funding.
94.	We are a local family who do not live in Sevenoaks itself but live in Chiddingstone but regularly come to the stag to the cinema and shows including the wonderful pantomime and chance to dance. The Stag draws us to the town generally and we use restaurants and shops because of The Stag. We strongly support the Stag as a wonderful community centre. Thanks for your support as a local council.
95.	<p>My family and I have attended the stag theatre now for since I was a child. I am now 33, and have a child of my own. 2019 was her first panto and she absolutely loved it, she has the panto bug now and is already looking forward to the 2020 production, as am I, her grandfather and auntie. It's our after Christmas tradition to attend a show and the feeling we have each year is such happiness that we get to create these special memories, not only together but in a place we associate with warmth, love and laughter.</p> <p>During this pandemic I think we all are looking forward to sense of normality, it would be a tragedy if Sevenoaks were to lose the Stag and the history that it holds. I appreciate that council money is precious, and there are many businesses that are struggling. However I also fear losing the Stag will impact on the hospitality trade and stores in the local area. I now live in Tonbridge and out of all the theatres I always opt for the Stag before any other. We love its traditional décor, the memories it holds for us and the amazing productions we've been fortunate to attend. Please take this into consideration when making decisions on supporting this crucial community focused business.</p>
96.	<p>im a huge pantomime fan i have been coming to sevenoaks to the panto since 2012 i always book as as the tickets go on sale iv got to know some of the cast ..... as well as meny of the geting to know the celebrities that join rhe cast annually. Christmas for me is pantomimes i love coming to sevenoaks to spend weekend in kent as i live in Portsmouth (3-4 hrs on a train ) as well as the cast and crew the stag staff are very friendly and welcoming evertime.. id be hugely disappointed if it gets cancelled this year.</p> <p>I have already booked for 6 performances and most probably be wanting to book more if goes ahead</p> <p>And i do belive steg theatre put on the BEST PANTOMIMES</p> <p>Fingers crossed this all go ahead.</p>
97.	I wish to register my objection to the closure by Sevenoaks of the Stag theatre It has been & should continue to provide entertainment & pleasure for audiences & participants , some of whom were founders of the theatre led by ..... many years ago.
98.	<p>I am writing to support the petition to save the Stag Theatre from permanent closure. For the last five years I have performed as part of The Chance to Dance Festival at the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>This festival includes numerous dance schools and groups and hundreds of children as well as adults. The creativity, joy and atmosphere of the shows is outstanding. I understand that the theatre is used for many other theatre, music and art groups.</p> <p>I am hoping that the council will do all in their power to save the theatre and the good work it does for people's creativity and mental health.</p>
99.	We would like to please ask you to consider helping the stag theatre to stay open. Our daughter's dance school perform there regularly and it would be catastrophic if this cannot happen any more.
100.	I started my to granddaughters there and they really love going . It would be very sad if it closed.

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101.	<p>When we visit friends in Sevenoaks we often go to The Stag and I am sending this email to show my support to keep The Stag open. As well as being an essential community facility it also attracts people and business from further afield. Small Independent venues like this have an important role to play in tackling issues around loneliness and isolation and encouraging community cohesion, as well as promoting the arts. Closure of The Stag would be a huge loss and it would be a real shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>
102.	<p>Hi, I just wanted to express my support for the stag theatre and urge the council to do what they can to assist it in the current climate. It's a real asset to the town and would be devastating to lose it.</p>
103.	<p>I'm sure you're aware that the Stag Theatre is in trouble and needs funding to survive. Both my daughters have danced and will dance again at the Stag and I feel it's important that for the fitness and mental health concerns of all those who perform there, that the stage remains funded and open. My daughters will be very upset not be able to dance at their local theatre again.</p>
104.	<p>I am writing to you in support of keeping The Stag open. I really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times. Let us all stand together and not give in to the hidden adversary that is distorting our lives and the essence of our culture. I hope we can rely on you to do the right thing.</p>
105.	<p>I am writing to support the Stag in their application for a grant to help them remain a part of the heart and soul of Sevenoaks. We have lived and worked in Sevenoaks for 14 years. The worst of those years was when the Stag doors were closed and it's future uncertain. Since it reopened it has managed to provide us with a fantastic family venue and brought the community together. We have loved the cinemas, the opportunity to see professional productions, SYTs and most of all perform in and watch the amateur productions and dance school shows .... everything. We are an extended family of 8 who all use the stag all the time. As staying local becomes a key factor in the covid era, the Stag is one of the most important assets Sevenoaks has as a small town community, and should be supported to remain open in every possible way.</p>
106.	<p>I understand you are to meet shortly to discuss whether to offer financial support to the Stag theatre. Myself and my family love seeing the panto each Christmas at the Stag and would miss it if it was gone as it is a much loved traditional outing for us over the festive period and we sing and dance for weeks afterwards! Please, we need to keep venues like the stag alive as they bring in people far and wide to Sevenoaks town.</p>
107.	<p>I believe you are considering the possibility of financially support the Stag Theatre during these difficult times. I urge you to do this. The Stag Theatre is a main focus of Sevenoaks town. It serves a wide area of people, offering them amazing creative and musical experiences. Not only that but it is also home to many future budding actors, dancers, directors and stage crew. Musical, theatrical and cinematic entertainment is absolutely crucial to our community. Vital for positive mental health and well being. Where would be for this lovely town not to have any of that. We want people to come to Sevenoaks and enjoy</p>

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	<p>it. With the cinema and theatre brings people to cafes, restaurants, bars and shops. So many benefit. Please please I urge you to help this focal point of Sevenoaks continue to entertain the local people for many years to come.</p>
108.	<p>Please add my voice to the list of people who support all that is being done to keep the complex open. As a founder member of the STAG (Sevenoaks Theatre Action Group) in the seventies I know how much effort has been made over the years to keep it going and looking forward re the future of High Streets in general it will be leisure activities which keeps it going not to mention its importance in your proposed Town Plan. I want future generations to have this facility too.</p>
109.	<p>I am deeply saddened to hear the Stag Theatre May have to close, the pantomime season at the Stag provides the first experience of live theatre for children and their families, and a much loved traditional outing for an entire family, from grandparents and parents, to teenagers and kids. The Stag gives hundreds of talented young dancers their first taste of professional theatre, and provided a first break to artists that have gone on to develop a career in tv. It's also been the home to my daughters dance shows over the years giving her so much joy and pleasure performing to family and friends. It's local and has such a wonderful, intimate feel to it and brings people from outside the area to Sevenoaks. Christmas especially would not be the same, pre-theatre dinner in one of Sevenoaks many eateries followed by the Panto has been a family tradition for years and hopefully for many years to come. PLEASE SAVE THE STAG</p>
110.	<p>Both our daughters have been heavily involved with this wonderful theatre, via SYT for many years. Films in a Week, regular weekly Monday SYT sessions, with many years of Panto visits and outings to our wonderful little cinema. I cannot put into words how important this has been to them, and to us as a family. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful resource in our town. Please do all you can to ensure that we do not lose this jewel in our crown, it means such a lot to the people of Sevenoaks.</p>
111.	<p>In response to me hearing that the theatre is in trouble financially, I would like to offer my support by passing on my thoughts of the experiences I have of the theatre. The pantomimes are very entertaining and it would be a shame to see this disappear. I find them better than more expensive pantomimes such as the Orchard theatre in Dartford. My daughter is also part of Dance Act theatre school in Hextable and attends 'Chance to dance' events held at the stag theatre twice yearly, along with the two yearly variety show held exclusively for the dance school for a whole weekend. These events are truly amazing and would be greatly missed if the theatre were to close, having a major impact on young people not being able to express themselves through dance in this way.</p>
112.	<p>I understand that the council are meeting to decide whether or not to offer the Stag financial support to get them through this difficult period. I just wanted to say that the Stag plays such a vital role in our local community. It is a beacon of art and community creativity and is part of what makes Sevenoaks so unique. There are so few towns left that have such a great facility and it adds so much to the charm and character of the local area. The annual pantomimes are a long-standing tradition amongst local families, the local cinema is a fantastic facility where parents are happy to send their children for parties,</p>

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	<p>group outings and family occasions and it is wonderful to have a venue where artists come and perform from all over the UK.</p> <p>Personally, we would be devastated if it were to close; especially my teenage daughter who is a member of the Stag Youth Theatre group. She has dreadfully missed this group during lockdown as it offers her, and the other young people who attend it, a superb outlet for their creativity and an opportunity to make new friends and develop their performance skills.</p> <p>If there is any way that the council can support the Stag, we would be very grateful, and I'm sure most of the people of Sevenoaks would feel the same way.</p>
113.	<p>I am emailing you to ask you to financially support the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>We need this lovely Theatre complex, the Arts need to be supported during this difficult time , this theatre provides an essential service to the area , cinema, theatre , panto, shows etc.</p>
114.	<p>With the current climate, the arts industry has taken a massive hit and will really struggle to survive it if the government don't offer sufficient support.</p> <p>I have seen the Sevenoaks panto many times and feel it's a huge asset for the community. Live theatre provides great entertainment for families and supports the professionals working so hard to make it all happen on stage.</p> <p>Please save the Sevenoaks panto with extra funding and support.</p>
115.	<p>I live in Sevenoaks with my family and we feel very lucky to have the Stag as part of our community.</p> <p>We have had many happy times there whether this is with adult friends to comedy nights or with the kids to shows and the cinema and for the last 12 years we have spent Christmas Eve with you at the panto.</p> <p>We have booked many tickets for this year including our panto tickets and truly hope that the Stag can be saved as an important part of our community.</p>
116.	<p>In recent news in regards to the Panto at Sevenoaks and the talk of closure I would just like to say a few words about how much I love every year going to watch the show with family and friends.</p> <p>They get funnier and better every year! I think it would be a great lose if last year was the last!</p>
117.	<p>I am writing to petition you to PLEASE keep the panto going at the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>We have been going to see the panto regularly each Christmas as a family of three different generations. It appeals to all ages and we thoroughly enjoy the shows each and every time. It's become part of our Christmas festivities!</p> <p>Please keep this tradition going!!</p>
118.	<p>I have learned that the Stag Theatre is in talks to see if it is going to remain a working theatre... this is something that should not even be in question.</p> <p>As a Sevenoaks resident I cannot begin to tell you how important the theatre is to the community and surrounding areas, from the music tributes to the glorious Christmas Panto it truly brings the community together and is a staple of the town.</p> <p>Not only the residents of the town / district benefit from the theatre but also all the local restaurants and bars, closing the theatre will have such an impact on our amazing Highstreet.</p> <p>I please urge you that although times are currently hard we will be able to be together again and what a better way to do this but to be able to put on some amazing shows in our amazing town.</p> <p>Please don't let it close!</p>
119.	<p>Please please consider The Stag when distributing funds. We have visited The Panto for the last 5 years. We currently have tickets for this year. We have also used the cinema</p>

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	<p>and frequented various shows during the year. The Stag is part of Sevenoaks high streets identity well know and loved by people far and wide.</p> <p>My daughter attended .....and took her dance GCSE this year. A few of her friends have been very fortunate to perform at The Stag and it would be a great shame to lose that local opportunity for young performers.</p> <p>The residents will be extremely grateful for any support you can give.</p>
120.	<p>I am hearing the sad news that the Stag Theatre's future is under threat because of the lockdown and lack of funds.</p> <p>My family and I would be absolutely heartbroken if it was to close down. We go to the wonderful pantos every year, and my partner and I always go with a group of friends to the tribute nights you do (that has become a birthday tradition for us both!). We have had SUCH great times there. Not to mention the amount of birthday parties I've been to at the cinema - both my childrens' AND their friends' parties.</p> <p>We shall be happy to donate to help keep it going. Also, if there is anything else we can do please let us know.</p> <p>Just wanted to let you know our thoughts (our friends feel the same).</p> <p>KEEP THE STAG 🙏🙏</p>
121.	<p>I am writing to you regarding the Stag Theatre and in particular the Youth Theatre. I urge you to consider funding this beautiful theatre and securing it's future.</p> <p>My daughter belongs to the SYT and it's been amazing. The enthusiasm and hard work of the team is so evident. All of the children that belong to it clearly love it. It's fantastic for them to be able to be part of really professionally produced plays. It's great for their confidence and improving life skills. If we are going to continue to produce world class theatre, film and actors in the UK, we need regional theatre to 'homegrow' new blood. Please support this amazing local theatre.</p>
122.	<p>It has come to my knowledge that some big decisions about whether to keep the Stag open are imminent.</p> <p>I am writing to offer my keenest sport in favour of keeping the Stag open.</p> <p>It is such a wonderful community hub that provides business to the town as well as first class entertainment. It would be a real sadness and an huge loss for the town if it were to go. It could even be developed further as a community facility.</p> <p>I am hopeful that you will do everything in your power to keep it open. The town is relying on you for this.</p>
123.	<p>I write to request most sincerely that the Stag theatre is saved.</p> <p>My daughter ..... attended Stag Youth theatre's Tuesday group weekly , and it built her confidence and self esteem. .... at Stag Youth Theatre she could find her own voice, and become totally absorbed in a creative activity.</p> <p>It was vital for her mental well-being . Not only is it a creative centre but it also fosters health and social connections.</p> <p>Without it I think there will be increased problems of the youth of Sevenoaks having nowhere to go and nothing to do.</p> <p>And more than anything, it means so much to my daughter. She desperately wants to go back to SYT when this is all over. To lose the Stag would be an awful loss.</p>
124.	<p>I am writing to let you know how much the Stag Theatre means to my family.</p> <p>My daughter is a dancer and performs with Dance Act Theatre School. The Stag Theatre has provided us with fantastic memories of her performing her Variety shows over the years. As a chaperone for her shows I also have fond memories of the theatre making us feel welcome and there is a real family spirit about the theatre.</p>

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	<p>She has also performed at Chance to Dance and we have been fortunate to watch two of our god daughters perform on the same day but for Two other dance schools based in Kent. Such a great experience for us all.</p> <p>The theatre needs to remain open for the local community and for a focal point of the town centre.</p>
125.	<p>I would just like to send a message of support for the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. The theatre means a great deal to my family we have watched our daughter perform on stage with her dance school and she experienced her first pantomime at this theatre. Sevenoaks wouldn't be the same with the Stag.</p>
126.	<p>I've heard that you are potentially closing the Stag Theatre My Nieces have been performing there for as long as I can remember and thanks to Vikki's Dance Act the performances have always been both brilliant and beautiful We live in Bexleyheath so are not local but we always come to performances and always go for a nice meal either before or after in one one the many restaurants, I wonder how many others do this ? The days the shows are on there must be an influx of visitors using your local pubs cafes shops and restaurants , by closing the Stag Theatre, will this change?? I'm sure your local businesses hope that it doesn't Thank you for your time.</p>
127.	<p>I am writing to say how upset I am at the threat of the Stag Theatre potentially at risk of closure. I appreciate that the Covid-19 pandemic has affected all of us around the globe and life will take a while to return to a sense of normality but Theatre and the Arts are so important to leisure and local communities.</p> <p>I am sure you are doing all you can to save the Stag but please consider the effect on the local communities and local arts project before to make the decision to close this wonderful theatre.</p>
128.	<p>Having heard about the possible closure of the Stag Theatre, I would like to express my concern and hope that this decision will be reconsidered. Of course all theatres have been closed during lockdown but things will improve and I think local theatres are a very important part of the community.</p> <p>I myself have performed at The Stag many times as a member of an over 50's dance group and it is a wonderful theatre, well run and with a lovely atmosphere. It gives so many local groups a chance to perform on stage in activities such as Chance to Dance and for young children this is often their first taste of live theatre. It also means that local people can see many shows and acts that they would probably not otherwise get a chance to see without going up to London.</p> <p>I do hope you will decide that it would be a serious loss to the community to close the Stag Theatre and that it will continue to flourish for many years to come.</p>
129.	<p>I am writing to express my support for The Stag Theatre in securing support to enable it to continue to function.</p> <p>I have used this theatre for many years, for the cinema and live shows.</p> <p>My daughter in particular has performed many times on this stage in her dancing shows and we have a lot of fond memories.</p> <p>I believe that it is vitally important to support the arts and do not wish this lovely theatre to close due to the pandemic.</p>
130.	<p>I am writing to you with regards to the stag theatre as I understand that you are meeting next week in relation to its future.</p> <p>Sevenoaks Town would be lost without The Stag. It has remained in the town for many years, I went as a child and now I am taking my own family here. We use it for the cinema and for our family outing to the pantomime. When we go, we also go for lunch/dinner so we support other local businesses. It is such an important part of our lives. Being able to walk there is a massive bonus - we don't have to go to Tunbridge Wells or Bluewater!</p>

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	<p>Please, please, please save it!!! We have lost so much of our town and I fear that losing the Stag would have a massive knock on effect</p>
131.	<p>The Stag theatre is very important to Sevenoaks. We love going as a family to the Panto every year and other productions. It's a great facility for the town and we would be very sad to lose it. I would support any fundraising efforts to keep it open. Please continue to support the Stag.</p>
132.	<p>I am emailing to add my support for Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks          Since 1995 Chance to Dance has grown through being able to base it's performances at the Theatre. It has given thousands of dancers over our 25 years the opportunity to perform on it's professional sized stage and is able to give the space to accommodate so many performers in changing areas backstage, very few theatres are able to offer this facility.          If Stag Theatre is unable to raise funding and continue it will be a huge loss not only to my company but the knock on effect to many many dancing schools will be felt across Kent and the south east.          Sadly for Sevenoaks this would mean moving the main Chance to Dance performances into West Sussex this being where the next closest theatre is that can accommodate Chance to Dance due to the numbers involved.          Finally as we know from past experiences when the theatre was closed, how much many businesses in Sevenoaks rely on the theatre being open for their livelihood</p>
133.	<p>I am writing in the lead-up to your meeting on Wednesday 24 June to support if possible, your financial support to the Stag, to help it through this uncertain time, and secure the future of theatre and cinema in Sevenoaks.          I and my family come every year from West Malling to attend your fantastic panto season. I know so many others do to.          Sevenoaks' annual panto has given hundreds of talented young dancers their first taste of professional theatre, and provided a first break to artists that have gone on to develop a career in theatre and television.          The Stag provides not just the enjoyment of patrons, but the cultural enrichment and development of many. It provides numerous mental health benefits to attendees and performers from the local area.          I appreciate your budget is tight, but ask that you support the Stag at this unprecedented time.</p>
134.	<p>It has come to my attention that the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks may not be able to reopen and this is heartbreaking for so many of us. I just wanted to express how much value the theatre has for the community of Sevenoaks and I really hope you will make every effort to save it.          In particular the Sevenoaks panto has provided so much joy annually for years, please don't undervalue this. For so many children it's the first time they have been to see a live show and see the magic of theatre. Seeing the panto at The Stag has become one of our most anticipated Christmas traditions and I can't imagine Christmas without it.          Please do everything you can. The arts are so crucial to the community.</p>
135.	<p>Please keep the stag open, it is a wonderful place to see all types of shows, and it also make Sevenoaks a place to visit</p>
136.	<p>I understand that the council will be making a decision in regards to helping the Stag Theatre with some financial support following the COVID 19 outbreak and the hardship that has brought to the entertainment sector. I expect that you will have many requests for funding that that choices will be difficult.          I just wanted to say that we have lived in this area since 2013 and love the Stag Theatre and all it has to offer. It is so nice to have an alternative cinema rather than going to Bluewater or an Odeon, we also love the Pantomime each Christmas and have been to</p>

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	<p>bigger theatres but always prefer the Stag to any other. We have also seen Russel Howard a couple of times and the venue is so up close and personal.</p> <p>Our youngest daughter attends .....school and last year started going to the Stag Youth Theatre. This has opened her up to meeting young people from all walks of life and backgrounds, as well as being a mixed group. She has grown in confidence and has enjoyed every moment of the group as well as performing.</p> <p>I know the the Stag has been asking for donations and we have already given to that but I just wanted to let you know how much we value all it has to offer and hope that you will consider helping to keep it open.</p>
<p>137.</p>	<p>I first started as a dancer in Sevenoaks panto in 2010 and have been fortunate enough to dance every year in the pantomime since. Because of the stag I am now training at ..... College to peruse my professional career, and I had my first professional contract in Dick Whittington.</p> <p>I know so many people now at dance college and in the industry, who are there because of the opportunities the Stag Panto provided them with.</p> <p>When I was younger, with my dance school We used to take part in competitions and shows at the Stag. I would hate for the young dancers at dance schools now not to be given the same opportunities I've had.</p> <p>The industry I am training to join right now is in a really dangerous situation, and to think my local theatre might close is very upsetting.</p> <p>I would urge the council to Save the stag and support it financially, until it's able to re open. Thankyou for taking the time to read my email.</p>
<p>138.</p>	<p>I am writing to ask that the future of the Stag theatre is secured. I believe it holds an incredibly valuable place in our community, in particular as it makes the Arts more accessible to so many local people, particularly with its screening of West end performances, live opera and ballet. Those art forms are often highly priced, but the Stag has enable more people to be able to enjoy these performances. Particularly as an independent business the Stag is valuable to Sevenoaks as a whole, for the local economy too, encouraging visitors to our wonderful town.</p> <p>Particularly during stressful times, losing yourself in a film, play or comedy show is hugely cathartic for so many people, and to be able to keep this going within Sevenoaks I feel is integral.</p> <p>I appreciate the financial situation is incredibly difficult at the moment, but I hope I speak for many people when I say that the loss of a venue like the Stag would be devastating.</p>
<p>139.</p>	<p>I am sure you will receive many emails requesting financial support for our local theatre. I will keep mine short and just say please do consider both the enjoyment it provides to visitors, young &amp; old and from far and wide, but also the trade it brings in for our local restaurants, pubs and car parks.</p> <p>As a Sevenoaks resident I feel the loss of the Stag Theatre would most certainly have a detrimental effect on its residents but also economy.</p>
<p>140.</p>	<p>In these difficult times for so many businesses, and for the arts in particular, I am really worried about the future of the Stag Theatre. This theatre has been a big part of the Sevenoaks community since I was a child, and now my own children and I continue to enjoy all that it has to offer - theatre productions, pantomimes, cinema, live music, comedy shows, school dance shows, etc etc. To lose this wonderful establishment would be a tragedy for the people of Sevenoaks. It has been saved from closure before, because local people rallied together to give it a sustainable future, and it has gone on to become a thriving venue once more, hosting big names and faces from the arts world.</p>



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	<p>I implore the Town Council to do everything in its power to save the Stag from being destroyed by this awful virus... we will all need everything it has to offer in the future, as something positive to bring our local community together when "normality" returns.</p>
141.	<p>I was really sad to hear that The Stag is at risk of closure. I'm aware that the Management is seeking to raise funds independently, but I'm writing to ask whether the Council is able to provide any financial assistance during this period of enforced closure.</p> <p>My family and I moved to Sevenoaks twenty years ago and, barring the short period when it closed previously, have been regular visitors ever since. The Stag is a huge asset to Sevenoaks and it's a privilege to have access to current films, concerts, comedy nights, National Theatre screenings and a top quality panto without having to travel. It's a real community hub - we regularly bump into friends and neighbours there - and it appears to be well supported with very good audiences at many events. Furthermore, The Stag holds special memories for our family; it's where both my children saw their first films and where both did their volunteering for the Duke of Edinburgh scheme many years later. We would all be very sad to see it close.</p> <p>The fact that The Stag has thrived for at least ten years in its current guise shows that it is a well run and viable business; it just needs some help to get over this difficult time. I would urge the Council to support The Stag in any way possible because Sevenoaks would be a lot poorer without it.</p>
142.	<p>I understand that you're meeting later in June to discuss whether to continue funding for the Stag.</p> <p>I know that you'll have many competing challenges in the current environment - but the Stag is a vital part of our community. It serves so many purposes for our town and is one of the reasons that we retain our charm and attraction.</p> <p>We've been to the Stag many times over the years and it's always well supported. Our children's dance shows were always staged there - and the annual panto is a vital part of our Christmas tradition. We still go every year even though they are grown up.</p> <p>We've seen bands, plays, musicals, films there amongst other things and would be devastated if it had to close.</p> <p>If I was in your position I can see that it's a simple decision not to approve funding for the short term gain. However, I'd ask you to challenge and question yourself about what negative and irreversible impact your decision would have in the longer term in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I wish you wisdom and vision when you consider the funding question.</p>
143.	<p>I have heard that the Stag might be needing additional funding from the council and I really am keen for this to happen.</p> <p>Not only is it a vital centre point for community meeting eg new mums meeting for mutual feeding support, but also for local entertainment. We love going to the Panto every year and when we didn't have a car we went to the cinema once a month at the Stag. We now still go to the cinema there and prefer it over bluewater etc as it's a nicer experience.</p> <p>We've gone to magic shows and kids live entertainment and tribute bands and all sorts! Please save it!!</p>
144.	<p>We really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times.</p>

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	<p>We very much hope we can rely on you to do whatever is needed to keep the Stag operational.</p>
145.	<p>When I heard that the Stag Cinema was in danger of being shut down forever, I was shocked. It's been a part of Sevenoaks for as long as I can remember, I've grown up watching films, plays and pantomimes there. I've even had the pleasure of participating in one of the plays, courtesy of the Stag Youth Theatre, one of the most enjoyable parts of my week. Closing it down, not fighting hard enough to keep it open would be a bad move on your part, and would have people flocking to the Odeon in Tunbridge Wells as soon as lockdown has been lifted and the newest must-see blockbusters have been released. And from a purely economical standpoint, many people would lose their jobs! I truly hope that you listen to the emails you must have flooding your inbox, and fight to save the Stag.</p>
146.	<p>I have been alerted to the possibility that the Stag Theatre in own town is under threat of closure. I would like to add my voice to the call to say that this would be a devastating blow to our community. The Arts have suffered as a whole at this time, as never before, but we cannot give up on them. There are many things which can transfer (sadly in my opinion) on line, but the experience of being in a live theatre cannot.</p> <p>The groups that use the theatre as a venue are numerous. Including the Stag Youth Theatre, of which my teenage son is a member. This group is a wonderful focus for the young people of our town. Giving them such opportunities to be creative, in a proper theatre. I am sure it does not need to be pointed out the necessity to provide meaningful creative outlets for our local teenagers.</p> <p>Not to mention all the other groups and organisations that use the venue, from the local area and further afield. The live screenings from National theatres, making the Arts more accessible for many more. The list is long.</p> <p>We have been so fortunate to have our own local Cinema, which is a valued recreational resource in our town. Without this, as you know, people will travel out of town. When I would imagine, you want to maintain a vibrancy here. Bringing valuable customers to the local shops, cafes and restaurants. You only have to look at the success of the Art House Cinema in Oxted, to see a thriving local Cinema business in action.</p> <p>When financial cuts are necessary please do not let it be Arts and Culture. We would do well to remember how necessary Arts and Culture are to Mental Health and Wellbeing.</p> <p>I hope that you will listen carefully to the many voices in support of the Stag and do whatever is in your power to secure its future.</p>
147.	<p>I just want to support the work of the Stag Theatre and highlight that I think it is an integral part of our community. We attend the panto every year, my childrens first theatre experience and both my girls have performed in dance shows at the stag since preschool age. Such a valuable and important learning experience. Please do everything you can to keep this important part of our town alive. I am happy to contribute to this.</p>
148.	<p>I would like to urge you to support the Stag Theatre by agreeing to the funding request. We have lived in Sevenoaks for nearly 30 years and it is the best local facility for us. We have supported cinema and all kinds of theatre over the years, with children going to performances and also having the opportunity to go on stage too.</p> <p>My parents are now nearly 80 and also live locally. They still go weekly when open so it is an amazing outlet for all ages. They would not be able to travel to another site so would not be so enriched if it closed.</p> <p>Please do help keep our local heritage Theatre open.</p>

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149.	<p>I write in support of the Stag Theatre, I hear there is a meeting regarding the Council's potential future involvement on the 24th of June.</p> <p>My daughter has been attending the Youth Theatre at the Stag for three years. The Stag is our community space in Sevenoaks, we have attended events at the Stag and consider it to be a reason we chose and continue to choose to live in the area.</p> <p>I am convinced the community will come out in full force to support the continued opening of the Stag and I would very much hope to see our Local Council take a lead on this.</p>
150.	<p>I am writing in support of maintaining The Stag in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>For years it has played a part in my family's lives from when the children first performed on the stage to attending plays, cinema, live concerts and much more.</p> <p>I believe we need The Stag as it represents a place where the community can connect. A place where we go and can still feel a sense of belonging - something we need even more in today's world of uncertainty.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention in important issue.</p>
151.	<p>Keep theatre open. I've seen some fantastic shows at this lovely warm family theatre.</p>
152.	<p>As you are aware The Stag is in need of extremely beneficial income &amp; my family &amp; I would just like to outline what The Stag means to us!</p> <p>For many years we have been coming to see the fabulous pantos, my sister &amp; cousins have been part of them too!</p> <p>The dance school I work at has their fabulous Variety Show at The Stag Theatre &amp; all of our hundreds of pupils work so hard to put the show together!</p> <p>Our elite team of performers also take part in the Chance to Dance performances held at The Stag.</p> <p>The Stag means a great deal to me, my family, my pupils &amp; my profession &amp; we hope that you do whatever is necessary to help.</p>
153.	<p>I understand that there is to be a council meeting to discuss the future of the Stag As a local resident and regular supporter of the Stag I wish to emphasise how important our Theatre and cinema is to the local community. I very much enjoy going to the Stag as somewhere I can go on my own and feel safe and invariably see other people in the same situation. It's a great meeting place to meet friends and it's a valuable part of our community So please will Sevenoaks council continue to support this valuable asset</p>
154.	<p>I have just seen the post on Facebook regarding the possible closing of Sevenoaks panto this year and I am very upset about this.</p> <p>I understand that we are going through a global pandemic but making decisions about something that may not begin for months is a mistake.</p> <p>For many Sevenoaks Panto is a magical, heartwarming event that happens each year. I have been going to Sevenoaks Panto for the last 7 years, as my cousin was dancing in every show. All my grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and my immediate family came to watch the show every year, sometimes multiple times each year. All the actors, musicians, tech staff and even yourselves have worked extremely hard to promote Sevenoaks Panto and make it what it is today.</p> <p>I have so many memories of being at your pantos. From the jokes to the songs, the punchlines to the celebs, I have enjoyed every moment.</p> <p>If you could reconsider, I think everyone would be extremely pleased.</p> <p>I cannot wait to see Alice in Wonderland, and hope to still be able to do this.</p>
155.	<p>This email is a polite request to please do all you can to save The Stag theatre. As a family we have been many times to watch the first class Christmas pantos (one of our festive season highlights for sure), to see other local shows and films. My daughter and her friends have also performed on the stage a number of times and the shows the facility allows them to put on have gone a long way to inspiring her and giving her the</p>

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	<p>confidence to perform as a child, such an important life skill which she has taken back into her school life.</p> <p>It is heartbreaking to think that this institution is at risk of closure and so I ask that you please consider all the council can do to financially support this establishment through this very testing time. The arts have been a saviour for many during the darkest times and this has been no exception.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and best regards.</p>
156.	<p>I am writing to express my concern regarding the future of the Stag Theatre. I feel it crucial the council support the Stag to help it through this tough time. It is a keystone of the Sevenoaks community. As a family we visit the theatre, cinema and our children have gained amazing experiences performing there. It's essential to have an arts centre in the town for the whole community to benefit from. My family would be heartbroken if it were to close. I hope that the council can see that it is a gem that can't be lost</p>
157.	<p>I have recently been made aware that there will be a discussion on the 24th June regarding the future of The Stag Theatre. As the choreographer of Sevenoaks Pantomime and someone who has performed at The Stag for many years, I want to urge you to seriously consider keeping it open.</p> <p>My first time performing in the pantomime was when I was just 17 years old, in 2011 for Mother Goose. After that I left for a few years to train professionally as a dancer, I then returned to work with ..... at The Stag for the pantomime in 2015 and have continued to do so ever since. For many people, their professional careers started with ..... at The Stag Theatre, mine certainly did. If it wasn't for his wonderful company and the amazing theatre I wouldn't be where I am today. Year after year I have watched so many amazing young dancers blossom, I have watched the happy faces of the Sevenoaks friends and family as they soak up the nostalgia of their family tradition. It has been an honour and I truly believe that the entertainment that The Stag provides, not just at Christmas, is a huge asset to Sevenoaks town and its community.</p> <p>Please, keep it open. It has a huge place in so many peoples hearts.</p>
158.	<p>I'm aware that future funding for The Stag will be discussed on the 24<sup>th</sup> June and write to share my positive experiences of The Stag Youth Theatre.</p> <p>My son, now 17 and at ..... has participated in the Stag You Theatre since ....., so for many years. The affects have been transformative in terms of building personal confidence, working in teams towards common goals and his local community; as you will have seen when SYT toured local schools with their Great War production where it was of high value for current ..... children to see 'old' ..... boys on stage before them.</p> <p>My son has also benefited greatly meeting people outside of his circle of school friends who are local to him. On leaving ..... to ..... his friends scattered to different schools and towns and now, some years later, his friends in Sevenoaks are drawn largely from the theatre rather than his school; simply by virtue of location.</p> <p>From an educational perspective, the creative arts are less catered to in our Grammar school system which leans towards sciences, meaning that from my perspective, the Youth Theatre drama fills an extra-curricular role as well as a social and societal function.</p> <p>I would urge you to continue your funding of the Stag and thereby it's youth theatre which not only does great work locally and for our children, but also reflects so well on the town as the children participate in and ace the national youth theatre productions.</p>
159.	<p>This is a big request to save The Stag. My family, friends and I are frequent visitors at The Stag theatre, unfortunately due to this awful pandemic we have cancelled 5 bookings up until May. Our next booking is for the Pantomime in December we already have our tickets as it's a family event, I take my daughter and grandchildren every year.</p>

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	<p>The Stag is an essential theatre that is necessary to keep for the community. Sevenoaks needs a friendly cinema/theatre, it is a very hard time but it would be so disappointing if the Council closed it. Please could this Theatre be kept open as it gives so many local people a great deal of enjoyment.</p>
160.	<p>As Sevenoaks residents for the past 16 years, my wife and I have enjoyed regular visits to the Stag Cinema and, for 5 years or so, we have looked forward to visiting the theatre with our daughter and granddaughters to see the annual Christmas Panto.</p> <p>&gt; The Stag is a lovely theatre and cinema, an arts and entertainment venue worthy of the town.</p> <p>&gt; Our daughter has pointed out that the Council will be meeting on 24th June to consider whether to continue providing financial support to the Stag. We are writing to urge you most strongly to maintain support for the theatre and cinema, thus helping this cultural icon to flourish in our town.</p>
161.	<p>Very much in support of saving our local theatre. It brings such joy to us and our young children, as well as many others we know.</p> <p>Now more than ever we need to support our local businesses before our high street changes forever.</p>
162.	<p>We need to keep the two of Sevenoaks alive and opportunities for the community to come together.</p> <p>Covid is unprecedented and it's impact across the country and business high, but we need to invest in the arts, to give our children an opportunity to experience another world and to have fun (and by the end of this year, they will deserve and need it).</p> <p>Please help the Stag through this time. We love being able to visit the cinema and to see the pantomime each year. It's the only cinema my daughter has known - it's size and intimacy makes it less intimidating for young ones and you can pretty much guarantee we meet someone we know there.</p> <p>Don't let this crucial community hub disappear. It would be another nail in the coffin for Sevenoaks as a thriving community. It's absence would mean more people heading to Bluewater and spending their money there.</p>
163.	<p>I am writing at my upset of hearing that The Stag Theatre may have to close due to this current situation.</p> <p>My daughter has performed at the theatre for years in the annual Pantomime and over the years we have seen other shows and used the cinema.</p> <p>I urge you to help this amazing theatre with the financial difficulties they are having. Let the shows continues an bring entertainment and joy to thousands of people. This is an amazing institution that must be helped.</p>
164.	<p>We have only moved to Sevenoaks this year and were looking forward to exploring all the town has on offer. Unfortunately COVID 19 came and we couldn't go out and support local businesses the way we had hoped.</p> <p>I just heard that the future of The Stag theatre is in jeopardy, and am very sad to hear this. From what I have heard it is a wonderful place for the arts, dance, as well as lots of events that serve and support the wider community. It would be a tragedy to lose this, and for Sevenoaks as a town it would be a great detriment to its vibrant feel.</p> <p>The arts have been particularly hard hit by the lockdown, and if there is anything that can be done to support them in this difficult time it is absolutely worth doing. I understand that Sevenoaks Town Council has a meeting scheduled to discuss whether financial support can be given to The Stag. I am writing this email to implore you to consider this as a vital act of keeping the arts alive in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>We sincerely hope that after lockdown regular visits to The Stag will become part of our new life here in this lovely town.</p>

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165.	<p>I am aware that you are soon meeting to discuss additional funding to support the stag theatre during this challenging time. The stag is a focal point for the Town, Closing it this would affect many areas, without it trade would reduce which would have an impact on the local economy, it would also affect the 'feel' of the town.</p> <p>By investing in the stag, you invest in the people, families enjoy shared experiences, whether it be at the cinema or the annual pantomime. Without the Stag, Sevenoaks will be another suburban destination with less to attract new families to. If the theatre is supported by business leaders, it could increase its revenue in the future with events and the cafe. It is also a hub for charities and the community, which has huge implications for the mental well being of local people.</p> <p>Please think about the local community when you consider this proposal.</p>
166.	<p>During these unprecedented times, it has become apparent that our wonderful arts and theatre sector is under huge pressure and facing uncertain times ahead. This is even more the case for our precious regional sector, which does so much to keep the arts available for a huge range of people.</p> <p>The Stag is one such regional theatre which we love having so close to where we live. Growing up in Bromley, a huge amount of the theatre and arts I got to enjoy was at The Churchill Theatre. For my children and our family it is now The Stag. There is such a wonderful range of shows available and both of my daughters and my niece and nephew have performed on stage there, which is a memory they treasure.</p> <p>I truly feel that Regional theatres are the lifeblood of communities. Whether it's returning to see your favourite Pantomime Dame every year, exploring something new at an affordable price, sparking a love for something new in someone. Or (in the case of The Stag) meeting a friend for coffee or having a cinema close enough for your growing children to feel grown-up and visit independently, or a place for young people to get together and do something safely.</p> <p>Please, please make the decision to continue supporting the Stag through these difficult times. It's a huge part of the character of the town and it's closure would leave a huge void.</p>
167.	<p>Please help the Stag theatre stay open. My ..... son loves to go to the panto each year. It is also where we introduced both our kids to Cats. The actors are always brilliant and every show we have been to rivals the West End without the massive price tag and London travel prices. We have already booked our tickets for this year's panto :-)</p>
168.	<p>We would be truly lost without the annual Panto at the Stag Theatre! It was our first ever panto as a family and we have been coming ever since.</p> <p>My children even performed in Panto there!</p> <p>The theatre has such a community feel about it, it would be a real loss to Sevenoaks. It's a cinema, a theatre, a meeting place (I have work networking events there) and so much more.</p> <p>Please do all you can to save The Stag!</p>
169.	<p>If all of this COVID disruption has shown anything, it's the value even necessity of 'community'. The Stage IS community and should be a priority for all of us: audience and artists alike. The lure of the West End may be muted now by travel masks. The Stage is where we can laugh or cry, be moved or clap our hands because we believe in fairies!</p>
170.	<p>I write ahead of your meeting to discuss the future of the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks. I believe that the Stag is the heart of Sevenoaks. My children have experienced both performing on stage and enjoying from the auditorium from a very young age and we continue to enjoy various musical, comedy and literary performances and events both in the main theatre and the plaza suite. We attend either as a couple or as a family</p>

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	<p>several times a year. The cinema even more so, a local cinema means my children can access movies independently with their friends, we don't have to get in the car to Tunbridge Wells – there is a green argument here. It is the only cinema we use for this very reason. We want to support local and our local is very convenient – we use it! It would be a travesty to lose the Stag, Sevenoaks would be much the poorer without it. It will have a knock on effect for local pubs and restaurants too. Please do all in your power to save this vital entertainment centre.</p>
171.	<p>I would like to urge you to consider please keep the stag theatre open for the performing arts. We come to see the pantomime as a family every year which brings so much joy to us all. Please also consider all the amazing opportunities it opens up to many people looking for a career in the performing arts. My 4 year old niece did a performance this year with the school of pantomime at your theatre, which she will always remember as her first performance!</p>
172.	<p>I have read reports about the Stag theatre facing an uncertain future and believe a meeting is to be held on the 24th June to discuss this matter. I wish to let you know of the massive impact that the Stag has had on my family.</p> <p>My daughter is a member of the youth theatre and has been for the last 6 years. I have seen her confidence grow, and she has learnt so much through the weekly sessions and also performing on stage as well as benefitting from the opportunity to perform NT plays, both at the Stag and the Marlowe theatre. She has been involved in projects to inform primary aged children of the impact of social media and climate change as well as taking part in summer courses learning about the process of writing, filming and acting. My Son had been very much looking forward to using the House in the basement now that he is 11 as this has been proven to be a safe space for older children to socialise and have the opportunity to use the excellent facilities provided.</p> <p>As a family we attend the pantomime every year and it has become a tradition we enjoy and members of our extended family join us to watch it, staying in the surrounding hotels. The cinema is a constant for us and we go regularly as a family and also as a couple and always enjoy a great meal in one of the many restaurants before or after our visit, supporting our local town and businesses. I personally have arranged and used the cafe as a meeting place for coffee mornings for parents from the local school community to socialise in and have made many good friends from these occasions. I have enjoyed bingo night's with the girls and attended several shows and music tributes. I honestly feel that the Stag theatre is very much at the heart of the community and improves wellbeing and brings money in to the local area. I cannot stress this enough and pray that you will make the right decision to support this much needed and valued theatre that is at the heart of our community.</p>
173.	<p>Please do not close the theatre. It is a lifeline for many people including my 93 year old mother. We also come every year to the pantomime which is the best and better than the ones in larger towns and cities. I had to move out of Sevenoaks as I couldn't afford property but I was born there. The theatre brings joy to many people and calls back those of us who have had to leave. Please don't just make a monetary decision please think of those you will disappoint.</p>
174.	<p>Although times are very tough please save The Stag. It is an integral part of Sevenoaks community and brings in visitors from afar.</p>
175.	<p>We are very relieved to hear that you are meeting on Wednesday to discuss future funding for the Stag Theatre</p> <p>This is a very important venue for Sevenoaks and we love attending, especially the Pantomime, which gives so many performers and audiences their first taste of live entertainment</p> <p>Long may it last especially in these sad socially distanced times</p>

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	Give us something to look forward to.
176.	<p>I have lived in Sevenoaks for the last 6 years, having moved from London and have found The Stag theatre to be a massively important venue for the community, not only culturally but also as a hub for creativity and learning.</p> <p>I fully support funding for The Stag and hope that the council agrees to offer this - people come from all across Kent to see it's shows and I genuinely think that the local community and business will suffer not only financially but also mentally as any closure as big as this in Sevenoaks will be incredible dispirating. Please also remember the thousands of children that use the venue to learn to act and to engage with each other and those older members of the community who are unable to travel far but still want to enjoy watching the latest film or indeed loose themselves for a few hours in the latest play.</p>
177.	<p>Please save The Stag! It means so much to me and my family. My 13 year old son attends Stag Youth Theatre which has done so much for his confidence and he looks forward to it all week. Performing on stage has been such an amazing opportunity for him, thanks to .....</p> <p>As a family, we have been to the panto every year and it is always a real highlight of Christmas. It's so special to go to the local panto, it's a Sevenoaks institution. And I always go to the cinema at the Stag, so much nicer than a multiplex. Please help save such an important part of Sevenoaks. I have already booked tickets for future events and donated as it means so much to us and the whole community.</p>
178.	<p>I have recently been made aware that the future of the Stag theatre is being decided . I would like to please encourage you to do whatever is possible to keep this lovely theatre open .</p> <p>My daughter has danced in Panto there for numerous years and it has given her the most amazing experiences as she is beginning her journey as a professionally trained dancer .</p> <p>As a family we love our family Christmases coming to the Stag to watch Panto . I have chaperoned at the theatre many times and I find it such a lovely family orientated place .</p> <p>My daughters dance academy have also hired the theatre for their annual dance showcase .</p> <p>So as you can see the Stag Theatre holds many lovely memories for us as a family and many other families .</p> <p>I hope you can keep this lovely place going .</p>
179.	<p>I would like to let you know of all my experiences involved with the Stag and why it shouldn't close down:</p> <p>Firstly, the panto has been a tradition of my family every christmas, for the last 9 years and it would be really sad to see it go as it is one of the best pantos' out there.</p> <p>Secondly, I have always preferred Stag cinema over many other places as it has a more intimate feel and it's reasonably priced- as well as it being close to where I live.</p> <p>Furthermore, it's also in the centre of town meaning it appeals to anyone as well as combing it with a shopping trip or a meal out.</p> <p>Thirdly, I have been going to Stag Youth Theatre for over 2 years and I would be devastated if it could no longer be held at the Stag as it has such a welcoming feeling and no other place would feel the same.</p> <p>For these reasons, I would like you to support the Stag at this challenging time, as many people would be sad to see it go.</p>
180.	<p>My daughter appeared in Sevenoaks panto at Christmas and had the best time of her life it is always a hard panto to get into as the standard is high she achieved her goal</p>



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	<p>and received a place. .... and the team are amazing and it would be such a shame for the panto and other production to go ahead. Not just the panto but my daughter has dance on the stage here several times for competitions that have lead in to Blackpool. We hope you have the power to help them and to carry on young and old people's entertainment.</p>
181.	<p>We understand the council is to discuss possible financial support for The Stag. We greatly enjoy the varied performances that take place there and sincerely hope to do so in the future. Please support our theatre.</p>
182.	<p>I write to support the proposal for Sevenoaks Town Council to provide extra financial input to the Stag Theatre, Sevenoaks, to secure its survival in Sevenoaks, in this difficult time of the Covid Pandemic. The theatre, cinema, and bar meeting point have been in our lives for 15 years and play a significant part in the lives of 3 generations of our family. The plays produced by the Stag Youth Theatre not only give our community's children the encouragement to have public confidence, but also to bond with each other within a structured, safe, enriching, educational background to develop empathy, determination, stamina and commitment to our local community and schools.</p> <p>Further, the Stag is a significant contribution to the middle aged and elderly population of Sevenoaks, who would otherwise have to travel to Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells or London for arts. Their contribution to the local economy also is heightened by the fact that the Stag is central, local, has superb facilities and provides many varieties of live arts otherwise inaccessible to those with limited mobility or far to travel. Three generations of our family would be keen to attend the Stag as soon as it re-opens, hopefully in the new too distant future. We have confidence in it, It's management, the staff who work there, the artists who perform there, the children and youths who learn there, and that its supporters will visit it as soon as is possible.</p>
183.	<p>We are <i>extremely</i> concerned to hear that the Stag Theatre is once again under threat of closure. Whilst we understand the devastating impact that Covid-19 has had on so many businesses it would be a tragedy to lose the Stag Theatre on so many levels. Not only is it the cultural centre of Sevenoaks, its visitors go on to shop and eat, bringing vital business to the town.</p> <p>We therefore <b>urge</b> the Council to support The Stag so it can aid Sevenoaks - and the surrounding areas - in the long recovery from this devastating virus. If it does not get the support it needs and has to close, the heart of Sevenoaks will literally be ripped out.</p>
184.	<p>We have heard that the future of The Stag is in trouble due to Covid-19. We have lived in Sevenoaks since 2005 and The Stag is an institution. My children all went to ..... and ..... and their trip to The Stag for the panto was one of the major highlights of the year. Once they all left primary school we started going to the panto as a family and always have a fantastic afternoon being entertained most recently by Silly Billy and friends. We are looking forward to seeing Alice in Wonderland this year. Hopefully Covid-19 will be a distant nightmare of a memory by then. Myself and girlfriends use the cinema frequently - I saw Judy there and the Anne Frank movie before Lockdown. Myself and husband and friends often go to the comedy evenings there too. Not to mention all of the other functions on at The Stag for lots of other age groups.</p> <p>It would be tragic for the entire community to lose such a vital part of Sevenoaks life. It is something to take us all away from the constant barrage of technology and lose ourselves in fun with friends for a few hours.</p> <p>Maybe you could look at the idea below for a way of saving some money and use that money for The Stag. We would prefer to keep The Stag rather than have beautifully cut grass verges. Just like we do with our household budget, we cut back on some things,</p>

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	<p>so we can spend money on other more worthy things. I'm sure you do the same all the time and will do your best to save The Stag. Please please please consider this application to save The Stag. All of the residents of Sevenoaks will thank you thank you thank you!</p>
185.	<p>Please please help save the stag theatre through this difficult financial time. It's a heartbeat of Sevenoaks. My son ..... and attending the stag youth theatre had helped him such an enormous amount. As a family we regularly attend events at the stag, and the Christmas pantomime is the highlight of our year. It would be devastating if our community lost this amazing venue.</p>
186.	<p>I'm emailing to ask you to pls consider helping the stag out to save it from closing. I have lived in the Sevenoaks District all my life and the stag has been a big part of it. I've performed at the stag in gang shows with the brownies and many dance performances, I had my first cinema experience there. I now take my children and we love watching the Sevenoaks panto every year. It holds so many memories for myself and for others it was be a massive loss if it were to shut due to the corona virus.</p>
187.	<p>I am writing to plead with you to help our Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. It is the heart of our community and a place where many happy memories are made. From a personal point of view, my family and a group of friends have been attending the Christmas pantomime there for the past 10 years, it has become something of a tradition. Our children were 3 when we started going. They are now 13! Additionally my children have both been involved in shows at the Stag for a number of years with the Sevenoaks Entertainers, Love to dance and the Sevenoaks school of Dance. It would be hard to find a family in Sevenoaks who has not been touched by the Stag at some time in their lives. We are so lucky to have our own theatre and cinema when so many places are reliant on big chain cinemas. It is what makes Sevenoaks special. So please do something to make yourselves proud and help the Stag.</p>
188.	<p>I understand you are considering closing the Stag and am writing to express our absolute support for it staying open and my dismay at hearing you would consider closing it. The Stag is an amazing community resource for Sevenoaks and the wider area. I have taken all three of my babies there to the cinema for a sense of normality. I've been to the cafe with my children and to live shows with them too. We've been to ballets, films and every pantomime since we moved to Sevenoaks. And I know many others who have too. I rely on the Stag for a community feel centre where I know we will be welcomed and supported whatever it is we are attending and in whatever circumstances. The staff are amazing. Please don't close it.</p>
189.	<p>I am writing to express my support for the stag theatre - it is a vital part of the town centre and needs support during these difficult times. In addition to its cultural impact the stag hosts multiple events for the community that could not be served elsewhere such as events for mothers and children.  I implore you to support the Stag through this time to save an essential part of the community. If we lose the stag and the leisure centre the value of the town centre is significantly diminished and I would expect this to impact not only the community but the surrounding businesses in the High street.</p>
190.	<p>I urge you to vote to keep the Stag Theatre open.</p>

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	The cinema is important to local people and the theatre is an excellent facility to allow local theatre groups to perform and for their audiences to come and see them. Please keep the Stag.
191.	I am saddened to hear that the Stag is in threat of closing. I have supported the Stag in many ways...from mummy and baby screenings ten years ago, to watching films with my husband, enjoying the annual panto with my family and, most importantly, perhaps, watching the pupils from my school performing in Chance to Dance and the Sevenoaks Partnership dance show. I have seen children come to life and find themselves on your stage. Please use some of my council tax to keep The Stag open.
192.	Please accept this email as formal written support of both the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks and Sencio Leisure Centre Sevenoaks. I understand that the town council are due to make a decision on 29 June in relation to funding. Both facilities are widely used by many different groups within the community and would be a huge loss if they were no longer part of the town. I trust you appreciate how integral these two attractions are to Sevenoaks general economy (including house prices), physical and mental well being and quality of life.
193.	Please keep the Stag open for us. We go the cinema there, we go to the panto each year, our children have all danced on the stage there at some point. I spent many a day with my babies watching films when they were tiny. So many amazing memories and so many more amazing memories to come, we hope hope hope. With many thanks.
194.	The Stag theatre is an integral part of the Sevenoaks community. Please do not allow it to close.
195.	I am writing to you after hearing the sad news that the Stag Theatre is under threat of closure due to Covid-19. > This Theatre has played a huge part in our family's life. Both of our Daughters one now 19 and one 15 have been performing there for years with the Sevenoaks Panto, Bullfrog Productions plus dance competitions and performances with their dance troupe. > I also run a dance school and have many of my students who also perform in the Christmas Panto and I think there will be lots of tears if it didn't go ahead. > We as a family have watched many productions and also used the cinema > a fair bit as well as buying the confectionary and drinks. Most of November/December we spend so much time at the Theatre due to our girls being in the panto and spend lots of time in the town due to often waiting around for them as well. We are actually in the process of planning moving to Sevenoaks now due to falling in love with the town over the years and the theatre is a big part of it for us. > I truly feel that Sevenoaks would lose something very special if the > Stag Theatre had to close. It is such a special place, and I believe the heart of the town. It is a lovely intimate auditorium and it creates so much theatrical magic every year. The Panto is always outstanding - I have seen lots of other Pantos in my life but not many compare to the Stag, the production values are second to none and fabulous performances and fun leave everyone with wonderful Christmas memories year on year and it would be incredibly sad if it stopped. Now more than ever, we need to fight to keep the Theatre there so people have something to look forward to after this dreadful time. > Also, so many people would lose out of work opportunities if it was to > close and that would be so sad indeed.

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	<p>&gt; If there is a way that the Council can find a way to save the Theatre, I urge you to do this on behalf of all those who visit and perform there and for the whole town as it would be such a great loss. I truly believe it would be worth so much and make tons of people incredibly happy!</p>
196.	<p>I'm writing to express my support of the Stag Theatre. I understand they are having financial difficulties due to the Covid pandemic which is understandable. The Stag is such a fundamental part of Sevenoaks that is frequented by so many parts of the community - young and old. Without it we would have no cinema, pantomime, ballet, musicals, comedy, the list goes on. Personally I always make a point of choosing the Stag when I'm going to the cinema, especially with my children as it has such a lovely atmosphere and they love it. We also really look forward to the fantastic pantomime every year and try to go to as many other shows as we can. It would be a terrible shame for the community for this gem to be yet another victim of Covid-19 when there is so much support for it within the town and beyond. Please consider doing what you can to support the Stag to see it through this tough period.</p>
197.	<p>I am saddened to hear the Stag theatre is under threat. It is a family tradition for us to travel from London to the panto every year. It would be upsetting if it were to close.</p>
198.	<p>I am writing to ask Sevenoaks Council to pledge its support behind The Stag. The Stag Theatre and Cinema brings so much to our local community and is an essential part of Sevenoaks. It provides art, culture, film, theatre, youth opportunities and so much more - I really believe the high street would be a much poorer, sadder place if it were to close. Please back this fundamental community resource and help to keep The Stag running.</p>
199.	<p>I hope this email finds you well. We've been going to the Stag Panto for 10 years now. It's part of our family tradition and we've even taken a 5 month old baby with us. We've been to numerous acts at the theatre and numerous films. The coffee shop has been wonderful on many occasions. The Stag Theatre is the heart of the community and should have local government funding to keep it going.</p>
200.	<p>I have seen through social media the wonderful campaign to help save the stag. We are so lucky to have this in our town. Not only for its heritage and the history it holds, but also for the future. The hub that it is , is essential for our town. The provision of activities for all ages of our community The loss of the stag would be devastating for our town. Please can the council do its utmost to keep the stag alive.</p>
201.	<p>I've today learnt that the Stag theatre sevenoaks is at risk of closure. As a local resident we were regular visitors of the cinema and annual panto. Our wider family always join us for the panto and we love it. The Stag is a key part of our community and an attraction of Sevenoaks. Please do all you can to keep it open for years to come.</p>
202.	<p>&gt; I hear that there is a question over supporting the few public and community resources that we have in the town. &gt; The stag is the first place I took my children to the cinema and is the first place we celebrate Christmas every year with the superb panto. &gt; These are institutions in this town and would be a huge loss. &gt; They must be saved for all</p>
203.	<p>It is with genuine sadness that I read that the Stag is threatened with closure.</p>

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	<p>Having moved to Sevenoaks over 10 years ago, The Stag has provided multiple sources of entertainment for my family; everything from monthly comedy, dance shows that my daughters have appeared in, cinema, and the annual panto (indeed we already have tickets booked for Xmas eve).</p> <p>This is a vital educational and mental health supporting facility that needs to be saved for generations to come.</p> <p>Perhaps even a matching donations approach would demonstrate how much The Stag is needed and share the cost of supporting it through these extraordinary times.</p>
204.	<p>I hear that this Wednesday 24 June Sevenoaks the Town Council will meet to decide whether or not to give financial support to the Stag, to help it through this uncertain time, and secure the future of the theatre and cinema in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I was extremely worried to hear this and concerned that such a focal point of our community is even being debated! It should of course receive both short term and longer term funding.</p> <p>The Stag is the only arts and cultural focal point in the town and is used by both young and old.</p> <p>I've lived in Sevenoaks since 2010 and I've used The Stag at every stage of my life. From watching films in the cinema and going to music and comedy events as a single girl to buying tickets for the fireworks. As I became a mother I took my son to the Baby Cinema every week, as a mother, we've attended the cafe for coffees with other Mum's and watched children's shows as well as the Christmas pantomime.</p> <p>Although my son is only two, I would expect in time The Stag would play a continuous role in his life with cinema trips, going to social events or attending the Youth Club.</p> <p>Sevenoaks has no other cultural hubs, it's something I've always been proud that we have as a town. Please don't rip that away from the town due to something which has affected us all.</p> <p>Now more than ever we need culture and entertainment to look forward to. Please support The Stag! I urge you to do the right thing, not just for your generation but the future generations who will use this cultural centre!</p>
205.	<p>I understand that you are meeting on 29th June to discuss the future of The Stag. I wanted let you know how important The Stag to my family in the 8 years we have lived in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>During that time we have done so much at The Stag. From soft play when the kids were toddlers to private parties, going to the cinema, live comedy shows, the cinema, meeting friends in the cafe and of course the fantastic panto at Christmas. The Stag has been a constant friend to us. It offers so much to the Sevenoaks community and it would be devastating to see it close.</p> <p>I hope you can find the resources to support The Stag at this difficult time.</p>
206.	<p>I cannot sufficiently stress how vital it is that the Stag Theatre remains open and fully functioning for Sevenoaks Town.</p> <p>It is not only a major central hub for the town but also offers a wide range of cultural content across a wide spectrum of ages.</p> <p>All of my children have benefitted from the fantastic Youth Theatre with my daughter still a current member where she has learned so much, had so much fun and continues to enjoy the weekly meetings, the filming weeks and the extended social events which arise from it.</p> <p>The film features are amazing, the live content is fantastic and the amazing army of volunteers do a brilliant job.</p> <p>Please don't let this wonderful, historic institution be lost to our community.</p>
207.	<p>I'm writing to express my support for the Stag Theatre.</p>

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	<p>My daughter's and I visited the theatre last Christmas to watch Aladdin. We had a brilliant, memorable time. The whole cast were spectacular, Silly Billy and Widow Twankey were absolutely hilarious. We would have watched it again and again given the opportunity.</p> <p>The theatre staff were all friendly and helpful, we were made to feel very welcome and comfortable there.</p> <p>The Stag Theatre provides valuable entertainment to the community. Visiting pantomime's has been a tradition for my family and for many, many others, it's a disaster if the future of the pantomime here is at threat.</p>
208.	<p>Stag theatre is pivotal to our area! I can't bring to list the entertainment, cinema, comedy, Dance and not forgetting our annual panto. Thousands will be affected by your decision if you decide not to support it. This will impact the very young to the very old in our community.</p>
209.	<p>I understand the stag has applied for some financial support to keep going. I am writing to support this and urge the council to do something if it can. It is such an important part of the community. The panto and comedy attract people from far and wide and it contributes a lot to the local economy. If the council only have a certain amount of money it can give I would also urgent the council and the theatre to make a plea for local residents to donate some money too as I am sure they will all do what they can despite some people themselves being in an uncertain financial position.</p>
210.	<p>I understand that the Stag theatre is under threat and I wanted to write to express my support for keeping the theatre open. We are so incredibly lucky to have the Stag in Sevenoaks and it brings so much joy to so many. Please can you do everything you can to support this institution in what is exceptional circumstances.</p>
211.	<p>It has been brought to my attention that there's a meeting on the 29th June to decide whether to offer financial support to the Stag theatre.</p> <p>I have lived in Sevenoaks all of my life and have enjoyed using the Stag theatre Over the years for so many reasons. As a child I was in the Christmas pantomime, entering auditions after seeing an advert in the Chronicle and now I take my children to watch the pantomime. We regularly use the cinema over the likes of the Odeon and much prefer it for the comfortable seats and personnel touches.</p> <p>It's part of our community and I know so many friends that use it not just from the Sevenoaks area, far and wide.</p> <p>I do hope that they receive the funding they need to remain open and functioning. I trust that my email, along with many others I know are writing, will help with this decision.</p>
212.	<p>I am writing in advance of the council meeting to consider funding for the Stag Theatre. As a Sevenoaks resident, I consider the Stag Theatre to be part of the lifeblood of the town. My husband and I first moved here around 13 years ago when the theatre was sadly closed. We were delighted when it was reopened and visited many times to see both films and stage shows.</p> <p>Six or so years ago, we took our children to see their first pantomime there(Aladdin) and it has become a well-loved family tradition every year.</p> <p>Both of my children have taken part in shows at the Stag, my daughter enjoying Chance to Dance last year, and both of them taking part in the Sevenoaks Prep centenary show-Poptastic.</p> <p>The cinema is also a big draw - many years ago I enjoyed the parent and baby screenings (a little bit of normality!) and now enjoy taking the children as well as visits</p>

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	<p>with friends. The convenience of a local cinema rather than a trip to Bluewater or Tunbridge Wells is not to be underestimated and potentially more attractive now than ever, when visiting large shopping centres is surely going to be less popular.</p> <p>The Stag is also a valuable business facility; I have exhibited my business at the Business Show on three occasions and also taken part in amateur theatre productions which have played in the Plaza Suite. Again, when my children were small, I used to bring them to Gymboree which ran there at the time.</p> <p>The thought of the Stag being closed again, as it was when I first moved to Sevenoaks, really is unimaginable. The town would be losing a very valuable resource used by both the community and local businesses which I do not think can be easily replaced and which, were it given funding to remain afloat, would surely support further income generation within the town.</p>
<p>213.</p>	<p>I have been told that there is to be a discussion on the future of keeping the stag theatre open on the 24th of June and I feel so very strongly that the only outcome would be that it does,</p> <p>Keeping the theatre open means so many other things other than just that, this theatre provides the tradition of a pantomime which I first performed In the year just gone and with that comes the tradition of families coming together and watching a show which provides an escapism and a sense of joy that they can share with loved ones, it's not only a job for the people involved performing it is so much more to all of them it's a chance everyday for them to gain happiness from a passion they have that also makes others so happy from watching them, it's a sense of family and community with the actors, dancers, backstage crew, wardrobe and so many others, friendships made and memories which would be lost if this theatre were to close.</p> <p>Even I could see from the event held of just performing a few numbers before the panto opened last year in Sevenoaks high street how much the community came out to watch and came together how much joy it brought and I really feel it would be such a loss to loose the theatre and again loose this tradition which many cherish,</p> <p>Please please kep it open,</p>
<p>214.</p>	<p>I would like to urge the council to give the Stag Theatre and Cinema financial support during this difficult time at your meeting next week.</p> <p>The importance of the Stag Theatre to the community is of great importance to everyone.</p> <p>My now grown up family have in the past all been on stage at some point dancing or playing instruments. We've been to the Pantomimes and other shows, seen many films and continue to do so.</p> <p>I know there are many other groups who benefit from the space available and would miss it greatly.</p> <p>It would be a sad loss for everyone.</p> <p>Please take your decision very seriously</p>
<p>215.</p>	<p>I hear you're currently debating the future of the Stag theatre and so I would like to share my thoughts and experiences of the theatre with you.</p> <p>As a mum with a young family who live in Sevenoaks, we enjoy using the Stag on a regular basis. We consider the Stag theatre and cinema to be such a valuable asset to our community.</p> <p>We often visit the cinema to see children's films at the weekend. We like to make a day of it, we enjoy visiting the town centre shops afterwards and sometimes a local restaurant. Often it's the only thing that prompts us to visit the town centre.</p> <p>We look forward to the brilliant pantomime every year, featuring our local star Silly Billy who is hilarious, the kids absolutely love him. We've already bought our tickets for December and will be so disappointed if it can't go head. We also like to keep an eye</p>

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	<p>out for other kid’s shows that are on at the Stag, we prefer to go local rather than having to always go to Dartford or Bromley.</p> <p>As an adult I also enjoy the opportunity to see a wide range of other shows, such as the opera Dido and Aeneas by Kentish Opera last October. I’d never seen an opera before and didn’t know if it would be for me, but I loved it and would like to see more. It was the fact it was here locally that encouraged me to go, particularly because as a woman I felt comfortable going to the Stag on my own, I wouldn’t have felt comfortable having to travel to and from somewhere like London or Dartford alone at night.</p> <p>I’ve also enjoyed other shows like comedy and musicals. One highlight we’ll always remember was when my partner and I were able to see Adrian Edmonson’s folk band at the Stag, we feel so lucky to be able to enjoy things like this locally.</p> <p>We are really looking forward to when the Coronavirus lockdown eases and we can go out and enjoy activities again. It would be so tragic if the Stag wasn’t there any more, just at the time we’ll be raring to go out! I’d also feel safer going somewhere smaller and local with less crowds. It would be such a shame to have to get in the car and travel further afield to other towns to visit the cinema and theatre.</p> <p>My son who is 8 would like to add: please keep the Stag I love going to the cinema and the Panto it’s very funny.</p>
216.	<p>I was really sad to learn that the Stag Theatre may have to close. My 12 year old daughter .... has been in the panto there for the last 2 years, and has made memories for a lifetime. My son and I saw each panto around 5 times, and the atmosphere in the theatre for each performance was amazing. People coming together to forget the outside world for a couple of hours, and the sense of community was so clear to see. Now more than ever, we will all need that escapism.</p> <p>We don't live in Sevenoaks, but have loved every minute of our visits there, and the Stag was at the heart of them. When ..... started rehearsals each October we would be in Sevenoaks 4-5 times a week for 3 months, having coffees and meals out and shopping trips while waiting to pick her up. All of this would go without the Stag as a focal point of the community - the High Street hospitality industry must surge each December when the audiences come.</p> <p>Please do everything you can to save the Stag; Sevenoaks just wouldn't be the same without it, and I'm not sure we would have cause to visit again, which is a real shame.</p>
217.	<p>I would like to add my name to the many supporters of the Stag Theatre, in Sevenoaks. I find it to be a great asset to our lovely town. We have had many enjoyable evenings watching some very good films and plays, without forgetting to mention the very good Café on the premises. I have always found the staff working at the Stag exemplary and, very helpful.</p> <p>I hope the Council will support the Stag Theatre in every way.</p>
218.	<p>I’ve heard that the Stag theatre is struggling to stay financially viable and I am begging you to keep it open. After the pandemic, people need to get back to normal and to appreciate the cultural benefits of theatre and cinema. I live 14 miles away in Ditton, Aylesford, but I travel to Sevenoaks to watch the excellent live shows, especially from the Sevenoaks Players and the Stag Theatre Company. I’m disabled and can’t manage the journey into London but I feel I get a more enjoyable evening at the Stag than I would at the West End. I am always well-looked after by the staff, even when I arrive alone on my mobility scooter. I also regularly enjoy comedy acts, musical tribute bands and pantomimes.</p> <p>Please keep the theatre open, it is a wonderful resource and brings thousands of people into Sevenoaks for meals and shopping, who otherwise wouldn’t come.</p>
219.	<p>I am writing to you today to tell you how much the Stag theatre means to me. Since I was young I have had a birthday party at this cinema every year, this is a tradition and it</p>



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	<p>wouldn't be same anywhere else and I have gone to many of the new movies that come out. As well as this, I have enjoyed going to the Panto every year as well. This building is one of the most iconic buildings in Sevenoaks town and it would be a great devastation to have to shut it down.</p> <p>Also, ..... I love to attend Stag Youth Theatre every Monday. Going to SYT is what I look forward to all week and if it shuts down, I would have nothing to look forward to at all. I was very shy when I first started but now I feel confident to get up on stage and perform, I have enjoyed it so much that now my dream is to one day become an actor. Please help the Stag Theatre survive through this terrible</p>
220.	<p>I am writing to tell you how much the Stag Theatre means to me. Every year I go to the cinema for my birthday party and it wouldn't be the same to go anywhere else. I also go to see new movies there with my family. We always go to the panto and my whole family loves it so much, it's one of the best things about Christmas.</p> <p>But most of all I am ..... and go to Stag Youth Theatre and it means so much to me – I look forward to it all week and don't know what I would look forward to if I couldn't go. I was really shy when I first started there two years ago but now I love performing on stage and want to become an actor.</p>
221.	<p>We have heard that Sevenoaks Council are considering the future of The Stag theatre and are writing to you to say that our grandchildren live in Sevenoaks and we together with their parents have supported the theatre by regularly attended shows, films and the annual panto. It is so important to have this wonderful facility in the town, and would be a terrible shame if they don't get funding and were forced to close.</p>
222.	<p>I just wanted to throw my support behind the Stag theatre - my kids go there to see the panto every year, they go to the movies with their cousins, it is such a wonderful thing to have in our town - please please keep it going...</p>
223.	<p>I am writing to appeal to the town council to provide financial assistance to help save The Stag Theatre - even if just a short term loan while funds are raised from within the community to repay it.</p> <p>The Stag is a fundamental part of the Sevenoaks community being the only venue providing live or film entertainment, providing a platform for local emerging artistic talent, and hosting much loved events such as the annual pantomime. It also hosts important community support groups and provides a safe place for people to meet in times of need.</p> <p>I believe that there will be tremendous local support and given time, a series of events could be held to raise funds.</p> <p>I would ask for support from the council in this devastating time to save such an important part of our town.</p>
224.	<p>I understand that next week you are meeting to discuss funding which could affect the Stag Theatre's future. I hope that this email along with many others of the same vein from people locally and others who are perhaps a little further afield will indeed encourage you to give this careful consideration. The Stag is a fabulous theatre not only to be an audience member at but also a performer. My daughter has watched the Panto every year and last year successfully auditioned and appeared in it at just ten years old. An opportunity she will never forget and as a family we will always be eternally grateful for.</p> <p>I appreciate that the pandemic has caused so many financial repercussions and theatres have been hit very hard. I know of many up and down the country that have already had their doors permanently closed, this is a travesty. The Arts and Theatre need all the support they can get right now, for the old and most importantly the young, our children, the theatre offers so much.</p>

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	<p>Please do not be hasty and give fair consideration to what you can possibly do to keep the Stag open. I appreciate you have so many financial commitments to factor at this time and funding must be so tight but the Stag is the heart of Sevenoaks.</p>
225.	<p>I just wanted to show my support of The Stag theatre in Sevenoaks. We have lived in Sevenoaks for 25 years and go there frequently for both the theatre and the cinema. My children also use the cinema and perform at the theatre with both school and dance groups. It would be a massive loss to the community if due to lack of local council funding during the COVID pandemic we loose the theatre.</p>
226.	<p>Please please do not close The Stag it is a very important place in the town. It has an enormous amount of regular customers who support its varied events. People putting on shows and those coming to see them spend a lot of time and money in the town which would be missed by shop owners.</p> <p>The cinemas show an enormous variety of films and people all say that it is the nicest cinema in the area.</p> <p>As a volunteer at The Stag for the last 10 years I have met with many many visitors to The Stag all who speak very highly of the shows especially the Panto and the variety of different shows.</p> <p>We cannot let the dreadful virus close down such a wonderful venue.</p> <p>I look forward to returning to Volunteer at The Stag all in good time when Lockdown is over, patience is needed on all fronts.</p>
227.	<p>I am writing to you because I am concerned about the fate of the Stag Theatre following the need for cancellation of performances due to the pandemic.</p> <p>As a community theatre, the Stag is a real hub for the community not just for children with various shows throughout the year (including pantomime and dance competitions) but also for many older, local residents who would no longer relish a trip to London to go to the theatre or opera.</p> <p>The cafe is used a venue for local groups to meet for people to share an interest or to just enjoy some company especially if they live alone.</p> <p>My dance exercise class has enjoyed visits to see the Strictly Come Dancing dancers and a performance by them always means the seats are sold out.</p> <p>The theatre, Plaza and cinema provide a variety of entertainment at an affordable price for everyone but especially for people who cannot afford West End prices. It's worried me that theatre going is in danger of becoming an elitist activity rather than something that should be available to all and the Stag helps in making it accessible.</p> <p>Finally, it has helped the local economy with people visiting the theatre also using the local pubs, shops and restaurants which I hope will soon be open again.</p> <p>The management at the Stag was praised in the Chronicle a while ago for having made a success after the theatre reopened previously. I have confidence that if they are supported through this difficult period, they will be able to do so again.</p>
228.	<p>The Stag theatre is a really important part of Sevenoaks, its a place to meet friends, enjoy live music, dance, dramatics land to see the latest films.</p> <p>Why on earth would you wish to close a facility that gives so much to the community? You would have to have an excellent reason, other than money. If we can vote on this, you would be overwhelmed by a KEEP THE STAG VOTE.</p>
229.	<p>Should the Theatre close, Sevenoaks will be bereft of one of its most valued assets. I have volunteered at The Stag for over twenty years and have witnessed the joy live entertainment brings to audiences, enriching one's whole being. The numerous local performers in, for example, Chance to Dance, mean youngsters can experience the thrill of stage work, with hundreds of parents and grandparents proudly supporting them. Local performances like this cover numerous dance schools in the Kent area. This opportunity would be sadly missed if we lost our beloved Theatre.</p>

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	<p>As a long-standing member of Sevenoaks Players, who have supported the Theatre from the time it opened, musicals and drama productions would take a back seat in Sevenoaks without this valuable resource.</p> <p>PLEASE CONSIDER SEVENOAKS RESIDENTS BEFORE MAKING A DECISION ON THE FUTURE OF OUR THEATRE.</p>
<p>230.</p>	<p>I am writing to express my concern over the Future of our local theatre and Arts Centre. I have lived in the Sevenoaks are for 50 years and over that time it was founded as a useful resource for the community. As I am sure you are aware it has had a chequered history but it was a great relief when finally a decision was made by yourselves to support it and it has thrived. I have happy memories of taking my grandchildren to the pantomimes there, singing in concerts with the Sevenoaks Philharmonic Choir and tap-dancing as an adult in a show there. Of course I have often enjoyed visits to the cinema much nicer than travelling to Bluewater or Tunbridge Wells and attended events in the Plaza Suite. Lots of happy memories and value for money.</p> <p>Last year I became a volunteer at the Stag and I saw a variety of customers who were visiting different shows, dancing music comedy etc. And of course the pantomime. I was amazed at the distances people travelled especially to see the pantomime and came every year because it had such a good reputation.</p> <p>Of course in the difficult times you will have many requests for financial help but I really would urge you to help save the Stag. It brings life and money into the town which also benefits cafes and restaurants and bars plus a bit for parking and provides much enjoyment to all ages. I have noticed that the café provides a popular meeting place for mothers and young children during the day.</p> <p>Of course it also provides employment to a very dedicated staff friendly and hardworking. Please don't make them lose their jobs .</p> <p>I do hope that you will help this vital asset to the community to survive.</p>
<p>231.</p>	<p>I am writing to express my dismay at the prospect of losing the town's theatre due to lack of council support at this time. I would like to add my voice to those I know are expressing their vehement desire to keep the theatre going.</p> <p>As a dance teacher I have enjoyed over 20 years of performances at the Stag both with my dancing school and with Chance to Dance. The children who get to perform on these occasions benefit from a unique opportunity to dance on a professional stage in front of a large audience. The families and friends who get to watch are without exception thrilled to see their young (and older) ones under the lights and in comfort with all the amenities that the theatre brings. It is a really important experience for youngsters and their families and although I know it is a luxury that we shouldn't take for granted, we should do everything we can to ensure that future generations will have the chance to make special memories there.</p> <p>We are so lucky in Sevenoaks to have this wonderful facility. It would be a tragedy to lose it. Please support it.</p>
<p>232.</p>	<p>It has come to my attention that the Stag theatre is under threat of closure. I was absolutely horrified to hear this as the theatre is Sevenoaks!! compelling me to write. My family would always choose the Stag to go to as it has the friendliest staff, the best shows and cinema releases and is local. There's parking which makes it the perfect place to go. On top of this, when we were living in these unprecedented times, you could go and get food too during the day.</p> <p>I use the Stag with family, take my friends there and with WI.</p> <p>At the moment the theatre is running Outside the box via Zoom and they have to be thanked for trying to do something during these times. I'm always happy to pay a donation to the theatre too as it deserves it. I have also booked Zoom Sessions.</p>

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	<p>The pantomime is second to none, they are the best pantomimes in the area and the stars will happily pose for a photo afterward and have a chat. Where else would you get this?</p> <p>The list of shows I've seen is endless. It's the heart of Sevenoaks please provide financial support to see her the future and cinema in Sevenoaks.</p>
233.	<p>I am horrified to hear that the Stag theatre might close as it has long been the centre of my life both in terms of social contact and the purpose volunteering gives me. This is not just the case for myself but for most of the volunteers who help giving their time to help the running of the theatre.</p> <p>Many attached groups, including Alzheimers, Cancer and Youth Club also operate within.</p> <p>The Stag is the undisputed centre of Sevenoaks and should definitely remain so to so many people. Please don't close it.</p>
234.	<p>I am emailing in response to The devastating news about our beloved STAG Theatre. I danced in C2D every Year from the ages for 6-26 and some of my best memories were backstage (the nostalgic smell of hair spray) and performing on the amazing stage. It really is the heart of this community and I hope that the council will be able to take it into consideration, to help fund.</p> <p>Many thanks for taking the time to read this email.</p>
235.	<p>I would dearly love to see the Theatre open again but as a volunteer would feel very dubious about helping just yet.</p>
236.	<p>I am a member of the Sevenoaks Entertainers and there I am lucky enough tk perform at the Stag Theatre once or twice a year. As an amateur this is the only chance many of us ever get to perform on a professional stage with extremely talented performers and crew. Having this place of culture in Sevenoaks is so important as it bring the joy of the theatre to those who cannot get to London, sparking an interest in plays, musicals and pantomimes in new generations every year.</p> <p>The Stag needs the councils help to remain open so that this can continue in the future. A pandemic should not be allowed to take away this experience for the local people, whether they perform or are in the audience. I have seen the beginnings of creative careers on this stage as well as confidence built in those who thought they could never stand up in front of hundreds of people. For myself, I have been able to continue to act, a hobby which I love, whilst having a job too, in this environment that provides a large audience and a tremendous team to create professional standard productions.</p> <p>Please, support the Stag Theatre.</p>
237.	<p>We wish to register our support for the Stag theatre . We value the theatre as a positive asset to our community and enjoy the varied programme of events and the films which are always on offer. The staff are friendly and helpful and extremely approachable both in person and on the phone.</p>
238.	<p>I am writing to you because I hear that you will soon have to make a decision about whether to provide financial support to the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Our family have really enjoyed the Stag. We go every year to the pantomime, which was an absolute delight especially last year. Our 7 year-old daughter really liked it.</p> <p>We also frequently go for a meal at a nearby restaurant and follow up by going to see a movie at the Stag afterwards.</p> <p>When my mother stays with us she frequently volunteers for the Stag as an usher.</p> <p>I hope now you see the point - the Stag theatre provides the focus for us having an evening out in the town. If the Stag theatre was to close down it would be a terrible loss for us and also the high street in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I am in favour of the council providing financial support to the Stag.</p>

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239.	I would like to encourage you to financially support the Stag Theatre. We have spend many nice evenings there, watching a performance or going to the cinema as well as a meal and drink locally. It would be a great loss if it was to close.
240.	Please accept this email as my official disagreement to close the STAG theatre and cinema. It is a hub for the community and I have personally used it regularly with my family. Whenever, I have used it, it has always been busy and well used. If this is closed, our nearest cinema and theatre will be several miles away and no longer practical.
241.	The closure of the Stay theatre and cinema would be a huge loss to Sevenoaks. Please reconsider.
242.	I am writing to urge you to provide funding for the Stag Theatre to prevent it having to close down in these uncertain economic times. As the only public cinema and public venue in the town, I believe it is performs a vital function - as a focal point for cultural and social life in the town. I've enjoyed many films there over the years, often as part of an evening out which includes dinner in a restaurant in the town centre. Without the Stag, I think many people, like myself, would have to go to Tunbridge Wells or London for such evenings, and so the local economy would suffer, restaurants and pubs as well. Sevenoaks ought to be able to support a cinema and theatre, and the Stag management have succeeded in offering a varied programme and keeping the complex going for some years now. It would be a great pity if it went under for want of some short-term emergency funding from the local council.
243.	I learned recently that the Stag Theatre may soon have to close down which would be a travesty. We use the theatre regularly supporting numerous events and always eat locally before or after. Allowing such a venue to close would be devastating for the high street which will be struggling enough before coronavirus, let alone afterwards. Your financial support for the venue will potentially make or break Sevenoaks and this should be absolutely top priority to save. The taxable revenues from keeping this open will vastly outweigh the cost of ensuring the theatre can keep running. Being in the commercial property world for 15 years I have seen numerous councils simply ignore these types of venues and the short sightedness of local councillors being overly spendthrift have severely impacted other towns (you only need to go to Weybridge as a prime example).
244.	It would be sacrilege if The Stag Theatre were to close after all the hard work that has made it the very Heart Of Sevenoaks Town Centre. The refurbishment work and general administration has earned The Theatre a very good reputation for people both far and wide. My Husband and I are regular attenders both to the Cinema and the Theatre, the programme is very varied, something for everyone with some excellent Acts of late and has been sadly missed during Lockdown. In fact we regularly have friends from other Counties asking us what is on at various times and they come along with us to enjoy the films and shows, from Essex and from Sussex. It really would be a travesty if this Communal Asset were to close. If Ticket prices need to go up then so be it, a far better scenario than the tragedy of closure. Whenever we attend we also have a meal in one of the local restaurants, who are very good at making sure you are served in time for the start of the programme you are going to see. In doing this we are bringing money into the Town and also revenue in the car parks which we willingly do to support The Town.

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	I therefore implore you not to close this amazing asset, as apart from all else that I have said I feel sure The Town would certainly die without it and the consequences of that are so far reaching as to be beyond consideration.
245.	I am writing to express my strong feelings that the council needs to do all it can to preserve this much loved and used local facility . The house in the basement club is of particular benefit to local youngsters . I'm sure once opened residents will endeavour to increase their use of the cinema and theatre and thus create business for pubs and restaurants in the town centre.
246.	This is an email to express my sincere hopes that the Stag theatre remains in Sevenoaks. We love the cinema and go regularly. We enjoy comedy nights and the pantomime is amazing. My kids have participated in SYT and had great experience of the arts. Sevenoaks desperately needs to keep this incredible institution. Unfortunately the covid situation has put a strain on all arts and theatre but we must keep this open, for its valuable creativeness and education for all generations.
247.	Hi as a regular user of the Stag Cinema and theatre over many years I would implore you to provide support to help keep it open for the local community.
248.	I have heard that on the 24th June the council will be deciding on the future of the Theatre. This is a plea to let the Stag continue in business as it is such a focal point for our town. Our children love going to the venue for movies, theatre productions (some of which they are in!), going to the cinema and concerts. As adults we do all these things plus to the comedy nights. To see it closed down would kill off some of life of the town and push all further away from home. I'm sure if people of the town were aware of this situation and the Stag needed its support, people would contribute. The current crisis is working its way through - if the Stag is closed now we will lose something very precious and for good.
249.	We understand that you will soon be meeting to decide whether to provide financial support to The Stag Theatre. As Sevenoaks residents and Council Tax payers, we feel strongly that The Stag is a key part of the cultural life of the town. We value the live productions which it stages, in particular the annual pantomime. We also appreciate the cinema and think it is important to have a local cinema for families. We do hope that the Town Council can support The Stag and that it will continue to play a role in Sevenoaks going forward.
250.	I would like to state just how important it is to keep The Stag theatre open here in Sevenoaks. It allows performing talent to breath life into the town, brings Live Theatre to so many local people who wouldn't be able to enjoy it, due to travel problems / financial problems. It's showing of good, recent movie films enables the local residents to enjoy escaping from the monotony of daily routine. All of these things are so important for the good health and vitality of the community.
251.	I would like to put in a plea to keep The Stag open as it is a vital part of the identity of Sevenoaks. It provides a civic centre hub and venue which is of paramount importance for the wellbeing and self-worth of the town. Enabling children to experience entertainment in reality rather than through the internet, is part of their education. There is no substitute for the thrill of a live performance. It provides an opportunity for the less privileged to experience arts, music and dance rather than having to go to London or elsewhere at greater expense.

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	<p>Having a venue within walking or cycling distance is very necessary in these times of saving the planet.</p> <p>Surely, the council should be keeping and opening up local amenities. If nothing else, surely the coronavirus has taught us that keeping activities in local centres can only be good for everyone and everything, not least the ability of people to interact and care for each other.</p>
252.	<p>Worried to hear news that Stag might be under threat. I fully understand the problems with lockdown and many other priorities, but am sure the people of Sevenoaks would feel terribly disappointed if this was allowed to happen. Let us know what you're up against and we will get behind you to keep Stag flourishing. It's a huge benefit to the town.</p> <p>With thanks for all you do to keep Sevenoaks in good shape.</p>
253.	<p>&gt; I am seeing a large number of comments about the future of the Stag and a meeting about it in 29th.</p> <p>&gt; I want to add to the discussion offering my view that The Stag is a major benefit to Sevenoaks which would be a substantial loss to the town if it was lost.</p> <p>&gt; If you read any of the press comments regarding the town you will see one of the major reasons to live here is the Artisan Stag Theatre with a cinema and a theatre, we see many live shows, up to date films and the Pantomime season brings in people from far and wide.</p> <p>&gt; This theatre supplies a major boost To the town and needs to be maintained as a town landmark and facility.</p> <p>&gt; Supported mainly by a band of active volunteers it cannot have high staffing costs and surely must be affordable for a community such as sevenoaks.</p> <p>&gt; Maybe some consideration could be given to the potential for crowd funding to help the theatre survive COVID 19.</p>
254.	<p>I have recently heard that there is a possibility that the Stag Theatre may close. I wish to register my deep concern at this, as I believe it is a vital part of our community here in Sevenoaks, by both providing local entertainment and by bringing custom into the high street in the evenings.</p> <p>We regularly go to shows and events there, and bring in friends from around the areas and believe this is an establishment that needs to be supported by the council and through our Council Tax payments, even if there is a small increase to support the facility directly.</p> <p>Please consider the weight of public feeling when matters regarding the Stag theatre are discussed.</p>
255.	<p>I have been a resident of Sevenoaks since 1971. I think that every effort should be made to retain the Stag Theatre for the community.</p>
256.	<p>I live in Eynsford and regularly use The Stag, particularly the cinema but also for concerts and the function room. Both my sons have performed there as they support local groups. Please continue to support this important local asset.</p>
257.	<p>I realise that these are challenging times but closing the Stag Theatre is to be avoided. Communities should and are pulling together more than ever and the Stag is an important part of that in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I have lived in the town for over twenty years and have seen the soul and character of the place gradually eroded and this closing the Stag would reflect badly on the Council and its decision making processes.</p>
258.	<p>As ..... and behalf of music lovers in Sevenoaks,I beg you to save The Stag Theatre which was lovingly restored by.....</p> <p>The Stag stage is one of the largest in the South East and certainly with a cast of over 50 it is invaluable to Kentish Opera. Kentish Opera performs there regularly along with the</p>

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	Sevenoaks Players, various Pantomimes and Dance companies. Music and the arts are a vital part of life in Sevenoaks and we beg you to Please save our Theatre?
259.	Keep the Stag Theatre open. This wonderful establishment is the cultural heart of Sevenoaks and brings people into Sevenoaks. It supports local charities and gives opportunities to young people through work experience and volunteering. I live in Kemsing and previously Eynsford and have used the Stag in different ways over the years, it would be heartbreaking for thousands if it were to close. Keep the Stag open.
260.	I just wanted to email to voice my support for the Stag theatre. It would be absolutely devastating for it to close and leave a huge hole in the community. We are regular visitors to the cinema, theatre and cafe and can't imagine Sevenoaks without it. We definitely wouldn't need to visit the town centre half as often if it weren't there. Please please arrange some financial support for it during these testing times. We need the Stag, and it needs you.
261.	Good morning - I would like to support The Stag and petition for keeping it open at all costs - It is an absolutely vital facility in our town bringing many teenagers together and keeping them off the streets. It would be incredible shame and downfall to our town if the Council decides closure.
262.	Please keep the Stag theatre open, it's a lovely theatre that makes Sevenoaks a great place.
263.	The closure of the Stag Theatre would be a great loss to Sevenoaks. Not only is it a centre of culture for Sevenoaks and the surrounding villages but it also brings people from further afield and revenue into the town. The theatre showcases the wide diversity of local talent in music, drama, opera and dance. It provides an invaluable base for companies such as Kentish Opera, Sevenoaks Symphony, Sevenoaks Philharmonic, Sevenoaks Players and the Sevenoaks Festival. The NT Live streamings provide the opportunity to see world class theatre without having to travel to London. This is invaluable for those for whom it is difficult or impossible to make the journey either through disability, lack of transport or cost. The popularity of these screenings is evident from the early take up of bookings and full houses, frequently resulting in repeat showings. The facilities make it an ideal venue in the centre of the town to enable events to be held to support charitable causes such as Kent Police Band concerts. One questions where the young people who currently attend the Youth Club would spend their time. Would some be tempted to 'hang around' the town, possibly causing trouble for police, businesses and residents or becoming vulnerable targets themselves? Children and families benefit enormously from the pantomimes and family shows. The Stag is a great asset that the whole community, residents, businesses and the Town Council should all be proud of and give wholehearted support without reservation. Closure of this wonderful venue would leave many residents, like ourselves, culturally isolated.
264.	This has been a vital component of town life in Sevenoaks. It brings people together, allows local employment and supports charities. Our town needs stability especially during this time and needs to encourage people into its centre to help support the economy. Do not let this go on your watch! Please save and support through funding
265.	We have been attending events and the cinema at the Stag for many years and the loss of this facility in the town Centre would be of great detriment to the Sevenoaks community.
266.	I am sure that you have been inundated with emails regarding The Stag's future.



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	<p>I have been visiting The Stag for more than 30 years and I believe it strengthens a community's cultural environment, provides catharsis to its participants and viewers and is a safe place for people of all ages, cultures and experiences to come together and work towards a common goal.</p> <p>I would love my own children to experience this. We have been attending The Stag for the past few years to watch The Pantomime, which is part of our Christmas tradition.</p> <p>I have supported The Stag by donating to its fundraising bid and I hope they are successful in receiving funds from you.</p>
267.	<p>It's important that I let you how disappointed I would be if the Stag Theatre closed. I have enjoyed many evening there with, my husband, my children, friends and particularly my late mother who was not fit enough to travel into London for the theatre but could manage her local Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. School children thoroughly enjoy the productions they put on there and particularly like the ticket office. It would be a great loss for the lovely town if it were to go</p>
268.	<p>As a patron of the stag theatre for the past 30 years I felt I must write to express why it is essential to Sevenoaks to keep the stag theatre open.</p> <p>As a family we have enjoyed every aspect of the theatre, regularly attending the comedy nights, which was a rights of passage for my then teenage son. We have enjoyed watching our children in shows put on by local dance schools and primary schools. These are all things that make memories and bind people to a community. We have enjoyed the Sevenoaks players in both plays and pantomime and the Magic Beans pantomimes. I have performed with Rock Choir which was fabulous. I have taken my grandmother to see the Rat Pack and my mum and mother in law to see Iain Waite and Natalie Lowe from Strictly, incredible shows.</p> <p>The Stag isn't just a theatre it is a community hub bringing people of all ages together to enjoy the arts.Please consider</p>
269.	<p>I would like to request that the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks be allowed to remain open and a centre for music , theatre and community activities. It's a great asset to Sevenoaks and district and it's loss would leave the people without any entertainment facilities. Thank you</p>
270.	<p>Hello - we have lived here in Sevenoaks for 35 years and our children and ourselves have enjoyed The Stag through all those years. PLEASE do not shut it - it's a real meeting point for all households and all generations. We even paid for two chairs when the cinema was refurbished! Surely it would be worth asking households to pay a one off donation of at least £5 towards its upkeep, with a free cinema ticket in return? ! Fingers firmly crossed!</p>
271.	<p>I hope ours is among many voices urging the council to support the Stag in these difficult times.</p> <p>Sevenoaks would be so much poorer without the Stag, it's cinema, pantos and the many events and activities that it runs.</p> <p>We would also urge the Stag management team and the council to be more transparent about what is being done now and what will be done in the future.</p> <p>There has been what we view as a half-hearted appeal to raise £250,000 from the public (even donating was difficult to do until a recent change to the website), a statement by ..... on local news regarding running costs of £800/day (which doesn't tally with the funding target) and then what appears to be a final decision on a grant / the future of the Stag on 29<sup>th</sup> June. There's also a suggestion that if the council agrees to the grant, public funds raised will be used instead for "much-needed projects". This is, at best, misleading and risks undermining the trust of the those rallying to support the Stag.</p>

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	All involved need to be clear about the task at hand and what we, as residents of the town, can do to save this institution.
272.	Please do not close the stag theatre. Sevenoaks deserves a good venue !
273.	I write to support the Stag staying open. It fulfils a central role in the town of Sevenoaks, providing not only an entertainment hub for many arts media but a focus for the community especially those less able through age or circumstance to enjoy other amenities in the area. It's central location also means that users are often able to walk rather than use their own transport. I sincerely hope that it is possible to find a way to keep the Stag functioning .
274.	I would be appalled if the Stag was closed down by the Council. It is a resource, in terms of space, entertainment and community that, once closed, will be lost forever. Please do not let that happen. When quality films, especially European ones were shown there, we would always go along. Being able to walk into town, have a drink at The Chequers and go to a film was such a pleasure. It brought the town centre after dark alive. With so few Independent retailers, including our marvellous bookshop, trading, a closure of the Stag would be another nail in the coffin for the town centre. I can see that there is development potential to be realised in the site. However, that will be a short term gain at the expense of the Stag's long term value to the community. Please do not squander our heritage!
275.	I would like to give my support for keeping the Stag going, even in these difficult times. It is a wonderful community resource. We use it several times a year, and it is a family tradition for everyone to go to the pantomime.
276.	Just wanted to send a message to say how important we think the Stag is to the community of Sevenoaks. The Stag has been such an amazing place. My children have performed there at various shows, club performances and it's been amazing. We have also thoroughly enjoyed going to the annual Christmas panto, been frequent cinema visitors, comedy nights etc etc. It will be extremely sad if The Stag will not reopen again. Please help us keeping it.
277.	Please please keep it going ... it's such an asset to the town for young and old ... all that expertise and enthusiasm... don't let it go under ...
278.	I understand the town council are deciding on the future of The Stag. A wonderful place within easy reach. With all the new movies, shows with well-known performers. As a disabled woman it gives me the opportunity to meet friends at The Stag, watch things I am very interested in. There is a smashing food cafe where many families stop to eat. It is the only centre of entertainment we have to enjoy in Sevenoaks. A lot of people visit from other places to watch our shows and especially the Christmas Panto!! Please do not take away my son and my history of shows!! Think before action!!! Stay safe.
279.	I think it is a fabulous venue for more intimate film viewing - as a family we'd rather go to The Stag than have to travel to big venues like Bluewater. It is such a different experience to see a film locally and be able to access all the local restaurants before or after watching a film or show. I think the towns restaurants would suffer without the Stag. As a family we love the panto there each year and generally think it would be a huge loss to the town if the Stag no longer existed.
280.	I just wanted to add my husband's and my support to save The Stag. One of the many things that drew us to Sevenoaks, was not just the easy commute to London, but the fact that everything was on our doorstep. Not just local cinema, but theatre, opera and dance.

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	<p>When we arrived in Sevenoaks 16 years ago, there was a battle to save The Stag then and we were so happy that the local community pulled together as one to keep our local entertainment centre going.</p> <p>I am an active member of the Sevenoaks Camera Club and have been honoured to be involved with the promotion of other local groups, ie. Sevenoaks Players, Kentish Opera and others.</p> <p>Let's keep supporting local talent and give them a platform to share and foster young and upcoming locals. Please keep The Stag going.</p>
281.	<p>Please continue to provide financial support to The Stag Theatre Sevenoaks. Sevenoaks is enriched by the provision of a theatre and a cinema to the local community. The Stag Theatre facilitates the opportunity to experience arts and culture. The cinema offers a safe environment for adolescents to experience their initial independence from parents on arranged nights out.</p> <p>For adults, the cinema and theatre is in walking distance from many residents homes allowing a pleasant evening out and then dinner in Sevenoaks town centre.</p> <p>For children, the cinema offers regular family entertainment and the opportunities of outings.</p> <p>The local schools support the annual pantomime put on at the Stag, as do the Sevenoaks residents. This experience for children at Christmas may be the only opportunity for some to experience live theatre.</p> <p>The Stag also makes Sevenoaks more attractive to tourists by offering local entertainment on the doorstep and therefore helps the local economy by enticing visitors to Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Support for The Stag Theatre should be actively encouraged for the benefit it provides. Thank you for your kind consideration.</p>
282.	The Stag Theatre needs to be kept open
283.	<p>I am writing in support The Stag - my local cinema.</p> <p>We feel so lucky to have such a great local cinema right in the centre of town and it would be such a shame to lose something unique.</p>
284.	<p>I am writing to you to show my support for our local cinema - The Stag.</p> <p>Having grown up locally, I have attended many birthday parties and fun events at the stag and continue to use it as our local cinema. Sevenoaks town has many chain restaurants, coffee shops and hairdressers - we don't need anymore!</p> <p>We need to continue to have somewhere for all ages with a good variety of events such as pantomimes and films!</p>
285.	<p>We have been living in Sevenoaks ..... for almost 11 years and went every year to the Panto which became a big tradition for us.</p> <p>We have been uncountable times to the cinema, to see the Kentish Opera, enjoyed Comedy etc and my family would be gutted If we would loose the STAG!</p> <p>The STAG is so important for the town and I cannot believe that the Council is even considering to close it! We are an affluent town and our town centre shouldn't only consist of hairdressers and charity shops! The restaurants would suffer as many STAG visitors are having dinner before and drinks after the theatre!</p> <p>I herewith would like to ask you to reconsider A closure and come up with a financial concept to support our beloved STAG Theatre!!!!</p>
286.	I write in support of keeping the theatre open. It provides an important service to the town and residents .
287.	<p>I have been living in Sevenoaks for 18 years and been a shop owner for 10 years. I feel so proud to have such a lovely place like the stag to enjoy a good film or see a concert. This is a place to meet up with my friends and also my customers.</p>

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	<p>For me, the stag represents the heart of the community. It would be so sad if this magical place didn't exist anymore. Please let's keep it going.</p>
288.	<p>I just wanted to add my voice to the many who feel very strongly that Sevenoaks District Council should battle to save the Stag. The closure and redevelopment of the Stag may bring in short term revenue to the town but diminish the town permanently. I would be happy to make a financial contribution to the £250,000 reported to be needed, provided it meant the Stag being saved for our and future generations. Moreover, Sevenoaks DC should dig deep financially to save the Stag, a key resource for the whole community and the many local kids and their parents who enjoy using it.</p> <p>I should add that that as a paid up Friend of the Stag I am surprised I have not had any communication from the Stag about needing to raise funds, only hearing about it from a neighbours' Whatsapp group and then the local news website. There is likely to be a lot more support from the community to help the Stag than may be apparent to you now if only the problem was advertised more widely.</p> <p>I should finally add that it would be a terrible shame if the Stag became yet another derelict site in Sevenoaks town centre owned by developers, to add to the closed hotel opposite Sevenoaks school and the site of the old pub opposite the station.</p>
289.	<p>I support the move to keep the Stag open . It's a vital part of what Sevenoaks has to offer.</p>
290.	<p>I am writing in support of keeping the theatre open if at all possible. It is an asset to the community which would be missed if closed.</p>
291.	<p>Please keep the stag theatre open</p>
292.	<p>Please keep the Stag open .</p>
293.	<p>It would be a tragedy and a great sadness if the Stag were to be closed down. It is a well loved and vital part of our town . I have many guests in my B and B from all over the country who come to Sevenoaks specifically to visit the Stag. They also spend money in the local restaurants and pubs which is beneficial to the town. All that would be lost without the Stag.</p>
294.	<p>I am deeply saddened to here the possibility of the closure of such an iconic theatre, The Stag in Sevenoaks. I have enjoyed many years performing a dance show every two years for myself and my daughter. We attend the yearly panto and various other events during the year. I was fortunate to enjoy a ballet just before lockdown. I urge you to please reconsider this decision. Whilst I appreciate the effect Covid has had on many businesses, please please do not let this awful virus take this amazing theatre</p>
295.	<p>Please add my name to the list of supporters for the stag.</p>
296.	<p>I am writing regarding the potential closure of the Stag Theatre, Sevenoaks. I understand that the COVID-19 pandemic has hit theatres particularly hard, and the lack of government support will see many closing their doors for good. However, if there is anything that can be done to keep the Stag open, I urge you to take those measures. I have many happy memories of performing at the Stag. I danced in six shows and helped backstage in there with ..... Dance. As a child, these shows felt like I was performing to thousands of people. As a teenager they provided a bonding experience with my peers and a chance to improve my confidence. As an adult helping backstage, I felt the adrenaline of running up and down the stairs to fetch dancers for different numbers, and seeing the excitement on their faces that I used to see on mine. My</p>

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	<p>favourite memory is kissing the dungeon wall with red lipstick for good luck - sorry, I know there were signs explicitly advising against this.</p> <p>The Stag has been a big part of my life and hundreds of others, and if it can be saved, please do so. It would be such a shame to lose such a cornerstone of the local community.</p>
297.	<p>We have been asked on 'Nextdoor' to send views on keeping The Stag going.</p> <p>I think the loss of the Stag would mean the loss of the heart of the town. The stag pulls in customers to the restaurants and all the local adult and school musical/theatrical groups perform there. Without the Stag local amateur groups would be homeless and probably fade away. The restaurants, which will have difficulties after lockdown will close down. What will the town consist of in the end?</p> <p>I read an appeal in the chronicle last week and sent the email below to Andrew Eyre but have had no response - not encouraging!</p>
298.	<p>As a long-standing resident and business owner in Sevenoaks I implore you to make a positive decision to reopen the Stag.</p> <p>It brings a much needed hub to the town centre for all ages, for plays, films and events, and draws people to eat in the town too.</p> <p>All this is going to be much needed in the foreseeable future.</p>
299.	<p>I urge you to provide resources to save the Stag Theatre from its current financial dilemma. I hope that you will agree that there is more to life in Sevenoaks than the provision of core services required by statute.&gt;</p> <p>&gt; Once the current Covid tragedy is diminished we shall see many closures of arts facilities around London and the south east and we must do whatever it takes to restore a sense of community among all age groups and interests in the UK and Sevenoaks should certainly do it's bit.</p> <p>&gt; Local theatre is a fine example of what needs to be retained. In fact the dearth of theatres in the future might even lead to Sevenoak's foresight in retaining the theatre as being a gold standard of commercial savvy as other areas sacrifice their art centres for short term expediency thereby helping Sevenoaks as a town to prosper.</p> <p>&gt; The Stag Theatre is a social centre unparalleled in Sevenoaks and the surrounding towns and villages. It is a fantastic resource that serves local communities culturally over a very wide scope of performing arts and also provides a local cinema so important to the people of the community whatever their age.</p> <p>&gt; Additionally it draws people from miles away to the town supporting the local restaurants and bars.</p> <p>&gt; Please do what you can to keep our cultural facilities intact.</p>
300.	<p>I am writing to you to show my support for the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>The theatre is the heart of the Sevenoaks community , not only as it is are only local cinema ( and as you know public transport is poor in the region , there is none for instance from Ightham to the Tunbridge Wells cinemas) , but also puts on wonderful local shows and concerts .</p> <p>The Stag theatre needs to remain open , especially in these challenging times . People need places to relax , enjoy and learn . Please consider your decision thoroughly as the ramifications will be considerable for the local community.</p>
301.	<p>I have received a message suggesting that the council may be considering not keeping the Stag Theatre open.</p> <p>If this is true I can appreciate your concerns in these crazy tines BUT The Stag Theatre has featured heavily in the lives of my family and we all would urge you to keep it open.</p>

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	<p>It is a massive bonus for the people of Sevenoaks and when all this craziness is over we welcome being able to visit the Stag again and bring a sense of normality back to our lives.</p> <p>From going to the cinema to watching incredible artists live on stage.</p> <p>My daughter and grandchildren have had the privilege of performing on one of the best stages in the country.</p> <p>Every year we watch the Sevenoaks pantomime one of the best in the area sometimes going twice. Silly Billy is 'Mr Sevenoaks' and adults and children alike love him.</p> <p>So please if you can please keep The Stag Open.</p>
302.	<p>I regularly go to the Stag. For films, Pantomimes, Ballet shows and local socialising. It would be a travesty if an iconic building and business would close.</p>
303.	<p>The Stag is a vital part of the community! Its so important to keep it open! It's a safe place for young and old people to meet in Sevenoaks! The touring shows are excellent but it's also a place to showcase local talent - dance shows / school theatre productions etc. My teenage children have regularly been to the cinema there since they were small and are now able to meet their friends there. We come as an extended family to the pantomime every year as a family tradition. My daughter has also done her ballet shows there. We have watched Opera and Strictly stars perform and I have even attended markets in the hall at the back of the theatre. It really is the heart of the community in Sevenoaks and a lifeline for young and old alike.</p> <p>It would truly be a disaster for the town if the Stag were to close.</p> <p>Please, please, please keep it open!</p>
304.	<p>The theatre is so important to sevenoak to you and old and must be kept open at all costs please</p>
305.	<p>I have been made aware that the council are making a decision to close the Stag theatre yet again.</p> <p>I understand in this unprecedented time that it must be difficult but it is the HEART of Sevenoaks and it's community. It brings people into Sevenoaks and gives so much to everyone.</p> <p>I have attended many events and always use the cinema instead of going to Tunbridgewells.</p> <p>Please don't close it down, everyone I speak to are devastated.</p>
306.	<p>I am writing to support the stag theatre. It brings so much joy to local residents. We are lucky to have it and appreciate. I vote to please keep it open.</p>
307.	<p>I am writing you to strongly request that our local STAG theatre be kept OPEN as a cinema and arts venue. It has contributed greatly to the local Sevenoaks community in many many ways.Thank you.</p>
308.	<p>I have recently been informed that due to enforced Covid 19 closures, the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks is struggling to stay in business. I therefore wanted to get in touch to show my support for it, as part of the heart of the Sevenoaks community. My family have always used this facility for the cinema, theatre and dance performances of my children and we would like to be reassured that everything is being done to keep it running under the circumstances. Thank you,</p>
309.	<p>Please keep our theatre open, we will be frequent visitors to films and performances when the pandemic recedes. Many thanks</p>
310.	<p>Although we live in .....(and as such are residents of Tonbridge &amp; Malling council), Sevenoaks is our nearest town and 'go to' place for shopping etc.</p> <p>We value the uniqueness of the Sevenoaks High Street and having a theatre enriches the cultural aspects of any town.</p>

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	<p>Over the years we have enjoyed attending the cinema, comedy nights and other performances. It has served local and amateur drama and the Stag is a wonderful experience for the cinema compared with the vast multiplex's that are in place now. More than that, a trip to the Stag will often entail a shopping visit too - bringing additional income to the shops in the High Street.</p> <p>It would be a terrible loss to the cultural aspects of Sevenoaks to lose the Stag and would diminish the reputation of Sevenoaks itself.</p>
311.	<p>I understand that the future of the stag Theatre is threatened. As a local resident, I know how important the stag is as a community space. Please save the Stag Theatre for the benefit of the whole community.</p>
312.	<p>Please please keep the stag as he open as it is such a wonderful place for everyone</p>
313.	<p>I was most concerned to note from an article in the Sevenoaks Chronicle that our wonderful local cinema and theatre is under threat of closure. The Stag is an exceptional asset to the town and sets us apart from so many commuter towns and villages. It is a lifeline to so many, young and old. Situated in the centre of the town it is particularly of benefit to those without a car being easily accessed by foot or public transport. Additionally it is a focal point for our young people/teenagers giving them a safe environment to socialise.</p> <p>The cinema is a wonderful venue and affords the opportunity for all including young families and the older generation to enjoy a film and/or a meal etc whilst staying local and supporting the towns businesses, restaurants and bars.</p> <p>The theatre not only offers diverse entertainment for the enjoyment of residents but also supports local groups and charities providing an excellent venue for numerous activities so important to the well being of the town.</p> <p>I would urge you to support and do everything within your power to keep The Stag open.</p>
314.	<p>Hello - we have lived here in Sevenoaks for 35 years and our children and ourselves have enjoyed The Stag through all those years. PLEASE do not shut it - it's a real meeting point for all households and all generations. We even paid for two chairs when the cinema was refurbished! Surely it would be worth asking households to pay a one off donation of at least £5 towards its upkeep, with a free cinema ticket in return? ! Fingers firmly crossed!</p>
315.	<p>I just wanted to add my name to all those supporting the Stag I live in ..... and my wife and I are or were regular cinema goers and we love walking up the High Street to the Stag We have given money to support the Stag when it's existence was threatened a few years ago.</p> <p>Perhaps the Town Council could launch an appeal and match what can be raised from the public?</p> <p>Sevenoaks would be immeasurably poorer without our theatre and cinema.</p>
316.	<p>Please keep the Stag Theatre open. It is vital to the cultural life of our community.</p>
317.	<p>These are difficult times and I know you will be doing everything you can to support the community. I would like to ask you to keep The Stag Theatre open as I know how important it is to Sevenoaks and the surrounding area. I would like to volunteer to work, clean, do maintenance anything so that this aim can be achieved.</p>
318.	<p>I am writing to give my wholehearted support to keeping the Stag Theatre open. Over the years this venue has provided an enormous role in keeping Sevenoaks arts alive, from dance companies to concerts and having a local cinema. Not only does it support charities but it also gives young people the chance to volunteer and gain vital work experience. It would be a travesty if it were to close.</p>

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319.	Please don't close the Stag. I have so many fond memories of that place and it's been a great feature of the town as long as I can remember, it would be such a great shame if it closed.
320.	The Stag Theatre is a wonderful venue. My daughters have performed on stage with their dance school on many occasions over the years. We have also seen lots of productions and visit the cinema regularly. It would be such a shame if this no longer exists for the community.
321.	Please save the Stag. Such a unique theatre to go to with such a special atmosphere. We love the cinema too. Very easy parking and lots of places nearby to eat and drink. It would be a great loss to the town.
322.	We write to express our support for The Stag theatre & cinema. It is a much loved venue for our family and has been an integral part of my children's lives from their annual trip to see the panto, to hosting & attending birthday parties and it is our number one cinema of choice. In addition, it attracts people into Sevenoaks, supports local charities and gives opportunities to young people through work experience and volunteering. We would be heart broken if it were to close.
323.	Hello, I have read online about a possible closure of the stag and I for one cannot express how much of a tragedy this would be. I am 20 years old and performed a dance show at the stag every two years and sometimes once a year since the age of 2. The stag theatre felt like I second home to me and one of my favourite places to dance. The audience always felt alive and it gives those performing the same feeling. I have also attended many performances shown at the stag theatre and loved every single one of them. Going to the stag every Christmas has been a tradition for me and my family for years and I know that many of my friends feel the same way. A Christmas without this tradition just wouldn't be Christmas. As a child I wanted to work for the stag helping performances and if this closure occurs it may never happen. The stage is full of wonderful memories and I truly believe it would be devastating to see it close. I truly hope that along with this email and many others you will revoke the motion of closing the stag and allow them to remain open.
324.	Having lived in Sevenoaks for over 25 years and raising a family here, the Stag has been an integral part of our lives. It would be an absolute tragedy if it didn't survive for future generations. We would ask that the Council provide sufficient support for it to do so.
325.	I have Just heard you are having a meeting in 29 June regarding the stag theatre/cinema in Sevenoaks, this is a hub for the young in Sevenoaks I personally use the facility a lot as do charity's and do not want to see it close. It would be so short sighted if you decided to close this facility as it gives Sevenoaks a sense of community, as well as supporting local Restaurants. Please consider the above.
326.	I understand that Stag have applied for a grant from STC to help them over the Corona period. I would like to add my support for that to happen. Stag is such an important part of the community and provides a much needed focal point to attract people to the town. Since it was founded by ..... it has survived many a crisis, and has been successfully run by STC in recent years. I see no reason why it should not continue to thrive, provided it is helped over this unprecedented period.
327.	The population of sevenoaks and the surrounding area need to have some hope that life will get back to normal, which may not happens for at least another 6 months , if not a year.



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	<p>Closure of the theatre will create a huge disappointment in the current climate for individuals, both young and old. Surely funding could be found by charitable donations in addition to government money or use by other organisations such as schools or medical centres where social distancing is necessary.</p>
328.	<p>I am so saddened to hear the news of your meeting regarding the possible closure of The Stag Theatre. I am principal of .....Dance based in .....and have used your theatre for my shows since the year 2000. I had an up and coming show arranged for ..... this year 2020. The loss of the Theatre would not only be devastating to me and my students but to the Arts in general. I also strongly suspect it would have a massive impact on the local hospitality businesses. To lose such a wonderful community project with such superb facilities will be extremely sad, to the young and old alike. I hope you take my comments into consideration when making your decision.</p>
329.	<p>I have read that the Stag Theatre is in danger of closing. This would be a disaster for the people of Sevenoaks. It is at the heart of the community and represent so much. It brings people together and is key to the economy of the town. Please do everything you can to keep it open. Thank you.</p>
330.	<p>Do not close the Stag Theatre This is an establishment that is part of our unique and special Sevenoaks community. We have been through this threat of closures many times over the years and the end result is that it is an establishment we must keep open in Sevenoaks. Re think how it can be used We desperately need some where where the young of our town can meet on a regular basis. Let's get up to date.</p>
331.	<p>I'm emailing you to ask you to keep the Stag Theatre open, we will be lost without the Theatre and Cinemas, we love to go to the local Cinema and my Husband loves the Bands and live Entertainment, this is a great Community Hub, where would we go? Much further afield!! It's lovely to have a meal in Sevenoaks and go to a Show, please, please keep the Stag open</p>
332.	<p>We would like to voice our support for the future well being of the Stag theatre, and would hope that the Town Council will continue to support it financially.</p>
333.	<p>I am utterly disheartened to hear of the potential closure of the Stag Theatre. This gem of a venue is vital to the community of the town including young and old. It has served generations and is a lifeline to so many including the lonely, volunteers and people just in need of a friendly chat over a coffee in your lovely cafe. The pantomime is what makes Christmas and the cinema is just ideal for those who don't like large crowded venues. The basement hub is somewhere for teenagers to meet without hanging around the streets. Overall, we strongly ask you to keep funding our Fantastic Stag Theatre and keep the happy and friendly staff there for keeps.</p>
334.	<p>Just read on Borough Green pinboard that the Stag might be in line for closure and that you are meeting to discuss this on 29th June. I have to say I am at a loss to understand exactly why you might even consider this ? The Stag is a historical building and a brilliant asset to the town. My husband and I always visit the Stag to watch films, enjoying a meal in the town before or afterwards. If the Stag shut, us and a lot of other people would be going elsewhere taking our money with us. I have to say I haven't been to the Stag when it's empty so a decision to close it begs the question why? More housing? Rejuvenation is the key not closure it would literally mean the end of Sevenoaks town which is already struggling.</p>

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	<p>The Stag like most regional theatre establishments needs support , especially at this time with the pandemic. I hope you listen to public opinion and do the right thing.</p>
335.	<p>I will give my full support to keeping the Stag open. It is an important part of our local community and economy. I have used the theatre and cinema frequently over the years taking my mother, family and loads of friends to various events. It's an important place for youngsters to meet and they are the ones who will be hardest hit over the next few years. I have also made donation during lockdown because I believe the Stag is so important. I hope others will think similarly.</p>
336.	<p>Have just been informed that the Sevenoaks town council are voting on 29th June as to the future of the Stag. I have to protest that you might even be thinking about shutting this historical and unique establishment. It would be a huge loss to the town, which is already struggling and has seen a lot of other shops lost. I appreciate the future for theatres etc is somewhat uncertain due to Covid 19 but the Stag is a huge asset to the town and must be supported.</p>
337.	<p>I have been informed that an imminent decision is due on the future of The Stag. I am so very sad to here that a decision may be made to close this wonderful venue in Sevenoaks. It not only brings the community together but offers a wide range of opportunities to young people and supports so many worthwhile causes. Please can you pass on my email in support of keeping The Stag open. Sevenoaks would not be the same without it.</p>
338.	<p>I am contacting you to lend my support to the above. We've lived in ..... for over 30 years &amp; attend the cinema, theatre &amp; live music performances on a regular basis. We are so lucky to have such an excellent facility on our doorstep showcasing a wide variety of local &amp; national talent. The Stag brings people into Sevenoaks &amp; supports local charities. It also provides young people with valuable opportunities for work experience &amp; volunteering. I sincerely hope that the council will vote to keep this fantastic facility which has been an integral part of the life of the town. The repercussions of its closure to the local economy would be significant, not just for the theatre, but also for the restaurants, cafes &amp; pubs &amp; businesses who will be additionally impacted as they struggle to rebuild after lockdown.</p>
339.	<p>I am writing to urgently request that the Stag remains open. I attend many cinema and theatre events each year and would be very upset to loose it. The Stag is a huge asset to Sevenoaks town.</p>
340.	<p>Please save our Stag Theatre by providing financial assistance to our local theatre to give our community the chance to keep supporting it after the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided and for all future generations.</p>
341.	<p>I am writing to give my unequivocal support to the campaign to support saving The Stag. I am a local resident currently living in central Sevenoaks and have lived within proximity to the town centre for over 20 years. I regularly enjoy using both the theatre and cinema facility. I am a wheelchair user and love the sense of inclusion of being able to access top quality shows, plays and current cinema with my family and able-bodied peers without having to travel by car. Public transport to other areas would be prohibitively difficult and would result in me just not going! As a well-known member of the community I rely on The Stag's accessible facilities and it enriches my life and the lives of my many friends, significant numbers of whom have additional needs.</p>

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	Please Save Our Stag!!!
342.	<p>Please consider this email as a support to keep the Stag up and running on behalf of my entire family. I am a local of Sevenoaks and have been a regular visitor to Stag with my family. My kid loves it. Frozen 2 was our last visit and it was so memorable.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the COVID crisis has amplified the dilemma of so many aspects of our lives. But, I think, together, as a strong local community, we all will come out strong as ever.</p>
343.	<p>I have recently heard about plans to close the Stag theatre. I believe it is a unique and a very important institution for Sevenoaks and the local community.</p> <p>I understand we are all going through logistic and financial difficulties due to the coronavirus crisis, but I am writing to urge you to try and find ways of keeping the theatre alive.</p> <p>My friend owns a small theatre, which has also been struggling. They recently started using a platform called Stint (which has not launched officially in Sevenoaks (stint.co) but are open to enquiries). The platform helps businesses save a considerable amount on labour costs whilst engaging a workforce of local students.</p>
344.	<p>I have just been told today that there is a possibility that The Stag theatre could face permanent closure from the end of June. The Stag theatre plays an important part in community life. Its permanent closure would be a sad loss to the community. In the past year I have visited The Stag on numerous occasions to watch film, view live shows both on the main stage and in the Plaza Suite, and regularly meet for coffee in the cafeteria. The Stag offers the opportunity to visit a variety of cultural events without the need to travel to London, and as such, fulfils a hugely important role in the local community as well as bringing revenue to other bars and restaurants in town. It is a real community hub. Please do your utmost to keep it open.</p>
345.	<p>We have just heard the sad news that The Stag is, once again, under threat of closure. And that a decision may be made as early as the end of this month? Surely there are ways of keeping this community gem in limbo a little longer until ways can be found around restrictions and social distancing. This arts and community centre is at the heart of Sevenoaks life. So few of these establishments exist now and it would be a monumental error to close it at this time, when so many other business in the town are at risk. Please don't hasten the death of our high street by closing something that brings in people from out of town to support our pubs, shops and restaurants. I'm sure you would find many, many people feel the same way!</p> <p>We, and many of our friends, use the cinema and theatre spaces regularly. Please think long term on this</p>
346.	<p>Just a quick email to reiterate my belief and support to keep the stag. Even as a young person ..... my childhood was going to the stag to watch films with my friends and children's parties and going to the theatre. I believe that it is irresponsible to get rid of an establishment that supports the local community and gives back so much. As would also be a shame for the next generations not to have the same opportunity that myself and my friends did growing up as would be forced to go elsewhere.</p>
347.	<p>I have recently heard about plans to close the Stag theatre. I believe it is a unique and a very important institution for Sevenoaks and the community. I understand we are all going through financial difficulties due to the coronavirus crisis but I am writing to urge you to try and find ways of keeping the theatre alive.</p>
348.	<p>I am writing to say how strongly my family feels that the Stag should remain open and that we fully back the Save our Stag campaign. The Stag has been a very important part of our lives - as our local cinema and for theatre, dance and other performances. My children have taken part in performances at the Stag - ballet, youth theatre, and school</p>

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	<p>productions. My son, a teenager, regularly attended House in the Basement before lockdown.</p> <p>We have used the cafe, held a birthday party at the Stag, attended Young Musician of the Year and enjoyed attending a number of productions over the years. It is the heart of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>The Stag is the best thing about Sevenoaks. It is a vital resource for those living here who do not have a car or who need to remain local for childcare reasons, because of the nature of their work or health reasons. Access to the arts should be for everyone. Once people must travel out of town to go to the cinema, attend rehearsals and so on, those without a car or with less money become denied access. I say this from personal experience.</p> <p>In these coronavirus times when people do not want to travel on public transport or attend large venues, a facility like this is going to be even more important to the local community. With thought out spacing you could still show films and have live performances.</p> <p>There are a lot of secondary school students and other students who attend schools out of the town. The Stag is their connection with the town and provides worthwhile experiences for them to enjoy out of school. It provides opportunities for them to take part in youth productions, see films and so on with local friends. It keeps young people off their devices, off the streets and out of trouble! There is very little else in the town for young people to do. It is vital for their mental health and personal growth.</p> <p>In fact, if the Stag goes, we will leave too and find a town which does have an arts centre and opportunities for my children and myself as a single parent to enjoy life.</p>
<p>349.</p>	<p>I am writing to you to request that Sevenoaks Town Council understand the value of the Stag Theatre to its habitants and do all that they can to maintain and support its functioning and existence. At a time when we need to reduce the reliance on transport and the environmental impact of having to travel further afield, it is an essential service for the local community.</p> <p>In particular, it is an important service for the elderly who can more easily access the events there. If it were to close down, their choices in spending their leisure time will be curtailed.</p> <p>Thank you for directing this email to the appropriate committee.</p>
<p>350.</p>	<p>The Stag theatre and Cinema has provided great joy and is very much a part of the community - in summary it provides a community service to watch new movies, plays and music for all age groups.</p> <p>Furthermore it provides business for all the pubs and restaurants in the town. Most people partake in eating and drinks either before entertainment or later in the evening. Closure of the stag will erode the community spirit of sevenoaks and make us simply a commuter satellite for London.</p>
<p>351.</p>	<p>I am writing to give my support please in trying to keep The Stag open. It is a wonderful local facility for both comedy, music/dancing, drama and cinema which we use a lot. We would much prefer to make use of such a local facility in Sevenoaks for an evening out, rather than have to travel further afield. We would usually have a meal in Sevenoaks to make an evening of the event., bringing more business into Sevenoaks. We enjoy having this great place as a local enjoyable facility, and know it brings a lot of people (as well as ourselves) into Sevenoaks which also helps other local businesses.</p> <p>As well as being good for helping increase trade and enjoyment in the town, I know the Stag also supports other charities, and gives many opportunities particularly to young people through work experience, volunteering etc. The volunteers that work there are great, so efficient and enthusiastic it is a joy to visit!</p>

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	<p>If The Stag were to close it would be a very sad day for Sevenoaks Town, the local residents would miss out on a lot of culture and entertainment, and other business in the town would undoubtedly be adversely affected as well.</p>
352.	<p>I email you with regards to the reopening of The Stag Theatre. .... is to perform there soon with her dance company. We would seriously love to see her performance go ahead as performing gives ....., and many more children, so much confidence.</p> <p>The children work so hard before taking to the stage and for them to miss out would be a huge shame for them and their self-esteem.</p> <p>I, along with so many other parents, therefore ask the you consider providing The Stag with a grant in order to allow them to open &amp; provide our children with the amazing opportunities they have worked so hard for.</p>
353.	<p>I wish to give my very strong views that closing the Stag would be a ridiculous and unwarranted decision for the following reasons</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Stag encourages visitors into the town and thus generates valuable income for restaurants, shops etc</li> <li>2) The Stag is a gem which enables a very wide range of the arts to be performed for the benefit of local residents of all ages plus visitors. It is one of the key reasons that makes Sevenoaks such an attractive place to live.</li> <li>3) Sevenoaks is one of the more affluent areas in the country and it must be in a better position than most to overcome the financial damage brought upon by Covid-19. As an example I would have no problem seeing a reasonable rate increase to support the Stag.</li> </ol> <p>It will be very interesting to see which of our counsellors vote to close the Stag.</p>
354	<p>I am writing to give my support please to trying to keep The Stag open. It is a wonderful local facility for both comedy, music/dancing, drama and cinema which we use a lot. We would much prefer to make use of such a local facility in Sevenoaks for an evening out, rather than have to travel further afield. We would usually have a meal in Sevenoaks to make an evening of the event., bringing more business into Sevenoaks. We enjoy having this great place as a local enjoyable facility, and know it brings a lot of people (as well as ourselves) into Sevenoaks which also helps other local businesses.</p> <p>As well as being good for helping increase trade and enjoyment in the town, I know the Stag also supports other charities, and gives many opportunities particularly to young people through work experience, volunteering etc. The volunteers that work there are great, so efficient, and enthusiastic it is a joy to visit!</p> <p>If The Stag were to close it would be a very sad day for Sevenoaks Town, the local residents would miss out on a lot of culture and entertainment, and other business in the town would undoubtedly be adversely affected as well.</p>
354.	<p>I am writing in response to the campaign to Save our Stag Theatre. As I understand it, you will be meeting on 29th June and in advance of that, I am putting forward my case for the continuation of Sevenoaks' theatre.</p> <p>There are numerous emotional reasons that I could add to this email, having performed there dozens of times as a child and, now a mother in Sevenoaks town, the hope that one day my toddler may do the same! However, the future stage performances of ..... is not a reason to keep an entire theatre open. There are, however, many highly legitimate and vital reasons to Save Our Stag.</p> <p>I will start with the 4 strategic aims out in the '08 business case for the continuation of the Stag. I will then give attention to Diversity &amp; Inclusion and Life in a Post-Covid World. The latter will describe the theatre's future role in the wellbeing of the local</p>

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community and potential to act as a vehicle to rebuild some of the lives, specifically young lives, that have been traumatised by the pandemic and lockdown.

**1. Assisting the sustainability of the local economy of the town, particularly the night-time economy and tourism economy**

This is absolutely crucial. Talking about the economics of a theatre can be an unpopular move but quite simply, if it doesn't make money it doesn't survive. And I think we all agree that we want it to survive.

This first strategic aim particularly focuses on the night-time and tourism economy. I think more can be done here. Are we partnering with local independent businesses to create commercial affiliations? Can we sell tickets that e.g. offer a free dessert when you get a pre-theatre meal at a local restaurant, attracting our audiences to our friends on the High Street? The High Street will need a huge boost, particularly the hospitality industry, after lockdown and partnerships like this could be a simple, effective and symbiotic way of collectively growing the market back up.

With anxieties around travel as a result of the pandemic, The Stag offers a local and safer alternative to the West End for our community.

**2. Retaining the valuable social and leisure facility for both performers and audiences**

I won't bore you with how much of a landmark The Stag was in my social life as a child and teenager - definitely a site for a few first kisses I know of! We are talking about the present and the future.

In terms of leisure facilities, the prevalent feature for me and my current network is the cafe as it's a unique space for parents and young children to socialise safely in the town. No other place in town has the toys and space that this cafe has to offer. In a town that is heavily populated by families, a hub like this is crucial. Not only for the wellbeing and lifestyle of the community, but also the economy of the town. The cafe should be providing an income stream that's a lifeline to the theatre and if it isn't, this needs to be addressed.

**3. Enabling the development of youth services both in performing arts and youth outreach services**

Perhaps it goes without saying that youth services are important. But it doesn't. We must say it and remember why.

Children who are engaged in storytelling have improved literacy skills. In this way, the theatre plays its own role in the future of the younger portion of our community. For many, the arts act as a therapy and theatre outreach projects can offer children a means to process a variety of things happening in their complicated lives. It gives them a chance to literally play out scenarios that they couldn't otherwise and build confidence in how to approach things. We say 'All the World's a Stage' but we know it's not. The title of Stag Founder Maggie Durdant-Hollamby's book is 'Life's not a rehearsal' for a reason. It's not. Theatre outreach can provide a bit of a rehearsal to very difficult situations for children that could set them up to tackle real-life scenarios with greater efficacy.

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As I will go on to say in my notes on life in a post-covid world, this is particularly important right now. Lots of children will have experienced trauma in some way during lockdown - perhaps grief, loneliness, anxiety - and The Stag could really act as a parachute for them with a well crafted outreach project, perhaps partnering with local schools.

**4. Retaining an iconic building in the town and preserving the street scene**

What makes Sevenoaks High Street different from any other medium-sized town in the Home Counties?! It's packed with chains and shops for middle-class families. In many ways, that's perfect as it caters to major parts of our demographic. However, the preservation of the Stag undoubtedly leads to the preservation of our identity and prevents the anonymisation of another Home Counties town.

Could this be an opportunity for a fundraiser? A competition to draw the Stag / what it means to you? Small entry fee? Winner gets their picture in the lobby?

In addition to those four agreed strategic aims, as agreed in 2008....

**5. Diversity & Inclusion**

The Stag offers a literal platform for new and diverse voices and faces. We are a predominantly White town and while D&I has been at the top of the agenda for many businesses over the last few years, Black Lives Matter and we need to embrace D&I much more. Sevenoaks seems to be a town that once shied away from the conversation but that's changing. We can't and are not ignoring it any more.

The Stag has the opportunity to set an example to the rest of the town. By commissioning a programme that includes a diverse range of voices and faces, we can show the community a more equal world. This can be peaceful and beautiful and joyful as well as exploring the systemic injustice in society.

To my knowledge, Sevenoaks Town Council have recently been focused on the welfare and wellbeing of those with disabilities, in particular how they manage their lives in their homes. Are we working with the council to build on that? Are we putting those with disabilities on stage for our community to see? Are we partnering with places like the Orpheus Centre in Surrey to create a strategy for the role that the Arts has to play in the day to day lives of Sennockians with disabilities?

**6. Life in a post-COVID world**

- Economic: the theatre and its potential new affiliations with other local businesses could collectively act as a means to boost the local economy
- Wellbeing:
  - The theatre AND cinema are, by nature, a form of escape for the community, including Adults. For 2 hours or so, we can suspend disbelief and escape to another world, distracted from the stress and anxiety that we have been experiencing as a result of the pandemic.
  - Outreach projects and youth workshops (either at the Stag or partnering with schools) offer a means of 'therapy' for young people who have experienced trauma as a result of the pandemic.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logistics: perhaps surprisingly, the theatre is actually a fairly controllable location. We know the measurements of the seats and who is booking them. While we need to, we can create an audience experience that abides by social distancing rules.</li> <li>• Education: many children will have missed a significant amount of schooling during lockdown and theatre can be instrumental in providing a 'recovery curriculum'.</li> </ul> <p>In sum, owing to the current climate and pandemic, we cannot expect ticket sales to 'bank roll' the theatre. However, in the short-term, while we rebuild ourselves as a Society, The Stag has a major part to play in terms of the wellbeing of Sennockians. As life resumes, it then has a vital role in boosting the High Street economy and acting as a vehicle for change in making the town a more inclusive environment for diverse voices. Therefore, we need investment in The Stag now in order to invest in the town and its people for a better tomorrow.</p> <p>If you have any questions on the above or wish to discuss this or fundraising ideas further, I would be delighted to meet (at 2m!) or speak.</p>
355.	<p>To whom it may concern, I understand there is to be a meeting to decide on the future of the Stag theatre.</p> <p>I want to give my support for it to stay. It provides entertainment to the community of Sevenoaks both young and old. It also attract people from out of the area to visit Sevenoaks which had to be good for shops and the community as a whole. It gives job opportunities and assist the young in work experiences as well.</p> <p>For me and my family we have very much enjoyed our visits there to the theatre nothing beats a live performance as well as visits to the cinema. Plus the other functions that it holds craft fairs etc and enjoying the refreshments upstairs To loose the Stag will be detrimental to Sevenoaks town. We need the Stag here to serve us all and to help the town to thrive again Please keep it.</p>
356.	<p>With an ever increasing danger of losing good reasons for coming to our town including the shops and bars we really need to hold onto our more major attractions such as the stag theatre and Cinema which has served the community well for so many years, please let's try our hardest to keep this establishment of historical and financial interest with us for the future. Sevenoaks without these iconic buildings would be a crying shame hopefully a plan to rescue the theatre can be put into place. Maybe an invitation from each household to consider a small but valuable donation might be a consideration.</p>
357.	<p>We understand that there is a review underway to consider closing the Stag Theatre. This would be a sad loss to Sevenoaks and the surrounding community. We live in ....., near Borough Green and it is one of the few cultural opportunities locally and an important focus for community and charitable activity generally. We will be very badly served by any administration that decides closure is the right thing to do. At minimum I would suggest you engage the wider community in a positive dialogue to address and consider issues and solutions.</p>
358.	<p>I was very concerned and upset to hear that the Stag will possibly be closing in Sevenoaks town. Through watching many films and enjoying live performances, the Stag offers amusement for people by bringing family and friends together. Not only did I perform two school performances in the Stag, but I know that my previous school ..... visits the Stag every year to watch the pantomime. It was always so much fun when I was younger, and I know the kids are still ecstatic about it as my mother works in the</p>



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	<p>school office there. It must be said whether you are twenty, forty or sixty years old everyone loves a pantomime. I know many friends that have been able to showcase their dance skills in performances in the stag. Without the venue of the stag, these events would not be accessible for many members of the public to enjoy. The Stag is the heart of Sevenoaks. It creates community, unity, and enjoyment.</p> <p>For these reasons above, I really hope you consider the importance this one venue holds for many of the inhabitants in Sevenoaks.</p>
359.	<p>Over recent decades, Sevenoaks residents have had to fight repeatedly to keep the Stag complex open for everyone to enjoy. Now it is happening again. The Stag is a key feature in the cultural life of the Town. Its central position is a magnet for the many who enjoy cinema, theatrical productions and the arts generally. There is clearly a spin-off in the business those people also bring to other establishments in the Town. To allow the Stag to fold would therefore be completely contrary to the valiant efforts you and your colleagues are making regarding the Town Team initiatives for post-COVID recovery. Sure, while current restrictions remain in place, entertainment at the Stag is curtailed. But that is temporary. Everyone is working towards the time when a more normal life is possible. A certain period of mothballing is accepted but the intention must remain eventually to reopen and for the Stag, once again, to become the Cultural Beating Heart of Sevenoaks.</p>
360.	<p>I am writing to you to express our concern that The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks is under threat of closure.</p> <p>It would be a disaster for the town if this were to happen. I'm sure that restaurants rely heavily on theatre-goers having a meal before or after the show and I understand that many charities rely on the facilities there.</p> <p>Please don't close our theatre down - it would change Sevenoaks forever....but not in a good way.</p>
361.	<p>I am writing in support of the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. It is a fabulous local facility, which we use as a family frequently.</p> <p>It would be devastating to the local community if it was unable to stay open. So many families use the venue both to watch shows/films and also to perform. It gives local children (and adults) the opportunity to perform on a real stage, in a real theatre which is brilliant for their confidence and for instilling an appreciation of the arts.</p> <p>Please, please support this brilliant venue and help them to continue offering the local community a great service.</p>
362.	<p>I write to express my support for keeping the Stag Theatre open. It is a wonderful and vital community asset that provides a range of benefits to Sennockians of all ages. It also attracts footfall and hence business to the town, and is a centrepiece for the wonderful Sevenoaks Festival, which we are sadly missing this year, as well as for the much cherished panto.</p> <p>At a time when the future of our town centres is in doubt, the continued operation of the Stag Theatre is particularly essential. Should a local levy be required to keep it open, I am certain that the majority of residents would be happy to pay.</p>
363.	<p>I understand you are making a decision shortly regarding The Stag Theatre.</p> <p>I am just writing to say as a resident of Sevenoaks for 38 years we have always classed The Stag as an important element in the towns vibrancy and would hate to see it close. We have all helped to support it over the years so please help us save it now.</p> <p>Sevenoaks has expanded so much recently that hopefully it will be an even bigger asset in the coming ye</p>
364.	<p>I am writing to let you know that myself and my family are huge fans of The Stag and think it is a vital part of our community.</p>

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	We heard there is a chance it may close so wanted you to know we think this would be such a travesty.
365.	Would you please put my name down for supporting the Stag staying open. I appreciate that we live in difficult times with the present Coronavirus restrictions, but we still need to look to the Stag's future and safeguard the theatre and other activities there.
366.	I've heard through the grapevine that The Stag's future is in doubt. I would urge you not to close The Stag as it is a wonderful theatre that brings Sevenoaks's together and allows the next generation of theatre goers to enjoy the magic of theatre from a younger age. My children are just about coming of age when I can start to bring them along and it would be a travesty if this were unable to happen. It is a lovely little theatre and I would be very sad to see it close.
367.	I cannot believe that you are considering the closure of The Stag Theatre. It is a hugely valuable venue for the town of Sevenoaks and the only local cinema. It brings trade into the town, people who fill the restaurants and visit shops, and provides valuable employment. Please do not vote for its closure.
368.	My family and I have been regular users of the Stag cinema and theatre for many years and implore you to support it now to enable it to stay open.
369.	PLEASE SAVE THE STAG! My daughters both attended 'Chance to Dance' which gives the opportunity for youngsters to have an interest other than sitting indoors on computer games. We have attended many shows and know that people attend these performances who live outside the area. It is a landmark in our town and would be very sad to see it close.
370.	I must explain how important the Stag theatre is to our community. All my children have performed on the stage at the Stag and this will have had an impact on encouraging them to be more confident. They absolutely loved it. As a family we have attended the Christmas Panto and other classical performances with our family and other families. It is the centre of our Sevenoaks community and must be saved.
371.	Please, please, please save the Stag. I teach dance at a local primary school and 'Love 2 Dance' is a huge event for us each year. One of the children commented that "it was more fun than Disney world, performing at The Stag" Also, the Stag cinema provided us with many local outings. My parents enjoy events at the Stag. The pantomime marks the start of Christmas in our household. Something really important.... the Stag provides our young teenagers a bit of independence, at 12/13, when they can see a film or a show without parents. Please, please don't let it close. I promise to attend shows, my daughter will audition to be in pantos etc. We will bring the whole family. Please save the Stag!
372.	I wanted to confirm my support of the Stag theatre and cinema in Sevenoaks. A real asset to the town.
373.	Please keep this valuable asset to the Town open, it is such a part of Sevenoaks life and important to the community.
374.	I'm writing to show my support for the Stag as I have heard that it is threatened with closure. It would be such a loss to the local area and to Sevenoaks to lose such a wonderful community facility. It's a central part of Sevenoaks. This is a vibrant area and surely Sevenoaks can support a theatre and cinema - it has the population and a community desperate to keep it.

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	<p>We've regularly used the Stag as a cinema but also a theatre - the Pantomime is a firm yearly tradition of ours. My son had also been lucky enough to perform at the Stag. I come from a small village in Suffolk with a tiny population and not particularly affluent area, yet it has managed to maintain its cinema. <a href="http://www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk/index.php?pid=1">http://www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk/index.php?pid=1</a> .</p> <p>It would be so sad if Sevenoaks lost its theatre and a real loss to the community and businesses across the area.</p> <p>Please do all you can to Save the Stag.</p>
375.	<p>I would like to add my name to the Stag petition.</p> <p>The Stag is a social centre vital to local community life. It functions as a meeting point for various age groups, and acts as conduit for restaurants and bars in Sevenoaks. We live in Westerham and travel in for the Cinema and Theatre Venues on a regular basis and would miss the opportunity to continue to do so.</p> <p>I would urge you to protect The Stag in the present and for the future.</p>
376.	<p>Please note that as this comes to a vote soon, I think it would be a travesty to not reopen the stag! it is an essential part of Sevenoaks and brings people into the town to support other businesses it is a venue for school events and for they're and dance groups that do not have their own stage. It supports local charities, gives opportunities to young people through volunteering.</p> <p>The thought of going to Tunbridge Wells or Bluewater to the cinema is disheartening.</p> <p>Please support the local community and keep The Stag open.</p>
377.	<p>I am contacting you to voice my support in keeping The Stag open.</p> <p>This is an essential community facility which brings a huge amount of business to Sevenoaks, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet.</p> <p>Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council were not seen to be doing everything they can to support the Arts and this much needed Charity during this difficult time.</p>
378.	<p>I would like to register my support for The Stag.</p> <p>My family and I are regular attendees and value The Stag tremendously. It is at the very heart of our community. Please do everything you can to keep The Stag going in Sevenoaks. Our town would be a sad place without it!</p>
379.	<p>Please, please, please do whatever it takes to prevent the STAG Theatre from having to close.</p> <p>We must not lose this wonderful theatre and cinema. By all means there will need to be changes, but to lose it would be awful.</p>
380.	<p>As a long-term resident of Sevenoaks I strongly support the continuing support to The Stag theatre complex</p>
381.	<p>I plead to you that you keep The Stag open! This is a focal point of our local community, that not only bring family and friends together, but visitors from outside the town. The Stag supports local charities and provides work opportunities for the young through work experience and volunteering.</p> <p>The Stag is an institution that instils pride in the residents of Sevenoaks - it is something to be supported and cherished, not knocked down.</p> <p>I really hope you take into consideration the sentiment of this letter and the many others I am sure you have and will receive.</p>
382.	<p>I'm writing in support of keeping our cinema/theatre/plaza and social space open. This is a vital part of our community and makes our town special.</p> <p>Comedy nights, tribute bands, movie nights and the panto bring much needed revenue into the town.</p>

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	<p>Having lived here for 25 years we use the Stag 12-15 times a year and losing the venue will have huge repercussions on the appeal of the town to both locals and visitors. With the right management, it could and should be a great success.</p> <p>I ran the Pop Up Disco in Dec 2018 which was apparently the Plaza's biggest grossing event in several years but, due to completely avoidable conflict with Andrew Eyre he made it impossible for us to return - as we wished.</p> <p>It is clear that this venue is lacking management by a team who have the appropriate client and commercial skills and revenue could undoubtedly be significantly higher in the right hands.</p>
383.	<p>As a long time resident of Sevenoaks, and a user of the Stag theatre in all its capacities; as a performer myself, as a parent of children who had their first, confidence-giving stage experience there, as a birthday-treat cinema-tripper, a coffee drinker, a ticket buyer for comedy, for music and of course for the annual pantomime, I would urge the council to think, not only of their current needs, but of our obligation as a town to keep Sevenoaks a functional, vibrant place for the future.</p> <p>A time will come when we can spend money in our town once again and come together as a community. Let's make our local theatre with its wonderful spaces and facilities, and its community feel, a flagship for what Sevenoaks stands for.</p> <p>With kind regards, and thanks to all the councillors for your hard work,</p>
384.	<p>Please Sir can we keep the Stag open. In my family old and young enjoy the stag.</p>
385.	<p>I am writing in support of The Stag Theatre to request that the council keep supporting the theatre.</p> <p>The Stag itself is a vital part of the community - not only as a focal point for friends and family to get together, but to also take part. The Stag supports many local schools and theatrical/dance groups by enabling them to experience participating in live theatre. It also supports its own local youth theatre/cinema groups and drop-ins for the community.</p> <p>The diversity of productions put on by The Stag cater for a wide and varied audience - bringing in many visitors to the town. The Christmas Panto is often sold out and brings many out of town visitors, who in turn support local restaurants and business during their visit to the town.</p> <p>Removing theatre and cinema from the town centre will disadvantage many local people who would not otherwise enjoy such trips. Care homes/school children and older groups benefit from having this amenity locally. It enables organisations to bring residents and pupils to see productions, which would not be financially viable when adding on costs of travel to further afield theatres.</p> <p>The Stag is at the heart of Sevenoaks and brings many people into the town centre - without it the high street and restaurants will undoubtedly see a downturn in business, which could prove even more damaging for an already struggling town centre.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
386.	<p>It is obviously a very difficult time for everyone, especially councils but hopefully we will change our values to appreciate people and things around us. One of these has to be the Stag Theatre. Local people worked so hard to get this theatre up to the important part of life for all the local communities and further afield. In the immediate future, a large proportion of all the people who live in the vicinity will feel trepidatious about travelling far especially on public transport so will rely on your performances be it films or live productions to slowly get back to the normality that is ahead of us. I appreciate the dilemma that is ahead of you all but please remember there are many people young and old who rely on the Stag services. Please also bear in mind there are very, very few things for children and young adults to do in this area and we must help them to not drift into the sort of life we are all so quick to condemn. We choose to live in the</p>

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	Sevenoaks area because it feels safe and mostly unaffected by the troubles all across the media. To close this very important facility would change so many lives.
387.	PLEASE PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THE STAG THEATRE.....it is one of the best things (and there are very few still left) in Sevenoaks. All we have is Charity Shops, Coffee Shops and Hairdressing Salons and who's to say if they will survive this current COVID-19 situation?!? Without The Stag I'm afraid the future of Sevenoaks is doomed and the cost of car parking will be a contributory factor!
388.	Please keep our Stag Theatre, I am now 72 and have lived all my life in Seven oaks and have been to the Stag many times over the years to the Cinema and a lot of the wonderful stage acts. It would be a disaster if it closes especially for us older generation as we would have to travel a distance for any films and shows which would be a great shame as I know many people have no transport to get to other venue's.
389.	I would like to see The Stag theatre and cinema remain open. I regularly frequent the venue rather than go to the large cinema complex such as Bluewater. This is very much a family outing and I think it would be a great loss to our community.
390.	I am writing to show my support in keeping The Stag open. The Stag brings the community together, which is so very much needed after the events of the past few months. I am sure The Stag also brings tourists to Sevenoaks, so it will help spring our economy in this area back to life. Please keep The Stag open.
391.	I am writing in support of The Stag Theatre. It is an important community asset. I am a ratepayer and am happy for the Council to use their funds to secure the future of a valuable part of being in Sevenoaks
392.	I understand that The Stag Theatre is in need of financial support due to the impact of the pandemic. We are counting on the council to support our small theatre at this crucial time in its history. It means so much to our family and to the town. Our children have enjoyed pantos there, have been to family friendly concerts there. Now they are older they meet friends to watch films at the cinema and my husband has also played with the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra, which we continue to enjoy. We are so grateful to have this excellent theatre in our doorstep as a wonderful community amenity. I hope that the Council will help it through a difficult period so that The Stag Theatre remains at the heart of Sevenoaks.
393.	I have seen in social media the impending decision whether or not to keep the Stag theatre open. I am writing to put forward my views to why it should definitely be kept open. I understand we are going through unprecedented times with uncertainty especially in the arts sector. However this old established has over many years supported so many young people through work experience and volunteering opportunities. My daughter enjoyed her work experience there working with the drama groups as part of her Duke of Edinburgh award. Both my daughters were part of the ..... Dance shows for a number of years. I have lived in the area for all my life all 55 years! During this time I have supported the Stag through watching films and theatre productions which are always well attended and of exceptionally high standards. Also now we take my elderly mum to various film and theatre performances as it is so cosy and easy access for her. Please please keep this iconic place open so our communities can continue to enjoy the arts and social experiences. Many thanks for taking the time to read my email

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394.	I am giving my support to the campaign to keep the stag open as a cinema theatre and important community asset.
395.	<p>I would like to give my support to the wonderful Stag theatre and cinema. I am a local resident and have lived in Sevenoaks for over 20 years.</p> <p>The following are just a few examples of the way that this amazing facility enhances Sevenoaks town and community and brings a vitality and vibrancy to our community.</p> <p>The Stag plays a significant role in the history of the town</p> <p>Massive contribution to the local economy through audience and visitor spend</p> <p>Regular audience</p> <p>Brings visitors to the area, generates revenue for businesses including shops, restaurants, bars, take aways and local suppliers</p> <p>Marketing opportunities for local business a captive audience for local advertisers</p> <p>Social contribution: Jobs, work experience and volunteering opportunities</p> <p>Sense of community strong social function</p> <p>Social inclusion across all ages</p> <p>Accessibility</p> <p>Special events enhancing local learning opportunities</p> <p>Safe secure affordable leisure opportunities</p> <p>In a declining high street culture the theatre is vital to keep the town alive. Sevenoaks has suffered along with most high street locations from empty premises and is particularly quiet in the evenings. The Stag increases footfall to the area, it's the heartbeat</p> <p>Easy local access to a highly entertaining daytime or evening hugely popular activity</p> <p>Wide variety of entertainment including theatre, cinema and musical productions</p> <p>Source of civic pride putting our town on the arts and entertainment map</p> <p>Increases the appeal of the area for visitors and holidaymakers</p> <p>Developing confidence in young performers</p> <p>Watching live theatre increases knowledge</p> <p>Fabulous opportunity to see quality professional productions through links with NT</p> <p>These are just a fraction of the ways the Stag theatre cinema complex enriches and adds value to our town, list is endless.</p> <p>Our town and community are so fortunate to have a theatre/cinema.</p> <p>My family use the facility regularly, often multiple times per week. It would be devastating to Sevenoaks and to us if it were to close.</p>
396.	Whilst we understand that these are difficult times the Stag Theatre provides an important community resource to Sevenoaks and undoubtedly assists the general night time economy in Sevenoaks, it would be a tragic cultural loss to the town and accordingly would urge the council to continue to work and support its future.
397.	Stag theatre very much needed
398.	Please keep the Stag open ..... it is such an integral part of the Sevenoaks community . Please don't let this die !!
399.	<p>It understood there is an STC Meeting on the 24th June to discuss the future of the Stag Theatre so I would like it to be known my family and I fully support STC (and others) financial support to help this much loved and unique Sevenoaks Asset to survive until better times. A number of my friends and I are (were until Covid - 19) regular Patrons of the Stag Cinema and the 'Live' Theatre (as ..... Knows).</p> <p>I would like those making the decision to support (or not) the Theatre to understand that if the Stag were to close <b>we would lose a major incentive to go to Sevenoaks Town Centre particularly in the evening.</b> So its not just the Theatre that will suffer but also the businesses (Pubs, Restaurants etc) that gain income from "A night out at the Stag" In this respect the Sevenoaks Town Recovery Plan seeks to make the Town Centre an</p>

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	<p>attractive place where people want to be so if the 'Lights go out' at the Stag this will fly in the face those aims and objectives making that area another 'dead' part of Sevenoaks!!!!</p> <p>There are people I know personally who come to the Stag Theatre Productions from Orpington, Petts Wood, Farnborough and not exhaustively Bromley and West Wickham. Its not just Sevenoaks that will suffer but also the loss of attracting people from surrounding areas to our Town Centre and the income that that brings!</p> <p>Remembering well some while ago when the Stag closed for a while the loss that was felt and the public support for it to open again, including the difficulty of regaining its lost status as and important local venue. Surely those who have worked hard for the Stag to become the great venue now deserve a better outcome than another case of wasted effort at the altar of short term economics!</p> <p>I would also make a plea for the wonderful '<b>Sevenoaks Players</b>' who's Productions at the Stag exhibit a professionalism beyond expectations of an amateur company. The Sevenoaks Players Production of "Jesus Christ Super Star" in November 2019 was just delightful and an inspiration for the much talented young people involved. This loss of the Stag would deny this group of talented people a local venue and a place where young people have a chance to develop a career in the Theatrical World. What a loss will that would be?</p> <p>I fully realise the financial pressure on the STC and the SDC but I urge those responsible for this decision that to learn from past mistakes in the UK the foolish policy of <b>knowing the cost of everything and value of nothing!!!</b></p> <p>Please advise how I can make a personal financial contribution to the Stag Survival fund.</p>
400.	<p>I am saddened to hear about the possible closure of the stag. I am not alone in thinking of the stag as a place where we all grew up. It has memories of friends and family coming together for years and I think it would be such a tragedy for it to go. I hope you take into consideration how detrimental this will be to not only children and families who love visiting but the dance companies and theatre companies that perform there such as ..... dance school.</p>
401.	<p>I'm writing in response to news that the above establishments might be closed in the near future. I feel very dismayed and think it would greatly harm the special community and uniqueness that Sevenoaks has to offer. It feels as though our special town is gradually dying and this would be a disaster for everyone, so I'm writing to lodge my views before the Up and coming meeting to make a decision on these matters. I very much hope all efforts will be made to keep both much needed venues open.</p>
402.	<p>I understand the Stag theatre is under threat this I can understand, but this facility has been part of Sevenoaks for tens of years and Sevenoaks has lost most of its character and the Stag is just one bit left also does bring people into the town. Just a second chance would be something</p>
403.	<p>I am emailing you regarding the Stag Theatre and it's importance to Sevenoaks. The theatre is a central &amp; vital part of Sevenoaks town., from its cinema &amp; theatre which is a great way of bringing people into Sevenoaks. They then use the Restaurants and Pubs before and after the shows Which helps support the local businesses. The Stag also supports many charities and gives many opportunities to young people through work experience and volunteering. I use the Stag regularly and would be so upset if it had to close I often take my 86 year old mother to see a show or visit the cinema ,Which she looks forward to so much.</p>

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	<p>Like many of her elderly friends who use the Stag they would not consider travelling far at their age, if the Stag were to close they would then lose this wonderful opportunity to get out for a day or evening.</p> <p>The Stag is just such an integral part of Sevenoaks I feel the town would not be the same without this wonderful theatre.</p> <p>I do hope you will help to keep our wonderful theatre open</p>
404.	<p>We are writing to support the Stag staying open in Sevenoaks. This brings so much enjoyment to the town and we would be devastated to see it closing. It's enjoyed by every age group in the town - young and old from plays, pantomimes, movies and it draws people from all around bringing money into Sevenoaks and into the shops and restaurants this town has.</p> <p>Please reconsider this wonderful business staying open to keep the community together. We use it regularly and would be very unhappy to see it close.</p>
405.	<p>I would just like to emphasise that in my opinion The Stag should be kept open at all costs .. it is vital as a centre piece of the community, which we are all very proud of.. over last few years it has proven to be a viable asset (mostly due to the Pantomime successes). Too many of the traditional Emblems in Sevenoaks are disappearing please don't let another one go..</p>
406.	<p>Please keep The Stag operating. We love it's friendly atmosphere and great movies!</p>
407.	<p>What else are you suggesting for this place ? Offices , housing ?yes that would make you money but screw up the parking and traffic even more in this area !</p> <p>Think before you go for the money !</p> <p>It's not everything .</p> <p>Think of the people .</p> <p>The money grabbing people have always had their eyes on the stag theatre .</p> <p>Please think of the young mothers and toddlers who can safely go to the cinema or panto and also the lovely 13/14 year olds who are too young to travel a distance on their own but can safely go to the cinema in Sevenoaks .</p> <p>For once don't let MONEY .. get in the way of the right thing to do .</p>
408.	<p>The stag theatre is an integral part of life in Sevenoaks, it brings much needed joy and creativity to many. My daughter has danced there for many years, which has given her and our family great lasting memories. It is also so important for our young people to have an opportunity to perform, the benefits mentally, physically and emotionally are huge. Please authorise a grant to keep this amazing theatre.</p>
409.	<p>To whom it concerns</p> <p>Please accept my vote if I had one to Keep the Stag open in its entirety</p> <p>In short keep it open.....</p>
410.	<p>As I'm sure you are aware later in June the town council will be discussing the possibility of helping The Stag Theatre during the current Covid-19 pandemic. As a long time user of The Stag and more recently using The Stag as the home of my orchestra (.....), I wanted to send a message of support to the council leading up to the meeting.</p> <p>Growing up in the Sevenoaks area I have visited The Stag from a young age for both the cinema and the theatre for various different events. Little did I know then what a major part of my life The Stag would become so many years later. Firstly as a technician for a couple of amateur productions at the Stag. But The Stag came mainly into my life when I was extremely lucky at the age of 18 to be given the opportunity to conduct my first musical for The Sevenoaks Players. This was my first experience of being in an orchestra pit and the staff at the stag gave me as much help as they could to make it the perfect experience for me.</p>



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	<p>Because of this history with The Stag it was a no brainer that in 2018/19 when I was looking for a venue to debut my orchestra that The Stag had to be it. The Orchestra debuted in April 2019 and have been back to The Stag again in November 2019 after amazing reviews. Unfortunately we have had to cancel our next production at The Stag due to the current pandemic but know that as soon as we can produce another show we will be straight back to The Stag to perform there once more.</p> <p>I don't know anyone in the Sevenoaks area who hasn't at some point been to the stag, whether for Panto, Comedy, local events, etc. It is part of everyone's life here in Sevenoaks and it would be a crime to see it have to close. Sevenoaks has the most amazing wealth of creative and cultural talent and The Stag is the perfect venue for this to be showcased for everyone to see.</p> <p>I hope the Town Council can see that any help they can give The Stag at this time will be brought back into the local economy ten-fold in the future months as productions are allowed to reopen at The Stag.</p> <p>If there is anything as an Orchestra that we can do to support the venue through this time then please do contact us to discuss anything.</p>
411.	<p>I am writing as I understand The Stag Theatre is in financial difficulties during this time. I have lived in Sevenoaks as a child, and now as an adult and parent. The theatre has always been a central part of the town and offers so many opportunities to us all. I hope the council will support the theatre during this time.</p>
412.	<p>I am writing to urge you not to close the Stag Theatre. As a family of four with two young children we have visited the Stag often, sometimes as a family, sometimes as a precious evening out for the adults.</p> <p>The Stag is, for us, and no doubt many other Sevenoaks residents, a wonderful and central part of the local cultural landscape. Sevenoaks would be very much the poorer without the diverse and important hub that the Stag offers. Please save it.</p>
413.	<p>I have just heard that you are considering closing the stag.</p> <p>We are so lucky to have this facility in Sevenoaks and we regularly visit as a family, for the cinema and live shows.</p> <p>It would be a terrible decision to close the stag, our young people have somewhere to go and can take part in shows or indeed volunteering.</p> <p>We should be making more of this wonderful facility rather than closing it</p>
414.	<p>Don't close The Stag!</p> <p>It's the heart of the town and much loved. The town centre is already being killed off with the cost of parking pushing people to out of town shopping centres. If you kill off the Stag too, it will be the kiss of death.</p> <p>I regularly go to The Stag cinema and follow it up with a meal in the town and a bit of shopping. I probably wouldn't do the shopping or the meal without The Stag.</p> <p>A dreadful shame. Big mistake. I can only assume that anyone contemplating its closure doesn't actually live in Sevenoaks.</p>
415.	<p>I understand there is a possibility that the Stag Theatre might close. In my opinion this would be a disaster for Sevenoaks. The Stag is a central part of the culture of Sevenoaks and should be saved at all costs.</p>
416.	<p>We just wanted to send our support for the campaign to keep The Stag Theatre open, such a wonderful asset to Sevenoaks, loved by people of all ages.</p> <p>Please keep this great facility open.</p>
417.	<p>I would like to register my support for the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>I am a regular user of the centre having been to events 27 times from March 19 to lockdown. And on most of those occasions, I book for a group that is sometime up to 10 local people. We have seen a huge variety of films, performances &amp; music events.</p>

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	We have all greatly missed our trips to The Stag over lockdown & implore you to keep this wonderful place open, whatever it takes.
418.	<p>Since hearing about the Stag's current issues I've been giving thought to how my family have used the Stag over the years. My conclusion is that it is so very unique in that it offers opportunities for so many within the local community to get involved.</p> <p>Personally I have fond memories of going to see films there when a teenager then in more recent years helping out backstage for my daughters dance school (just wonderful experience for young children to perform on stage regardless of ability), regular cinema visits with the children, enjoyable evenings out with my husband for the comedy nights and the annual ritual of taking our wider family to the panto. At the same time I know my parents, who live locally, enjoy afternoon films and the cafe.</p> <p>While I appreciate funds are in short supply and that you're having to prioritise it would seem such a shame to lose a facility which benefits so many locally. I've lived in the town for over 30 years and have witnessed so many buildings knocked down and independent business close, please don't allow the Stag to join the list.</p>
419.	<p>It is imperative that The Stag Theatre should not be allowed to close. It has such an important role to play in our town and the wider community. So many local drama groups and dance schools use the theatre as well as giving residents the opportunity to see top stars perform. It would be criminal to lose our cinemas too.</p> <p>The Stag has continued to thrive over the years due to the initial initiative of Margaret Durdent-Hollanby whose dream it was and since by the efforts of volunteers and the Town Council to make it the cultural centre of the town. Please don't let this wonderful venue disappear from our lives.</p> <p>IT MUST BE SAVED.</p> <p>PS. My husband ..... echoes all I have said.</p>
420.	I am writing with regards to the potential closure of the stag theatre. I strongly back the campaign to keep the theatre open. It is a vital resource for our Sevenoaks community and my children would be devastated if they no longer had the theatre to put on their dance and musical theatre shows and the cinema. Myself and my husband attend many shows and productions each year and to lose the stag would be a great loss to our community.
421.	I understand there is some consideration currently to closing the stag theatre. I wanted to take this opportunity to express my concern over this. The stag in a important community asset, the loss of which would hit the local area heavily both in term of opportunity for young and old and well as leaving a dearth of any cultural outlets. This would be particular shocking having just spent so much on bat and ball station for what seems to be very modest outcome.
422.	Hi, I'd like to add my support for the Stag Theatre to remain open. It's an invaluable community asset.
423.	<p>Following a notification regarding the closure of the Stag, I feel compelled to write to you and make my plea to keep the Stag!</p> <p>The theatre, cinema and coffee shop form part of the Sevenoak's community. Obviously, it is understandable that in these strange and unprecedented times money is a deciding factor in so many decisions, but when money starts flowing back in we will still be left with people- families and children who love and need the Stag! Please don't close it. Hang on in there!</p>
424.	<p>Please please please do not close The Stag!</p> <p>It is a symbol of Sevenoaks and place that families and friends visit alike. Without it, Sevenoaks would just not be the same.</p> <p>I am more than happy to sign any petition to keep it open.</p>

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425.	I would like to lend my support to the campaign to save The Stag. It's a very important part of our community.
426.	I heard that a decision about the future of the Stag is being made next week. We would strongly oppose the closing of the Stag, it is a fantastic place that is in the heart of our community whether it is visiting the cafe with my three children (under 5s) or going to the cinema or visiting the theatre for the comedy nights or pantomime or other productions that come to town. Please take this as my support to keep it open and at the heart of our community.
427.	The Stag theatre is massively important to the town in so many different ways. It must not be closed. It would be a terrible loss to Sevenoaks.
428.	I am writing to urge the council to support our amazing local amenity, the Stag theatre. We are so lucky to have this and to lose it would be devastating. Our children have grown up on Stag pantomimes, we love popping up to watch a movie, paying reasonable prices for tickets and food. Please support this amazing asset. Thank you for reading.
429.	Hi please keep the stag open children and their parents have enjoyed many memories I'm sure when we allowed to go to theatre you will build custom again maybe do a fun raiser in the town I'm sure people would donate please keep the stag it's the heart of Sevenoaks town Thank you.
430.	Please help the Stag stay open. You a prized part of Sevenoaks, much loved by all ages. We have been going for 10 years and have even supported their w online comedy show they have put on in current times. It is an amazing place and needs investment.
431.	I know that there are so many demands on your hard hit funds at the moment, but as we try as a town and a community to get back into our feet, please don't close the stag. I know that it may have to be mothballed for a while due to social distancing, but it is such a benefit to the town we'd really like to keep it going as long as we can. We love having the Stag!
432.	Keep the Stag open
433.	I would like to express my support in keeping our precious Stag theatre open. It attracts others from outside of Sevenoaks into the town, is a great place for our youth and the arts are a vital part of culture and important to support. If there is anything that can be done to support this, I would be in favour.
434.	I hear that a decision is being made shortly about whether to keep the Stag open. We love the theatre and cinema and think that is such a great addition to the town. Please can we add our names to the list of those supporting the Stag.
435.	I would like to throw my support behind Keeping the stag theatre open This is a much valued and vital part of our community and Sevenoaks would not be the same without our stag theatre
436.	Please can you keep the stag open for our local community? We as a local family would be gutted if the Stag was going to be shut down. No more films, no more Pantos. How sad is that I think in a market town like Sevenoaks, it is essential to keep the town alive with these type of amenities. There are lot of independent shops and restaurants already disappearing and all what is left are estate agents, opticians and nail bars. What a shame. I hope you can keep it open. Thanks for reading our email.

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437.	<p>We strongly support the campaign to save the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. It is a very important part of the town and the community. We have enjoyed going there for many years, with children and without, and have enjoyed a wide variety of different events, as well as the cafe. We always prefer to go to the Stag than to the big chain cinemas in Tunbridge Wells or elsewhere, and we always look forward to the annual pantomime too.</p> <p>We very much hope that the Council will support the campaign for the Stag.</p>
438.	<p>I am communicating regarding some awful news I heard that Sevenoaks Council are considering closing the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>I think this is an absolute travesty. The theatre is very much a central part of the community and supports it in so many ways. Not just the fantastic shows that are put on but the live music, stand-up comedians, clubs put on for youngsters/teenagers and cinema for mums with babies does a vital job in terms on helping with mental health matters. It can be very lonely being at home with a new baby and there are not many social places open and this option is truly amazing thing and unique in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>The relatively newly refurbished cinema gives lots of the big operators a run for their money in terms of comfortable accessible seating and a thoroughly pleasurable cinematic experience. All the time that Sevenoaks residents can walk/make a short drive to the cinema it is helping save the environment which longer car journeys cause more pollution and also contributing to the sheer number of cars on the roads and congestion. I cannot believe you are even considering this but understanding the financial implications that must be involved. As a Sevenoaks resident I would be happy to have my rates increased to help save this wonderful theatre and I would be grateful if this point could be brought up as a suggestion on the evening when you are meeting to discuss. At the very least give this option to Sevenoaks residents as a choice before making a final decision. I'm sure you would find that most Sevenoaks residents would agree with this.</p>
439.	<p>I write in support of keeping the Stag Theatre open. I would be very sad to see our local theatre and cinema close. I have spent many a happy evening there and have even performed on the stage in the past. It is a wonderful facility for the people of Sevenoaks and I hope you can find some way of keeping it going for future generations to enjoy despite the current difficulties.</p>
440.	<p>I would like to add my name to all the others that have written in support of keeping the Stag open. It is truly the hub of Sevenoaks Town with a great history. We have enjoyed many happy events and films over the years.</p>
441.	<p>I feel very strongly that the Stag Theatre should not be allowed to close ... I am therefore voicing my concern and support for the Stag Theatre. Sevenoaks is in great danger of being a ghost town, please do not let this happen.</p>
442.	<p>I live in Otford with my husband who is disabled and we regularly go to both the Stag Theatre and cinema. The highlight of which being our annual visit to the Pantomime, which he absolutely loves and it is so doable as we live locally.</p> <p>I would support both more if his health allowed, but we wouldn't be able to go anywhere if the Stag were to close down.</p> <p>I appreciate how difficult these times are and the future unknown, but please try to keep this local resource open for the community.</p>
443.	<p>I would like to write to you today about the importance the stag has to the Sevenoaks community.</p>

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	<p>I think it's very important we keep the stag. It brings people into the Sevenoaks area. In terms of leisure/entertainment options Sevenoaks is limited I think if we were to lose the stag as well, the community would struggle attracting people to the area.</p>
444.	<p>I would desperately urge the Council to save The Stag as this venue is at the heart of our community and would be terribly missed if this wonderful family entertainment hub were to close. Please support the continuing availability of this facility.</p>
445.	<p>Save the Stag</p>
446.	<p>The Stag in Sevenoaks is not just a cinema for locals, it is the hub of the community and beyond. It offers a huge variety of clubs, events and activities for the very young to the very old. Sevenoaks and the surrounding area will be lost without this iconic venue to support, educate, entertain and inform. I realise the council is under huge pressure with so many causes and needs but where will the community be without an independent venue to meet, join in, be entertained. Sevenoaks without the Stag will be a huge loss that can never be recovered, I urge you to please help support this amazing unique facility.</p>
447.	<p>It must be saved, it's the only cultural centre for miles, manages to attract very impressive bands, comedians, talks etc. Sevenoaks will be a wasteland without it.</p>
448.	<p>I would like to express my views regarding The Stag Theatre. Although I have just moved to TWells I still use The Stag regularly and know personally how important it is to the community of all ages alike. I am also a co-founder of ..... Project who uses HITB ..... supporting and promoting mental well-being in young adults through music. The thought that our HQ is also threatened is unimaginable. As a very small independent charity based at the Stag, we are prepared to give a donation to the Stag to help its survival in these troubled times. We hope that the council can see the long term benefits to keeping this great community based theatre open.</p>
449.	<p>I am aware that The Stag Theatre is struggling with lack of funds as a result of the recent difficult situation. We understand there is a possibility of a grant from Sevenoaks council and I wanted to write to say how important the theatre is to the town and how much we hope it can be supported. We love the Stag and it is a key part of what makes Sevenoaks so special and unique. We regularly see productions there as well as movies and of course the Christmas Panto - and have organised birthday parties for my daughters there. My oldest daughter has been part of the Stag Youth Theatre for the last couple of years and absolutely loves it. She has grown in confidence and made new friends and would be devastated if the Stag were to disappear - she was hoping to get a part in a proper production this year. The Theatre is a special place and we are very lucky to have it as part of our town and community - it would be a great loss to the community and we would lose a lot of visitors to the town if it were to close. We understand that council's are all having to juggle lots of financial obligations but we really hope that Sevenoaks will be able to support the theatre though this difficult time until it can re-open and get back on its feet. Many thanks for your support!</p>
450.	<p>I have been made aware that the council is deliberating over the future of the Stag Theatre. As a mum of two, who also grew up in Sevenoaks, I think it is essential that the stag is supported and remains open. Sevenoaks has very little to offer the children who</p>

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	<p>live in the area. My children’s favourite school activities generally include the Stag, they love their yearly visit with their classmates to the pantomime, and other shows. They take part in the love to dance performances and other activities that take place at this venue. When they are in these activities, their friends and family from other areas come to watch and generally use the shops and restaurants before or after the show. If the stag is closed it pushes a huge percentage of people to use other towns for something to do as a family, and that means they will then eat in that town rather than Sevenoaks. It would be a terrible decision for the surrounding shops and restaurants to get rid of this venue.</p> <p>With the shows designed for children that the Stag puts on, it helps develop children’s confidence and abilities. It gives these children a huge range of skills and offers great opportunities for work experience and personal growth in the young. Sevenoaks is a highly desired place to live but you must stop removing all the assets of the town centre.</p> <p>Many of my friends live in Tunbridge Wells but even with the assembly halls there they still come to watch an act that is on at the Stag and we always eat before the event in Sevenoaks. If the Stag goes, we will still continue to meet, as friends do, but we will just go to Tunbridge Wells for food and drinks too.</p> <p>I urge that you listen to the residents of Sevenoaks who think it is vital to keep this theatre. If you choose to close this venue, there is very little for children and teenagers to do and it will just encourage families to use other towns for ALL recreational activities.</p>
<p>451.</p>	<p>I want to lend my support for The Stag Theatre’s application for a grant to help them reopen after these unprecedented times.</p> <p>My daughter’s dance school have held their variety show there on numerous occasions and this year was to be a massive celebration of the schools 20th year. She has also taken part in the ..... shows put on twice a year at the Stag and, undoubtedly, being able to perform at the Stag has given her the drive to pursue a career in dance. It would be such a shame to see this venue fail when it has been so much a part of the local community for so long.</p>
<p>452.</p>	<p>I am writing to ask you to please do not let the Stag Theatre close.</p> <p>It is such a well known and central part of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>It brings people here from far and wide.</p> <p>It’s Christmas pantos are so well loved, it supports local charities, and does a lot of good for local people through work experience, volunteering and being a general meeting place for young and older people.</p> <p>My mother in law enjoys many outings with her friends to shows, concerts etc.</p> <p>It’s awful to think of it sitting there boarded up unloved and empty, like so many once loved buildings in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Developers sitting on it for years so it turns into a sad eyesore, until it’s turned into yet another block of unsold flats.</p> <p>Or a totally out of place shop that we don’t need.</p> <p>Please listen to the people of Sevenoaks and save a much loved and iconic theatre loved by us all.</p> <p>Once its gone its gone</p>
<p>453.</p>	<p>We must do anything we can to save the Stag. My 3 children have had some of the best experiences of their lives at that venue, from ..... to taking part in ..... to attending the annual panto, to going as a family to numerous shows.</p> <p>What can we do to help? Local fundraising?</p>

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454.	<p>I just wanted to write to express my concerns over the possibility of the stag cinema/theatre closing. I think it would be hugely detrimental to our community and businesses if it were not to reopen.</p> <p>The local businesses it supports with its shows and exhibitions, the charities and the youth involvement are highly valued. There is also almost certainly an uplift in sales for town ships and restaurants due to people visiting the Stag.</p> <p>I myself am eagerly awaiting when we can return safely. I was devastated to miss Ruth Jones in May and hope we may be able to watch the pants this year (having already booked tickets).</p> <p>Please please do all you can to keep it running. I'm sure there are alternative offerings possible whilst the cinema and theatre can't run at full capacity.</p> <p>I'd be happy to donate to any such fundraising effort to ensure the Stag stays afloat and would be interested to hear if there is a way I can help.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and continued efforts during this tough time! There must be a huge amount to think about right now and it can't be easy navigating everything.</p>
455.	<p>I am contacting you to show my support for the Save Our Stag campaign and ask that the council supports the Stag to enable it to get through lockdown and the period following being able to reopen.</p> <p>My family and I have been to the Stag many times since moving to Sevenoaks 8 years ago and regularly visit both the cinema and theatre there. It is such an important part of the town and something Sevenoaks cannot afford to lose.</p>
456.	<p>I was very concerned to hear that the council were considering closing the Stag, this can not be allowed to happen .</p> <p>The Stag is an integral part of the Town for local people and local business. All age groups can enjoy the facility whether it be for the cinema or the theatre, which has a wide ranging programme from comedy to music events and the fabulous panto . The conferencing facilities provide a much needed space for Dementia groups to meet or for smaller community groups to get together and the location is easily accessible by car or bus or by foot , which is invaluable to those living locally who aren't able to drive</p> <p>Personally I quite often choose to see a film at the Stag rather than a multiplex and my children have be going to the Stag as infants and now as adults they go with their friends .</p> <p>In the interest of the community as a whole I sincerely hope you keep the Stag open .</p>
457.	<p>Just want to resister my support for keeping the Sarah open and available to local residents</p>
458.	<p>I would just like to share my thought on the proposed closure of the theatre. As a user of the theatre myself and a teacher at a local school I feel it would be a great loss to the community to loose the theatre. The children have so much to enjoy from the dance clubs, performing arts, socialising. Looking at all the reports in social.media at the moment about the youths currently causing a lot of disturbance it is very clear that they need the opportunities that the stag theatre can offer them.</p>
459.	<p>As a resident of Sevenoaks for 45 years and someone who regularly uses the Stag personally and professionally, I believe The Stag would be a great loss to Sevenoaks if it doesn't receive financial aid to continue.</p> <p>As one of the co-founders of The Lewis Project, a music centre supporting young adults by promoting mental well-being through music in our community.</p> <p>As one of the co-founders of The Lewis Project, a music centre supporting mental well-being in young people and a local resident for 45 years, I feel strongly about the importance of keeping our local theatre/cinema/community projects facility open.</p>
460.	<p>We have been made aware of the difficult challenges facing The Stag theatre.</p>

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	<p>Our appeal is that no rash and rush decisions are made regarding a closure. The Stag has faced difficult times and decisions before and it has pulled through due to public support and fund raising. Please do not close The Stag. It is integral to our town and unique! We support fundraising.</p>
<p>461.</p>	<p>I am writing to object to the shutting down of The Stag in Sevenoaks. On a personal level, I can't praise the venue and its staff enough. I was a volunteer for several years ..... The volunteering roles in the theatre, in the bar and in the volunteer's office itself gave me great confidence in my ability to work and study ..... Without this opportunity to volunteer in such a kind and caring environment, I don't think .....would have been as successful. Opportunities in the local community like this are vital for people who want to gain confidence and build up a local social network. A lot of retired people enjoy volunteering at The Stag to make friends and feel apart of the community. This essential service is vital for positive wellbeing, and to take this away would be a travesty for current and future volunteers. My other link to The Stag is via ....Project, who run their charity..... in The House in the Basement. If the Stag closes, it will cause major problems to such an important lifeline for many young people and their mental health. I am friends with ..... who run the charity, and they have worked hard to get the charity to the level it is now at. The. project is force for good for the local community and am afraid it may not survive without the Stag Theatre. I used to take part in the music making, and I can honestly say that, along with the volunteering at The Stag, my confidence grew immensely from the experience. The Stag is not only a vital hub to the community but supports the wellbeing mental health of its residents of all ages. Please keep this precious venue and lifeline open for them and for future generations of Sevenoaks residents</p>
<p>462.</p>	<p>I am writing to you to express my strong support for the Save Our Stag campaign. The building acts as an important community centre for the people living in and around Sevenoaks. It provides a valuable, and locally accessible, source of entertainment year round, such as films, pantomimes and other live shows, and including many presentations by local dance and other local live performance groups. It also acts as a place to meet and socialise for young and old members of the local community. It would be a great shame if this wonderful facility closed.</p>
<p>463.</p>	<p>I am writing to contribute to your consideration of the future of The Stag Theatre. I have lived in Sevenoaks for over 25 years and have been attending the Stag for over 23. I moved here from Manchester and found it difficult to make friends. I joined a local theatre company to make friends and never looked back. Some of my best memories are at that very theatre. My closest friends are those I made there. My hobby taught me life skills that I feel shaped me into the professional I am today. Had I not put on shows that came to life when it left the hall and landed on the stage I am not sure I would understand team work, effort, deadlines, hard work or reward. I now look after children like me ..... and see through their eyes the excitement and joy of being in amateur productions. We provide an outlet for children of all abilities to take part in a show that looks and feels professional which is largely down to being in a working theatre with a live audience. Our group is affordable and encouraging and we can only offer this by having The Stag to show case this talent and to bring together like minded people who enjoy the thrill of a love show. I am sure the amateur community would do all it can to support The Stag or buy in to a plan to keep it alive.</p>



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	I am one of thousands whose life has been enriched by having a community theatre like this. I now give up my spare time to see other children pave the same path of making friends and memories that last a life time. It would be devastating to see that come to an end.
464.	Please keep the Stag Theatre open.
465.	<p>I am writing to you to lend my support to help save the Stag Theatre campaign. I believe that Sevenoaks is a special place to live and at the heart of that is the Stag Theatre (and the Sencio Leisure Centre) as it brings the community together.</p> <p>My son is now 13 and we have been to the panto every year since he was two and it is one of the highlights of Christmas for us. In addition my son has been lucky enough to perform in school plays and community dance shows ..... at the Stag. He has also been to the House in the Basement with friends and we are regulars at the cinema. As he is now coming to the age where he is becoming more independent he is excited that, when the pandemic is over, he will be able to walk into town to meet his friends and watch the latest blockbuster unaccompanied by me. Taking away the Stag would take this away from him and the many young children in Sevenoaks who would then need to rely on parents to drive them into Tunbridge Wells or Bluewater.</p> <p>I have also attended comedy nights, music tribute nights, met friends for coffee and having all that on my doorstep has been fantastic. To take that all away would be a real shame as Sevenoaks needs somewhere for the community to gather together and watch local talent, now more than ever!</p> <p>I hope that you will take my views into consideration.</p>
466.	<p>I'm supporting the Stag theatre. We as a family have been using the theatre as a local cinema and for Christmas pantos. It's important to have a place for everyone in Sevenoaks for families, kids, young and old.</p> <p>Please give them a grant.</p>
467.	I am sending this because it is my understanding that the stag theatre is at risk of possible closure. I think it is absolutely imperative to save the theatre. It gives the town centre soul and personality. We attend it throughout the year for cinema and comedy as well as the panto. We need to be doing everything we can to give our town centre personality as opposed to one giant car park full of poundland, charity and coffee shops. The Stag is essential to this and the council need to do everything it can to help it get through this difficult moment. The people of Sevenoaks want it there for when the virus concerns ease off.
468.	Please save the stag theatre! It is quite vital to our local community.
469.	<p>I would like to say how valuable we feel the STAG complex is to the residents of Sevenoaks district council catchment area. This is on a number of levels. It is a wonderful resource having a theatre, cinema, youth facility and venue for a multitude of uses. It also brings outsiders into the area and stimulates the commercial sides of our high street - even more important at this time.</p> <p>I hope you keep it open and I think you should consider investing more to upgrade the cinema. It is also lovely that it is run by volunteers.</p>
470.	Please keep this wonderful local theatre open. It gives me so much and helps me maintain my health and well being.
471.	Please add my family's name to the list of those who would like to show their strong support for The Stag theatre. We have lived in Sevenoaks for nearly 20 years and remember the sorry days when the Stag was closed for a while. We have personally used the Stag for enjoying live entertainment, pantomime, .....dance and cinema (including NT Live) almost weekly throughout our time here. It would leave a huge hole in the High St, the community and the economy of the Town to have it disappear. We strongly support whatever the Town Council needs to do to keep the Stag open.

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472.	<p>I have lived in sevenoaks for 47 years, The stag has been part of my life and all my friends for all that time. It's a blessing to be able to walk into town have a early supper and wander over to the stag to watch a film. The stag provides so much for the town. I can't imagine not having it in sevenoaks, Without it we might as well move towards a town with one.</p>
473.	<p>Please keep the Stag Theatre open. I have spent many happy times there especially the pantomimes with my Grandsons.</p>
474.	<p>I am writing to show support to save the stag if possible. As a family we have used it for 9 years for comedy, kids club when it was there for toddlers, cinema, pantomime and even wrestling! Thank you</p>
475.	<p>Having recently seen the news and the devastating affect covid is having on the stag I implore you, the town council, to keep the stag going and open. I have grown up children who i used to take to the stag, they would then go safely on their own to watch a film and now I have grandchildren I'm very much hoping to share the experience with. We have used the cinema, seen pantomimes, my children have performed there and we've used the cafe. Please please keep the stag operating</p>
476.	<p>I am writing to you about The Stag Theatre. I understand that you are considering whether it should continue to run. I appreciated that we are in unprecedented times but The Stag is so much at the heart of the town. It brings people to our town and gives us so much to do. We are regulars at the cinema and have loved the live screenings. It's been the place where our kids have had their first piece of independence with their friends, done their volunteering and have learnt all their is to love about the panto. It truly is an essential part of who we are. Please don't let us lose it. We must fight to keep it. Our high street has diminished so much over the past few years, more must be done to keep Sevenoaks with a heart - especially as it's such a prosperous area.</p>
477.	<p>I would like to whole heartedly express my support for The Stag, as a landmark of Sevenoaks. The institution is of paramount importance to the independence of Sevenoaks and a cornerstone of the cultural scene of the town. It is also a lifeline for young people through it's theatre and youth centre. I am proud to have such an centre of independence on our high street when so many others are being whitewashed by chain retail. It is a symbol of Sevenoaks' character and commitment to the Arts. I feel that removing the cinema from the high street will also be another reason for people to flock to the corporate shopping centres, neglecting the local economy and Sevenoaks' small businesses. I hope these arguments resonate with you, as a local resident who has grown up with The Stag on my doorstep.</p>
478.	<p>I understand in these unprecedented times that difficult decisions have to be made. Life is very different at present but one of the things that give us hope is the thought that we may be able to return to some semblance of normal. Part of our wellbeing is the thought that normal will include visiting the Stag once more. The Stag is such an important part of life in and around Sevenoaks and is central to many people's enjoyment that it would truly impoverish our lives. Having saved the Stag once and it was going from strength to strength, please I ask you to somehow manage to save it again so it remains a key part in the life of our lovely town. Please decide to wait and manage to open again. We will get through this pandemic.</p>

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479.	<p>Please keep The Stag open! It is a valuable asset to the town community providing a fantastic venue for events to take place on stage / screen and the cafe, a place where youngsters can join groups to perform, a place to teach, a place to learn, a place giving people jobs and most importantly a place where community comes together.</p> <p>I think if we have learned anything over the past months, it is simply that community spirit and working together is incredibly important in society today, and is something we should hold onto as much as possible.</p> <p>I hope everyone supports this and many more wonderful events are able to happen at the Stag in years to come.</p>
480.	<p>I understand the future of the Stag Theatre is under review. I am writing to confirm my support for keeping the theatre open - it is an essential part of our community.</p>
481.	<p>The Stag gives so much pleasure to all ages alike. It is a community asset, an essential place, enabling local people, the young and old alike to enjoy a variety of entertainment in a close vicinity of their homes. If the Stag closes, many other businesses in Sevenoaks will suffer. Many other people like us, will shop and have a meal before a show, or treat the grandchildren to eat before and after a visit to the Stag. It saves our carbon footprint only having to travel a couple of miles.</p> <p>Please Please keep keep this essential resource open.</p>
482.	<p>I am writing to you in support of the Stag theatre. An important place to see movies with my girlfriends and go out with my teenage daughter (when she agrees to spend the time with me, as parents of teenagers will understand..). Please do not close it!</p>
483.	<p>I would like to express my support for Sevenoaks town council providing extra financial support to The Stag theatre to help during the Covid-19 crisis. The Stag is a vital part of the Sevenoaks community and economy, and it would be devastating if the theatre and art centre has to close.</p>
484.	<p>I want to support the campaign to retain the Stag. It is a fantastic facility to have in the town. It is so nice to be able to have a short drive to visit the cinema including the NT events rather than track to a big multiplex. I also enjoy the cafe. It gives the town a something extra rather than just a place to go shopping.</p>
485.	<p>I am writing to express my support for any grants you can consider providing to keep the Stag Theatre open.</p> <p>Perhaps there are also other ways you can help the Stag also apply for funding from other bodies too and any emergency funds set up to support organisations impacted by COVID 19.</p> <p>I have been resident in Sevenoaks for most of my life from 1980-2000 and again from 2007-present. In my youth I performed regularly at the Stag theatre and my recently my children have enjoyed many visits both as performers and audience members and we also enjoy visiting the cinema.</p> <p>My elderly father is also a local resident and visits the cinema as he doesn't feel comfortable travelling further. He also enjoys the concerts by the Sevenoaks Philharmonic Orchestra at the theatre and the various tribute acts.</p> <p>It is such an asset to have this theatre in sevenoaks and I hope that you can find a way to provide support.</p>
486.	<p>Im writing to express my horror at the councils announcement that it may close the stag theatre. This is a vital resource, a place for family and friends to enjoy leisure time together and create happy memories, a much needed venue for the arts to perform and bring culture to our community.</p> <p>As a local resident who uses this venue, i implore you to secure the continued opening of this theatre.</p>
487.	<p>It has come to our attention that the stag theatre is at risk of closing.</p>

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	This would be a terrible shame and we really hope that this does not happen. We strongly back Save the Stag Campaign.
488.	I'm writing to plea from the bottom of my heart to keep the most darling cinema open. The Stag has been a vital integral part of our family. We have lived in Sevenoaks for over 20 years, brought up three children and the Stag with a regular family treat. COVID has destroyed so much please please don't let it destroy our cinema too. Please give it time to see how it will return to its glory rather than not even giving it a chance.
489.	I write to you today regarding the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks as I understand they are in desperate need of all our support. The Stag is so very important to my family and I. We go to the Stag for the cinema, to see local performances and the annual nativity show. It is an the epicentre of culture and arts in our community. Once every two years my daughter gets to perform on stage in her dance show. I cannot tell you what this opportunity brings to an 8 year old child. She's so much more confident as a result but she is only one of the many thousands of children in the local area and wider region who come to perform at the Stag. Imagine what it does for ALL of those young children – it truly changes lives! It would be a catastrophe if the council were to allow this local institution to die. Please give them the support they need to enable the Stag team to support everyone in the community – from the elderly to the young, the Stag has no boundaries.
490.	I heard from a friend that you are interested in knowing opinions of locals on the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks Town Centre. Myself and my family use it throughout the year. We absolutely love the pantomime and use it for the cinema as we try to support local as much as possible. I know so many families who would thoroughly miss the Stag if it were gone and Sevenoaks certainly would not be the same without it!
491.	Re: Financial support for Stag Theatre I am writing to show my support for the campaign that seeks to ensure that Sevenoaks keeps its Stag theatre at this difficult time. As you know, the Stag theatre is a huge asset for the town. As set out in the town council's 2008 business plan, it fulfils its aims:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assisting the sustainability of the local economy of th town, particularly the night-time economy and tourism economy</li> <li>2. Retaining the valuable social and leisure facility for both performers and audiences</li> <li>3. Enabling the development of youth services both in performing arts and youth outreach services</li> <li>4. Retaining an iconic building in the town and preserving the street scene</li> </ol> <p>To lose this asset would be such a shame for the town.</p>
492.	This has my 100 % support.
493.	We would like to express our deep concern at the potential decision to close the Stag theatre. It is a Sevenoaks institution in so many regards and every effort should be made to keep it open.

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494.	I would like to express my support for the reopening of Stag which has been a quiet retreat to many residents in Sevenoaks. My family would like to continue supporting this wonderful venue and it's a privilege to have it at the heart of town centre.
495.	I am writing to you to express our concern in closing the Stag Theatre and our vote to keep it open. It has been key in bringing together my family and friends with many panto performances over the years during the festive period. It's a place that reignites community spirit and really hope there's a way to keep it open for years to come.
496.	I am emailing to show support for the Stag Theatre, which in my opinion is one of Sevenoaks' most valued assets, as not only does it provide entertainment, it also provides work for many lovely staff and volunteers who dedicate much of their time to helping run the events the Stag puts on. Furthermore, it provides countless opportunities for young people to perform or discover performance arts in the first place, and therefore without it many people of all ages will miss the Stag if it were to close. It also goes without saying that if Sevenoaks were to lose the Stag, it would also lose the fantastic Sevenoaks Panto, which annually draws many people to the town who otherwise support local businesses, and as a lifelong Sevenoaks resident it would be a great disappointment for the Panto to end when it still produces wonderful shows. I'm sure many people hold the Panto in such high regard and too would be saddened if the Stag were to close. Please consider the Stag and its role in the community and keep the wonderful building running so that many future Sevenoaks residents can appreciate what we have been fortunate enough to enjoy. Please do not close one of Sevenoaks' most popular and unique qualities Thank you for your concern,
497.	I'm emailing my support for the wonderful Stag theatre that brings me to Sevenoaks. It's a lovely theatre where we've enjoyed the Pantomime with our children and comedy nights. It's heartbreaking the damage the lockdown is causing to theatres and all those who work on the stage and behind the scenes!
498.	I am writing to you in support of keeping The Stag open. I really believe this is a vital community facility that brings in a huge amount of related business to our town, as well as providing entertainment, employment and opportunities for other local charities and groups to meet. Closure of The Stag would be an enormous loss and it would be a terrible shame if the Town Council did not do everything within its power to support the Arts and this essential community hub during these challenging times. I hope we can rely on you to do the right thing
499.	I hear you're currently debating the future of the Stag theatre and so I would like to share my thoughts and experiences of the theatre with you. As a mum with a young family who live in Sevenoaks, we enjoy using the Stag on a regular basis. We consider the Stag theatre and cinema to be such a valuable asset to our community. We often visit the cinema to see children's films at the weekend. We like to make a day of it, we enjoy visiting the town centre shops afterwards and sometimes a local restaurant. Often it's the only thing that prompts us to visit the town centre. We look forward to the brilliant pantomime every year, featuring our local star Silly Billy who is hilarious, the kids absolutely love him. We've already bought our tickets for December and will be so disappointed if it can't go head. We also like to keep an eye out for other kid's shows that are on at the Stag, we prefer to

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	<p>go local rather than having to always go to Dartford or Bromley.</p> <p>As an adult I also enjoy the opportunity to see a wide range of other shows, such as the opera Dido and Aeneas by Kentish Opera last October. I'd never seen an opera before and didn't know if it would be for me, but I loved it and would like to see more. It was the fact it was here locally that encouraged me to go, particularly because as a woman I felt comfortable going to the Stag on my own, I wouldn't have felt comfortable having to travel to and from somewhere like London or Dartford alone at night.</p> <p>I've also enjoyed other shows like comedy and musicals. One highlight we'll always remember was when my partner and I were able to see Adrian Edmonson's folk band at the Stag, we feel so lucky to be able to enjoy things like this locally.</p> <p>We are really looking forward to when the Coronavirus lockdown eases and we can go out and enjoy activities again. It would be so tragic if the Stag wasn't there any more, just at the time we'll be raring to go out! I'd also feel safer going somewhere smaller and local with less crowds. It would be such a shame to have to get in the car and travel further afield to other towns to visit the cinema and theatre.</p> <p>My son who is 8 would like to add: please keep the Stag I love going to the cinema and the Panto it's very funny.</p>
500.	<p>I am writing in support of keeping the stag theatre open.</p> <p>It is such a central focus for the community and is a large part of many people's lives, many of whom wouldn't be able to go further afield to the cinema or live shows. It would be such a shame if it were to be lost.</p> <p>It is also a place where families can meet in the day and safely let their children wonder and play with other children whilst they have a coffee and meet other families.</p> <p>Please take all of the above in consideration for your decision.</p>
501.	<p>The cinema and the theatre are venues I frequent &amp; enjoy.</p> <p>It would be very sad if Sevenoaks lost this wonderful venue and would make the town centre soulless</p> <p>Please ensure the funds are found to keep the Stag open.</p>
502.	<p>I am writing to express my strong support to keep The Stag open and running.</p> <p>I myself began volunteering there at 14, secured a paid role at 16, and worked there continuously until I moved out at 19. The Stag has many many precious memories and shaped much of who I am today. I am still close friends with a colleague I met working in the box office, having now know him almost 10 years. The staff were very much a family when I worked there and it would be awful to lose this.</p> <p>The Stag provides many opportunities for young people in Sevenoaks - volunteering and working. Certainly it was the only place willing to hire me at 16, giving me an opportunity to earn my own money whilst working with friendly, welcoming staff. I saw many many people come to the Stag, including many many people from outside of Kent, drawn in by the comedy nights, dance shows, and of course the panto.</p> <p>Sevenoaks needs The Stag - not only is it a much more attractive alternative to driving to Twells to go to Odeon, the range of entertainment available between the cinema and the theatre is much better than anywhere I've come across, in Kent or now in Wiltshire.</p> <p>Please, keep The Stag going, as you did in 2009.</p>
503.	<p>It was brought to my attention that you may be closing the Stag in Sevenoaks. This would be a huge loss to the town and surrounding villages. It would be such a waste to lose such a lovely cinema and theatre. It would also impact local businesses as I know</p>

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	<p>people often go out for a drink and a meal in the local bars and restaurants before moving in to watch a movie at the Stag. Please don't close this venue.</p>
504.	<p>I am writing in support of " keep Our Stag" , campaign. It's very disappointing to hear that the council are considering closing the cinemand theatre, as a family we use it constantly for the cinema and have attended various events with friends and the Panto at Christmas, it is a great asset to the the town of Sevenoaks and will be a real shame to lose it. It is very important to the wider community and people of all generations , I truly hope the council vote in favour of keeping it.</p>
505.	<p>I am sending this email to show my support for the Stag which is a very important part of our community with the services and facilities it provides to so many. It is very important that the town keeps our theatre open and I hope the council will vote in favour of the Stag</p>
506.	<p>I have lived in Sevenoaks for nearly 20 years and I feel that the Stag Theatre is a very important part of the town, we enjoy supporting the shows and pantomimes there and also love the cinema which is very convenient. It would be a terrible loss to the town if it closed, please support the grant to help the Stag Theatre during this difficult time.</p>
507.	<p>Hello, I live in Sevenoaks and have done so for many years. Please keep this theatre open. It's a godsend to Sevenoaks and the surrounding area for all age groups. The town would lose a great asset given that we can see films, live theatre, exhibitions etc. without having to travel too far.</p>
508.	<p>I am emailing to pledge my support for keeping the Stag open. We are losing so much from our high street. Please don't let this go too. It's so important for all ages.</p>
509.	<p>Please do not take the stag theatre away, the community needs it.</p>
510.	<p>Please please do what you can to save the Stag. It's such a wonderful community resource for our town. My kids love the cinema and the annual pantomime and it would leave a huge gap if we were to lose it. Aside from our personal love of the Stag, I think it would be a loss to the High St if it were to disappear and give people just another reason to avoid local retailers and go instead to TW or Bluewater.</p>
511.	<p>I wanted to write to you, to tell I am my family would strongly support to keep The Stag Theatre open.</p>
512.	<p>I would like to express my support and interest to keep the stag on and going please it's big part of local community and without it sevenoaks will lose it's only cinema screen and performance theatre.</p>
513.	<p>My family are in support of The Stag staying open. We live in Dunton Green.</p>
514.	<p>We would be utterly saddened if you were to close The Stag Theatre! It's a great thing to have in Sevenoaks - so special! Add an extra £1 onto the council tax if need be but do not close it!</p>
515.	<p>I understand you are considering closing the Stag and am writing to express our absolute support for it staying open and my dismay at hearing you would consider closing it. The Stag is an amazing community resource for Sevenoaks and the wider area. I have taken all three of my babies there to the cinema for a sense of normality. I've been to the cafe with my children and to live shows with them too. We've been to ballets, films and every pantomime since we moved to Sevenoaks. And I know many others who have too. I rely on the Stag for a community feel centre where I know we will be welcomed and supported whatever it is we are attending and in whatever circumstances.</p>

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	<p>The staff are amazing. Please don't close it.</p>
516.	<p>To the Sevenoaks town council. We just want to ask that the STAG theatre remains open! We had support various things at the STAG and feel it will be a great loss for SO if it doesn't stay open.</p>
517.	<p>I understand that the town council are making a decision on 29th June as to whether The Stag Theatre should be kept open. I am emailing because I can't think of Sevenoaks without The Stag. I have grown up in Sevenoaks and I have been fortunate to attend lots of productions at the theatre and go to the cinema. In fact, my very first visit to the Cinema as a child was to see Snow White at the Stag many, many years ago with my mum. I remember it well because my mum fell asleep! She had been on night duty the night before, but she still took me to see Snow White. For my daughters first visit to the cinema I made sure I took her to the Stag. In the last three years we have visited the Stag numerous times and Granny comes with us too. It's our favourite place to see a movie together. None of us like going to the big Odeon Cinemas. We love the atmosphere, the popcorn and the cafe! It would be such a shame for The Stag to be closed, and a great loss to Sevenoaks. Please keep the Stag open for families to enjoy together, its a place that bridges across generations. Please keep The Stag Theatre Open.</p>
518.	<p>I'm just writing as I've just heard that we are at risk of losing our beloved Stag Theatre. I felt this would be a tragic loss, not only to the residents of Sevenoaks but also those who come in from outside the area to attend films and shows at The Stag. I used to go to this theatre as a child long before ever it was The Stag And have very fond memories of not only then but now too. I have taken my Grandchildren to the Pantomime most Christmases and to other events and films throughout the year for several years now. I have also attended myself with friends to both the cinema and theatre many many times over the years too. Please please don't let the town lose it's theatre it would be a great and sad loss.</p>
519.	<p>I am writing to express my support for the stag theatre - it is a vital part of the town centre and needs support during these difficult times. In addition to its cultural impact the stag hosts multiple events for the community that could not be served elsewhere such as events for mothers and children. I implore you to support the Stag through this time to save an essential part of the community. If we lose the stag and the leisure centre the value of the town centre is significantly diminished and I would expect this to impact not only the community but the surrounding businesses in the High street.</p>
520.	<p>I would like to show my support for the stag theatre and would be gutted if it closed down. I have lived in Sevenoaks all my life and feel it is part of the community.</p>
521.	<p>The stag is part of Sevenoaks we spend afternoons in the cinema, evenings watching live shows and every Christmas watching the panto. We visit the craft fairs and cafe the Stag is integral to Sevenoaks. It would be a tragedy to close.</p>
522.	<p>We really value the Stag Theatre and really hope it doesn't close. My little one enjoys play dates there and we love the cinema. We would like to support the campaign to keep it open. Pls let me know if there's any update.</p>
523.	<p>I wanted to write to show my support for the Stag and to say the risk of its potential closure has not been publicised enough. I was unaware of this until it was brought to my attention via a social media group for Sevenoaks mums.</p>



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	<p>The Stag is a real community hub and now more than ever it is imperative that we hold onto institutions such as these. Times are tough but now is not the time to give up on the few remaining truly local enterprises available to us.</p>
524.	<p>I would like to lodge my support for the Stag Theatre and the importance of supporting it through the current challenging times. We only moved to Sevenoaks last year and having access to the Stag was a part of our decision to move to the area. We have a young child and it is so nice to have access to cinema and theatre this close to home (both to take her but also so we can go and leave her with a babysitter while still being nearby in case of emergencies).</p>
525.	<p>Please accept this email as formal written support of both the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks and Sencio Leisure Centre Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I understand that the town council are due to make a decision on 29 June in relation to funding.</p> <p>Both facilities are widely used by many different groups within the community and would be a huge loss if they were no longer part of the town. I trust you appreciate how integral these two attractions are to Sevenoaks general economy (including house prices), physical and mental well being and quality of life.</p>
526.	<p>As a family living in Sevenoaks, The Stag theatre is a much loved local asset which has a positive impact on the whole community.</p> <p>My daughter has grown up here and The Stag has been a massive part of her life, going to the cinema, pantomime and continues to perform there with her ballet school.</p> <p>The Stag is an integral part of Sevenoaks and the importance of the arts for child development cannot be understated.</p> <p>As adults we enjoy the opportunity to walk to and support our local venue, see films, comedy and watch our daughter perform.</p> <p>Please keep The Stag Open.</p>
527.	<p>Please keep the Stag theatre. If there is anything I can do to help please let me know. This iconic theatre must stay in Sevenoaks Thank you</p>
528.	<p>Both of my daughters have danced at this wonderful theatre. The self confidence this has given them is incredibly important and has improved their independence. It is the perfect venue for young entertainers to express themselves. Please please please keep their dreams alive.</p>
529.	<p>Please keep the Stag open. Our family love it and have used it regularly for years!</p>
530.	<p>Please save the stag theatre and give it the money it needs to survive during these turbulent times.</p> <p>It is an important part of our town and heritage and needs to be saved.</p> <p>The town is coming together with donations to assist and if the council could do the same it would be fantastic.</p> <p>The town would not be the same without it and it plays a crucial role in making Sevenoaks, Sevenoaks.</p>
531.	<p>I'm writing to express my support of the Stag Theatre. I understand they are having financial difficulties due to the Covid pandemic which is understandable.</p> <p>The Stag is such a fundamental part of Sevenoaks that is frequented by so many parts of the community - young and old. Without it we would have no cinema, pantomime, ballet, musicals, comedy, the list goes on.</p> <p>Personally I always make a point of choosing the Stag when I'm going to the cinema, especially with my children as it has such a lovely atmosphere and they love it. We also really look forward to the fantastic pantomime every year and try to go to as many other shows as we can.</p> <p>It would be a terrible shame for the community for this gem to be yet another victim of Covid-19 when there is so much support for it within the town and beyond.</p>

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	Please consider doing what you can to support the Stag to see it through this tough period.
532.	<p>Please be advised I am appalled that it is possible both Sevenoaks Leisure Centre and Stag Theatre are under threat of closing down. Both are central to the community both in Sevenoaks and neighbouring towns.</p> <p>This town would be losing out on the opportunity for people to socialise, express themselves and practice good health and well being without these facilities available. The current pandemic has put enormous pressure on people physically, emotionally and mentally and they will need places like this. As soon as the Government allow them to resume trading they will be full and busy. I myself will be looking into renewing my membership at the leisure centre and wanting to take my son swimming and I have tickets booked for an event happening at the Stag with a bunch of friends I haven't been able to see during these times.</p> <p>It is for these reasons, though they may seem small, that these places must be saved, supported and encouraged.</p> <p>I hope that the powers that be make the right decisions.</p>
533.	Emailing to show support for keeping the Stag open if at all possible.
534.	<p>As a Sevenoaks resident of 30 years plus , I'm emailing to save the Stag theatre . Firstly, there's not much for the teenagers of Sevenoaks to do so the cinema is a great meeting place for them as the closest cinema is Orpington or Tunbridge Wells . I attended the adult panto at the beginning of the year and totally loved it . My kids have been to the Christmas pantos also.</p> <p>For adults, the shows are great . A chance for myself and friends to get together . It will be a real shame to lose this gem !</p>
535.	Please accept this email supporting keeping the Stag Theatre open - such an important place to keep open in the town.
536.	<p>My whole family are exceedingly perplexed that you are considering closing The Stag. For the entirety of my children's lives(now 18 and 22) we have always regularly visited the stag albeit for community shows (for example - chance to dance) bringing us all together to watching pantos - fantastic and local-to movies for all</p> <p>I appreciate prices may need to rise but for our community and for the joy The Stag gives us we would be very willing to pay the difference and I know I am not alone. Your youth club is also a fantastic asset. Please please please do what you can to reopen for us.</p> <p>Many kind regards and hopefulness.</p>
537.	<p>I and everybody in this community deeply agree that you should not shut down the Stag in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Thank you in advance.</p>
538.	<p>Are you really with the rest of the country trying to destroy the arts in this country ? The Stag is a wonderful venue for theatre and film ... please please support the arts ... local community theatre is being destroyed as no Government or local council gives a toss about the arts ... it's an absolute disgrace how low down the ladder the arts are in this country ... 100's of thousands including myself work in the arts and we are being left out to hang and dry .... DO NOT CLOSE THE STAG .... what for ? To build new flats ??... save our theatres ...</p>
539.	I'm a resident in Hildenborough and the STAG in Sevenoaks is my closet theatre and arts venue. We regularly attend films and events there and would be devastated if this last arts venue in the area was closed.

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	Please save the STAG, the arts are more needed now than ever!
540.	<p>I am very saddened to hear that there is a possibility that The Stag Theatre may not reopen.</p> <p>I appreciate these are very difficult times, but it would be a tremendous loss to our community if the Town Council decided to close this much loved and supported cultural venue. I grew up visiting the cinema and performing in Gang Shows at the Stag and I love that my children now do similar. We have seen some brilliant children’s productions on the stage, regularly watch films, the Christmas panto is a highlight of our festive calendar and my husband and I often attend the always sold-out National Theatre Live screenings. We would miss it terribly if we were not able to do these activities in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>To lose the Stag would send out a very sad message about the state of our already beleaguered high street. So many businesses benefit from the Stag being in the centre of town. Restaurants and bars, though closed now, are packed on the nights there is a big event at the Stag. The Stag also plays a valuable role as a venue for local business meetings such as the Sevenoaks Chamber of Commerce. If we give up on the Stag, it is as if to say we have given up on the hope of saving our high street and the future vibrancy of our town.</p> <p>I urge you to do all you can to save the Stag doors from closing permanently.</p>
541.	<p>I’m distressed to read that our local theatre may Be at risk to closure due to this pandemic, I urge you to do all you can to support this wonderful venue in the heart of our community, my family have enjoyed many trips here throughout generations to enjoy the arts and I know my children and future generations will be at a massive disadvantage if the stag were to close its doors. At a very difficult time for so many, we look forward to the joy at being able to once again come together to have fun, enjoy performances and create memories in the town I love so very much.</p>
542.	<p>I hope this email finds you well. It has been brought to my attention that the Stag theatre is facing closure. I hope this isn’t the case and if it is I would this decision to be reversed. I have fond memories of attending both the cinema and the theatre as a child and also take my own children to the Stag. What an absolute shame it would be to lose such a gem of Sevenoaks.</p>
543.	<p>I would like to register my support for the Stag theatre and cinema in Sevenoaks. It plays a hugely important role in the community and in spite of the difficult financial times caused by covid-19 I really hope that the council decides to continue to support the theatre. We have lived in the town since 2009 and have seen some fabulous productions at the Stag, watched lots of films at the cinema, and seen local community groups and schools able to showcase their work on a big stage. It would be a huge loss to the community and the town if the Stag were to close.</p> <p>Many thanks for your consideration,</p>
544.	<p>I understand there are plans to close The Stag Theatre. This is really sad and disappointing news.</p> <p>The children of the Borough and surrounding area rely on the cultural opportunities offered by the theatre to enrich their lives.</p> <p>Travel to theatres in London is expensive and inaccessible to low income families.</p> <p>I hope the Council is able to put a package together to save the local cultural experience for local people.</p> <p>I have organised an annual trip for circa 100 children from Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club to pantomimes at the Stag for many years.</p>
545.	<p>I would like to, on behalf of my family, to share our displeasure at the proposed closing of the Stag.</p>

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	<p>This centre is important for the arts and the community and perhaps it's time to do active marketing and book some decent acts as many of us would be thrilled to support the centre. Please do not close this community centre</p>
546.	<p>Please do everything possible to save The Stag, our town needs it. The Stag ensures Sevenoaks Town stays alive and well. It must remain open in it's current way! We do not need it to be redeveloped! We need it to stay open. Please do everything possible</p>
547.	<p>Me, my husband and son have used the Stag theatre and cinema regularly for trips and birthdays for many years. Please keep it going anyway you can.</p>
548.	<p>I've been informed that the Stag Theatre is under threat. It is a huge part of our lives and the lives of our children. Please don't deny our children the chance to experience local theatre.</p>
549.	<p>I have heard the council will be deciding in the coming days the future of The Stag Theatre. Whilst undoubtedly these are difficult times for our whole community and economy, the Stag is a fabulous resource for our local community and a permanent loss of the facility would be felt widely. Please understand the groundswell of local support behind the theatre and consider this when making decisions about it's future.</p>
550.	<p>I have been given this address to express my concerns on rumours of our beloved theatre closing. This venue has always been an icon for The Town centre and a place I would always seek for entertainment ..... Every Christmas we attend the pantos and has been part of our tradition for many years. There are not may places left that cannot be replicated ..... there isn't another Stag but plenty of Odean's ..... Please consider the impact this would have on local vulnerable people that don't like to- or simply cannot, travel further a field to gain an experience so many of us take for granted these days. .</p>
551.	<p>Hello, we have just heard there is a petition to keep the Stag open, please could you add our names to the list. We would hate for this valuable community asset to close and would miss it greatly.</p>
552.	<p>Please help the stag to stay open we have been going to the theatre and cinema for many years my children have been in dance shows are been part of Sevenoaks entertainers.</p>
553.	<p>I hope this email finds you well. It has been brought to my attention that the Stag theatre is facing closure. I hope this isn't the case and if it is I would this decision to be reversed. I have fond memories of attending both the cinema and the theatre as a child and also take my own children to the Stag. What an absolute shame it would be to lose such a gem of Sevenoaks.</p>
554.	<p>I am emailing to ask you to save the Stag theatre. My daughter performed at the theatre in many shows as a child in her local dance school. She went on to be a professional dancer performing as lead dancer on cruise ships, TV programmes, with Opera North, pantomimes and much more. She now has a young family and she teaches dance, passing on her skills to others and giving them the chance to perform on stage at the Stag theatre. Without the Stag she would never have realised a career that she is passionate about, encouraging confidence and discipline in children. Dancing changes lives! Please help.</p>
555.	<p>I have just heard that you are considering closing the Stag theatre!</p>

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	<p>I am contacting you to ask you please do close it! It is such a wonderful venue and an asset to the community! My family and I come to the cinema, watch the pantomime each year and our daughter's ballet show is also there! Please, please, do whatever you can to keep it open</p>
556.	<p>I understand there's a meeting soon to discuss the closure of the Stag. My family has frequented the facilities many times for concerts, cinema etc and would definitely continue to do so once restrictions are eased if it continues. It's a great local resource, particularly for children.</p>
557.	<p>I'm not usually someone to email councils but I understand that there are thoughts to close The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. We moved here in 2015 and have since been countless times at the Stag - for shows, cinema trips and special events. All our children experienced their first cinema outing and pantos at the Stag. It's a real community treasure and such an integral part of the area. Of course I understand that these are very tough times for the arts but I am utterly dismayed at the thought of it closing down. I really hope that this is a proposal that will be reconsidered, not robbing the town of one of its few attractions!</p>
558.	<p>Please take this email as a huge sign of support to keep The Stag running - it would be a big loss to the Sevenoaks community.</p>
559.	<p>I've heard a rumour the Stag is potentially being closed. I would like to vote that it remains in Sevenoaks, it's a wonderful part of our high street and a place my family visit.</p>
560.	<p>We are saddened to learn the potential plans to close the stag theatre which we feel makes an important contribution to the cultural life of Sevenoaks and surrounding areas. We therefore hope that the decision is taken to keep this venue open</p>
561.	<p>I understand that a decision on the Stag's future is imminent. My family has grown up with so much that the Stag has to offer from shows aimed at toddlers, pantomime, ballet, theatre, opera and other relays. Comedy, newest films and more. It's an institution and integral to the fabric of the town. Please, please can you save it!</p>
562.	<p>We understand that you are meeting next week to consider the future of the Stag Theatre and whether it should receive funding. We would urge you to support this really important project. We have lived in Sevenoaks for nearly 14 years and visit the stag regularly to go to the cinema and theatre performances. Our teenage children are also members of the Stag youth theatre group and attend the sessions it runs every week. These have been really important in terms of giving them additional confidence that drama provides. We have missed the Stag whilst it has been closed during the lockdown and look forward to it reopening as soon as is safely possible provided it has the funding it requires. We also intend to donate to this worthwhile cause ourselves.</p>
563.	<p>We are saddened to learn the potential plans to close the stag theatre which we feel makes an important contribution to the cultural life of Sevenoaks and surrounding areas. We therefore hope that the decision is taken to keep this venue open.</p>
564.	<p>I would just like to say how important the Stag is to us as a family and has been over the 22 years we have lived here We have enjoyed musical theatre, acting, dancing, films, orchestral and other musical performances, national theatre broadcasts, panto, school musicals and the cafe. It is part of what makes Sevenoaks so great Please consider financial help for it favourably. I know there is huge pressure on you financially and there isn't enough money for everything but the stag in many ways captures the essence of Sevenoaks with its incredible variety and as a place to showcase local and national talent</p>

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565.	<p>Please don't let the Stag theatre and cinema fold.</p> <p>If the recent crowds at Knole are any thing to go by, people have come to Sevenoaks from far and wide in the last few weeks. The Stag keeps our town on the map for locals and outsiders alike. It draws people into Sevenosks who go on to use the car parks, bars and restaurants.</p> <p>It would be so shortsighted to throw away all the gains made in the last few years. Coronavirus fears will not last forever and there is a pent up need to once again go out and see an excellent show or film in the centre of town and be amongst like minded people again.</p> <p>Keep the Stag!</p>
566.	<p>Please keep the stag theatre open. It plays a massive part in the community.</p>
567.	<p>I've only been in Sevenoaks for a couple of years, but love the community that's built around entertainment and creative arts such as the stag.</p> <p>I fully support keeping the stag open. It's a benefit to all ages of society and forms part of the Sevenoaks heartbeat.</p>
568.	<p>Please do not close the stag as it is such a wonderful venue for all of Sevenoaks to enjoy.</p> <p>I regularly attended the cinema and have been a friend of the stag.</p>
569.	<p>It is rumoured that the Council are considering whether to close the theatre down. Although I don't think I was asked to, I donated the £99 I had paid for tickets to the Stag's cause, as I am sure will have, or would have done if asked.</p> <p>I realise that this is a difficult time for theatres but feel sure that ought to be ways to secure finance e.g. crowdfunding, justgiving, sponsored seats, etc.</p> <p>A swift consultation with users/supporters would likely bear fruit.</p>
570.	<p>I am writing to express my dismay at the prospect of losing the town's theatre due to lack of council support at this time. I would like to add my voice to those I know are expressing their vehement desire to keep the theatre going.</p> <p>As a dance teacher I have enjoyed over 20 years of performances at the Stag both with my dancing school and with ..... The children who get to perform on these occasions benefit from a unique opportunity to dance on a professional stage in front of a large audience. The families and friends who get to watch are without exception thrilled to see their young (and older) ones under the lights and in comfort with all the amenities that the theatre brings. It is a really important experience for youngsters and their families and although I know it is a luxury that we shouldn't take for granted, we should do everything we can to ensure that future generations will have the chance to make special memories there.</p> <p>We are so lucky in Sevenoaks to have this wonderful facility. It would be a tragedy to lose it. Please support it.</p>
571.	<p>I beg you, please <u>do not</u> shut down the Stag.</p> <p>It is our only source of family entertainment in Sevenoaks and loved by us all. Many local charities depend on it also.</p> <p>I and my family, regularly attend the cinema and the theatre for plays, concerts and of course our brilliant Pantomimes.</p>
572.	<p>I wanted to write to express how much The Stag theatre means to me and my family as well as many other families in and around Sevenoaks.</p> <p>The Stag theatre was the first theatre we took our children to for their first Christmas panto and it has now become a tradition. Over the years we have been to numerous showings at the cinema and other wonderful shows at the theatre ranging from classical music to dance shows.</p> <p>It would be such a huge shame to the whole town and community if The Stag was unable to continue running so I urge you to ensure this doesn't happen.</p>

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573.	<p>I am just writing about the importance of the Stag in the well-being of people in Sevenoaks and to plead that it be given the funding to remain open.</p> <p>My 18 year old son has ..... The one thing he loves to do is act and go to the cinema. He has taken part in the 'film in a week' course for many years at the Stag and regularly goes to the cinema there. It is central to his wellbeing and sense of self worth. Without it, our lives as parents would become even harder.</p> <p>There is something very emotional about a local theatre and cinema - it is part of the community at a key time when we need that communal spirit. Please do all you can to keep it for us all.</p>
574.	<p>I have lived in Sevenoaks for all my life (admittedly I am only eighteen) and the Stag Theatre has meant a lot to me. I have been attending the SYT Film in a Week courses since I was only twelve, and I have loved the community that has developed around the theatre. It is an amazing centre for the Sevenoaks community as a whole. I really hope that it doesn't close - that would be a massive loss for the town (and for me personally - that's where I'm planning to try and get my first job).</p>
575.	<p>Please keep the stag open people come from far away to watch a show or panto. Loads of different people really want to perform their on the stage.</p>
576.	<p>I am very concerned to hear that the Stag Theatre may be closing. The productions there have brought great pleasure to many. Not only that, the theatre is integral to the quality of life in Sevenoaks and has brought many in to the town who would not otherwise go there.</p>
577.	<p>I have been informed of the proposal to close the Stag Theatre. I believe that this proposal should be cancelled as the Theatre is at the heart of local and associated interests and the Town and businesses dependent on visitors would be badly affected if the Stag Productions were not there to attract visitors to the Town Centre.</p>
578.	<p>I would like to express my support for the Stag Cinema/Theatre. I believe it is a great resource for the town and we have used it greatly as a family during the 29 years we have lived in Sevenoaks. I can understand in current Covid times it may be difficult to see how it can be reopened to be viable with social distancing criteria but we do hope that we can return to something approaching normality relatively soon. I think it is a unique space which is much appreciated and it will be a sad day when we can no longer enjoy the wonder of seeing the latest movie in our own town.</p>
579.	<p>I would like to request that you do not close the Stag Theatre. It provides so much pleasure for so many people.</p> <p>My family have enjoyed using the cinema regularly as well as going to the theatre. Indeed my daughter &amp; I have danced in shows for Sevenoaks School of Dance &amp; in more recent years for ..... We were due to dance there next month in.....</p> <p>So many people would miss having the theatre and cinema. It is wonderful to have both so close to home.</p> <p>Please re-consider.</p>
580.	<p>I understand that the Town Council will be making a decision at the end of June as to whether to close down The Stag.</p> <p>I feel this would be an absolute tragedy for the town. I have lived in Sevenoaks for 20 years and during this time have attended The Stag on numerous occasions for pantomimes, tribute acts, plays, cinema showings and live music performances by local groups. A performance at The Stag has often been combined with dinner or lunch out in Sevenoaks thus benefiting other businesses as well. My daughter has also volunteered there for her Duke of Edinburgh. It has been such a great asset and benefit to us as a family and is a valuable part of the town. It would leave a big hole that can't be filled if you have to travel to either Tunbridge Wells or Bromley.</p>

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	I do hope that you will consider the above when making a decision regarding the future of this local institution?
581.	This is my request to keep the Sevenoaks Stag open. Please keep the Stag open as this is a key part of the Sevenoaks community
582.	I am deeply saddened to hear that The Stag is in financial difficulties and may be forced to close following the further loss due to Covid 19, if significant financial assistance is not found. It is such a wonderful part of Sevenoaks and really does provide a bubbling cultural centre - hugely important to all ages. We strongly feel that it's closure would not only be a terrible loss in its own right but would impact very negatively on surrounding businesses which are also struggling. Saving The Stag might quite literally also be saving the town centre. Please can you support it with whatever financial assistance is available.
583.	This message is regarding keeping the stag open. I would like to give my support in keeping this business open.
584.	Please could you note my wish as a long term resident and council tax payer of Sevenoaks, to keep the Stag Theatre open.
585.	This is to email my support regarding keeping the Stag open. It's a vital part of the Sevenoaks community.
586.	I feel compelled to email given recent news that an upcoming decision is being made about the future of the Stag. This is not just a place for cinema and theatre. I have found such a wonderful community there since we have been going there since September when we arrived. I take my children there to the Panto, to pop in for coffee and enjoy the children's corner and take my toddler to music sessions. I meet my friends for lunch and enjoy nights out to the cinema when I can just be me and not mum. It will be missed, hugely, greatly, it really will. Please please make the right decision. It will be devastating to see it close.
587.	I'm emailing as I understand that the town council is meeting next week to discuss the future of the STAG. I am emailing to ask you to please keep this much-loved facility open. We have young children and really rely on the STAG to give our kids experiences of cinema and live performances like the Pantomime and Christmas shows. I enjoy attending live screenings from the National Theatre with friends on rare nights when I can get out alone. And we often pop in to the Little Fawn café with friends. We feel very lucky to have this facility in Sevenoaks and it certainly keeps us in the town centre instead of driving out to Bluewater or Tunbridge Wells. It's such a focus for the community and we would be very sorry to lose it.
588.	I've just heard via Kentish Opera that the Council is considering the future of The Stag Theatre and whilst I recognise that we are living in challenging times, I completely object to any thoughts of closing this wonderful venue. It is an important facility for the people of Sevenoaks, brings people from beyond and in, the short to medium term at least, could feature in the rebirth of theatre as we emerge from lockdown. I have had read various reports indicating that smaller, agile theatres will be better able to serve the new requirements for performers and audiences than their larger counterparts which seat and will have to manage thousands of people at a time. Since moving to Kent (Sevenoaks and now Bromley) I have performed with several local amateur theatre companies at the Stag. It has helped to be to make friends and settle in the area. It brings people together, hosts a fantastic array of entertainment and is an important date on many professional touring schedules; providing high quality, accessible productions with something for audiences. I'm sure more could be done to increase occupancy/profitability and I'm sure local theatres would collaborate more



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	<p>with the theatre if there were more tangible benefits. I believe it could attract (more) corporate bookings too.</p> <p>I, therefore urge the Council to work towards a sustainable way forward for the theatre. There's been a lot of talk about former local resident, Churchill in recent times and whatever his strengths and weaknesses, he was very supportive of the Arts. I ask you now to fight for them now.</p>
589.	<p>I would like to add my name to those who would be disappointed if The Stag were to close. It's a place of entertainment for all ages, and a chance for others to learn about performance and related skills. Sevenoaks is a wonderful market town which should be growing rather than declining. I use it for both theatre and cinema including National Theatre Live.</p>
590.	<p>I would like to voice my support for keeping the Stag in Sevenoaks opened. It is a wonderful facility for the area.</p> <p>When my children were younger, they participated in many shows at the Stag (school plays, dance shows, etc.). We went to the pantomime every year as a family and sometimes with friends and saw other shows there too. We have even gone skating there!</p> <p>Now that my children are teenagers, it gives them something to do with their friends that is local (walking distance from our home), and in a safe area. Their friends come from all over and usually stay to enjoy the local restaurants too, after (or before) the cinema, so bringing business to the area. It would be a shame for them to have to go elsewhere for things to do. It keep teenagers busy and out of trouble too.</p> <p>My husband and I also enjoy the cinema and the theatre and have been many times. It is so nice to have something like this that we can walk to. When the kids eventually move out, I assume that we will have even more time to enjoy it!</p> <p>Please continue to support such a wonderful venue for our area. It seemed to be doing very well before this pandemic arrived, and it was well appreciated by locals and others, so it will get back on its feet again quickly if you help it now.</p>
591.	<p>I appreciate the financial pressures for the council . Please try and keep the stag , it brings people to the town shops and restaurants and serves many people in Sevenoaks and the surrounding area.</p>
592.	<p>As a local resident I hope you continue to fund the stag theatre - it's a super resource for the town and surrounding area</p> <p>I regularly come in from Eynsford to attend film performances - love the London live shows</p> <p>We need facilities for the youth to enjoy culture, comedy and the latest films at reasonable prices Like the older generation they can't all afford to travel to London for nights out</p> <p>If it needs better/wider commercial activities Involved to support stronger funding</p> <p>Maybe a working group to engage with this ( eg looking at small conference, trade or specialist shows for business or special interest groups ? Other uses?)</p> <p>Sevenoaks' need to keep a varied audience coming into the centre of town to maintain a varied set of facilities (shops, bars, restaurants, sports and cultural) or the centre will die like so many other small towns</p>
593.	<p>I have just heard that there is a possibility of the Stag Theatre being forced to close. Without going into the detail of my family's connection and enjoyment of the Stag over our many years in Sevenoaks. It would be a crime to finally rip the heart out of the town. The town has suffered enough with the horrific error of closing down of the ancient market and other such mistakes that I am sure you are well aware of. Why now, in the interests for saving a few more pounds take away another much loved Sevenoaks institution? As you are aware Sevenoaks is gradually dying. The high street has been</p>

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	<p>abandoned by all but a few high margin brands and charity shops, I believe closing the Stag would be the final nail in this beautiful county town's coffin.</p> <p>What has been done to raise money outside ticket sales etc? I am sure that there are enough people in Sevenoaks who would be happy to donate a sum of money monthly to keep the Stag open.</p> <p>If this is about developing the land to put a few more pounds into the hands of local builders and developers and grab some more council tax I imagine it's a done deal, however if it's truly about financing the existing business, why not have a concerted effort to raise the cash form amongst the residents. Our children and grandchildren will be so much poorer without it.</p>
594.	<p>I am writing to say that I think it would be a terrible loss to sevenoaks if we were to loose the Stag Theatre and cinema. Please consider action to save this very much loved part of our community.</p>
595.	<p>It is a great community space, serving many different generations and Sevenoaks would be far poorer without it.</p>
596.	<p>I understand that the future of the Stag theatre is being considered. I would like to add my support for this excellent and very well managed resource for sevenoaks. With all the distress of covid 19 in past months a community facility such as the stag is invaluable.</p>
597.	<p>We would strongly favour the Stag theatre staying open. It is a fantastic focal point for our community.</p>
598.	<p>I am writing to you because I have been made aware that there is some discussion at the town council level regarding the Stag Theatre and whether it should be retained. The Stag Theatre, Cinema, Art &amp; Youth facilities, and Cafe are a vital part of the very heart that keeps Sevenoaks alive and distinguishes our great town from so many others. It is a focus for the Arts, film and live performances and it draws thousands of visitors to the town who would otherwise never come to Sevenoaks. This in turn supports all the restaurants, pubs, shops and cafes in the town. As such the Stag must be considered as a vital part of the Sevenoaks economy.</p> <p>The Stag is also a valuable and well supported facility for all local Sennockians; from our children who enjoy the annual Pantomime, through to the thousands of local residents who enjoy the live and streamed theatre performances, the live music, the dance shows and the comedy nights, while the two cinema screens are the only way that local residents can enjoy the latest film releases without having to make a 25 to 30 mile round trip to the soulless corporate multiplex cinemas.</p> <p>At times of economic hardship (such as we are currently experiencing due to the Covid situation) it is typically the Arts that are first mentioned as "non-essential" or some sort of "luxury". History has consistently shown that quite the opposite is in fact the case, and that it is precisely at these times of social hardship and upheaval, that the Arts are at their MOST essential in maintaining social cohesion, a local identity and boosting community morale.</p> <p>I am sure that you will be in receipt of many letters and emails echoing these sentiments about the need to protect our Stag theatre at all costs.</p> <p>In this respect, we rely on and expect our elected representatives to protect what is most precious and important for the long term future, prosperity and very identity of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Please protect the Stag for the sake of all Sennockians, but I especially implore you to act in the interests of our YOUNG people who deserve to have the Stag to enjoy for many years to come.</p> <p>I would be happy to discuss this issue with you in person or over the phone at any time.</p>

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<p>599.</p>	<p>I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the potential closure of the Stag Theatre due to the economic implications of the pandemic. This would be devastating not only to the Sevenoaks community but also to businesses in Sevenoaks. The theatre it not only a social and cultural hub in Sevenoaks but also generates significant revenue for restaurants and pubs in the town. I have enjoyed visiting the stag ever since I was young, and have volunteered there myself, and have therefore seen first hand the joy and entertainment it brings to the Sevenoaks community.</p> <p>I therefore believe it is paramount that the town council do all they can to keep our theatre open, as it is a fantastic asset to our community, in my opinion the greatest, and its closure would be a huge loss for the town and its people.</p> <p>I am sure you will consider the devastating effect the theatres closure would have on the people of Sevenoaks and urge you to make it a top priority to keep it open.</p>
<p>600.</p>	<p>I'm writing regarding your meeting on the 29th June where you will discuss whether to give The Stag theatre financial funding. I would like to wholeheartedly convey my support for providing funding to keep The Stag open.</p> <p>The Stag is a staple of the Sevenoaks community - providing not only theatre and cinema entertainment for the area but also a meeting place for those in our community - old and young. To have somewhere like The Stag on our doorstep in Sevenoaks, where we can see a lively Christmas panto or pop in for the latest blockbuster on a rainy day, is important for the culture of Sevenoaks. Along with the theatre and cinema at The Stag, this location acts as an important meeting place. The Stag is a place where my young son and I can meet with other local mums in a lovely and safe indoor setting. The cafe is run by lovely people, where you can sit any day of the week and have a cup of tea or coffee while our children play - a place like this would be sorely lacking if The Stag were to close.</p> <p>The Stag is a special place and I think it would be absolutely detrimental to Sevenoaks if we were to lose it. I am grateful for everything The Stag has done for our community. Please support The Stag and help it continue to remain open.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p>
<p>601.</p>	<p>As a resident of Sevenoaks for 45 years and someone who regularly uses the Stag personally and professionally, I believe the closure of The Stag theatre would be a devastating loss to Sevenoaks if it doesn't receive the financial aid it needs to continue. For many it has become a life-line, central to our community. As one of the co-founders of The Lewis Project, a music centre which is based and operates at the Stag each week and which promotes mental well-being in young adults in our community through music, I want to stress the importance of being able to run our weekly centre in the Stag's 'House in the Basement'. This is an important, centrally located space which is highly valued by our members as a lifeline for meeting other like-minded young musicians.</p> <p>I feel strongly about the importance of keeping our local theatre/ cinema/ community projects/etc facility open. It benefits so many people and in so many ways bringing people together in our community.</p> <p>Thank you for reading.</p>
<p>602.</p>	<p>Please accept this email to protest against the closure of The Stag.</p> <p>Many children and adults alike either visit the venue for perform or to watch live theatre as going in to The West End is not an option for a lot of people. Young people get the chance to shine on your stage, again something they would not ordinarily get the opportunity to do.</p>

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	<p>As a performer myself, I would be devastated to see it close. My son was due to perform in July in ..... this would be his 4th show. He has also performed with .....Orchestra - Welcome to the stage.</p> <p>Along with the theatre, the cinema is far more personal than the big chain ones and we use it fairly regularly.</p> <p>To have this venue close would also impact the local economy with less people using the town's restaurants before or after a show.</p> <p>I hope that you look again at the impact of losing The Stag.</p>
603.	<p>I am writing to urge the council to keep The Stag open.</p> <p>We have been residents of Sevenoaks for 31 years. The Stag has always made a huge contribution in providing opportunities for the local community.</p> <p>In a town where there is little for young people the Stag has provided a safe place to explore drama and music, as well as entertainment for all ages.</p> <p>The Stag was formative in shaping our daughter's theatrical career, after she was in several plays with the..... She is now a professional director with her own theatre.</p> <p>To lose The Stag would be a huge loss for the community. It has been part of our lives for many years and we still continue to support it through attending plays and the cinema.</p>
604.	<p>I believe you are considering the future of The Stag in a forthcoming council meeting. I would like to register my objection to the potential closure of such a crucial part of the Sevenoaks community, not to mention local economy. As a family we have been regular visitors to theatre and cinema events held at The Stag since we moved here 14 years ago. In fact the presence of such a facility in the town contributed to our decision to settle here.</p> <p>It would be unthinkable for it to close its doors permanently. I urge you to reach out to the local community to consider how we can work together to save such a iconic and valuable part of our town.</p>
605.	<p>It is with great sadness and concern that I've heard about the potential closure of the Stag.</p> <p>Not only is it a venue I often enjoy going to, particularly the cinema, but I think it is a really crucial institution in Sevenoaks. Not only for its history but also in that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it brings lots of people into Sevenoaks who may also support other local businesses, be they shops, restaurants or pubs (which are definitely going to need all the support they can get post lockdown)</li> <li>• it supports various charities</li> <li>• it allows volunteering opportunities for young people</li> </ul> <p>I can say hand on heart that it was one of the reasons I decided to move to Sevenoaks vs. other towns / areas when I was moving away from Wimbledon 4 years ago. Not only had I been used to having a cinema (Curzon) 5 mins walk from my home there and wanted to ensure I could walk to a cinema/theatre from my new home, but I feel it's a really important part of a self-contained market town. It stops people heading off to Bluewater or other towns which have a cinema and/or theatre and it helps the town feel more alive, more vibrant, more cultural.</p> <p>I sincerely hope it won't be closed down and that it will be given the support it requires.</p>
606.	<p>I am writing on behalf of my family of four to entreat you to continue to keep the Stag Theatre and Cinema open.</p>

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	<p>We have all been to numerous shows and events there across all different genres and would hate to lose such an amazing venue in the centre of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>My daughter has performed in various dance shows and more recently as an enthusiastic member of the ..... - their pantomime is a highlight of the year for everyone.</p> <p>In addition I am sure the Stag brings thousands of people a year into Sevenoaks, which benefits many other businesses, cafes and restaurants, it also provides many community programmes to a range of age groups. (Youth theatre, volunteering, work experience, etc.)</p> <p>I am sure you will have been inundated with messages of support for the Stag, please add us to the numbers.</p>
607.	<p>I understand there is a decision to be made shortly on the future of The Stag. Having been a resident of Sevenoaks for over twenty years I would be devastated if this community could not gather enough strength and funds to keep The Stag alive.</p> <p>Over the years I've witnessed The Stag provide endless opportunity to all ages for fun and entertainment, as well as valuable job opportunities and work experience for many people. The loss of The Stag to Sevenoaks would have a hugely negative impact in many ways.</p> <p>In order to keep afloat I understand that funding is required. Would it be feasible to run a fund raising campaign across the local community to see whether local residents would be willing to make donations towards The Stags future operation? I'm sure that a high number of people would make donations if they understood exactly what was required to financially support The Stag and how their money would be used.</p> <p>I'm sure that the SDC are keen to support this local treasure and would be as disappointed as all other local residents if it were to close down. When the doors had to close some time ago for two years the town lost a vital part of the its history and culture and it would be very disappointing if The Stag had to close completely.</p> <p>Please don't allow this to happen. There are many local supporters who would be willing to back this facility and to not take their views, interests and desires to do something to keep The Stag in business would be very shortsighted.</p>
608.	<p>Please register my support for keeping the Stag in Sevenoaks open. It is a wonderful and important local asset and vital to support the Arts in the Sevenoaks and wider area.</p>
609.	<p>I have lived In Sevenoaks All my life and the stag is one of the only places left And it would be a shame for it to no longer exist</p> <p>I am looking forward to taking my granddaughter to the pantos, she's just the right age this year!</p> <p>The comedy nights are a fun night out and the tribute evenings are great fun also.</p> <p>Please don't shut the stag!!!</p>
610.	<p>I understand that the Stag is under review for closure. Please can you take into account my objection below.</p> <p>Please consider the Stag is used by many in the community as their cinema of choice. We have also attended comedy evenings and music tribute acts in the past as well as the Panto every year. My son also attends shooting classes through ..... which are hosted by the Stag every Saturday.</p>
611.	<p>I am writing to give my support to the Stag Theatre. I am a local and have been living in Otford for 16 years and over the years my children, myself and my husband have all been frequently to the Stag to see productions and to the theatre to watch performances and I have even been a volunteer myself 3/4 years ago. I feel that the Stag is a vital addition to the community because it not only provides cultural advantages but brings in people from surrounding areas who then support our local restaurants and shops. Without it, our local shops would suffer badly as a consequence</p>

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	<p>and it would also affect house values (I used to work in real estate in Sevenoaks) as we would have to travel to Tunbridge Wells or Bluewater. It also provides valuable work experience to teenagers and giving children the opportunity to see a live performance is life enhancing and enriching for children and adults. This is an extremely worthy cause and our community would not be the same without the Stag.</p>
612.	<p>I have heard you might be closing Sevenoaks stag. That would be such a shame. It's not only a landmark for Sevenoaks but the only entertainment place there is in town. It is where we go every Christmas for the pantomime, twice a year to see another show with Or without our kids featuring in it and so so often as a family or as an individual, alone or with friends to see the latest movie or one of the London shows you couldn't attend. It's where the children when they reach 14 years old can go safely with their friends, getting popcorn and feeling very responsible. The stag fulfills so much of our leisure and entertainment life, so much of our children education and emancipation, it would be terribly missed. We are proud of this institution and the selection of films or shows are always excellent.</p> <p>Please do your best to keep it open - Sevenoaks would become just another dormitory town without the stag.</p>
613.	<p>The Head Teacher of our children's school, ..... has alerted us that in order to survive Lockdown closure, The Stag Theatre urgently needs financial support from Sevenoaks Town Council.</p> <p>As a parent of two children who have benefited greatly from the Stag over the years I encourage you to do what is required to save this important institution. It is vital that we protect our local cultural centres. More than ever as we emerge from Lockdown, we need what places like The Stag give us: a shared space where our community comes together to entertain and be entertained, to educate and be educated; to be a community. We must not lose this to Cov-19.</p> <p>Please do the right thing and Save Our Stag.</p>
614.	<p>These are desperate times, but the Theatre is valuable &amp; unique. With the cafe &amp; Cinema combined, &amp; local interest likely to increase after lockdown, it is to be hoped that shows will return.</p>
615.	<p>I have just heard that Sevenoaks Town Council is claiming that The Stag Theatre is no longer affordable. This is so disappointing, I and my family and friends have been regular visitors to the Theatre for many years attending the cinema and theatre as well as the function room at the rear of the building.</p> <p>I do hope all efforts are made to explore ways to keep the facility available in the future for the public to enjoy.</p>
616.	<p>I understand the Town Council are making a decision on the 29th June on whether to keep the Stag open or not. We would like to register our support in keeping The Stag open. The Council's original aims in 2008 are still strong reasons for keeping it open in 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Assisting the sustainability of the local economy of the town, particularly the night-time economy and tourism economy</li> <li>ii) Retaining the valuable social and leisure facility for both performers and audiences.</li> <li>iii) Enabling the development of youth services both in performing arts and youth outreach services</li> <li>iv) Retaining an iconic building in the town and preserving the street scene</li> </ul>

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617.	I have found the ..... project to be very helpful to me as i have met new friends there. Also a good place to get together and jam so would be upsetting to see closure.
618.	<p>I understand that the council is meeting on 29th June to consider the future of the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>I am writing to let you know how strongly my family and I feel about the need to keep it open at this time. Since moving here, we have attended pantomimes, musicals, ballet and tribute acts and enjoyed it immensely.</p> <p>Save for the Stag, the town of Sevenoaks is seriously lacking in cultural activities and the presence of the theatre in the town centre makes Sevenoaks and the surrounding villages a much more pleasant and enriching place to live.</p> <p>I hope the council will do everything in its power to keep it open — even if the number of performances has to be reduced until life is back to normal. I am concerned that once it is gone, it is gone and that would be a terrible sadness for the town.</p>
619.	<p>I understand the funding of The Stag Theatre is threatened. Obviously the council must budget, so large costs, such as the theatre, will be scrutinised regularly. But I believe this arts facility offers the town much more than just its performances.</p> <p>I have been involved with The Stag for many years; as a volunteer, performing in ..... shows &amp; also backstage. Over this time, the facilities have been improved greatly, mainly due to generous and much-appreciated grants from the council. The technical team are very proficient and should be congratulated about their expertise.</p> <p>But the "much more" I stated above is external to the theatre's shows and cinemas. This is about the status it gives the town - a vibrant arts culture is so necessary in these difficult times, to focus younger people in particular on aspects of life they would not otherwise experience. Also, as pubs, cafes and other places people socialise may have restrictions on numbers for many months yet, the Stag will stand proudly as a very visible symbol of how the world was in 2019 and where we all hope it will be again in 2021.</p> <p>As shopping habits have had to change from High Streets to Online (which might be a permanent change even after the lock-down is relaxed), it will provide a beacon in the town to attract footfalls, so the whole town benefits. The benefits of course includes the council, as business rates are maintained by healthy shops.</p> <p>Sevenoaks without its well-supported and well-liked theatre &amp; cinemas would be a poorer place (in every sense). Consider the negative effect of the town with no arts venues - will people come here just to shop, or would they prefer to go to Tunbridge Wells or Bromley, with their theatres?</p> <p>So, please continue the investment in The Stag - for investment is surely how council funding should be seen, as the returns are in people's health, happiness, spending (&amp; business rates from busy shops).</p>
620.	<p>The Stag is financially under threat from closure only because of the COVID - 19 pandemic.</p> <p>Sevenoaks will be poorer if it were to close both culturally and financially as many restaurants, bars and local businesses rely upon the theatre going trade.</p> <p>I would urge all members to explore all avenues for emergency funding including an innovative public appeal.</p> <p>Lose The Stag and some of the heart will go from our community.</p>

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621.	It is a vital service that we need to retain in the town both across the cinema and theatre. In these uncertain times, arts and entertainment is at the heart of what we should be investing in as a town. I work in film and theatre marketing / pr and would be happy to offer my services to help secure it's future.
622.	The Stag Theatre is a central hub of Sevenoaks Town. It would be a terrible loss to the community. It's provided so much to my children over the years from kids club, to cinema, a venue for their dance shows (enhancing confidence) and not to forgetting the panto which brings people from all over the county and beyond. Please do everything within your power to keep this town's essential monument!
623.	Please keep our Stag, an iconic building in the centre of the town providing huge amounts of entertainment for young and old, rich and poor. We need this in a time of COVID-19, a place to uplift the spirits and bring joy and laughter to many who are finding life difficult.
624.	I am writing to express my sincere hope that The Stag theatre in Sevenoaks continues to receive funding from the council and is allowed to remain open. As a real cultural centre for the town it caters for all tastes in amateur and professional entertainment and provides unique opportunities for volunteering by local people, including older pupils from local schools. In many ways it is the heart of the community and Sevenoaks will be much diminished if it is allowed to close.
625.	Please please give financial support to the Stag. We have lived here in Sevenoaks for nearly 40 years, brought up our... children here and how they have all loved the pantomimes and shows and as they grew up often used the cinema. If the Stag went, there would be nothing left .
626.	Please keep The Stag secure, it would be a tremendous loss to our town. It brings in many people who spend money in our shops, cafes and restaurants and we will need that more than ever after Covid-19. The Stag has brought some fantastic shows for us all to see - comedians, tribute bands, professional dancers, West End shows on tour and not to mention the sell out pantomime every year. Also it enables our local schools to put on dance shows which is a fantastic opportunity for a child to perform on a proper stage (my daughter included) and mums, dads and grandparents love to come and watch. We mustn't forget our cinema either showing all the current films and older ones too, on our doorstep. Our next nearest cinema is perhaps Tunbridge Wells which local families with young children would not relish traveling to. Therefore please save our Stag, it's been done before, and we all know how successful and a great asset it is to our town.
627.	Please keep the Stag open. It provides a multitude of activities for all ages, not least OAPs and children. The loss of the theatre and cinema would mean that Sevenoaks residents would have to travel some distance to find similar venues. So please do your best to keep it open.
628.	From the family and classical concerts to the Out of the box shows or book presentations, the Stag is a very precious asset for the Sevenoaks community, contributing to keep the town centre alive. Please please save it 🙏
629.	I would like to say that I am in favour of the council providing financial assistance to The Stag theatre. I feel it is an important and valuable asset to the town and District and should be helped out during these difficult and challenging times.



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<p>630.</p>	<p>There is a meeting in the near future to discuss giving a grant to the theatre to help it survive the economic problems caused by the Covid lockdown. I am writing to you to urge you to do this. It would be terrible for our town if the theatre were to close. I am a lifelong resident of the Sevenoaks and remember my very first visit as a child to watch the Empire Strikes Back on the big screen. I have been a regular ever since and also been lucky enough to perform myself on a couple of occasions. The theatre is the heart of the town - we feel lucky to have a cinema that means we don't have to travel to watch films and the theatre provides a wealth of varied entertainment some of which rival any West End Performance. The Sevenoaks Players performance of Hairspray was amazing and the Panto an annual pilgrimage for many Sevenoaks families. We should not forget as well the role of the theatre in our community. The summer dance shows are the opportunity for our children - my daughter included - to showcase what they have learnt and I am always impressed by the real talent on display. The theatre also brings people into the town spending money in our pubs and restaurants. I think it is the case that in the past the theatre was subsidised by the Council but this is no longer the case - I for one then fully support the issuing of a grant that will safeguard the future of our theatre until the crisis is over.</p>
<p>631.</p>	<p>The Stag Theatre has for a long time been a centre for drama, films and other activities for the residents of the Sevenoaks District. It has, therefore, contributed to the character of Sevenoaks. People have not had to travel to other towns for their entertainment. Clearly the hospitality sector has had a most difficult time during the lockdown for Covid19. The Stag Theatre has a status for the town and I trust that ways can be found for getting through this difficult time.</p>
<p>632.</p>	<p>I would like to add my voice to those calling for the council to give financial support to the Stag Theatre. It is a valuable asset to the Sevenoaks community. Myself and family regularly go to see films and attend shows and my children have also performed in shows connected to their local schools and dance group. It would be a great loss and sad day if it were to close.</p>
<p>633.</p>	<p>Please, please, please don't close the STAG. You have made such a good job of running it since you took over, and it is such a valuable resource for the town. It brings people into the town, so it is not just the STAG itself which benefits, it is shops, restaurant, cafes and so on. I was a volunteer some years ago, and we have attended so many events that we shall miss terribly if it closes. Coffee, snacks and drinks in the bar, plays, opera, concerts, films, streamed shows such as those from the National Theatre and Glyndebourne. So much enjoyment, and so close by too. I shall follow this with interest, and continue to hope very much that a way can be found to keep the STAG open.</p>
<p>634.</p>	<p>Please help stag it is the heart of the town. I have acted there volunteered there and supported it since it began. I have lived sixty three years in Sevenoaks and we need this theatre we fought to have to give us pleasure again when normal life resumes. It is essential for our wellbeing creativity and community spirit.</p>
<p>635.</p>	<p>I am a long time supporter and friend of The Stag. We enjoy and regularly use all the facilities and entertainment offered by this venue. As recent retirees, having a local cinema offering discounts is very important to us.</p>

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	<p>The Christmas pantomime is an amazing production that we look forward to watching every year.</p> <p>I feel that this is an important part of the local community and also contributes to local businesses. We often eat/drink in Sevenoaks before going to watch something at The Stag.</p> <p>The coffee shop upstairs is also an important meeting place for all ages, especially mums with young babies as there is always plenty of room for buggies etc.</p> <p>I would ask the council to think very carefully about supporting such a valued local amenity.</p>
636.	<p>The Stag theatre...visited by me and my groups of friends at least 4 times a month plus evening events...is VITAL for our town.</p> <p>There is nowhere else offering space convenient location with parking in the centre of town where we could meet relax and enjoy life.</p> <p>Young mums may not have time to write ...they too enjoy the space for their tiny ones to play while they enjoy a cuppa.</p> <p>The coffee shop staff are always friendly and accommodate table reservations when shows are not needing them.</p> <p>My teenager enjoyed several parties which took place at stag.</p> <p>The plaza rooms have hosted many great events.</p> <p>I love the art deco of this beautiful building.</p> <p>Please keep it alive for all to enjoy.I have donated to the SOS.</p>
637.	<p>My family enjoy so much at The Stag and we know many more who do too. I know there are tough choices for budget allocations but I would ask that financial assistance is given to the Stag, please, so that it need not close.</p>
638.	<p>I am truly saddened that you should be contemplating the closure of the Stag. As a Friend of the Stag, and a resident of Kemsing for nearly 60 Years, this cinema and theatre has been so much part of my and my family's lives.</p> <p>We are all in troubled uncertain times but we will survive.</p> <p><b>PLEASE CONSIDER VERY CAREFULLY BEFORE MAKING A DECISION THAT WOULD BE REGRETTED BY SO MANY.</b></p>
639.	<p>We understand you are considering providing financial assistance to the Stag to support it through the COVID-19 closure - we are writing to express support for that approach.</p> <p>The Stag is a central part of the Sevenoaks Community and provides not only a local beacon for the Arts but brings much-needed indirect economic benefits, particularly for local restaurants and pubs. If it were allowed to fold, the Town would be much the poorer and we believe this so strongly that we have already donated to the Stag. Good luck with your discussions - investment now will bring longer term benefits - exactly the way one has to look at so many matters in these troubled times.</p>
640.	<p>Good morning - having heard during the last week that our theatre is in need of support, I am asking you to do your utmost to help keep it open. It was horrible when it closed some years ago as a theatre adds variety and vibrancy to a town - it must help the other businesses to thrive too. We have donated to their appeal and hope you will be able to help.</p>
641.	<p>We would strongly urge you to direct some financial assistance to the Stag theatre. It is a wonderful part of the community and a place for so many memories for our family over the years we have lived in Sevenoaks and we would wish it to be so again for years to come.</p>
642.	<p>I understand you are meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss future funding of the Stag theatre. I would like to share with you the vital importance I find the stag to have in the identity of Sevenoaks.</p>

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	<p>We have been residents of Sevenoaks for about 9 years now and fully love. We have lived in various parts of (suburban) London and Sevenoaks has a distinct different feel. To be honest, this is not achieved by local shopping: the lack of quality non-chain shops and restaurants (and even a proper butcher or baker!) in town is in fact remarkable. In the meantime, the only proper art gallery .....is struggling and there are no high-end antiques shops like in Brasted. The only thing that currently makes Sevenoaks centre different than any other bog-standard high street is the presence of the fabulous Stag. The ability to have both film and theatre in town is not only vital to our enjoyment of Sevenoaks, it is a key contributor to the identity and 'allure' of this affluent market town.</p> <p>Happy to elaborate these views in the context of a conversation.</p>
643.	<p>I write to implore you to do everything in your power to maintain the Stag Theatre and make it possible for it to reopen when the Government decides that it is safe to do so. It is an important asset to Sevenoaks Town and gives local people the opportunity to enjoy the experience of cinema and live theatre without having to travel some distance, which may not be possible or affordable for some. I was able to give my granddaughter her first experience of a ballet at the Stag which was magical and would not have been possible without our wonderful Stag. Many children would not experience the fun of a pantomime without it.</p> <p>It gives everyone the opportunity to enjoy the cinema experience without long journeys and possibly using public transport for those without cars. It also brings customers to the many eating establishments in Sevenoaks, which hopefully will continue when they are able to open their doors again.</p> <p>Please don't let us lose our Stag.</p>
644.	<p>My wife and I live near Dorking. Our son, and his son, ..... have lived in .....and now Sevenoaks for some 15 years. Rupert attended .....School .....and now ..... He has got great pleasure from playing several parts at the SYT, all of which we too have enjoyed. As well as the acting, the direction and production has always been of a high standard.</p> <p>But in ....case there have been further benefits. Interacting with other young people of both sexes has given him greater confidence and communication skills. And it was last year that SYT took plays on a tour of other schools in the area which was well received. As his grandparents we hope he will continue to make theatre once at university. During these challenging times we will all have to make difficult decisions but I hope Sevenoaks Council will find it possible to keep SYT going for their young people.</p>
645.	<p>I'm writing to request that you please consider supporting the Stag Theatre so that they can survive and continue on for many more years.</p> <p>The stag is at the heart of the community, supporting the stag will also be supporting the restaurants and shops as well because theatre goers and performers will also frequent these businesses. If the theatre closes it will be such a loss to the community. Furthermore, the arts will be so important in our country's recovery - people will want more than ever to visit venues like this again when it is possible. Many theatre company's use the venue for their performances, children's mental and physical health will recover much more quickly once they take part in their passions again, and being able to use the Stag theatre for their shows will bring together their accomplishments and again bring communities closer.</p> <p>I really hope the council sees how important it is this very special venue survives.</p>
646.	<p>I believe that consideration is being given by the Council to the closure of the Stag Theatre in the near future.</p>

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	<p>In my view, this would hugely disadvantage the local community, and I list below some of my reasons for this view (no doubt there are others)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Stag supports many local businesses, e.g. bars and restaurants where theatre patrons eat and drink before or after the show</li> <li>- there are approximately 50 individuals from the local area who, as volunteers, perform various functions at the theatre – the loss of this amenity would affect them greatly</li> <li>- Dance schools from as far as Croydon use the Stag for their yearly display</li> <li>- competitions in music and dance attract entrants from all over the UK</li> <li>- the Stag is building a following for the Vienna Ballet company</li> <li>- many tribute bands use the Stag, and these shows are invariably well-attended, resulting in excellent revenue streams for the theatre bar and box office</li> <li>- the annual pantomime has a large following, not only locals, but people from the surrounding area (as far as Coulsdon)</li> </ul> <p>I would therefore ask you to consider very seriously the loss to the community that the closure of the Stag would entail,</p>
<p>647.</p>	<p>My name is Alice McQuail, I am almost 18 and going into my final year at school. I have been part of the Stag Youth Theatre for over three years now. I have taken part in two plays, one of which was part of the National Theatre Connections Programme. In addition to this I took part in the film for the Bat and Ball train station which was my first time acting for a camera.</p> <p>Not only has the Stag Youth Theatre provided me with skills in drama and experience working with film, but it has become an escape from the sometimes overwhelming school life. It has also allowed me to make friends with people from different schools that I would never have met otherwise.</p> <p>The Stag Youth Theatre needs to be secured to give young people the chance to do drama and perform in plays, which they may not necessarily have the chance to at school. It will also help them to gain confidence and help them to meet like minded people.</p>
<p>648.</p>	<p>I understand that the council is considering awarding financial aid to enable the Stag Theatre to remain afloat.</p> <p>I wholeheartedly support this, as the Stag is a vital focal point of the community, and I have many happy memories of nights out there. As a parent I don't get to go out very often of an evening, but when I do it's invariably to the Stag with my husband to watch the latest release.</p> <p>Please protect this venue for future generations to enjoy, the world post-Covid must not be devoid of joy.</p>
<p>649.</p>	<p>At this current time there is huge pressure on everyone due to Covid19, including the financial impacts on our amazing range of clubs, arts and leisure facilities. The Sevenoaks community is a strong and thriving one, but only because of the clubs and groups that bring us all together!</p> <p>Therefore I plead with the council to explore every possible avenue of support for these organisations. It seems many are on the brink of financial collapse and as such I believe we should be redirecting all possible funding to support them. If we don't then our recovery as a community will be dramatically impeded.</p> <p>The leisure centre, the Stag Theatre, the sports clubs, the Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scout groups to name a few, are a major part of our community and we should fight for their survival.</p> <p>Budgets should be reallocated and spending diverted. Find savings where you never imagined you could find them, for these are not normal times, and we need extraordinary measures to save the heart of our community.</p>

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	<p>Invest in low cost and sustainable forms of transport, such as cycling, so that as these facilities reopen the community finds it easy to access them and provide the support they so desperately need!</p> <p>Get behind us.</p> <p>Find the funding.</p> <p>Save our community!</p>
650.	Please reopen the stag...
651.	<p>I'm writing to request that you please consider supporting the Stag Theatre so that they can survive and continue on for many more years.</p> <p>The stag is at the heart of the community, supporting the stag will also be supporting the restaurants and shops as well because theatre goers and performers will also frequent these businesses. If the theatre closes it will be such a loss to the community.</p> <p>Furthermore, the arts will be so important in our country's recovery - people will want more than ever to visit venues like this again when it is possible. Many theatre company's use the venue for their performances, children's mental and physical health will recover much more quickly once they take part in their passions again, and being able to use the Stag theatre for their shows will bring together their accomplishments and again bring communities closer.</p> <p>I really hope the council sees how important it is this very special venue survives.</p>
652.	<p>As an Otford resident, I wanted to make you aware of my views on The Stag and its importance.</p> <p>As you will be aware, The Stag provides a variety of services to both local residents and those from outside Sevenoaks too. My wife and I have been users of The Stag for a number of years, including the period before we moved to Otford. We have attended films, plays and pantomimes, music performances, comedy evenings and fairs. Given the range and quality of events put on by the theatre, it is arguably one of the 'jewels in the Sevenoaks crown'.</p> <p>As well as providing a readily accessible entertainment venue for the local community, The Stag also provides significant benefits to other businesses, particularly restaurants, in Sevenoaks by virtue of the custom it attracts. Even before the Coronavirus, high streets all over the country were facing increasing challenges from online and out of town shopping and the presence of The Stag has undoubtedly been a great boon to Sevenoaks. Now, with retailers and restaurants facing additional challenges, the continued presence of The Stag is vital to maintain the vibrancy of Sevenoaks town centre.</p> <p>For these reasons, I would implore you to provide the necessary support to ensure The Stag's continued existence both for the benefit of the theatre itself, its customers and the other businesses in Sevenoaks.</p>
653.	<p>I write to urge you to reconsider any thoughts about closing the Stag. It is at the heart of our community, something we as residents are proud of and I believe is worth investing in. From dance shows, in which our own children get the amazing opportunity to perform on stage to local orchestras and panto, acts on tour and cinema birthday treats, the Stag has been very much the centre of many wonderful nights outs which will remain life long memories.</p> <p>Sevenoaks is a special town and it is the Stag that is at the heart of that. Please consider</p>

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	<p>this in your upcoming discussions on its future. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this.</p>
654.	<p>Like many people, I value the Stag and want to see it continue in the town. The covid crisis has obviously left it in a precarious position where it will need support from the council to continue. Ultimately, that means Sevenoaks town council tax payers, of which I am one, will have to pay additional council tax to secure it.</p> <p>I think this is worthwhile and would urge councillors to support the Stag. However, I would add</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Stag needs to explore all additional sources of financial help available during the covid crisis. This obviously includes public donations but could also include corporate funding and other organisations giving donations to support community projects. A better explanation to the public of what the challenges are and how it is has tried to get other sources of funding, would help the appeal for public donations.</li> <li>2. Going forward, it needs to consider whether tis operating model and governance is best suited to what might be a changed environment – social distancing, even at 1m, will present significant challenges to all entertainment venues and some people will not be willing to go to inside events for some time. The Stag will need to be innovative and fast-moving to cope with this. It may need to bring in expertise from outside or at least seek to learn from other venues as it moves forward. The main auditorium may offer opportunities to bring back some events which are typically delivered in smaller venues which will not be able to offer social distancing – but hiring it will need to be affordable (bearing in mind there will only be a marginal cost to the Stag in staging extra events).</li> <li>3. The Stag is not used just be residents of the town but is not used equally by residents across the district. It would be unfair to ask eg Swanley residents to contribute but many residents of nearby parish councils will be using it. Could they be persuaded to contribute? Could the district council assist in some way given its investment in other parts of the district (it is investing £20m in a new leisure facility for Swanley)?</li> </ol>
655.	<p>We are writing to express our hope that the Council will find a way to keep The Stag open. It is such a valuable venue for a diverse group of users within the area and further afield. The Stag has offered safe and accessible entertainment to the entire community. Single, elderly, young people all feel comfortable along with couples and families. This community arts centre holds a special place and provides a lot of joy and support for the residents of Sevenoaks. Please make it a priority to reopen the Stag in due course. You will be providing a much appreciated service post COVID 19.</p>
656.	<p>I have been informed that the Council is considering giving financial support The the Stag Theatre and therefore I decided to write to give my deep appreciation for it. The Stag is the only cultural venue in Sevenoaks, the heart of the town where young and old, families and friends can gather even on foot for cinema, theatre, concerts etc, and of course the unmissable Christmas pantomime that constitutes such a wonderful tradition for our children. I really hope the Council will recognise the unequivocal value that the Stag brings to the town and support them through these difficult times. No doubt the Sennokians will do the same once the Stag will reopen its doors.</p>
657.	<p>Please don't close the Stag. Sevenoaks is already suffering from the Corvid pandemic. More shops, restaurants and businesses are likely to close and if the Stag</p>

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	<p>goes too Sevenoaks could become a ghost town – a shadow of what it has, until recently, been. It would send a very negative message to residents and visitors.</p> <p>The pandemic will pass or a vaccination will be found that will allow life to return to something more normal. Closure of the Stag would be , I suggest, the wrong decision as the impression it will convey to residents and visitors is one of defeat. The theatre should only close if a viable alternative use can be secured and guaranteed that ensures the successful use of the premises.</p> <p>Revenue to support the Stag could be raised either through council tax or voluntary contributions and subscriptions. Closure of the Stag would deprive local organisations, theatrical, musical groups and school children and young people of a vital facility. They would be forced to travel to other venues at a time when transport and travelling is going to become more difficult.</p> <p>Please withdraw your recommendation to close and instead take a more constructive approach exploring ways of securing the futue of the Stag for the benefit of the local community and area.</p>
658.	<p>In these difficult and unprecedented times help and support to the local community, especially those sections and organizations which add greatly to the community and its social and artistic needs, is essential.</p> <p>I am very much in favour of council support being given to the Stag Theatre to enable it to maintain its existence, high standards and beneficial aspects to the town of Sevenoaks.</p>
659.	<p>I am 100% in favour of supporting the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>As a family we have benefitted hugely over the years from being able to go to the theatre and cinema and my daughter took part in many Chance to Dance shows. The theatre is part of the community and it brings the community together- the Chance to Dance showcases local dance schools, and with the Pantomime brings together many generations to enjoy the shows. It also supports the local restaurants and bars.</p> <p>The current COVID 19 situation has highlighted the value, need and importance of local facilities which are beneficial at all levels- for their economies, for climate change ( the nearest cinema is Knights Park which requires a longer journey for all), and for the well-being of the residents through the sense of community it brings.</p> <p>I would urge you to consider the hugely negative impact of not supporting the Stag which far out way the many positives the Stag brings to Sevenoaks.</p>
660.	<p>I am writing because I understand that the future of the Stag is under threat. I believe that everything possible must be done to preserve the future of this venture. It is a cultural haven for many people. Please pledge financial support to enable this venture to continue.</p>
661.	<p>I understand that due to the closure of the Stag Theatre during lockdown it is now in danger of closing and needs immediate funding.</p> <p>My family and I have enjoyed numerous trips to the theatre over the years and it has been highly successful and a very important asset to the town and surrounding villages. The need to protect the Stag for now and for the future is vitally important for the town and community.</p> <p>Please provide funding to ensure that the Stag continues to operate in the future, Sevenoaks would never be the same without it. We must act now.</p>
662.	<p>At this current time there is huge pressure on everyone due to Covid19, including the financial impacts on our amazing range of clubs, arts and leisure facilities. The Sevenoaks community is a strong and thriving one, but only because of the clubs and groups that bring us all together!</p> <p>Therefore I plead with the council to explore every possible avenue of support for these organisations. It seems many are on the brink of financial collapse and as such I believe</p>

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	<p>we should be redirecting all possible funding to support them. If we don't then our recovery as a community will be dramatically impeded.</p> <p>The leisure centre, the Stag Theatre, the sports clubs, the Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scout groups to name a few, are a major part of our community and we should fight for their survival.</p> <p>Budgets should be reallocated and spending diverted. Find savings where you never imagined you could find them, for these are not normal times, and we need extraordinary measures to save the heart of our community.</p> <p>Invest in low cost and sustainable forms of transport, such as cycling, so that as these facilities reopen the community finds it easy to access them and provide the support they so desperately need!</p> <p>Get behind us.</p> <p>Find the funding.</p> <p>Save our community!</p>
663.	<p>I am writing to express my concern over the possible closure of the Stag Theatre. I work there as a volunteer on occasions and believe it is a great asset to Sevenoaks and to the community as a whole. We work there as a family and is a great atmosphere as well great meeting place for people to come and interact and meet up.. It is the HUB of the town and has been open for years . It would be a big mistake and a great loss to the people that use the theatre and the cinema, as well as the community..</p> <p>The bottom of the Stag is a Youth Centre known as HITB . I work there as a Youth Worker , what would happen to that , it means that if that were to close that would affect a lot of young people that use our services and need our support..</p> <p>Please look at this very carefully as the whole area will be affected, not to mention future generations.</p>
664.	<p>I'm one of many concerned families to hear the news of the uncertain future of the Stag Theatre Sevenoaks.</p> <p>We have shared many an enjoyable evening at the stag, and especially the pantomime every Christmas which our grandchildren will be very upset if this is not going to be on any more.</p> <p>We have purchased tickets for this year's pantomime and I don't want to have to tell them that it's not going to be on, so I ask for the sake of our community That the future of the Stag theatre is saved.</p>
665.	<p>Theatres give towns a soul.....critical this stays open ....without it what else is there left that's still obviously a community place? Think hard about how to make it so .....please.</p>
666.	<p>We would like to make a request that you consider helping out the Stag Theatre. It is an important asset to this town and area and we have enjoyed many a live concert and taken our grandchildren to the pantomime several times.</p> <p>The cinema is also of great benefit to us and means we don't have to drive into Tunbridge Wells to watch a film. What a great shame that we could lose this important social aspect of our lovely town.</p>
667.	<p>I am writing to urge the Council to provide whatever support it can to enable the Stag Community Arts Centre to weather the present economic storms.</p> <p>The Stag is a much-loved and integral part of community life that provides a wide range of services across all age groups. It is a true hub for our area, and a significant asset.</p> <p>As a long-time Sevenoaks resident and member of the Friends of Stag, I've witnessed its struggles over the decades, from its final days as a large cinema to the Margaret Durdant-Hollamby era to the Kino debacle. I've appeared on its stage, seen numerous excellent productions in its theatre and cinemas, and enjoyed many a tasty lunch with friends in its cafe.</p>



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	<p>Since the Town Council took over its running, the Stag has, at long last, gone from strength to strength and fulfilled the potential its supporters always knew it had. It would be a huge pity if the pandemic were to force it to close.</p> <p>I understand that - now more than ever - the Council faces difficult choices about how to spend its limited funds, but I feel that the Stag would be a worthy recipient.</p> <p>I have contributed to the emergency appeal. Initially, it wasn't easy to find the 'donate' facility on the website, but now that has been rectified, I hope that as many people as possible will do so, and that local companies and organisations, even in these cash-strapped times, will see the value in supporting it.</p> <p>Perhaps the appeal would benefit from more publicity? The Sevenoaks Chronicle mentioned it the week before last, but there was no update this week on the amount raised, and I haven't seen it mentioned elsewhere, apart from on Twitter.</p> <p>While I'm in touch, I wanted to thank the whole Town Council team for all your efforts during the current crisis - from those ensuring the Vine Gardens and other green spaces are well maintained to those producing newsletters and updates and those working on the plan to get Sevenoaks back on its feet.</p>
668.	<p>Writing with regard to the potential loss of The Stag Theatre.</p> <p>Having lived in Sevenoaks all my life the memories are always very fond of the team and services it provides to the community.</p> <p>For the facility to close would be a great loss to not only the staff there, but also to the businesses in the town that The Stag brings to the town.</p> <p>Please do the right thing and fund and support this important community venue.</p>
669.	<p>I am a Sevenoaks resident and I would like to show my support for the Stag theatre . It has been a place I have visited regularly since I was a child. I am now 37 years old. It is a unique asset to Sevenoaks bringing in many visitors and it is the centre of the town.</p> <p>Please consider supporting its survival.</p>
670.	<p>I am writing to you about the proposed closure of the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>Whilst I appreciate that the priorities of the council will centre around Covid 19 and its repercussions, it would be absolutely tragic if the loss of the theatre was permanent.</p> <p>My family have wonderful links with the theatre. My husband and I have both performed on the stage with local amateur companies and we have also seen countless shows there, as a couple and with our daughters. The comedy nights are fantastic, getting some big names.</p> <p>The highlight for me though has to be last year's pantomime Aladdin. My husband and I took our two daughters aged 10 and 8 and our good friend to one of the Christmas Eve performances. Picture the scene, a packed theatre full of excited children and adults all anticipating the excitement of seeing a live performance. Families and friends sitting cheering the heroes, booing the villains, wiping away tears of laughter, fathers being mercilessly teased by the dame.</p> <p>There was a gospel choir, there was a hoop performer, there was a flying saxophonist for heaven's sake. We went home that night, our spirits high, our Christmas made magical by the wonderful cast and crew at the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>If it wasn't for Covid 19 I would have already booked my tickets for this year. You cannot let my memory be just that, a memory and deny that experience to other families. Art is life and when the lockdown ends we are going to need to rejoice in that life again. The Stag theatre must remain open to enable the local community to do that.</p> <p>Please, please do not close it permanently.</p>

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671.	<p>Without the stag Kent will not be the same this theatre is the soul of Sevenoaks                  The stag gives so many opportunities to young performers and local adult performers                  As an actor myself I love performing at my local theatre and without performing again would make me heartbroken                  This theatre has changed young lives and inspired so many people                  The pantomime held at the stag is the best in Sevenoaks if the show goes and don't return Christmas will not be the same again                  Please please please fund this theatre                  Without it Kent will not be the same again</p>
672.	<p>I have heard the Stag is in financial danger. I do hope the council will be able to find appropriate funds/raise funds to keep it open. Having lived in Sevenoaks for over 30 years, we've visited several times a year for theatre and cinema. The Stag adds great value to the town.</p>
673.	<p>I write in praise of the Stag theatre. We attend the cinema and/or theatre most months which is a constant pleasure. We are long-standing residents of Sevenoaks and enjoy this rare attractive feature for a residential commutable community                  Please think of your residents when offering to subsidise entertainment in the local area.</p>
674.	<p>Following the difficulties faced by local businesses at this time I wanted to pledge my support for the Stag Theatre ahead of the council meeting on 24th June.                  My family are regular users of the Stag for the cinema and theatre, visiting at least once a month. Attending the pantomime is also an annual family tradition. We are very lucky to have such a fantastic theatre so close by and feel it is an iconic feature of the town. I have many friends and family who also visit regularly and we would be devastated if it had to close due to the current pandemic. I do hope the council are able to support the theatre through this unsettling time so that local residents and those from further afield can continue to use the fantastic facilities for years to come.</p>
675.	<p>I understand The Stag is threatened with closure. I would implore you to please keep this valuable Sevenoaks asset open. Sevenoaks is a comparative cultural desert compared to most other towns, please dont let the community lose a valuable piece of its cultural vibrancy. It's of value for so many people, brings people into town who might otherwise go elsewhere for the cinema/theatre and this helps local businesses. It's a highly valued part of the community. Please don't close it down.</p>
676.	<p>Please help support the Stag Theatre as we really enjoy the music evenings there and it is the only theatre we can get to in the evenings. It is an asset to Sevenoaks Town.</p>
677.	<p>Please continue to provide financial support to The Stag Theatre Sevenoaks.                  Sevenoaks is enriched by the provision of a theatre and a cinema to the local community. The Stag Theatre facilitates the opportunity to experience arts and culture. The cinema offers a safe environment for adolescents to experience their initial independence from parents on arranged nights out.                  For adults, the cinema and theatre is in walking distance from many residents homes allowing a pleasant evening out and then dinner in Sevenoaks town centre.                  For children, the cinema offers regular family entertainment and the opportunities of outings.                  The local schools support the annual pantomime put on at the Stag, as do the Sevenoaks residents. This experience for children at Christmas may be the only opportunity for some to experience live theatre.                  The Stag also makes Sevenoaks more attractive to tourists by offering local entertainment on the doorstep and therefore helps the local economy by enticing visitors to Sevenoaks.                  Support for The Stag Theatre should be actively encouraged for the benefit it provides.</p>

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678.	Please save the Stag. It is very important to Sevenoaks.
679.	<p>Through difficult times pantos, musicals and plays have sustained the British people with a way to look at life through a new lens. To enjoy a very home grown humour not to be found anywhere in the world, to be taken away for a brief moment into another world. To access live operas and ballets unaffordable for many. To watch their children perform on stage in front of their families and friends.</p> <p>The theatre plays a vital part in keeping a community in the town and visiting restaurants. It's a place where young adults make their first steps towards independence. It's a place we visit to enjoy and laugh with family.</p> <p>Let's set up a fund and help them stay open. We need it more than ever. The Sevenoaks high street is already decimated with high shop rents which means many of them are empty. Don't let it become another empty place. People need local amenities otherwise it's just another high street victim.</p>
680.	<p>We have just heard that there is a possibility that the Stag Theatre may close. We should be devastated if that were to happen. There is so much that is good about the Stag and all that goes on there. The quality of the live productions is superb, particularly as the stage is so large. It is a huge asset to the town, which would be greatly impoverished without it. We appreciate that nothing can happen there at the moment and that it costs money to have it empty, but if we can only get past the next 12 months the situation may have changed. It would be terrible if there were nothing to come back to.</p>
681.	<p>I am worried about the impact of the Stag theatre / cinema from Covid-19. We are extremely lucky as a town to have such a first class venue to use and I hope you will help it's financial future as we will lose a fantastic resource if it is not given the support it needs to survive the next few months.</p> <p>We have taken our young daughter to several ballet and pantomimes at the Stag and we all love the venue.</p> <p>Please don't let it close as all generations need access to good theatre / pantomime / ballet.</p>
	<p>I understand that you are considering closing the Stag Theatre I wish to express my objection to such a proposal.</p> <p>As a long term resident and previous volunteer at the Stag I think that such a move would be a disaster for the town and I urge you to keep it open.</p>
682.	<p>Dear Sevenoaks Council,</p> <p>This is a plea to do your up most to ensure that The Stag Theatre survives the terrible impact that Coronavirus has had its financial situation.</p> <p>Firstly, it is crucial to preserve this community theatre that many groups and audiences of all ages can continue to have an opportunity to experience theatre and film.</p> <p>Secondly, it adds important diversity of what there is to offer in the Sevenoaks district and should be preserved for current and future generations.</p> <p>Finally, the community will more than ever need access to positive activities for the benefit of mental health after this challenging period of time.</p>
683.	<p>I am dismayed to hear that the future of the Stag is at risk.</p> <p>It is one of the few (the only?) cultural icon of the town, and used by countless amateur and professional groups.</p> <p>I would certainly be prepared, as I think would many, many others, to subsidise this through a tricky period by an increase in Council tax.</p>

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684.	<p>The Stag is great! It caters for all tastes and ages. It offers a good variety - theatre, cinema, music, comedy club, youth activities. It tries really hard. It's run so much better now than it was a few years ago.</p> <p>Please don't get rid of the only cultural venue in the area. There are other ways to save money.</p>
685.	<p>I realise we live in unprecedented times however I encourage you to find the longer view.</p> <p>The Stag has provided a stage for my children to perform, a place for them to show themselves what they can do and who they can be.</p> <p>I hope you can find a way to keep The Stag open.</p>
686.	<p>I am emailing you in support of the stag theatre remaining open. We are very lucky to have an independent cinema/theatre, and the town would be worse off without it. It is also a green option, which allows us to go to the cinema/theatre locally, saving petrol and time.</p> <p>Please don't close the Stag.</p>
687.	<p>I understand that you are voting on Wed 24th regarding the future of the Stag Theatre. I was shocked and saddened to learn that the Stag's future is uncertain. The theatre has been an integral part of our lives in Sevenoaks since we moved to the area 6 years ago. We have enjoyed outings as a family to the cinema, have hugely enjoyed the shows such as ballets, pantos and music concerts. Plus there has been the fantastic and incredibly popular Christmas Panto which we have attended most years and have very fond memories of. My daughter has also performed on the stage in a school dance show and was due to perform at the Stag in July with her ballet class.</p> <p>For such an integral part of the town's family entertainment to no longer be there would be devastating for the town and its residents. We love supporting the local theatre and would chose to go there any day over a larger cinema complex or even to the expensive London west end theatre. Our kids love the Stag theatre and I want them to continue to have many more happy memories growing up in Sevenoaks with the lovely local theatre being a part of that.</p> <p>I think it's so important given what everyone has been through these past few months to protect our lovely Sevenoaks Town theatre as well as people's employment and livelihoods that come with it. I also think it's important for children's mental health and well being to be able to have these things to look forward to again and can't bear the thought of having to explain to my own daughters that one of their treasured local outings may no longer be there.</p> <p>I hope that you are able to give the financial support the theatre needs until we are able to return to some form of normality which is hopefully not too far away. I'm sure many residents would continue to support the theatre when it's able to open its doors again.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing positive news.</p>
688.	<p>As local residents, who have enjoyed visiting The Stag since we moved from London to Sevenoaks in 2001, my husband and I are shocked and saddened to hear that the future of The Stag is apparently threatened.</p> <p>You cannot allow such an asset of the town to close, and we implore that you do everything within your powers to keep it open.</p> <p>It brings people together to enjoy, and benefit from, the arts which improves the wider Sevenoaks community.</p> <p>It provides opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to visit and be absorbed by the all consuming experience whether that be film, music, theatre or dance.</p> <p>You cannot allow it to close - please do everything to ensure it doesn't.</p>

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689.	<p>I think the Stag has incredible value and importance to our town, Sevenoaks. We regularly visit the cinema but have also attended music events, theatre and magic performances as well. It is so lovely to walk to a local venue and then pop into a local pub for a drink afterwards. Outside of restaurants/pubs, Sevenoaks has virtually no other offering for evening entertainment on offer.</p> <p>Could the Stag offer a year membership, paid up front, to help it's financial situation? Please help our town keep the Stag.</p>
690.	<p>I am extremely disappointed to hear that The Stag is under threat of closure- it is a local landmark that so many of us use and enjoy , from young to old. As a family we get so much use from it :family cinema outings , to my daughters drama club, to performing on stage and watching performances, to the whole of Amherst Junior School's annual trip to the panto and also the odd coffee upstairs in the cafe. The locality, size and uniqueness of this wonderful building must be preserved for the town. We are so lucky to have a individual cinema/theatre that children can walk to and give them something to do( there is little else for teens in the area) please consider its future carefully, it would be hugely missed by so many.</p>
691.	<p>I have been made aware that The Stag theatre may be closed and I would like to express my opinion that my wife and children would oppose such a decision.</p> <p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for 5 years and the Stag offers a venue to host a variety of performances for all ages that we have enjoyed over the years.</p> <p>It's closure would not only reduce such an important service but also dilute the character of our town further which would be most sad.</p>
692.	<p>I understand the Council are going to discuss The Stag We used to have two Cinemas in the town. Now we have a Cinema and a Theatre. For goodness sake leave us something in Sevenoaks we used to be a very pleasant town. Lovely shops and a friendly town to visit. Let's try to save what we have got.</p> <p>The last few months have caused all businesses having to face problems let's all try to back everything up again put our chins up and don't be defeated. Have faith things take time.</p> <p>Here's trusting for a good conclusion.</p>
693.	<p>I have recently heard that there is a possibility that the Stag Theatre may close.</p> <p>I wish to register my deep concern at this, as I believe it is a vital part of our community here in Sevenoaks, by both providing local entertainment and by bringing custom into the high street in the evenings.</p> <p>We regularly go to shows and events there, and bring in friends from around the areas and believe this is an establishment that needs to be supported by the council and through our Council Tax payments, even if there is a small increase to support the facility directly.</p> <p>Please consider the weight of public feeling when matters regarding the Stag theatre are discussed.</p>
694.	<p>I am writing in support of the wonderful facility in Sevenoaks, The Stag.</p> <p>I have particularly benefitted from seeing West End productions shown through NT live, giving much more access to theatre productions than I would otherwise have.</p> <p>Not only does it provide an important entertainment venue, but supports local bars and restaurants through attracting visitors.</p> <p>I do hope that financial assistance can be granted.</p>
695.	<p>I am seeing a large number of comments about the future of the Stag and a meeting about it in 29th.</p> <p>I want to add to the discussion offering my view that The Stag is a major benefit to Sevenoaks which would be a substantial loss to the town if it was lost.</p> <p>If you read any of the press comments regarding the town you will see one of the major</p>

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	<p>reasons to live here is the Artisan Stag Theatre with a cinema and a theatre, we see many live shows, up to date films and the Pantomime season brings in people from far and wide.</p> <p>This theatre supplies a major boost To the town and needs to be maintained as a town landmark and facility.</p> <p>Supported mainly by a band of active volunteers it cannot have high staffing costs and surely must be affordable for a community such as sevenoaks.</p> <p>Maybe some consideration could be given to the potential for crowd funding to help the theatre survive COVID 19.</p>
696.	<p>I know times are hard right now but the way people have turned to tv and film streaming services and recorded plays should us how valuable entertainment is. Theatres like The Stag are so important to our local communities, not least for the pantomime!</p> <p>Pantomime was my first experience of theatre and it has been a huge part of my life every since. It's a family tradition for most of us to visit the theatre over panto season; Sevenoaks without The Stag's panto would feel like it had had its heart pulled out. It's a beautiful building that deserves to keep functioning as a theatre; the sight of it closed up or gutted and repurposed would be too sad for words.</p>
697.	<p>Please please please do not close The Stag Theatre.</p> <p>I am a Senior Citizen living in Plaxtol, I have family living in Sevenoaks and we have enjoyed many pantomimes and family-orientated productions together since the grandchildren have been born. It is a wonderful introduction to the fun of theatre for children of all ages, for whom a family trip to London theatre is out of the question financially.</p> <p>In addition I - and many people from Plaxtol - regularly support productions by The Sevenoaks Players as we have a lady in the village who has been in many of their shows and plays over the years and will continue to be an active member..... But only if you allow The Stag to remain open and active.</p> <p>The Stag is a vital part of the Community and we are so lucky to have our own theatre in Sevenoaks. For many children is their first opportunity to enjoy live theatre - both in the audience and on stage - and (as I mentioned before) at prices which families can afford as London theatre is beyond the pocket of many people.</p> <p>SOS - Save Our Stag. PLEASE.</p> <p>Thank you for reading my email,</p>
698.	<p>This is a message to add my voice to the support for the Stag Theatre. The coronavirus has been devastating, of course. However it would be a tragedy if our town were to lose our wonderful asset that serves our community so well.</p>
699.	<p>I've just heard that there's a possibility of the Stag Theatre/Cinema being closed. As a regular visitor until the institution of the Covid-19 Lockdown I would be appalled to find its facilities unavailable. Apart from the impact on various local community groups this will increase the volume of traffic heading to other cinema venues in Orpington and Tunbridge Wells, creating more air pollution and resulting in reduced footfall in local shops.</p> <p>Thanks for your time.</p>
700.	<p>May I add my concern to the threat of closure of the Stage Theatre. This is an essential cultural and social centre for our Town which brings people and organisations into Sevenoaks to use this important facility. Over the last forty odd years my children and grandchildren have grown up full of appreciation for the Theatre and the excitement and experiences it has given them, that only a theatre can offer. Exposure to the arts in all of its manifestations is a vital part of our heritage and culture and Sevenoaks would be a lesser place without it.</p>

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	Please do all you can to support this wonderful institution for the present and future generations.
701.	Please do whatever you can keep this excellent facility open so once some form of entertainment is permissible the Stag will be there for those of us in Sevenoaks and surrounding areas who so miss it.
702.	<p>Although we live in Ightham (and as such are residents of Tonbridge &amp; Malling council), Sevenoaks is our nearest town and 'go to' place for shopping etc.</p> <p>We value the uniqueness of the Sevenoaks High Street and having a theatre enriches the cultural aspects of any town.</p> <p>Over the years we have enjoyed attending the cinema, comedy nights and other performances. It has served local and amateur drama and the Stag is a wonderful experience for the cinema compared with the vast multiplex's that are in place now.</p> <p>More than that, a trip to the Stag will often entail a shopping visit too - bringing additional income to the shops in the High Street.</p> <p>It would be a terrible loss to the cultural aspects of Sevenoaks to lose the Stag and would diminish the reputation of Sevenoaks itself.</p>
703.	<p>I am sending this message as I have heard you may decide to close this grand old theatre.</p> <p>This would be a travesty. I have volunteered at this theatre since I retired a few years ago.</p> <p>I worked the bar at many of the events there and fun and happiness of all ages that attend the theatre is amazing.</p> <p>The theatre is the centre of the community it brings so much business for the High Street shops, cafes, restaurant and pubs. Money raised by car park fees.</p> <p>The cinemas are popular as are the so many shows. The kids shows, ballet, musical etc are amazing and to hold them in a theatre like the Stag is amazing for the kids.</p> <p>The history around this theatre is wonderful and should be preserved.</p> <p>I also attend a Knit and Knatter group in the cafe and over the years we have provided many goods for the council including teddy bears for the police, flags for the town, hundreds of poppies for the remembrance anniversary, twiddle muffs for Alzheimer patients, children's blankets for two charities and many other projects.</p> <p>We have sold many items for 'Friends of the Stag' over the years.</p> <p>Please do not close this wonderful old theatre.</p>
704.	<p>I am a member of the volunteer team at the STAG theatre. Over many years I have attended theatre performances, in addition to my volunteer duties, and have also been to cinema performances, used the cafe and attended other events at the venue.</p> <p>I feel that the future of the STAG must be assured. It is an exceptional facility for the town and is well run and successful. It has brought me hours of enjoyment, education and social gathering. Many of the events, especially the pantomime, are a big part of life in Sevenoaks and puts Sevenoaks firmly on the map for the wider community. The STAG has served the community of Sevenoaks brilliantly over many years and is a very big part of Sevenoaks life. Under these difficult circumstances it should be supported in all ways possible so that once again in future it will add to the enrichment of all our lives, especially those of us living in the Sevenoaks area.</p>
705.	I back the Save our Stag campaign. The Stag is an important element of our community in Sevenoaks. Lockdown is not the time to make a decision about its closure - the whole arts community is struggling. The Stag brings people into Sevenoaks, it also supports local charities & provides opportunities to young people through work experience & volunteering.
706.	<p>I am writing to support the Stag.</p> <p>It is a welcoming venue and the staff are very helpful.</p>

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	<p>I live alone as I'm sure many people from a variety of age groups. It is less intimidating to enter a smaller cinema. There is always a good view.</p> <p>I have seen a variety of productions in the theatre from Stand up to Pantomime and all things in between. They have been well supported and there is a good atmosphere.</p> <p>I think theatre and live performance has many subtle benefits. I know we are lucky living in a relatively affluent area, but many people will have reduced income for now and in the future. Central London prices are prohibitive for many. For people who can't travel late into the evening, it allows customers to share in a vital arts resource. It brings communities together.</p>
707.	<p>We are writing to you because we heard about that some key decisions will be taken this week regarding the future funding of the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>We are the parents of two young teenage boys who have been part of the Stag Youth Theatre for number of years now. This is a fantastic opportunity that the council can contribute to the cultural development of children around Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Furthermore, we are regular visitors to the stag whether for the cinema, comedy nights, magic show... Closing the stag would mean that people would have to travel to London and probably remove a lot of opportunities for youngster to have some cultural access in our community.</p>
708.	<p>I'm writing in support of keeping The Stag Theatre going. My family and I have enjoyed watching countless productions there over the years - comedy, plays, musicals, panto, as well as the cinema. It's so lovely to have all this available locally and it would be very sad to see it go.</p> <p>My children have been fortunate enough to perform there with the Sevenoaks Entertainers several times over the last few years. For them to have the opportunity to perform on stage in a real theatre has been amazing and they will be so disappointed if they won't ever be able to do it again.</p> <p>I really hope that there is a way to save The Stag as it would be such a shame to lose something that has created so much enjoyment and has given us so many treasured memories. My children especially would love to make more memories there in the future.</p>
709.	<p>We live in difficult times and sometimes important decisions are made during these times which have a dramatic effect on the whole community and it is not until the aftermath of such decisions are experienced we realise we have lost something which so important to our society .</p> <p>The Stag Theatre is one of those decisions and although currently it may seem like a logical decision to lose the Stag Theatre once it has gone it can never be retrieved. The Stag is a community facility which is used for all sorts of entertainment and more and should without any doubt be retained for the benefit of future generations.</p> <p>Sevenoaks will be a lesser place without Stag .</p>
710.	<p>As a long term resident of Sevenoaks and frequent visitor to shows and the cinema, we are sad that the Stag is in trouble through no fault of it own.</p> <p>Please support its survival as this is the heart of Sevenoaks Town.</p> <p>All our family members have benefitted from Dance shows, Pantomimes, and new release films.</p>
711.	<p>I have been concerned by recent articles in the Chronicle alluding to the fact that The Stag theatre and cinema may need to close. Whilst I understand that the entertainment industry has been hit hard by Covid-19, I believe it would be a tragedy for the town if the Stag were to permanently close its doors.</p>



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	<p>The Stag provides a much-needed cultural outlet for not only Sevenoaks residents, but for the wider region. It brings in audiences that will eat and drink in the town pre and post theatre. It manages to attract quality theatre companies, yet also houses charitable organisations, amateur dramatics, dance and singing groups and it is often the first "treading of the boards" for any number of children experiencing performance. I believe there is a community need met here too, with a cafe and other meeting spaces. Thousands of volunteers come together to make things happen at the Stag, offering work experience, exposure to cultural activities, and best of all, inclusion and mental well-being.</p> <p>My eldest daughter found a confidence and a sense of belonging that was previously lacking through performing at the Stag with Bullfrog Productions. She is a much stronger and happier person for having had this opportunity and experience. I really would like to see this outlet continue for all concerned.</p> <p>Please do all that you can to maintain this much needed asset of the town. Thank you.</p>
712.	<p>The Stag is an integral part of the Sevenoaks community. It brings a richness not just in terms of revenue to the town's pubs and restaurants but an opportunity for everyone to access a large variety of entertainment, whether it be, live productions, music and films. It gives local artists, including children the vital opportunity to perform live on stage to the public, which is a valuable experience for all. It provides a venue for professional artists to perform and entertain the local community as well as audiences from further afield at affordable prices. The Stag is also a source of employment for paid staff as well as a considerable number of volunteers. As a volunteer myself I get an enormous amount of pleasure from working at the Stag and I hope that I and my colleagues enhance in some way the good experience for the audiences when they come to the theatre. There would be a big hole in my life as I am sure there would be for all of us if the theatre was forced to close permanently. Please, please do all you can to save this wonderful venue for all of us. For our audiences and for those who work there.</p>
713.	<p>We have all read of the difficulties faced by various businesses as a result of the current pandemic and we, as a family, are very worried about the 'recent' news of challenges faced by the 'Stag'.</p> <p>In our 22 years in Sevenoaks we have seen our children perform there, seen orchestras, Shakespeare (and other) plays, films and almost countless pantos.</p> <p>I also feel we have missed more than we have actually seen, as so much goes on there ...</p> <p>To say it is one of Sevenoaks' best loved facilities is an understatement, and to see it close would be a terrible blow to the town.</p> <p>Please do all in your power to help keep it open, whether it be through financial help, facilitating local organisations to help or whatever.</p>
714.	<p>The Stag is an essential part of Sevenoaks. Without it, cultural life will wither, with a knock-on effect on restaurants, cafés and shops.</p> <p>Please give The Stag the support it needs to weather the Covid-19 storm.</p>
715.	<p>I am writing to ask you to save our wonderful Stag Theatre from closing. It is so important to have a venue like that for the community. Apart from the theatre and cinema lots of other activities go on there and it would be a great tragedy if it ended up</p>

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	<p>being turned into some ugly office block.                  You should start an official appeal for funds to save it within the community. Hopefully you would get some generous donors but even if enough people just gave a few pounds it might make all the difference. Please act now and SOS. Save our Stag.</p>
716.	<p>As a patron, performer and volunteer for many years I am writing to say categorically that the Stag theatre should remain open and definitely not close. It has been the hub of Sevenoaks since it was founded by Margaret Durdant-Hollamby who worked tirelessly and passionately to secure this amazing theatre which opened for the first time on 25th June 1985 (exactly 35 years ago today) for the good of the town and community enabling it to bring live theatre to Sevenoaks. Thus bringing this live and diverse theatre to the local people who are more than pleased to see top class performances not to mention the huge footfall attending the annual Pantomime which would be hugely missed by the performers as well as the audience. Also enabling amateur dramatic societies and professional companies to perform in a live theatre venue. It has also given many adults and children a chance to perform on a big stage which is important to young enthusiastic children. It's something they absolutely love and gives everyone who performs there a real sense of purpose and belonging. As it also is for us volunteers who work together as a team to provide many volunteer hours for the good of the company which I hasten to add is as good for us who are so passionate about the Stag and the audience and for everyone who has the good fortune to be involved in this amazing establishment, and such an establishment should most definitely not cease.</p> <p>The Stag brings people into the town generating much needed revenue for the retail businesses and restaurants not to mention the revenue from the car park, both of which would suffer from lack of footfall! To lose the Stag would be to lose the town. Nobody wants that. As it is, so much of the town's history has sadly slowly diminished over the years with buildings being flattened and hoarding going round the empty space. We do not want to see that to happen to our beloved theatre do we?! So I say. Keep the Stag open for the good of all. It's an incredible theatre which we are so very fortunate to have. Keep the Stag alive. Keep the town alive!</p> <p>Majestic it is! Majestic it should continue to be!</p>
717.	<p>I understand you are considering closing the Stag in Sevenoaks. Will there be a public consultation? It is extensively used by the community.</p>
	<p>I am writing to you regarding the distressing news about the potential upcoming decision to close the Stag theatre.</p> <p>I appreciate the emotional reasoning in these debates often gets lost in the economic aspect and for that reason i will keep this short. I would like to make a donation of £250 towards the running of the stag as a one off payment, furthermore i would consider joining a membership scheme on an annual basis should this currently exist or be considered for implementation.</p> <p>STC have shown incredible support over the last 10 years and clearly with budgets so stretched the on going funding is problematic but the iconic heritage, incredible place of enjoyment and specialness it brings must be considered for generations of Senockians to come.</p>
718.	<p>We have friends in the village of Kemsing who are volunteers at the Stag and they tell us that the Council will be shortly discussing whether or not to close the Stag.</p> <p>As we have been "Friends of the Stag" for many years we feel we should let you know how important the Stag is to so many local people, especially those of a certain age that cannot travel up to London</p>

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	<p>or down to Tunbridge Wells to see a show or film. We have seen many excellent shows at the Stag and it has been a wonderful source of entertainment and being local makes it easily accessible.</p> <p>We also feel that it adds to the town of Sevenoaks as it brings in people from the surrounding area, many of whom, like us, enjoy a meal or a drink in town before going to the cinema or a show in theatre or the Plaza Suite.</p> <p>We therefore hope that you will be able maintain your support of the Stag in the future so that it can continue to be a social hub and place of enjoyment which we think will be even more important when we eventually emerge from this pandemic.</p>
719.	<p>I am writing to you concerning the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>I am sure that by now, you will have received numerous emails from people who do not wish the theatre to permanently shut down.</p> <p>I am currently a member of the Sevenoaks Entertainers. If you have had emails from other members of this amateur dramatics society, you will know that we have performed a pantomime in the theatre every year since 1990. Given I have had some good times on stage, I, like so many others; can't imagine what I'd do if the Stag closes.</p> <p>If the council can give the theatre a grant of £220,000 to help keep the venue up and running, that would be really great!</p> <p>I hope you will give this email a great deal of thought and I await your decision on 29th June.</p>
720.	<p>I understand that for financial reasons the Stag is under threat of closure. Please keep it open. My partner and I are frequent filmviewers there. We do not want to have to go to London or drive to another town to see a film.</p> <p>If the theatre closes we shall have lost a live performance venue valued by many.</p> <p>There is another point which is not so obvious. Having a cinema/live stage is the mark of a cultured town. If that is lost some of the grace and personality that prevent the town from being just a place to buy things will have been lost and lost for ever. We won't be able to get it back. This is critical now because the major activity in the town seems to consist of charity shops, coffee houses and nail bars. This is no time to lose something that is a stark contrast to that.</p> <p>If the council is set on closing the theatre may I suggest an appeal to the public to see if a private initiative can be put together to save it?</p>
721.	<p>Stag must be kept open. It serves as draw to town, and not only supports charities but serves as beneficial venue for young people. Council should make financial support available in short term.</p>
722.	<p>I understand you are to have a meeting in the next few days re the funding for the Stag theatre/cinema.</p> <p>As a disabled "Friend of the Stag" I would like you to know just how important it is to myself and many others in Sevenoaks and surrounding districts as our only means of seeing live theatre and visiting the cinema.</p> <p>The venue has been in jeopardy a few times but is now under normal conditions a viable and very valuable asset to the town.</p> <p>In these unprecedented times it deserves to be supported so I hope you will find a way to provide funds and raise public donations if necessary.</p> <p>Obviously there are a great many deserving causes but if lost this one could never be regained.</p> <p>With thanks for your understanding.</p>

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723.	<p>Please include my email in the volumes expressing their devastation at the news that the Stag is in danger. I grew up here &amp; have memories of the stag as a child. And I now use it regularly with my own children. It is a part of the town's community and history and the town would be far poorer at the loss of it.</p>
724.	<p>The Stag is a long standing cultural hub in Sevenoaks where families and young people go to watch films, theatre, music and enjoy venues which bring the community together.  Please do not close this beautiful little gem in our town!!!</p>
725.	<p>Personally I think you should save the theatre as it is where we go to watch movies and pantomimes</p>
726.	<p>I am writing with regards to a grant that has been asked for by The Stag Theatre, Sevenoaks to help make plans for them to open.  I am outraged that there is even a need to ask for a grant. The council should be there, you should be there, helping The Stag in every way you can. The Stag is a statement part of the community in Sevenoaks. People wait all year to go and see the famous pantomime with Silly Billy and all of the other characters. I will walk down past The Stag in town and see people coming out of the cinema at all hours of the day. The Stag is an extremely important part of many Sevenoaks residents' lives. For me personally, it is an extremely important part as I take a drama class there every week; Stag Youth Theatre (SYT). I do this class with a friend and we spend our whole week looking forward to it; it is the highlight of our week. We normally have sports training at school before the class but we leave early and rush down to The Stag to make sure we get there on time. Simon and Charlie try so hard to make the class fun and educational at the same time and if you just let The Stag close down because of this ridiculous pandemic, not only do they lose their jobs but so do many other people who work at The Stag to make it a fun experience every time we go. On top of that, all of the actors and actresses who make going to the pantomime a funny experience will lose their jobs too. Do you want this to happen? I am almost positive that you and your family go to see the pantomime each year; would you want it to close? You may think that The Stag closing down will only affect the people; the people you have no interest in when it comes to this matter, but let me tell you, the closing down of The Stag will affect you too. It will affect you as much as anyone else. You will no longer be able to go to the cinema, you will have to go to Tunbridge Wells or BlueWater just to see a movie. Your kids won't be able to join SYT and have the same fun experience as I have had there. There will be no pantomime. Do you really want that? Let me answer that for you; no. Lastly, what would The Stag become if it closed? A supermarket? Another shop? Something that's not a Sevenoaks statement? 'm so sorry if this email seemed in any way rude but I really don't want The Stag to close down and I am sure I can vouch for so many people when I say that.</p>
727.	<p>I am writing to lend my support to the Save Our Stag campaign. As a mother of 3 now grown up sons, the Stag has been and, until the pandemic, still was a wonderful part of our lives, from cinema, theatre, youth theatre, youth concerts and comedy. There is no public transport to other cinemas in the area..My sons all had to travel for a couple of hours each day to school, if they had also had no cultural life in the town I would not have considered moving to Sevenoaks. Please don't destroy the beating heart of Sevenoaks town!</p>
728.	<p>I am just registering our support for keeping the Stag Theatre open.</p>

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729.	<p>I have been told that you want to gauge the want of the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks. I definitely want to it kept open as I do use it and I feel it definitely has a deserving place in our community Please keep the Stag Theatre open</p>
730.	<p>I am writing to ask you to reconsider the closure of the Stag theatre. Although I understand that financially it might not be a success, please understand that the benefit it has on Sevenoaks is wide-ranging, bringing in people from out of town who will use the pubs, restaurants and shops and providing entertainment and enjoyment to many people who might otherwise be alone or have a limited social life. The arts are an important part of people's lives even though the benefits aren't always outwardly obvious. Towns with theatres are consistently at the top of the list of places where people are happiest to live, and although Covid 19 has hit these facilities hard, when it is over I think that they will be even more appreciated and frequented. The Stag gives Sevenoaks a personality and without it the town will become just like any other faceless satellite towns.</p>
731.	<p>Please keep the stag open my children perform so many dance shows and pantomimes there year after year with the Sevenoaks entertainers .We also go to watch other organisations that perform there. We have seen many fantastic performers and bands there. The cinema will be a great loss too as so local somewhere Local teenagers can go with friends go to watch The latest films and not having to keep travelling out of the area not just young people but the community it will be such a great loss to the Sevenoaks community if this closes.  Please save our theatre I hope I can support in anyway.</p>
732.	<p>I e-mail you to urge that the Stag theatre does not close. It is an important venue in mine and my families lives and we would fully support it to remain open.</p>
733.	<p>Keep the Stag open please!</p>
734.	<p>I write in support of the Stag theatre on the hope that a way might be found to keep it open. It offers an enormous amount to all local people, especially employment and other opportunities to our young people .</p>
735.	<p>I know these are difficult times but letting something like The Stag Theatre go under would be an unprecedented blow to our community. It is a space that caters to multiple generations and has done for so many years. Please consider additional funding to keep it open until the community can return to supporting it by usual means.</p>
736.	<p>I am contacting you to add my support to the above. We frequently attend the cinema, theatre &amp; live music performances. We have an excellent facility on our doorstep showcasing a wide variety of local &amp; national talent &amp; we need to keep it as it's a real asset to the town.The Stag supports local charities &amp; also provides young people with valuable opportunities for work experience &amp; volunteering. I sincerely hope that the council will vote to keep this fantastic facility which has been an integral part of the life of the town. The repercussions of its closure to the local economy would be significant, not just for the theatre, but also for the already struggling restaurants, cafes &amp; pubs &amp; businesses who will be additionally impacted.</p>
737.	<p>We are a family of six and have been living in Dunton Green for the past 22 years. The stag theatre and cinema is regularly used by all of us and our friends and relations. My children are easily able to take the bus or walk with their friends to see a film or a theatre production. If the stag closes down their nearest options are Tunbridge Wells or Bromley and I would certainly feel uneasy about them going by themselves.</p>

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	<p>Closing the stag would mean our community losing a fantastic, well used facility that puts on great value productions and enables our children to be independent in their leisure time. We urge you to consider other options as I am sure the local community would be willing to help out with volunteering opportunities etc to save this much loved local venue.</p>
738.	<p>I would like to express my strong opinion that the stag is a centrepiece of Sevenoaks' historical and current culture and is a key asset to the town</p> <p>I sincerely hope the decision will not be taken to allow it to close</p>
739.	<p>Our family has loved having the Stag cinema and theatre in the heart of our town. For the last 20 years we have been Christmas pantomimes, films and Comedy nights. Feel it's a very important part of our history and community. Please fight hard for it to stay open.</p>
740.	<p>I am writing to express my support for the Stag in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>We are so lucky to have this small theatre and cinema in Sevenoaks. My whole family have been attending shows and films there for years - the whole time we have lived in Sevenoaks. We regularly purchase tickets, and would greatly miss it if it were to close.</p> <p>As soon as it is able to open we will be buying tickets to the cinema and other shows.</p> <p>We strongly urge the council not to close the Stag, as this is such a valuable and appreciated community asset that we don't want to lose.</p>
741.	<p>Please keep this open , we have shared so many memories here , from first dates to my children performing on the stage ect to meeting the cast of shows and girls night outs . And we are looking forward to many many more . To loose such a geat place would be a real shame . And I am sure that many people feel the same.</p>
742.	<p>I understand the Council are making a decision as to whether to keep the Stag open. I wanted to email my strong support for keeping it open and believe it to be a vital part of the local community. I think there will be strong local support to keep it open and residents will help with donations of a fundraising campaign is run.</p>
743.	<p>I am very concerned that the Stag may close. It is a great asset for the town. It brings people into Sevenoaks. It supports local charities. It gives opportunities to young people through work.</p> <p>Please vote to save it.</p>
744.	<p>I am writing to express my concern a out the future of The Stag. It is the heart of Sevenoaks and a huge part about what makes Sevenoaks such a special Town. It is so important to the community, the dance shows, school shows, pantomime, cinema, tea dances, the coffee shop etc. The list goes on. Please do everything you can to keep this historic building open and running. I still think it a tragedy that the farmers pub was demolished and it is still a building site ! Don't let another wonderful institution be destroyed.</p>
745.	<p>I wish to provide my support for funding from you to keep The Stag open. My family and I use the Stag for cinema, pantomime and shows and it would be a real shame to lose such a valuable asset to the town.</p>
746.	<p>I am emailing to say how devastating it would be for Sevenoaks if the Stag closes. I for one know that it is a special place for everyone who lives here and an attraction for people coming into Sevenoaks. If you do not do everything you can to keep it open it will essentially be an act of self harm on your part and everyone in this town will seriously wonder how you could ever come to a decision not to help.</p>

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747.	We would be very sad if the Stag were to close. Please keep it open.
748.	<p>I am writing as a resident of Borough Green. The Stag is our nearest cinema and theatre. We have enjoyed watching many films there, before lockdown we would go for a meal in sevenoaks followed by a film on a date night and have find memories of the stag.</p> <p>I also dance at the local dance school, Caroline Clare dance in Borough Green and have gone to see the students perform at the stag every 2 years. I have never had the courage to perform in the show and massively enjoyed watching my fellow students perform instead. It means a lot to them to put on a show and demonstrate their hard work, they were all so sad to learn we wouldn't be able to do that this year and now the thought that they may never get to perform in a real theatre if the stag closes is devastating.</p> <p>I'm sure once the lockdown ends people will return to using the stag. It is culturally enriching and an important source of entertainment for the local community. It would be a real shame to lose that. There are so few independent cinemas and theatres, it is one of the things that makes sevenoaks stand out.</p>
749.	<p>I am writing to add my support to keep the Stag open for Sevenoaks and all local surrounding residents. It is an invaluable Asset to the community and i have been a regular user for years and now in my sixties. It is an integral part of the Community and a great bonus for so many residents far and wide: families, young, elderly, single people. Many people would nit feel able to drive to bigger cinemas, theatres further away or feel intimidated by larger crowds. The Stag customers bring much more support for shops, restaurants and pubs in the town and make it the wonderful centre It is for all age groups. The Stag enhances the Sevenoaks community in many ways. It brings people together. Please think very carefully about the possible closure of this Special venue and the repercussions for so many people and the town itself.</p>
750.	<p>I'm just waking up to the awful news we may be losing The Stag. Please, do all you can to prevent this from happening. I love living here and when I think about why I love living here, The Stag and our wonderful times there is one of the things that comes to mind. What can we do to help? Please, let's save The Stag.</p>
751.	<p>I strongly want to support the continued presents of 'our Stag theatre' here in Sevenoaks. It is at the heart of our community.</p>
752.	<p>I am writing to the individual Councillors of Sevenoaks Town Council as Chairman of Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society and in reaction to reports circulating via emails from a variety of sources that Sevenoaks Town Council will shortly consider an application for grant aid by Stag Community Arts Centre towards sustaining its existence following the impacts of the Coronavirus lockdown and social distancing requirements.</p> <p>Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society has been a regular hirer of Stag Theatre since the earliest days of its creation, right through its former troubled economic period and continuously since Sevenoaks Town Council took over its running and then constituted the charity which now has the running of it. In my former capacity as Treasurer I was actively involved in lobbying the Town Council to step in and prevent closure 10 years ago and then worked as Deputy Chief Executive in the early stages of its reopening.</p> <p>The impact of Coronavirus on the lives of Sevenoaks people has been immense. By comparison with the personal suffering of those who contracted the disease the future of the theatre is less personal and not a literal matter of life-and-death. However, Stag</p>

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	<p>must not become a collateral victim of this dreadful pandemic as it needs to be one of the cornerstones of returning Sevenoaks life to whatever its new normal may be. For the many members of local groups and dance schools it is a place of performance dreams. For the hundreds of Stag Volunteers it is a source of service and social interaction. For the hundreds of thousands of audience members it has provided enjoyable respite from the cares of everyday life. And for local businesses its existence has been a source of footfall and income, without which some would not have survived previously let alone now.</p> <p>It is a fact that Coronavirus will pass and the people of Sevenoaks will emerge to continue their lives. And those lives will need greater enrichment post-Coronavirus than before. Whilst it may be a while before the semblance of normality returns, without Stag and its audience, performer and volunteer opportunities, that normality will be slower to achieve and the richness of the town (in all its meanings) will be significantly lessened.</p> <p>The government supports the arts as part of a strategy for post-Coronavirus re-growth, though it may be clearer to Town Council members the form in which that support can be made to translate into the resources needed for survival.</p> <p>The Town Council's website rightly describes Stag as an Asset : now is the time to find the ways of preserving that asset as part of Sevenoaks' resurgence. If it is lost, it is lost forever and Sevenoaks will lose one of the cornerstones of its unique character to the detriment of the many thousands who have benefitted from its existence over the ten years or so since the Town Council took on its management.</p> <p>The Council has financial reserves built up from community charge income over a long period and held "for a rainy day" - that day is now. On behalf of our members and our audiences and the wider population of Sevenoaks I therefore urge the Town Councillors to support the applications made to Sevenoaks Town Council by the Stag Trustees.</p>
753.	<p>I would like to register my support for keeping the Stag Theatre open - it is such a valuable asset to this town, offering theatre, cinema and performing arts on our doorstep, enriching the lives of everybody living in Sevenoaks and the surrounding area. To see the Stag close would be a tragedy - please let us know what we can do to help keep it open during this difficult time.</p>
754.	<p>I would like to register my support for keeping the Stag Theatre open - it is such a valuable asset to this town, offering theatre, cinema and performing arts on our doorstep, enriching the lives of everybody living in Sevenoaks and the surrounding area. To see the Stag close would be a tragedy - please let us know what we can do to help keep it open during this difficult time.</p>
755.	<p>Yes please keep the Stag open. It's been a great opportunity for our children to experience performing and for everyone to enjoy a wide range of theatre</p>
756.	<p>I understand the future of The Stag Theatre is at risk.</p> <p>I have been performing in The Stag Theatre for the last 30 years with Kentish Opera. In 30 years the facilities have been greatly improved. The theatre, cinema and function rooms add a touch of class to the town centre and provide something unique and cultural for all ages of the community in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Sevenoaks without its well-supported and well-liked theatre &amp; cinemas would be a poorer place (in every sense). Consider the negative effect of the town with no arts venues - will people come here just to shop, or would they prefer to go to Tunbridge Wells or Bromley, with their theatres?</p> <p>Please save the Stag Theatre and cinema complex for the sake of Sevenoaks and its community.</p>



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757.	We are big fans of the stag theatre and would really like to support it . Please keep it open it is such a heart of Sevenoaks and would be desperately missed if it would be closed .
758.	Good morning, I have just been advised that The Future of the Stag theatre is under review again. As a long time resident I see The Stag as a critical element of the towns community, being used by so many different groups as well as hosting mainstream shows. These are difficult times but we have to look ahead, protecting and nurturing such important components of our society as our theatre.
759.	I'd like to express my concern that the Stag may close and wish to put forward my support for it remaining open as it is a huge asset to the local community.
760.	I'm just writing a few lines of support for the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. My daughters have danced there in Dance Act Theatre School Variety shows and also with them at the Chance to Dance shows. Although I live in Hextable, it is a wonderful venue both behind stage and watching (there's not a seat where you cannot see clearly). It has become somewhere I now come not only to see dance shows but have brought my children to the pantomime and seen other shows as well. It would be a shame for Sevenoaks and the surrounding area to lose such a marvellous local venue, please help them to stay open through this awful pandemic.
761.	Don't tear the cultural heart out of Sevenoaks. We need to keep the community together.
762.	I write in support of the stag theatre which I understand is a risk of closing down. Covid has been a huge hit to the Sevenoaks high street and many of the businesses may not survive. It is therefore even more important that the Stag remains open to draw interest to the high street and allow Sevenoaks town to remain vibrant and culturally diverse. The activities and experiences the Stag offers benefits all its residents and visits but is likely to be most beneficial to those disadvantaged and from BAME communities.
763.	I wish to register my representation in respect to the decision of application to funding on the survival of the Stag Theatre. As I am sure you will know - this local venue is the heart of the town - an amenity Sevenoaks Town Council cannot afford morally let alone financially to close. For me and my family - the Stag is a place to enjoy a film, theatrical performance and the Christmas pantomime- supporting the local arts. With the opportunity to enjoy other hospitality offerings Sevenoaks has, be it a drink in a local pub or a meal before catching a meal - having this venue on our doorstep is too good to loose. The council must find the funding needed to keep the Stag alive. It will be a complete travesty if the effects of the pandemic we are living through right now takes away something residents can enjoy when life begins to return to something normal. The arts brings people together at times of trouble and we will need the Stag even more in the future. This is why - On behalf of the community - I plead the council makes the right choice. The right economic choice. The choice that keeps the arts and culture alive in Sevenoaks for the future.
764.	I understand that The Stag is at risk as a result of the current crisis. It is part of the fabric of Sevenoaks, culturally, socially and educationally, and every effort should be made to preserve it, particularly as the very large auditorium might actually be an asset in an era of social distancing. The risk to the arts cannot be overstated – anything that can be done to preserve them locally should be done.
765.	Please keep The Stag open. It is so lovely to have a local cinema, along with the theatre for shows & comedy. It would be such a loss to Sevenoaks & the surrounding area if it were to close.

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766.	We are avid supporters of The Stag both for movie afternoons and panto's. We've also enjoyed the tea room and listened to talks there. Please keep it open!
767.	I, a Sevenoaks resident, strongly support the Save Our Stag Campaign. The theatre is a wonderful part of this town and it would be a huge loss to the community to see it shut down
768.	I just wanted to write to give my support for the Stag theatre. It is a fantastic venue for all ages to enjoy to provide cultural experiences through theatre and cinema. It is particularly important that the young people have affordable access to theatre and cinema. Going into London is very expensive for a family. The venue has provided us with many opportunities to enjoy the entertainment as a family. The pantomime had been particular favourite. If the Stag can't open at the moment, is there anyway of providing a live video streaming of a production that could be paid for? Could the Stag also look at joining forces with someone who has land to enjoy a drive in experience? Are there other ways the Stag to bring in money during covid 19. I am sure there are.
769.	I would like to email to support the Stag theatre to remain open please. I think it's an incredibly important part of the community.
770.	I am emailing to pledge my earnest support for the council to keep the stag open. We in Sevenoaks are incredibly lucky to have an independent cinema and theatre and it's what makes us unique. It's an invaluable institution that would be sorely missed. Please do all you can to keep it open.
771.	I understand the Stag Theatre to be under threat of closure again. As a resident of Sevenoaks for 26 years I would like to express my deepest wish to keep the theatre open. My family and I don't visit the Stag man times each year and would consider it a real loss to the cultural fabric of our lovely town. Please keep me informed of what I need to do to ensure my name and all the names of my family members are registered to show our support to keep The Stag open. Please do everything you can to keep this amenity at the centre of our town open.
772.	Please do not close the stag . It would be devastating for our town.
773.	I write to voice my concern regarding the possibility of the Stag closing for good. My family regularly attend the cinema and live shows. It is a really convenient, lovely theatre at the heart of Sevenoaks and such an improvement on going to the big Tonbridge cinemas.
774.	I am a great supporter of keeping the Stag open and know it will be the most dreadful loss to our town Sent from my iPhone You may have provided Sevenoaks Town Council and associated companies with some personal data relating to you. Under the General Data Protection Regulations, we as the data controller in respect of that personal data are required to provide you with a set of specific information about how we will use, hold and retain this data as well as making you aware of various rights that you have.
775.	The Stag is a wonderful theatre and cinema which is a huge asset to the town, it shows great films, great theatre and amazing top rate comedy. It's an incredibly difficult time for all businesses in the town but we need to fight hard to support this incredible community resource which offers so much to so many different age groups in the town. Please dig deep to support it and I am sure many of the local community would be keen to support it financially too
776.	I am fully in support of saving the Stag , it is a vital community resource, which I used regularly. Can we not crowdfund to save it?

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777.	I would just like to say how important as a family we feel the Stag is to us and the town. It really is the heart of the town and is hugely beneficial in bringing business to the local restaurants as people may have a meal as part of their trip to the theatre or cinema. The shops also benefit from shopping that people may then do while they are in town. It is so wonderful having our lovely stag in the town, it is used by so many young and old, the town would just not be the same without it. It would be a huge mistake to let it go, please save the stag.
778.	Please note as regular users of The Stag we would be devastated to see it close and are supporting the campaign to save this well loved theatre.
779.	Please, please, please keep the Stag open. We have had so many wonderful evenings there. The entertainment has been first rate and we have enjoyed all the tribute band nights, as well as the plays and pantomimes. It would be a devastating loss for Sevenoaks. And it's closure would severely impact on local restaurants and hostelrys, where a lot of patrons of the Stag go before or after watching a performance. The Friends of the Stag have worked so hard in the past to secure this wonderful theatre's future ... it is really important to the town and the local community that it remains a going concern.
780.	As the current Chair of Kentish Opera, I am contacting you on behalf of the company to register the dismay felt by the announcement that Sevenoaks Council are considering withdrawing financial support for the theatre. As a successful and respected company Kentish Opera have enjoyed staging productions at The Stag for at least the last 25 years. Along with many other groups we have always had an excellent working relationship with the theatre staff and feel, very strongly, that it would be a huge loss to the Sevenoaks community and the many groups that perform there should the theatre 'go dark' permanently. It is a fact that Sevenoaks Borough is among the recognised wealthiest Boroughs in the UK and as a percentage of the total Council budget, I can only imagine that the subsidising of The Stag represents a tiny fraction of all Council expenditure. The idea that a town such as Sevenoaks is now considering closing one of its' greatest assets that brings so much pleasure to so many people is frankly dreadful. Not only the loss of a lovely theatre but a cinema and the function rooms too will no doubt cast a dark shadow over the town and its' administrators. While we are all aware that during this current pandemic situation many businesses and organisations are potentially struggling to see it through, it cannot be used as an easy excuse to close The Stag. Theatre in general is incredibly strong and thriving in the UK during normal times and will no doubt bounce back when conditions allow. Therefore, on behalf of Kentish Opera and the many groups potentially affected, I urge you all to have a serious rethink about the long-term effects the decision to close would have on numerous lives. We all look forward to good news from the Council in due course.
781.	I am writing in support of the Stag Theatre. It is an integral part of life here in Sevenoaks. We have been to many excellent pantos over the years and love being able to pop into town for the cinema. It gives wonderful opportunities to children to participate in theatre and provides jobs to local people. Please vote to support the Stag Theatre.
782.	I understand that Sevenoaks Town Council will be considering on 29 June whether it can provide further financial support to the Stag. I should be grateful if you would pass my comments below to the Council members in advance of that meeting. The Stag Theatre and Cinema play an invaluable part of Sevenoaks life. As a family, we like most of the community, have benefitted greatly over the years from being able to watch films, plays, the pantomime and concerts locally. We have also had the pleasure

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	<p>of watching our children participate in events at the Stag. Furthermore the Stag attracts visitors to Sevenoaks who then frequent local shops, pubs and restaurants which helps them remain financially viable. In short the Stag contributes significantly to the vibrancy of the Town.</p> <p>I understand that you will be considering on 29 June, whether you can provide further financial support to the Stag in order to allow it to remain viable. I urge you strongly to provide such support for all the reasons outlined above. Should the Stag have to close due to lack of financial support it would be a huge loss to Sevenoaks</p>
783.	<p>I am just writing to ask the Council to support The Stag Theatre as it is a valuable community asset.</p> <p>My daughter attends The Lewis Project charity group there on a Monday eve which has been an enormous benefit to her mental health. She also regularly attends The House In The Basement youth club which again has allowed her a safe space to be with her friends. I am sure other groups would lose out to if the building was no longer available to use.</p> <p>I am also a leader with the Otford Guide Unit and we bring our girls to the pantomimes each year. Many of them have even performed in the Sevenoaks Players' panto.</p> <p>It is great that we have a cinema in the town and it is often used as a "safe" first trip to the cinema with friends for young teens when leaving them at say Bluewater just seems to overwhelming.</p> <p>All of this is not even mentioning all of the great professional acts that perform there each year along with the amateur performers like the local schools and dance troupes.</p> <p>I hope the Council will commit to keeping the Stag open for all these great reasons.</p>
784.	<p>I appreciate the financial pressures for the council . Please try and keep the stag , it brings people to the town shops and restaurants and serves many people in Sevenoaks and the surrounding area.</p>
785.	<p>I am a member of the Kentish Opera and the closure of the Stag could mean the end of our group. Kentish Opera has been performing at the Stag for many years bringing opera to the local people of Sevenoaks and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>Please reconsider your decision to close it.</p>
786.	<p>I am writing to request that Sevenoaks Town Council help save the Stag Theatre from having to close because of mounting debt due to the Coronavirus pandemic. It is a much loved local theatre which my husband and I use a lot in normal circumstances, such as going to the cinema and live shows. I know it's panto is very popular and the whole community would not want to lose it.</p> <p>I urge you to please help save it from closure. Many thanks.</p>
787.	<p>I am writing today to lend my support to The Stag Theatre in these difficult times.</p> <p>I feel it is so important that we do all we can to help retain this vital Sevenoaks community facility and hub, I hope the Council will consider funding The Stag to help them get through the coming months whilst restrictions continue to be lifted and people slowly regain confidence.</p>
788.	<p>I have been made aware of an impending decision on the Stag Theatre which may lead to its closure.</p>

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	<p>This would be a devastating loss to the local area in terms of entertainment - so few theatres remain. It would particularly hit smaller groups, amateur groups and the like, when they are already struggling.</p> <p>As a member of one of these groups myself (Kentish Opera) and my son a member of another (School of Panto), both of whom have used the Stag in the last year, I implore those considering this decision to consider fully the impact it is likely to have both on local theatre and on Sevenoaks town centre itself. If there is any way that the Stag can remain open, I ask them to please find it.</p>
789.	<p>We are writing to lend our support for keeping the Stag open. We are regular users of The Stag and we run a small B &amp; B very close to the centre of town. We frequently have guests who are visiting Sevenoaks to attend a performance at The Stag. It brings a lot of business into the town. The coffee shop upstairs is a quiet and spacious place to either meet a friend or indeed as I have done many times, to have a small business meeting. It serves excellent cakes too!</p> <p>Everything needs to be done to save the historic Stag.</p>
790.	<p>I am writing to let you know how important I feel it is for the Stag Theatre to remain open in Sevenoaks. I am currently 19 and have been attending events at the Stag Theatre since I was 8.</p> <p>As a current music student, I feel that the arts are an essential part of life, and many people of my generation use the Stag for the cinemas and also watching the Christmas Pantomime every year. Over the lockdown period, many Britons have turned to TV, books and films, as a means of occupying oneself. This further reinforces the importance of the arts for entertaining people and relaxing them after work and school. I think that social distancing measures would be easy to be put into place for the cinemas, and if it closed it would mean that we'd have to travel further up to Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge to see our favourite shows and films. This is not ideal for people who don't drive or cannot afford to be insured on their parent's cars.</p> <p>I hope you will consider keeping the Stag Theatre open for these reasons.</p>
791.	<p>It is vitally important that the Stag Theatre is kept open. It provides an incredible resource to our locality. It also saves the senior citizens (me) of travelling to London for live theatre with all the hassle and cost.</p>
792.	<p>I would just like to express my approval for the council financially helping the Stag to remain open. For my family it is very important socially and we enjoy the events, cinema, comedy and theatre. In our opinion it is more important than the leisure centre, local bus services and some green spaces so we would be very sad if it closed.</p>
793.	<p>I'm writing in support of the Stag Theatre as I understand a decision about its future is due to be taken in the near future.</p> <p>The Stag Theatre supports the commercial heart of Sevenoaks in so many ways. The Town Council's support for the Theatre since it was saved was greatly appreciated and you have collectively done a fantastic job in its commercial viability and success. It would be a huge loss to our town if it closed. I'm sure that in the same way the Stag was originally saved, we could secure enough funding through the community to rescue it again.</p> <p>If it goes, it would be a bigger commercial loss to the community and would impact the viability of the town's nightlife/restaurants.</p> <p>Please, consider this larger impact in your decision making and let's rally around as a community to safeguard this valuable community asset.</p> <p>Thank you for all you've done for our town and continue to do.</p>
794.	<p>I am writing to ask that in these difficult times the council feels able to save the Stag Theatre. I'm sure there is a call in every direction on your purse strings, but our cinema and theatre are an integral part of the town.</p>

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	<p>It brings people to town and is a wonderful resource for our young people who both perform there and see their first live shows there in a safe, friendly environment. The town has in the past voiced its strong feelings to save our theatrical scene, I hope we can do so again.</p>
795.	<p>Please accept this as confirmation of my family's support to keep The Stag Theatre open. It provides such an important role in the community in hosting a variety of live performances across many genres as well as the cinema. The pantomime is a true community highlight for the year and provides a wonderful opportunity for young performers to work with professionals. I fear that should it close, it will be difficult to re-let such a building so it is likely to fall into disrepair.</p>
796.	<p>I feel it is very important to keep The Stag . It is such an important part of a very special town with amazing schools and an important part of its history . To lose it would be a real waste - so important for young and old alike. It is the essence of the community .</p>
797.	<p>I am writing to ask that Sevenoaks Town Council move to support the Stag Theatre. I have been a local resident for over 40 years and have seen many changes in the area. But the Stag has been a central and valuable cultural part of the town. It would be a tragedy if it were allowed to die. I urge you to give the Stag whatever financial support it needs to recover following lock down. I am sure a majority of local residents would agree.</p>
798.	<p>I wish to express my strong support for the continued cultural, educational and social contribution afforded to the community by the Stag Theatre. The Theatre provides a platform for a wide range of local performing arts group and companies, both professional and amateur; it has assisted young artists in their career development; and the wide tastes catered for in the broad spectrum of programmes ensures substantial local participation and enjoyment. Most productions at the Stag are unique and could not be enjoyed elsewhere. Most fundamentally, the Stag plays a valued educational role both to youth and adults alike. All the benefits I have mentioned are social benefits and difficult to quantify in money terms. Nevertheless, they all need to be recognised and carefully valued. I firmly believe that the total social benefits enjoyed from the Stag Theatre by the local community comfortably exceed the subsidy costs. I therefore strongly recommend the continued support of the Theatre.</p>
799.	<p>I am a Sevenoaks resident (raised here and then returned to live with my family as an adult), and an experienced fundraiser, bid writer and business development manager. My last role was as Head of Development at ..... , a national charity based in London, responsible for all the statutory, Lottery and trust income. I now run a local award-winning micro bakery, baking bread to order and biking it round to my local community. I am passionate about community and I want to add my voice to the huge number of people who are desperate not to lose the Stag Theatre; such an important part of our town identity, history and economy.  Have you considered running a Crowdfunder campaign to boost finances short-term? I know that there is a push for donations to support the £250k shortfall, and I worry that people feel that the odd £20 donation is unlikely to make a dent in this and so won't bother. If you set up a Crowdfunder, people will be able to see progress towards the target, will understand more transparently what the money is needed for, and can be motivated by rewards in return for donations, for example: £25: redeemable against 2 tickets once reopened + popcorn £60: annual family pass £100: family best seats in the house for the pantomime</p>

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	<p>£100: ticket to an exclusive Q&amp;A with a Director or star of an upcoming film (I'm sure with some persuasive requests, we could find a filmmaker or celebrity prepared to back this campaign. One of my old colleagues is the CEO of the UK Cinema Association so I can talk to him)</p> <p>£250: annual family pass, ticket to Q&amp;A plus your name on a star in the foyer etc</p> <p>Knowing their money was going to reap a reward (which would be a very low cost to the theatre), seeing the progress against a target, and knowing that the money will only be taken from their account if the goal is reached (if you select the 'all or nothing' approach), would be both motivating and reassuring for donors.</p> <p>Just quick ideas as I know there is a decision deadline, but I would be happy to discuss further, or support in some way.</p>
<p>800.</p>	<p>I am writing in support of keeping the Stag open.</p> <p>We are a family of 4 with 2 teenagers. We use the Stag as our preferred cinema and also attend some of the theatre/stage productions.</p> <p>Indeed, my daughter was due to play the role of Annie in the Rare Production's show originally scheduled for May...</p> <p>When we attend, we usually make use to the refreshments on offer.</p> <p>We would be VERY saddened to see it close. Would you need to set up another fundraising attempt to see the theatre continuing to thrive? We would be happy to give something towards that if needed.</p> <p>Please keep it going!</p>
<p>801.</p>	<p>Please add my wife and me to your list of supporters of the Stag theatre that it should stay open.</p> <p>At its simplest it is a very pleasant cinema with good projection and a well-mannered audience.</p> <p>Next, we enjoy theatrical events particularly ballet such as Giselle recently and are disappointed that because of lock-down the performance of Lakme has had to be called off.</p> <p>Finally, we enjoy so much events with youth casts from many of our local schools such as dancing and pantomimes. These are fantastic occasions especially for us as our grand daughter is always keen to take part and enjoys the song and dance routines immensely.</p> <p>We would urge all of you town council members to maximise efforts to ensure we can continue to have a local theatre. We live just 4 miles away in Ide Hill/Sundridge and at our age do not wish to have travel much further for our cine/theatre entertainment.</p>
	<p>We have heard that the Stag's future is not certain ..we would like to add our names to those pleading with you to keep it open as our lovely local theatre and cinema!!</p> <p>It is an absolute gem and an important part of Sevenoaks community. If we don't keep these gems Sevenoaks will lose its lovely character!</p>
<p>802.</p>	<p>I wish to lodge my vote against the potential closure of the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>My reasons for this are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Town centres and retailers are finding it hard enough at the moment and need as many additional attractions as possible. Indeed this is how the future of shopping centres is likely to evolve with more "experiences" and leisure attractions to supplement the retail and F&amp;B offers.</li> <li>2. All the economic/business benefits to the local area by drawing shoppers and diners to the town centre who otherwise would go elsewhere.</li> </ol>

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	<p>3. Creating a vibrant arts “hub” for local children to gain early experience on the stage.</p> <p>4. Without the people that attend the events that are hosted there many of the local restaurants will fail leading to more empty shop fronts and lower rates receipts for the council.</p> <p>5. It is a differentiator from “ordinary” high streets.</p> <p>If anything, I would suggest that the building receives a capital injection to refurbish and make it more up to date with more comfortable seating and air conditioning to make it better suited for modern leisure expectations.</p> <p>To summarise - the “cost” to the local area of losing the Stag is huge in both economic and social ways.</p>
803.	<p>So important for the town to have a venue for cultural events ... from films to dance &amp; music. Perhaps create a task force with local experts on marketing, event management &amp; finance expertise?</p>
804.	<p>Extinction Rebellion Sevenoaks would like to add our voice to the “Save The Stag Campaign”.</p> <p>If there is anything practical we can do to protect this valuable local community resource we would be happy to help.</p>
805.	<p>I write to urge you to keep The Stag Theatre open.</p> <p>I have been going there since I was a small child (in the 1960’s) and it is so nice to support a local venue in the heart of the town.</p> <p>For preference I always choose to see films at The Stag rather than the Odeon in Tunbridge Wells. The Stag is a great centre for diverse cinema, theatre &amp; music performances.</p> <p>It is so important to keep the heritage of this small town, now, more than ever.</p>
806.	<p>We are writing to show our support for The Stag and to hope that the council will do everything possible to help save this fabulous venue.</p> <p>This is really the only thing in Sevenoaks that teenagers and children have – there is nothing else. It is wonderful for them to be able to walk to this venue and meet their friends.</p> <p>My daughter has enjoyed participating in many dance shows here and as pupils of Lady Boswells have enjoyed holding our annual production here.</p> <p>Our family has been supporting the Stag for many years and especially the Panto which has been a long-standing tradition.</p> <p>To lose the Stag would be very sad and signify the beginning of a downfall for the town which will suffer – I urge the council to help as much as possible.</p>
807.	<p>The Stag in Sevenoaks is home to The Lewis Project, this charity is very important to me as it provides a space to meet fellow young musicians who may have experienced issues with their mental health. Without this space to meet, I believe it will negatively impact on all of those who regularly attend the Lewis project and other clubs / events hosted at the stag.</p>
808.	<p>I have been informed that the STAG theatre in Sevenoaks is under threat of closure. If this is indeed true then I am very concerned.</p> <p>The STAG theatre is the heartbeat of our community. It is an invaluable resource that caters for all ages of residents.</p> <p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for 12 years and we visit the STAG for various events throughout the year.</p>



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	<p>Our annual visit to the Pantomime is the official start of Christmas in our household. I am in no doubt that my children will speak fondly of the various Panto's we have seen in adulthood. It provides high quality, fun entertainment for all.</p> <p>My daughter has attended several of the school Love to Dance performances at the STAG. This is an incredible event that gives so many children the opportunity to perform on stage to large audience. Every time I have attended, the event has been absolutely packed and my daughter and her friends have absolutely loved the experience.</p> <p>We regularly visit the cinema as a family and love the variety of films on offer. I have also visited the cinema with friends to watch some theatre live showings. This was wonderful. So many theatre productions are incredibly expensive and simply not accessible to lots of people. These live events allow so many people to experience high quality theatre productions.</p> <p>Over the years we have attended the STAG for many other sort of things including ballet shows, birthday parties, soft play, holiday Silly Billy shows.</p> <p>Please do not let this amazing community place to close.</p>
809.	<p>I am writing to express my sadness at learning about the possible future of the Stag and wish this to be included as an email of support. I have made a donation but wanted to also send this.</p> <p>I LOVE having the Stag on my doorstep. Over the years I have been to the cinema, seen shows, had coffee and cake in the cafe, helped with the delivery of school shows held there, attended meetings and fairs there and once hired a screen for a charity film night. I was also lucky enough (thanks to you and others) to hold the launch interview for my first book there: a moment I will never forget. It is a fantastic building set up in such a way that it enables all (young and old) to come together for a variety of sessions, shows, chats, events: it would be a huge loss if it were to disappear.</p> <p>We need to keep The Stag for future generations to enjoy!</p> <p>I hope this email can be added to the many many more you receive and that this will help make a difference to saving The Stag.</p>
810.	<p>I have heard that there are plans to close the theatre. I know that these are particularly difficult times but it would be a terrible shame and a tremendous loss to the community if it were to close. I write as a patron as well as a regular performer for the last thirty years or so. I do hope the council will use their best endeavours to keep it going and secure its future.</p>
811.	<p>I'm writing to give my support to the above campaign. All 4 in our family use the Stag for cinema, live music and live comedy.</p> <p>It would be a great loss to the town and local restaurants if it were to close. I would happily pay extra on the council tax to keep it in business.</p>
812.	<p>I wish to support the campaign to 'Save The Stag'.</p> <p>The venue is of great benefit to the community. Both my children have performed there in numerous concerts. It is an excellent venue for young people to being a performing career, or pursue a hobby. Many of their friends have participated in the plays etc too. It is a venue for both local amateur productions and for professional from diverse backgrounds.</p> <p>It is great to have a local cinema and not have to travel to T Wells or Bluewater.</p> <p>Loss of the Stag would not only harm the community as a lack of local facility for amateur and professional productions but it also acts as a venue to draw people from a wider area to come to the town and use other facilities.</p> <p>Loss of the Stag would be extremely detrimental to the community.</p>
813.	<p>We are a family who supports the Stag</p>

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	<p>The stag brings people into Sevenoaks, it supports local charities. It gives opportunities to young people through work experience and volunteering. We hope you decide to keep the stag open</p>
814.	<p>Please do all you can to keep our fantastic community theatre 'The Stag' open</p>
815.	<p>I know that times are very hard for many businesses at the moment due to the pandemic but please, please help save our Stag theatre.</p> <p>Our family use the cinema regularly and look forward to the many music events that take place right on our doorstep!</p> <p>It is a much-loved symbol of the town and is at the heart of the community.</p> <p>People come from far and wide to use it and it would be sorely missed, not just by locals.</p> <p>Please save our Stag!</p>
816.	<p>I understand there is a forthcoming discussion on the future of the Stag Theatre. I'd just like to say that we very much support the Stag. We attend the pantomime, various comedy nights and is always our first choice for cinema. The Stag adds to Sevenoaks appeal for visitors too bringing in valuable business for local restaurants, bars and shops. There will be a huge hole left in the character of Sevenoaks without the Stag. I urge you to continue to support it.</p>
817.	<p>I am emailing to express my strong support for keeping the Stag Theatre open. It provides a much needed local entertainment centre for the entire community .</p>
818.	<p>I am very sad to hear that the Stag May have to close. It's a great place for the children's theatre group, watching cinema and shows and as a focal point of the town. I do hope that funds can be found to save it.</p>
819.	<p>As a resident of Sevenoaks I urge the Council to support the future of The Stag Theatre. It's loss would take the heart out of the Town.</p>
820.	<p>Please try as best you can to keep The Stag open Enough said in the title of this email. It's so important to have a cultural venue like this that serves the whole community. Put the Council backing behind it, PLEASE!</p>
821.	<p>I would like to give my families support to the Stag Appeal and hope enough people support it for you to give them a grant to re-open and stay open. The Stag has survived many upheavals in its time, but I think now more than ever Sevenoaks Town needs buildings/shops/amenities to stay open to encourage people to get back to the new normal. A shell of a building dark and uninviting does nothing to encourage people in to the town whether they be investors or locals. Please save the Stag and give it a grant to remain open.</p>
822.	<p>Emailing to add my support to keeping The Stag theatre open - I understand this is coming up for review shortly. The Stag plays a really important role in the local community and would be sorely missed.</p>
823.	<p>Please don't close the Stag! It is an important cultural lifeline for many - of all ages and tastes.</p>
824.	<p>I understand that, yet again, a decision is pending on the long-term future of the Stag.</p>

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	<p>Please can I add my support to those who are asking for it to be kept open. I think it is a major addition to the lifeblood of Sevenoaks and it would be a serious loss if closed down. It must reduce car pollution by avoiding trips to Tunbridge Wells or elsewhere. Of course, I recognise that financial considerations are important but I'm not sure enough has been done to publicise the subsidy, if any, required to keep it afloat and what that means to each Council Tax paying household. Perhaps this might focus the minds of the local population on the issue. I make sure that I support it as often as possible and would like the opportunity to go on doing so.</p>
825.	<p>I've heard rumours that the Stag Theatre might be closing. I think this would be catastrophic for Sevenoaks and those that live there. The theatre is the centre of a thriving community, with youth groups using the space - my own children have performed on stage frequently there - and brings huge numbers into the town for theatre, cinema and pantos, generating income not just for the Stag but for other shops, restaurants and coffee bars in the area.</p> <p>If the Stag goes, Sevenoaks will have lost something very important - a hub for arts of all kinds in the centre of the town. I urge you to support the Stag.</p>
826.	<p>I understand that the town council have been approached by the Stag theatre for support during the COVID-19 lockdown.</p> <p>I hope that you can do all that you can to prevent the stag from closing. The theatre is a central part of the community here in Sevenoaks and without the theatre and the facilities at offers in terms of a cinema and a stage for life performances were local people can take part in our town will become like any other and commuter town and a lesser place.</p> <p>Both my children regularly perform on the stage here and have an amazing time doing so. During the last call for assistance from the stag our family sponsored a seat in the theatre itself in remembrance of my mother and therefore this holds a special meaning to us as a family and we would not wish to see this simply disappear for lack of Funding. We dearly hope that you can find a way to support this local icon which in turn provides amazing facilities for the community as a whole and future generations.</p>
827.	<p>It has come to my attention that The Stag theatre is under threat of closure. I would like express my concern that this would be a tragedy for Sevenoaks, especially with regards to the support it offers to local charities etc. I hope that the council will think again about closure.</p>
828.	<p>I understand you are making a decision soon about the Stag theatre.</p> <p>This is such a vital community resource it needs to keep open. Myself and my family have attended many a show, concert of the cinema there. It will be sorely missed if it closes.</p> <p>I know recent times must have had a huge Financial impact on the council but hopefully there will be brighter times ahead in the not too distant future.</p>
829.	<p>We would be very upset if the Stag theatre and cinema were to close. We have always supported the film's and shows that are shown there. As I write we have tickets for a dance show that had to be cancelled. We have lived in Sevenoaks for 35 years and would be devastated to see the Stag go!!!</p>
830.	<p>I would like to register my support for keeping The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks open. It is an important facility for the community.</p> <p>It is a great venue for local dance, arts and drama groups to perform in a professional environment - for many young people this will be their first taste of performing in a proper theatre</p> <p>It is a hub for young people - keeping them off the streets and out of trouble.</p> <p>It is a good venue for up and coming acts to perform in - they may not be able to afford larger venues - The Stag gives them a great platform.</p>

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	<p>The cinema is perfect for local people - no need to clog up roads and car parks by visiting larger multiplexes in neighbouring towns - and a great place for youngsters to go to the cinema for the first time with friends. The nearest cinemas are over 10 miles away.</p> <p>All in all, it will be a devastating blow to the community and will affect local businesses too - I regularly visit Sevenoaks to go to the theatre and will dine in the High Street beforehand. My visits to the High Street will be limited to a handful of times a year if The Stag disappears, and I know others for whom this is the case.</p> <p>Please re-consider this closure.</p>
831.	<p>I was horrified to hear of the proposal to close the Stag permanently.</p> <p>Having been a regular visitor to the cinema there over the last 36 years since I moved to the town and, having performed there in live theatre with the Sevenoaks Players and Kentish Opera, I believe that it would be short sighted in the extreme for the Council to close one of the few cultural hubs left for residents. Sevenoaks risks becoming nothing more than a soulless dormitory town.</p> <p>While I appreciate that the forced closure due to Covid has damaged the venue's finances, I, and I am sure many others, would be happy to donate to help with the shortfall.</p> <p>I would urge the council to think again and preserve this crucial amenity for the town.</p>
832.	<p>Am writing to endorse the support for the campaign to save The Stag in Sevenoaks.</p>
833.	<p>I am emailing about the possible permanent closure of the beloved Stag Theatre. I just wanted to register my support of this venue that I have witnessed in all its forms for the past 45 years I have lived in Sevenoaks and more recently Tonbridge.</p> <p>As a child, my first cinema experience was at the cinema there. I saw Snow White, aged 6 and will cherish the memory of being treated to chocolate raisins as I settled down in the velvet seats, craning my neck to see over the seat in front. I grew up performing various shows there via youth theatre groups and continued using the cinema as a meeting place for my fellow film buff schoolmates. As an adult, when I returned to the area, I have enjoyed matinées there with my elderly parents, my mother regularly performed concerts there with the Sevenoaks Philharmonic Choir. After my child was born, I regularly took full advantage of the parents' social 'coffee morning and play' events held there - a godsend in those early months of lonely first time parenthood, not to mention the children's theatre shows that have enlivened many an afternoon.</p> <p>I guess what I am saying is the Stag has been a much loved and valued venue, which has featured as a reliable source of social life and entertainment throughout my life as it caters for all ages. The thought of it no longer existing is desperately sad and would be a huge loss to Sevenoaks and the wider communities. It would be sorely missed by myself and future generations of this area if it were to close.</p> <p>As a Tonbridge resident, we regularly use the Stag as an easily accessible cinema and theatre - the summer festival programme Performances there being a highlight. If it were to be saved, it will continue to be a huge asset in an area, where arts venues are already generally scarce - a glorious jewel in Sevenoaks' crown and a tragic loss should it fail to survive the Covid restrictions.</p> <p>I desperately hope it stays.</p>
834.	<p>As soon as The Stag can reopen my family will be paying to see films and shows at least once a week. It's a local facility we treasure and will support as soon as you allow us.</p> <p>PLEASE KEEP IT OPEN for long enough to generate the money required</p>
835.	<p>As a Sevenoaks resident and frequent visitor to the Stag Theatre with our young children, grandparents and friends, I email to show support and encouragement in order to do what is necessary to save the Stag from closure.</p>

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	<p>It is a place for all ages, a hub for Sevenoaks residents and the annual pantomime is Christmas' icing on the cake. Please save the Stag!</p>
836.	<p>I'm writing in support of the stag. As a family of 4, we enjoy the live shows, and cinema. I know it is of enormous importance to the local community and fully deserves to be supported during this difficult time. We have personally already donated to their fund.</p>
837.	<p>I wanted to send this email to say how devastating it would be for Sevenoaks to lose the Stag. As a family we use it for the cinema and shoes and also annually for the pantomime. Two of my sisters travel annually from Bristol just so they can bring their families to the Sevenoaks pantomime with us. I really hope that the Sevenoaks Town Council will provide them with a much needed grant so they can reopen! It is a huge asset to our community and I think local people would be very unimpressed if the Town Council decided not to support it and it then had to close for good!</p>
838.	<p>I understand that the Stag is making an application for a grant. I would be hugely supportive of taxpayers money being spent in this way. We moved to Sevenoaks about 6 years ago and the annual highlight is the Christmas Panto to which we take family and friends every Year! In addition, we have been to a huge variety of shows and films throughout the year. Having a theatre (and Leisure Centre for that matter) helps elevate a town and make it a destination for people outside of Sevenoaks which then brings trade to the local pubs, restaurants, shops etc The Stag is also a coming of age place for the children- you feel very safe letting your son or daughter have their first trip to the cinema to the Stag. It really would be a huge loss to the local community to lose the Stag so please can you support their application for a grant. Many thanks and I look forward to a positive outcome!</p>
839.	<p>I have read with great dismay that The Stag theatre faces an uncertain future due to the current Covid crisis. The events held at the Stag are woven into the fabric of Sevenoaks family life, from the Comedy nights to the annual panto. The Stag means a huge amount to the community, the prosperity and cultural heritage of our town.  I have contributed to the fundraising effort but would obviously like to know that our elected representatives are also willing to support such an important community asset. I understand that the Stag is run as a charity, perhaps the council can look at new ways to resource and run the theatre in order to secure its future and stability.</p>
840.	<p>I am writing to you about the possible closure of the Stag theatre. As a Sevenoaks Youth Counciller I know how much the Stag means to the youth of Sevenoaks. We go there lots of the time to meet up and watch a movie. I think that it would be incredibly sad if the Stag theatre was to close as it has been a massive part of my childhood. I go to the pantomime every year and whenever a new movie comes out that I want to see I always go to the Stag. The Stag is and has always been an integral part of Sevenoaks and to see it close would be terrible. It truly is wonderful for the community and I have met lots of friends there on their film in a week course. The Stag is a massive part of my life and I would really appreciate it if you could accept their grant.</p>
841.	<p>I believe that there is some discussion surrounding the future of The Stag Theatre. I very much hope that it will reopen and remain a wonderful part of our community.</p>

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842.	<p>Please do not close the Stag. It is a wonderful place to go in Sevenoaks &amp; gives pleasure to young &amp; old. It also brings business to cafes/restaurant/pubs &amp; brings income through parking charges.</p> <p>Please keep it open.</p>
843.	<p>I'm writing to ask that you please approve the Stag's application for a grant. The Stag is such a huge part of the lives of so many people who live in Sevenoaks. We have so many lovely Stag memories, ranging from so many wonderful Christmas pantomimes to Film in a Week screenings, Dance Act performances, SSO concerts, numerous cinema trips etc etc etc.</p> <p>It is a wonderful Sevenoaks institution so please do all you can to help preserve it.</p>
844.	<p>I am communicating regarding the news I have heard that Sevenoaks council are considering closing the stag theatre down.</p> <p>As a resident of Sevenoaks I think this is the wrong thing to do. Currently the stag puts on such a superb choice of events and activities such as cinema theatre clubs for youngsters and much more which are all widely used. For example, the cinema for young mums and babies gives a "lifeline" to new mothers who might otherwise feel extremely isolated and thus will have a negative impact on mental health.</p> <p>As the stag has such a comprehensive choice of activities in our area means people don't have to travel further afield and thus having impact on the environment. Spending money in the car park helps keep economy ticking over as well as ticket sales for so many events.</p> <p>As a "safeplace" and a centre of the community I would be happy to pay extra per year in my rates to keep it going rather than losing it.</p> <p>So please, save our stag and DO NOT close it down it is a unique and much-loved part of Sevenoaks.</p>
845.	<p>Good afternoon. I strongly believe the stag is the heart of our beloved Sevenoaks. We need to try our best to keep it opened please. Enough of charity shops and estate agents. Is time to save what is really needed.</p>
846.	<p>I am supporting keeping the stag open</p>
847.	<p>I am writing to express my absolute support for keeping The Stag theatre open. In a small but flourishing town like Sevenoaks it is crucial that this local arts facility is kept open for both local residents and visitors to our town. The cinema enables us to have an evenings entertainment while eating and drinking in local venues adding to the business we would want to keep open here. The only other options would see us spending our money on out of town venues.</p> <p>My family and I have regularly visited the theatre For a variety of Performances that we would not have been able to get to elsewhere.</p> <p>I strongly hope that you are able to decide to keep the Stag open.</p>
848.	<p>I have recently heard that the future of the stag theatre is at stake. I am devastated to hear of this havng been visiting the theatre for many years, since my late father was involved with the restoration and building of the new stage.</p> <p>As a family of 5 we use the stag and cinema all throughout the year - from the cinema to the panto as well as comedy nights etc in between. It would be a huge tragedy to loose such a wonderful part of the community and as such I hope you and the council will do all within your power to retain it.</p> <p>We have made a donation to the fundraising page.</p>

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849.	<p>I am writing in advance of the council meeting to consider funding for the Stag Theatre. As a Sevenoaks resident, I consider the Stag Theatre to be part of the lifeblood of the town. My husband and I first moved here around 13 years ago when the theatre was sadly closed. We were delighted when it was reopened and visited many times to see both films and stage shows.</p> <p>Six or so years ago, we took our children to see their first pantomime there(Aladdin) and it has become a well-loved family tradition every year.</p> <p>Both of my children have taken part in shows at the Stag, my daughter enjoying Chance to Dance last year, and both of them taking part in the Sevenoaks Prep centenary show-Poptastic.</p> <p>The cinema is also a big draw - many years ago I enjoyed the parent and baby screenings (a little bit of normality!) and now enjoy taking the children as well as visits with friends. The convenience of a local cinema rather than a trip to Bluewater or Tunbridge Wells is not to be underestimated and potentially more attractive now than ever, when visiting large shopping centres is surely going to be less popular.</p> <p>The Stag is also a valuable business facility; I have exhibited my business at the Business Show on three occasions and also taken part in amateur theatre productions which have played in the Plaza Suite. Again, when my children were small, I used to bring them to Gymboree which ran there at the time.</p> <p>The thought of the Stag being closed again, as it was when I first moved to Sevenoaks, really is unimaginable. The town would be losing a very valuable resource used by both the community and local businesses which I do not think can be easily replaced and which, were it given funding to remain afloat, would surely support further income generation within the town.</p>
850.	<p>We write due to concerns that a vote on 29/6 might bring about the closure of the theatre.</p> <p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for 10 months and have been thrilled with the productions and movies we have been able to see at the Stag. The theatre brings in so many people to our town. The theatre adds a certain 'something' to the nature of the town. The theatre provides employment. If you vote it away the theatre will never be easily restarted.</p> <p>Please vote wisely.</p>
851.	<p>We are just an average family that wants to wholeheartedly request that both the council the Arts Council and Central Government offer you the best support possible. My daughter has her annual Variety show here with the excellent Dance Act Theatre school and it would help her both physically emotionally and give her confidence a boost also</p> <p>We would provide support financially where we can by visiting the local pubs and restaurants beforehand and within the Stag with Interval drinks sweets and ice creams. Please do what you can everyone to keep this awesome local and regional Theatre and Arts facility open.</p> <p>Thank you from an average family</p>
852.	<p>Please take this email as wholehearted support from our entire family in Sevenoaks for the continuation of the Stag</p>
853.	<p>We've just heard the Stag may be closing! We are very saddened by the possibility and hope that SDC will rethink this and try somehow to keep this valuable town asset open.</p>
854.	<p>Please do not close The Stag, we love this facility and have enjoyed using it as a cinema, theatre venue and also for Our daughter's ballet show, children's school shows etc. It would be a tragedy for Sevenoaks if we lost this wonderful asset.</p> <p>Please SAVE the stag!</p>

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855.	PLEASE SAVE THE STAG. It makes Sevenoaks a much more interesting town with something like a theatre that is also a cinema and a great place for people to meet and enjoy the Arts!!!!
856.	I just heard that The Stag may be under threat and a decision will be made on the 29th June. As a resident of Sevenoaks for more than 13 years I value The Stag immensely and have been to numerous pantos, quiz nights, charity events as well as the cinema regularly. It is an inherent part of the Sevenoaks community and it is the one place where residents of all ages can find entertainment without having to go to TW, Bluewater or London — it would be a terrible loss to the town as it does bring people in and is such an integral part to our community.
857.	I would like to express my, and my family's, support for the Save Our Stag campaign. It is an important institution in this town, offering so much culture within walking distance of my home. Indeed, its presence was one of the deciding factors in our move to Sevenoaks from London. I have been looking forward to taking my kids to both films and performances when they are old enough, especially the pantomime. It would be such a shame to lose that; Sevenoaks would definitely be worse should it close.
858.	Please do all you can to keep this facility open. Even if you must put it in mothballs for some months. It would be such a shame to lose The Stag... it's an incredibly valuable facility at the heart of the town. Fundraising in these strange and difficult times won't be easy... but let's hope that people can come up with some new ways to raise the money to save it.
859.	We would like to register our strongest support for the continued operation of the Stag Theatre. I understand there is a meeting on June 29th to discuss this topic. I believe it would be a travesty for the community if the Stag closes. The impact on local commerce, community spirit and the creative arts would be irreversible. Many of my friends feel the same way and we want to know what we can do there is anything we can do to help, apart from making a donation?
860.	I believe that the Stag Theatre is fundamental to the culture and identity of the town. I have lived here all my life and feel that to allow it to close would be extremely short sighted and be a loss to everyone that lives here. During similar situations in the past the Council has always had the wisdom to support the Theatre. I sincerely hope that this continues.
861.	Please could you be so kind and save The Stag Theatre and offer a grant/funding for this magnificent Theatre to remain open, both my children have performed many time's here for their Dance School, School and for Panto. This allows children to perform in their local village and most importantly to keep the children active and enabling them to carry out their dream. This time has definitely hit many areas of our every day life however, theatre is so important for our children and for us parents to share their enjoyment on stage. Please HELP the Stag Theatre, Sevenoaks
862.	I am writing to plead with you not to close the stag. It is such an important part of the local community I had tickets booked for an evening at the stag, which was cancelled due to covid. I found out there was a call to ask people to donate their refund back , which I did. I wish that the suggestion had been more widely publicised
863.	Please consider Sevenoaks Community and the fantastic and diverse entertainment and opportunities it offers to both customers and others who engage with it. My son wants to volunteer. An opportunity to develop community links and to encourage him to look broader than his own interests. In a changing world these values



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	<p>and key insights can only be developed through charities such as the Stag which offers a range of well managed options in a safe and nurturing way.</p> <p>The range of entertainment is fabulous and it showcases our talented locals along with the heavy-hitters from the West End. A draw card for many looking to move out of London to a fashionable and lively town.</p> <p>Don't close it! We need this facility it can't become the next victim of Coronavirus.</p>
864.	<p>I hear the Stag is under threat.</p> <p>The Stag is such a valuable asset to Sevenoaks and serves so many purposes to so many people. It is a central and critical part of Sevenoaks life.</p> <p>I would like to provide my support to keep it open. I would appreciate any guidance on anything I can do to support keeping it open for the long term.</p>
865.	<p>I am writing to voice my support for the Stag in Sevenoaks and the campaign to save it. The Stag is one of Sevenoaks' greatest assets and whatever needs to be done to keep it running should be done. The town and wider area would be a worse place without the Stag.</p> <p>To do my bit, I have donated to the fund. Please do everything you can to save the Stag.</p>
866.	<p>I am writing to ask that the town council do all they can to support The Stag in staying open. It is one of the most important institutions in our wonderful town. My sons have benefitted from drama classes, pantomimes and the cinema. I often attend comedy shows, theatre performances, and the cinema. It's such an important resource for not just the residents of Sevenoaks and the surrounding villages but plays such a huge role in bringing people from outside of the area, which in turn helps all the other businesses.</p> <p>My boyfriend's parents volunteer there and I know that is a role they love and it is similar for so many volunteers, both old and young, who benefit from being able to give their time to help there.</p> <p>At this time when so many businesses are at risk I strongly believe we need to do all we can as a community to keep the key institutions alive. Please do all you can to ensure we don't lose The Stag.</p>
867.	<p>I have lived in Sevenoaks for the last 16 years. I am also a volunteer at The Stag. The shows, especially the pantomime, coffee meetings and general socialising has been such a joy for all my family and friends. Please please keep it going it belongs to our town.</p>
868.	<p>Pls keep the stag open even if it means additional council tax It's the heart of the town.</p>
869.	<p>Please keep the Stag Theatre open if possible! It is a superb facility that is a key hub of the community.</p>
870.	<p>As a regular visitor, I was shocked to hear that The Stag Theatre is at risk of being closed .. Not only is this a great community venue that allows opportunities for young people but it also brings people into Sevenoaks which in turn will support the success of other local businesses</p> <p>The Stag gives opportunity to young people through work experience and volunteering which is essential to their life skills. My daughter volunteered here and it gave her confidence and support at a time when her mental health was at risk.</p> <p>As an active member of our local community I strongly back the Save Our Stag Campaign.</p> <p>We should be looking at ways we can finance The Stag moving forward so that it continues to be a focal point for the town and visitors to Sevenoaks</p>
871.	<p>Please please please do all we can to save the Stag theatre, it's such an asset for all ages.</p> <p>We are regular panto, theatre and cinema goers, Stag is our first choice.</p>

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	<p>Our sons have both used and performed there, it is integral to some of their and our happiest family memories. Let's not lose this fantastic Sevenoaks cornerstone.</p>
872.	<p>Please keep The Stag theatre open. I have used the theatre for years, whilst as a teenage growing up locally and now through the years as a mum with two teenagers. I love coming to the cinema there and enjoying all the shows. My children have danced, sung and acted on the stage there and grown in confidence in themselves because of it. The Stag theatre also brings people into Sevenoaks which we desperately need right now more than ever. It gives the town a heart and soul and is special for Sevenoaks. It's extremely valuable for many reasons and I implore you to save it.</p>
873.	<p>I am getting in touch to add my support to the campaign to save The Stag in Sevenoaks. I don't live locally, but in Oxford, and have friends and family in Sevenoaks and the surrounding area. We have often visited The Stag and have been impressed with what is on offer there. It appears to be an essential community space, providing opportunities for people of different ages and widespread interests to use the facilities and enjoy the entertainment provided. I really hope the Town Council can do everything in its power to support The Stag during these difficult times and allow it to thrive and develop in the future.</p>
874.	<p>As I understand the Council has thoughts and plans to close the Stag Theatre. I find it quite upsetting that this is the plan. I would ask the Council to reconsider and think what it would mean to Sevenoaks as part of the entertainment that is needed to the Town. It would be a great loss.</p>
875.	<p>I am writing to show my support for the campaign to save the stag theatre. As a local resident I feel this theatre is an integral part of our community and cannot be allowed to close. I do hope you will share my view.</p>
876.	<p>I'm writing to confirm my support of the stag theatre as I understand there a chance that it may close due to the challenges around COVID-19. I sincerely hope the town council is able to find the funding to keep the theatre running, I believe it benefits the local community significantly, from both an arts and local business perspective and is something we should save.</p>
877.	<p>I have heard that the town council will be making a decision on whether to continue to keep the Stag Theatre open on the 29th June. As a Sevenoaks resident I would like to send a message of support to keeping it open as it is a great local amenity.</p>
878.	<p>Please may I add my support to keeping the Stag Theatre open.</p> <p>It is such an asset to our town: my family visit it regularly for the cinema as well as the live shows, music and pantomime.</p>
879.	<p>I was very concerned to hear that the Stag Theatre may be closing down - I go there regularly with my children to see films and pantomime. I feel it's a major part of the Sevenoaks community.</p>
880.	<p>The Stag is such an asset for our town and one that is very much loved. Feel sure there are so many of us who would be willing to give our time to help in all sorts of ways to save this treasure. Tell us what needs to be done.</p>
881.	<p>It would be crying shame if the theatre closed. I would support the retention of the Stag Theatre.</p>
882.	<p>I just wanted to lodge my support with the Save Our Stag campaign - the theatre is a great resource for our community and the Christmas Panto an annual tradition for family and friends - my group this year is 38 strong, tickets all bought and paid for - it wouldn't be Christmas without it. We also use it for the fantastic comedy nights and the cinema - it's a great venue!</p>

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883.	<p>I am writing to you to express my support for the Stag Theatre. I understand that the council has a meeting on the 29th June to discuss funding and support for the Stag. The theatre forms a vital part of the community and culture of the Sevenoaks district and if it were not to survive, then it would be a massive loss to the area. It provide the main hub for films and performing Arts in the region and if it were to disappear, then I fear that Sevenoaks town centre would decline and lose its appeal as a destination. This is particularly important as we begin to come out of lockdown over the next few months. Speaking to friends, neighbours and colleagues I know that the Stag has broad support across the community so I hope that every effort can be made to support it.</p>
884.	<p>I'm writing in support of the local theatre. The stag means so much to me, my friends and the local community. I've danced countless times on the stage and seen so many films with my friends there. If the stag goes out of business it will leave such a hole in the community, as nowhere else offers the valuable experiences and family activities the Stag does. Please save the Stag Theatre</p>
885.	<p>I visit the Stag frequently, both the theatre and cinema. It would be absolutely tragic if this venue no longer existed. Please do not close the Stag. Once Lockdown has eased I am sure it would be well used once again Also, the coffee shop is great, very good food and reasonably priced.</p>
886.	<p>Wish to support the continuous no help for the Stag theatre which is vital for Sevenoaks</p>
887.	<p>Please do not close the Stag theatre and cinema. It would be such a shame to lose an iconic part of Sevenoaks. My family and I love going to the productions and screenings at the Stag. I hope that you take this into consideration,</p>
888.	<p>This is a simple request that the council do whatever is required to keep the Stag Theatre open. I visit productions at the STAG every 8 weeks or so and loss of this amenity would be a significant loss to our community. Thanks for your attention and your help.</p>
889.	<p>I would very much like to see the Stag theatre stay open. It is such a benefit to our town.</p>
890.	<p>I am writing in support of the save our stag campaign. As a local resident for over 20 years I &amp; my family have loved all the trips we have made to the Stag theatre. It is a unique part of Sevenoaks culture and character. It would be a crying shame for the town to lose this hugely valued and loved asset.</p>
891.	<p>I contact you today as Chairman of The Sevenoaks Players. A local amateur theatre society with very close connections to The Stag. The Stag is a massive part of our society that we use all through the year. Without The Stag we wouldn't be able to offer our hundreds of local members the experience they have come to love. I urge you to support it in its time of need.</p>
892.	<p>Please can I register my support for The Stag, Sevenoaks. I feel it would be a shame for the town to lose this unique asset which I believe is under funding threat, not helped by the coronavirus situation. In the past I have felt that a lack of advertising has been a problem. They have very good things on which I'm not sure people know about. A marketing manager able to</p>

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	<p>promote and push events on social media (Sevenoaks mums network) as well as the more traditional channels wouldn't go amiss.</p> <p>That said the stag is a great local resource. It's local, it's cheaper than the Odeon in Tunbridge Wells, we visit it for productions once or twice a year, the panto in particular, and we would go for more, and we use it for the cinema. My grandmother is 92 and lives in '.....' and the residents frequently watch films at the stag that they couldn't see in Tunbridge Wells as they can't get there.</p> <p>I worry what would go in this site location if the stag were to close, flats? I feel this would lose some of the uniqueness of Sevenoaks town centre and make it like any other generic town centre.</p>
893.	<p>It was brought to my attention that the Town council is considering of closing the Stag theatre Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I would like to voice my opinion that it should be kept open. It will be a great loss for all the residence in Sevenoaks and surrounding areas. Sevenoaks is a growing town with lots of families who will benefit from it. Without it will mean there will be less recreational facilities for the local community especially for teenagers.</p> <p>Please keep the stag theatre open as it is an asset the Local community.</p>
894.	<p>We are a family of five with 3 children based in Otford.</p> <p>The Stag is a rare wonderful establishment that we would be devastated to lose. Local, amazing performances and allows us to support local restaurants afterwards. We have too many big shopping centres and out of town malls.</p> <p>Please please preserve this local business - it would be a travesty to lose it</p>
895.	<p>Pls pls keep it open , it's such a part of Sevenoaks life , it what makes our town special</p>
896.	<p>Please keep the stag open!</p>
897.	<p>We've heard that The Stag May be under threat of closure. We love the Stag and enjoy comedy, theatre, music concerts &amp; cinema there. It's a wonderful facility for the community.</p> <p>Please find a way to keep this heart of Sevenoaks open!! I'm sure that with some planning there will be lots of people willing to help in different ways.</p>
898.	<p>I understand that the Town Council is meeting soon to consider the future of STAG. Like many in the town, I have attended the venue as performer and audience and consider it a vital asset to the town.</p> <p>I have always appreciated the positive attitude of the town council to supporting STAG but must stress at this time of crisis how vital it is that this support must not waver.</p> <p>I think many, like myself, would be willing to give financial backing to STAG but might consider it a futile act if community leaders give up on it.</p> <p>These are difficult times but I believe a clear statement of intent to support STAG will elicit a positive financial response from the community, to everyone's advantage.</p>
899.	<p>I'm writing, as I am sure are many others, in petition for the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. This is a wonderful and much loved resource which needs your support during these unprecedented times. The arts, music and culture have supported every one of us during lockdown and now it's our time to support them as restrictions are slowly lifted. Imagine how lockdown would have been if we didn't have drama to entertain us? Or music to soothe us? The arts are an integral part of our community, and humanity as a whole, so to lose a local theatre to Covid would be a tragedy. Please help it to carry on so we can continue to enjoy the arts together.</p>
900.	<p>I would like to provide my support for the continuation of The Stag, and express our concerns as a family regarding it's possible closure.</p> <p>As an institution we feel it is most important to the community, and is much loved and well used by us throughout the year.</p>

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	<p>The cinema and concerts held there are a very important social aspect to us (and the town), which we are lucky to have, and we would be very upset about it's closure. We greatly look forward to the annual pantomime (both the event itself and it's high quality script/ staging/ effects and cast).</p> <p>We have attended (and thoroughly enjoyed) this event for the past 7 years and it forms an important part of our Christmas activities, as well as the school community we are a part of .....</p> <p>So many towns over the years have lost their local cinemas and theatres, and it would be a great loss to the town and surrounding villages if it was not supported by the council in this difficult time.</p> <p>It would be a real shame and most distressing if this was 'lost'. And what would happen to the building itself? Development of such into housing, for example, would not be something we would want to see.</p>
901.	<p>Please note my support for the Stag Theatre. Whether for the comedy night, music events, magic shows or good films, the Stag has pulled people into Sevenoaks for years and helped create a sense of community.</p> <p>The show was often the reason to gather for dinner and/or drinks beforehand. Furthermore, over the years, the Stag has provided townspeople with valuable opportunities for performing and volunteering.</p> <p>Please ensure that my opinion is heard.</p>
902.	<p>I understand that the Town Council will soon meet to consider the future of the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>We are supporters of the Stag Theatre. We very much hope that you will be able to keep it open. If the issue is a financial one arising from the Covid-19 crisis we would have thought that this is temporary and could be dealt with through a (temporary) increase in ticket prices, a Coronavirus levy being added to council tax bills for a few months or indeed voluntary contributions (which many would be willing to make).</p> <p>We do hope you will be able to keep the Stag Theatre open!</p>
903.	<p>I have heard that The Stag may be closing permanently and wanted to email and express my support for keeping it open.</p> <p>I believe it is important to understand the views of the community. We only moved to Sevenoaks in 2017 but have since enjoyed many visits to The Stag and it would be such a shame to lose this great community asset which we have benefited from since moving here.</p>
904.	<p>The Stag Theatre is a wonderful resource for the whole community. I urge you to keep it open so that many more can continue to enjoy it post Covid-19.</p>
905.	<p>The town has very little to offer men / dads - taking the kids to a movie and a meal in town is one of the things I enjoy doing. Shutting the stag would make Sevenoaks poorer.</p>
906.	<p>I am aware that there is a decision on the 29th June regarding the future of the Stag, I just wanted to voice my support for trying to keep it open.</p> <p>Is there an official petition that you know of? I have also asked all existing and previous round-table members to join in support.</p>
907.	<p>Throughout the UK the entertainment industry has suffered during the Covid19 lockdown and many places are facing financial ruin. This is the case with The Stag and a fundraising exercise is underway to provide support in very difficult circumstances.</p> <p>It is critical for Sevenoaks Town to recognise the importance of the Stag to the local community. It is our only cinema and theatre and occupies a key position in plans to develop the town for the future. It also occupies a building of historical significance which should continue to operate as a theatre.</p>

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	<p>I would urge the Town Council to do all in its power to keep The Stag open, to support the initiatives to ensure its survival as a vital resource the community can ill afford to lose.</p>
908.	<p>I would like to voice my strong support regarding the Stag Theatre.                  Sevenoaks is a family town and the benefit of the stag to support and service the town not only has strong benefit to the families but the knock-on impact to local businesses. Local business that during this difficult time need any additional revenue generated from the existence of the stag and the ancillary services those people choose as they are encouraged to come or remain in the town.                  The stag does excellent work and is unique in a town that needs to retain its unique experience to live and visit here.                  The talent it encourages to bring to the town is exceptional. Please continue to support the existence of the stage cinema and theatre.</p>
909.	<p>Having lived in Sevenoaks and the surrounding areas for most of my life, I am saddened to hear that the Stag is at risk of closure. As the parent to two teenagers the Stag has been an integral part of our family life, whether it be for cinema night, comedy shows, theatre or opera the Stag offers an array of amazing shows and allowed our local state school and ballet class to perform there over the years. Not only that but it supports local charities and gives opportunities to young people through work experience and volunteering.                  I urge the Town Council to come up with a solution that would allow the Stag to remain open. The locals DO use it and it would be sorely missed.</p>
910.	<p>I am writing to add my support in urging the town council to keep The Stag open. It is a very important asset to the town which, once lost, will never return.                  Whilst the council may continue to fund the Stag more community involvement, in leadership roles not just as volunteers as shown at the Trinity Theatre in Tunbridge Wells, would perhaps help rejuvenate the Stag for us all to enjoy.                  I do hope the Town Council accept The Stag is one asset the people of Sevenoaks value and feel very strongly about.</p>
911.	<p>Please just keep the Theatre ....                  Why erode yet more of the local social wellbeing structures?                  Look beyond the end of your nose people!</p>
912.	<p>No need to do such a thing. Please re-think this decision.                  Greedy Developers wanting to make more money? Unbelievable if so! Town Council just keep on wanting to get their fingers on everything! We, as a family often frequent the Stag and it is a buzz. I am surprised it's up for "negotiation"- all for the benefit of someone else's bank account, no doubt!                  Please Save The Stag!</p>
913.	<p>I have heard the news that you are considering closing the stag theatre. This is extremely sad news and I know that a lot of people would be devastated if it was to close. In my opinion It is such an important part of sevenoaks and it would be a massive shame if you did decide to close it. I have been to several live performances there, am very much looking forward to coming to watch my daughter in the variety show in September. I also love having a cinema in Sevenoaks - my kids are older now but used to come to baby cinema all the time when they were babies - that is such a unique offering for the Mums of young kids in the areas. It's great for those who wish to watch a film whilst kids are at school and also in the holidays.                  I join what I'm sure is the long list of people who are petitioning for it to remain a key part of the town.                  Pls do consider keeping it open for the community to enjoy.</p>

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914.	<p>Please please help save the stag theatre through this difficult financial time. It's a heartbeat of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>My son has suffered with self-esteem problems and attending the stag youth theatre had helped him such an enormous amount.</p> <p>As a family we regularly attend events at the stag, and the Christmas pantomime is the highlight of our year. It would be devastating if our community lost this amazing venue.</p>
915.	<p>I have lived in Sevenoaks for the last 16 years. I am also a volunteer at The Stag. The shows, especially the pantomime, coffee meetings and general socialising has been such a joy for all my family and friends. Please please keep it going it belongs to our town.</p>
916.	<p>Sad to hear of the possibility of the Stag closing. I live in Hildenborough and only visit the Stag occasionally. I am not writing for myself, but for the community. There will always be more economical things a council can do that support the arts, but it is worth subsidising as society needs to feed heart and soul as well as minds and pockets. I think the current situation highlights just how important coming together and being I'm community really is. There is little point us being economically sound at the cost of forgetting what it is to be human. I think this is a unique and valuable asset in the area and a much loved place by many. I hope the Council ensure that the Stag can stay open.</p>
917.	<p>Just adding my support for the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>It's such an important part of the Sevenoaks community. We use the cinema regularly. The children's dance teachers hold their dance shows there. We attend the Sevenoaks Orchestra concerts. And of course, annual Panto!</p> <p>It would be such a shame to lose this venue.</p>
918.	<p>I'm writing to say that I think the council should fully support keeping the Stag open going forward. Like many venues, it is not the Stags fault it's not generating any revenue at the moment. It's a key venue in the town bring much fun at Panto time, cinema and shows throughout the year. Please protect our Stag!</p>
919.	<p>Please take this email as total support for The Stag Theatre to remain open</p> <p>So much has changed over the last 3 months and we as a nation NEED our theatres to open again so that there will be a place for society to come together again and be able to have something beautiful and meaningful in our lives once more.</p> <p>WE CANNOT LOSE much more - this is part of our history which is constantly being written. Do not destroy something else just because it's easier to do so rather than fight for it to remain</p>
920.	<p>I have heard via the Sevenoaks community that there is a possibility the theatre may not reopen.</p> <p>I am writing to register my support for this to remain open given the vitally important role this venue plays for all ages in the community.</p>
921.	<p>I have heard that there is a possibility that the Stag might close. I am writing to ask that you keep this open. It is the heart of Sevenoaks. The town will not be the same without it. Not only does it provide the only entertainment in the town but in itself it brings people into the town to use other shops and facilities in the high street. I worry that without this the high street will die. Please do keep this open.</p>
922.	<p>I am writing to ask you to keep the Stag theatre open, I love going there at Christmas for the pantomime. It is also lovely having a cinema in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>This is particularly pertinent in the coming days as in the time of coronavirus, people will have no wish to go to Bluewater which is the next nearest cinema.</p> <p>Please do not close this wonderful aspect of Sevenoaks high street.</p>
923.	<p>I am writing in support of keeping the Stag open. We are a family of 5 with 3 children between 8-11. We love visiting the Stag for movies, concerts and the annual panto trip.</p>

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	<p>It would have such a shame to see it closed. Access to the arts is important for us all and particularly more so now. Please keep it open.</p>
924.	<p>It is of paramount importance to our community that our theatre stay open and supported during this time. The Arts community is being slowly but surely destroyed throughout Britain and funds need to be found NOW to ensure the The Stag remains open. We have lived in Kent for twenty years and rather than go to the cinema or a show in London we use and support The Stag and adore it. There should be more boutique cinemas and theatres in my opinion across the country. What do you need to do to ensure it's continuity? How can we as a community help raise funds ?</p>
925.	<p>As a long time Sevenoaks resident, I am keen to express the need to keep the Stag theatre and cinema open. It has a loyal following around locals and once these strange circumstances have passed, these residents will be keen to resume spending there. It is a hub for the local community and a real point of interest and notable feature of Sevenoaks town.</p>
926.	<p>I have heard that maybe the Stag Theatre is to close. I am writing to you to express how sad they would make my family and lots of our local friends. It is a wonderful theatre and so important to our children and local community. If there is a petition of any kind to support the Stag I and many of my friends would like to sign.</p>
927.	<p>You cannot close the stag because it has been a working theatre and cinema for many many years, it is a go to for all the children of all ages, the children love performing on the stage and everyone that comes to watch all shows love coming to the stag to watch them, it will be a great shame to have it close especially when they do such a great show over Christmas, it is a massive part of our community that you are wanting to close down which will be greatly missed by everyone in and out of the Sevenoaks area.</p>
928.	<p>I'm writing to voice concern that The Stag is under threat of closure. The Stag is at the heart of the community throughout the entire year, offering entertainment of all types for all ages. It is a major attraction to Sevenoaks, boosting the local economy and also a great example of community spirit the fact that it runs 'not for profit' with volunteers giving something back to the community. As a family we regularly enjoy the cinema. Every Christmas we love the pantomime which kicks off our festive season. We even have family travel down from Scotland to come to The Stag panto! Both of our children have performed on the stage which has boosted their confidence and sense of community at a young and important age. We enjoy adult nights out at plays- Les Mis production was particularly high quality and most recently had tickets for Little Mix tribute band. Unfortunately, this was cancelled due to coronavirus. It would be a huge disappointment to lose such a valuable and valued source of entertainment.</p>
929.	<p>I am a local resident, living in Chipstead. I am compelled to write in the hope that all efforts will be made to save The Stag. It has been an integral part of the community over many years. How sad it would be to lose this gem of Sevenoaks, which is a draw to people outside the area also. Apart from the obvious entertainment it provides, there is a much wider value to this establishment, supporting charities, people, opportunities to both the young and old in our community.  Please do not throw all this away.</p>



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	Thank you from a supporter of frequent visitor to the stag.
930.	Please please do all you can to help keep the Stag open. It would be desperately sad if it was to close. We had several performances booked which haven't happened due to lockdown. We use the cinema, shows and cafe. Please please don't let this amazing place close down.
931.	It has come to my attention that The Stag Theatre is in need of funding otherwise it will have to permanently close its doors. I am writing to ask you to fund The Stag Theatre please. As well as offering theatre and cinema, and therefore driving footfall to Sevenoaks Town and its many restaurants and shops, it also offers so many vital opportunities to young children and young adults. My daughter was due to take part in a couple of productions just before lockdown. She was due to perform in the musical Annie, and smaller theatres like The Stag are essential in giving a platform for young performers, who may not get the opportunities of the London Theatres in their early careers. She was also due to perform as part of a music show via Kent Music, an organisation dedicated to providing music opportunities to youngsters and adults alike. The knock on effect of theatre closures means less opportunities to perform, develop a career in the arts and takes away the joy of seeing your loved ones perform. Please do consider funding The Stag to keep it open. It's survival also ensures that Sevenoaks can once again return to being a thriving town centre, as often patrons to The Stag will also eat at the local restaurants and pubs.
932.	Please try and keep open
933.	Please save the Stag theatre, we need it more now than ever before. Theatre gives our community a creative voice and is absolutely a force for good. It's essential to have a place in Sevenoaks where people can express themselves creatively and increase sensitivity and awareness of current social issues. Above all else, the performing arts are about being creative and society cannot move forward without this. It's vital that this creativity be nurtured and encouraged, and we are lucky enough to have the Stag right here to do just this.
934.	I have heard the news that The Stag is at threat of closure. This would be devastating to our community. Please keep it open!
935.	We would like to implore the Council to do all that is required to save the Stag Theatre. It would be a great shame if Sevenoaks lost the only entertainment venue. We are a family of six and we are regular supporters
936.	I understand that the town council is taking a decision on 29 June as to whether to keep the Stag cinema / theatre in Sevenoaks open. I strongly support the campaign to Save the Stag and would be among many devastated were it to shut down. The Stag is the only entertainment venue in Sevenoaks town. It attracts visitors from all over the surrounding areas and provides our youngsters with a safe alternative to drinking and hanging around on street corners. The closure of the Stag (and indeed the Leisure Centre) risks turning Sevenoaks into a ghost town, with nothing to offer except cafes and bars. Whilst the effects of Covid have no doubt imposed a significant financial burden, closure of these venues (whilst it may provide short term relief) is inevitably to the long term detriment of the town, its residents and indeed other businesses. To be blunt, people will not wish to live in Sevenoaks or move into Sevenoaks if venues such as the Stag and the Leisure Centre are closed. I urge you therefore to look beyond the present, to a future where Sevenoaks retains its status as a desirable and welcoming place to live with attractions for young and old alike. I urge you to do everything that you can to keep the Stag open for business.

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937.	Please keep our stag theatre open. It needs investment (toilet facilities) but we go to panto every year and the cinema 1 or twice as well as various comedians and bands throughout the year. It must be kept open.
938.	I have been made aware that the Council is due to debate the future of the Stag later this month Notwithstanding these difficult times I would add my voice to those objecting to any closure. The Stag is a much loved part of the fabric and culture of this town and has been a source of great enjoyment to my family and me over many years I would urge The Council to explore every conceivable avenue to ensure the long term survival of the Stag.
939.	I am asking you to open the Stag and to keep it open as it's a highly valuable community resource and we use our very often as a family.
940.	We often use the cinema at the Stag and occasionally the theatre. It's become very much part of Sevenoaks Town and the community and it would be such a loss to the residents. Please don't let it close!
941.	we understand there are thoughts of closing The Stag Theatre. Whilst understanding the very difficult times which theatres generally are experiencing we would like to express our thought that the Council must do all it can to save this major Sevenoaks asset. If it can bridge the current problems we are sure that the current townsfolk, and the generations to come, will regard it as a job very well done and support the theatre in the future. Please add our names to those expressing support.
942.	I have lived in Underriver on and off since 1969 and during those times The Stag (in its various guises) has provided the cultural hub of the Town. The Stag has an important role in the life of Sevenoaks as it not only brings people into the town but it also supports local charities & provides opportunities to young people through work experience & volunteering. Please make sure that the council understand the extent to which the local community back the 'Save our Stag' campaign and throw their weight behind generating the publicity needed to ensure it is successful.
943.	I urge the council to continue funding The Stag so that it can remain open. It is such a valuable facility for the community, particularly I think for the elderly and young people who cannot access the cinema and theatre in Tunbridge Wells easily on public transport. As a family, we value The Stag as a friendly and accessible cinema, and feel it would be to the detriment of our community for it to close. This would mean more people taking their leisure time and their business out of Sevenoaks. We need this facility to help sustain our community.
944.	Please support the Stag. It is at the heart of Sevenoaks. I took my children as babies to the baby cinema club and now we go as a family. The pantomime is my favourite as well!! We would be so sad if it closed. We regularly go as a family and then eat in the high street afterwards.
945.	I'm writing in support of The Stag theatre. I hear that The Stag is in financial difficulty due to the Covid shut down. I hope that the Council will support The Stag so that this important community facility survives for the benefit of the town. We are regular attendees at The Stag and it would be dearly missed by the whole Sevenoaks community were it to close. It's a great community asset of the Arts. Please support The Stag.
946.	Please continue with the facility of the Stag Theatre. It is a very worthwhile bonus to the local community of Sevenoaks

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947.	<p>I do hope that the upcoming discussion about the Stag theatre is going to ensure that it continues to be a Sevenoaks centre which continues to thrive.</p> <p>It is well used by Scout groups, local schools as well as families. If we had to travel to Tunbridge Wells for cinema, theatre, pantomimes and music events this is a backwards step. Especially at a time when we are all supposed to be considering our carbon footprint and the environment. It is a central hub which helps to drive people into the town centre as we have gone for lunch/dinner as a family after cinema or music events. Please continue to support this, there is also very little entertainment for our youth and to remove this would further limit entertainment for younger people.</p>
948.	<p>I understand from recent social media coverage that our wonderful Stag is at risk without support from the town council.</p> <p>I'm writing to you to express my full support for the amazing venue and hope that you will all appreciate its importance to the community.</p> <p>In the last 12 months my family has visited on at least a dozen occasions including for both the amazing Panto productions which are such a huge part of our annual traditions.</p> <p>Funding is obviously stretched in these crazy times, but I do hope you'll all agree with the community that this is a vital resource for families and beyond in the area.</p> <p>I would gladly put my name to any document needed in support of the Stag's survival.</p>
949.	<p>I just received news that Sevenoaks council is contemplating closing down the Stag. As it is our only place of culture we strongly urge you to find a way to keep it open. We frequently go to the cinema and our children start asking in February when the next Pantomime is. I realise these are hard times but I am sure that once people feel safe again they will want to go out more than ever. I have made a donation to show my support and have asked my friends to do the same. Hopefully together with some Council funds The Stag will pull through this difficult period.</p>
950.	<p>I moved to Sevenoaks in 1987 and one of the main reasons was the Stag Theatre. With a number of pubs now closed one of the most important centres for social interaction is the Stag and it should receive total support from the council being a vital part of the Sevenoaks community. The latter is generally prosperous and with the rates being paid on property higher than many neighbouring areas ratepayers would expect there to be enough resources for the council to fully support this venue. That being said I am sure that more money could be raised from public subscription if the campaign were better run, certainly better advertised! I most strongly urge the council to support one of the areas few remaining first class resources.</p>
951.	<p>Here is my post about The Stag. It is on my website that I have only just started. I hope it contributes to saving the Stag.</p> <p><a href="https://www.theperspective.biz/blog">https://www.theperspective.biz/blog</a></p>
952.	<p>I am emailing to pledge my support that the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks is kept open. It's a huge part of the community in keeping Sevenoaks busy, families entertained, children focused, the elderly from being isolated and supports other businesses and trades in the town. We need to be giving people a reason to come to Sevenoaks not keep them away.</p> <p>The stag played a huge part in my childhood, the pantomimes I watched, the dance shows I performed in with my dance school, cinema trips etc. Today's children need opportunities like this to thrive and enrich them with life experiences to make them better, community spirited people that will help them to achieve in life.</p> <p>The charity support and volunteering opportunities for people and organisations the stag provides is also essential to people seeking opportunities to better their mental health, improve their employment prospects, make friendships and to give something back to society. What good are we going to achieve by taking these things away? Now</p>

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	<p>more than ever, we are entering into a period where things like this are going to be essential in keeping communities together. I hope my email is one of thousands you receive, and I sincerely hope there is a way to keep this treasure of Sevenoaks alive. Please Save Our Stag.</p>
953.	<p>I wish to raise my huge concern at the possibility that The Stag theatre may be closed due to lack of funds from the town council. It is an essential and historic part of the fabric of Sevenoaks and appeals to residents and visitors from many parts whether as performers or as audience members. Any closure will also have a detrimental effect on other local businesses such as pubs and restaurants. Apart from Knole Park there are few visitor attractions left in Sevenoaks and the heart of town will eventually die. Please consider all ways of raising the funds (perhaps more contributions from SDC who built a hotel with residents' money for visitors to Sevenoaks?) Crowdfunding, shares, community ownership before pulling the plug. <a href="https://20bedfordway.com/news/theatre-funding-guide/">https://20bedfordway.com/news/theatre-funding-guide/</a></p>
954.	<p>I would be very sorry to see the Stag close. It is an opportunity for me to see London performances in a local setting. As a pensioner London prices are beyond my pocket and travelling by train late at night not appealing. I enjoy the cafe as well</p>
955.	<p>I have been going to the Stag Youth Theatre for the past three years and it has been so important to me as an activity outside of school. I found starting secondary school very challenging and it has been difficult for me to make new friends. However, I have looked forward every week to my sessions at SYT and it has been a vital support providing a regular social group and maintaining my confidence. In addition, I have taken part in the SYT Film in a Week each summer holiday, and have booked to do the same this summer, and this is something I am so looking forward to, especially as I have been unable to return to school and won't be returning until at least September. It would be fantastic if the Council was able to fund the Stag as I would be so sad to see it close.</p>
956.	<p>I have just heard about the impending meeting to discuss whether the Stag remains open. Please include my thoughts in your deliberations. I live in Sevenoaks and cannot stress enough how much we value having the Stag. We have lived in the town for nearly 20 years now and before lockdown it was our regular cinema of choice, we have attended many theatre shows and comedy gigs there and our daughter has performed in a local dancing school show on its stage. We feel it is a central part of the town and community. Please don't allow us to lose it, it will change the heart of the town and be a huge loss.</p>
957.	<p>Please keep the Stag theatre &amp; cinema open. We are local Sevenoaks Residents who use the Stag with our family of 5 persons, at least twice to three times per month on average, by walking to/from town for our visit. We would otherwise have to drive to Tunbridge Wells for a substandard experience. We and fellow Stag users often eat in town prior or following our visit so this would have an impact on other businesses if it were to close.</p>
958.	<p>Please keep our theatre open. It is a hub for the community, bringing people of all ages together. It also supports local charities and gives young people the opportunity for work experience and volunteering. I understand the difficult times, but this would be a great loss to Sevenoaks. Where will people go for cultural events which are so important to our wellbeing.</p>

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959.	I just wanted to say how much my family and I have loved visiting the stag theatre for productions over the years! It's the highlight of our family Christmas treats seeing the Pantomime, my older girls and I have been to the comedy shows, we love using the cinema and would choose it over Bluewater for convenience, value for money, and friendly staff and normally a good range of films. We have even hired the rooms for parties too. It will be such a massive loss to the Sevenoaks Community and the community spirit and being able to celebrate local and other talent too if the Stag Theatre is closed! We don't even live in Sevenoaks but travel to come to the Stag regularly!
960.	Please keep the Stag theatre 🎭 going, I had such lovely events earlier this year there.! Amazing times all of which helped during pandemic as memories still vividly in my mind with my friends 😊
961.	<p>FOR ATTENTION OF ALL MEMBERS</p> <p>It has come to my attention that the TC is proposing to close the Stag Theatre permanently, without consultation with, or thought for the Townsfolk they represent. As a former Town Mayor (three times) who always treasured the Stag, &amp; still goes when able to do so, I consider this quite appalling especially in the current circumstances, when the population is deprived of so much. Surely the TC is not THAT short of funds?</p> <p>Some members must be able to remember the enormous struggle that the TC went through in the 70's &amp; 80's in order to prevent the District Council from doing the same thing? Also, don't forget the vast amount of funds that have been spent on much needed improvements, including the two cinemas, which my wife &amp; I attend frequently ? There's nothing quite like live theatre, and the nearest alternative is Bromley! Sevenoaks residents would appreciate the long-term retention of the Stag, as ONE facility that did NOT go to the wall because of Covid19!! WE NEED THE STAG THEATRE - PLEASE.</p> <p>If I am wrongly informed about this, please forgive me.</p>
962.	I have just heard that The Stag theatre may be closed. I had to write to say that we LOVE The Stag and it is our favourite cinema. It was also the first cinema I went to as a child some 35 years ago! Please please please don't let it go....
963.	<p>I would like to register my support for the continued opening of the Stag Theatre and cinema and am very disappointed that its possible permanent closure is being discussed particularly at this particular time.</p> <p>Myself and my family have made great use of its amenities before lockdown and have always been impressed with its appeal to all members of society from the young to the elderly. It also provides opportunities for people to volunteer and is an important source of volunteering jobs for the youngsters as well as giving charities a venue for their fundraising activities.</p> <p>It provides a focus and buzz to Sevenoaks, encouraging visitors to the town and impacting beneficially on local businesses. At this difficult time it is more important than ever to support our businesses and the Stag will encourage life back into the town post lockdown. Sevenoaks has lost a number of independent shops in recent times and people need to have a very good reason to visit the town given the other attractions such as the markets are low key and in the case of the Wednesday market, rather neglected.</p> <p>Given the Economic Assessment Impact results of the Stag in the report commissioned by the Town Council in 2017 and that a number of councillors are keen Stag supporters,</p>

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	(according to the Council website), I would ask that every effort is made to support the Stag and keep it open for the benefit of the community and business in the long term.
964.	As a former volunteer at the Stag, I feel that it is essential to keep it open, as it provides not only an outlet for local amateur dramatic societies, but also a focal point for entertainment in the community. So much effort has been put into this wonderful local facility that it would be a tragedy to let it go now. This situation is only temporary, and we will get over it and bounce back. So please make it a priority to allow it to return to its former glory, as it is such a great asset to this area.
965.	<p>I understand that the future of The Stag is in question. I for one would be devastated if this were to close. It is such a crucial part of Sevenoaks life providing a wide variety of entertainment to local residents. Indeed we travel on from Bromley to visit. We love the intimacy of a smaller theatre, the friendliness of the staff and volunteers, and the affordable prices. All these things make this venue a necessity for us.</p> <p>It would be a tragedy if we were to lose the Stag, and a devastating loss to Sevenoaks. Can you imagine such a renowned and prestigious town as Sevenoaks having to admit that it no longer has a local theatre because the council wouldn't sustain it? That would be extremely sad.</p> <p>I fully appreciate that it is expensive to maintain without productions, but possibly cheaper to ride the storm with it empty that pay an even higher sum for protections that may only be used for a few months. If the finance is the only hurdle, then there are many fundraising avenues. From government to local residents there are always opportunities raise funds.</p> <p>When the time is right to open the venue, perhaps it could diversify in function such as perhaps a marriage venue or letting the cinemas for corporate breakfast presentations. These would add extra income to support the costs.</p> <p>I'm sure I speak for the majority of residents when I ask that you please save the theatre and ensure the future of it as the heart of Sevenoaks and for the wellbeing of Sevenoaks' residents.</p>
966.	<p>We would like to let you know how important we think the Stag theatre is for our town. It makes culturally alive. Culture need to be supported as it is the essential nourishment of our young generations.</p> <p>We would like the taxes our household pays to be used for the support of the Stag.</p>
967.	<p>I understand that the Town Council will shortly be discussing the future of the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>I would like to let you know how strongly I feel that the theatre should continue to be supported in our community. I have lived in this area for many years and regularly attended entertainments there, and I feel it's the beating heart of Sevenoaks. If I think about what I've missed most during these last months I would say going out to the Stag. It must contribute indirectly to a huge amount of business for the town-- just thinking about the Pantomime for a start and the number of visitors it brings.</p> <p>I do hope you decide to support our Stag and I'm sure that the people of Sevenoaks will get behind its re-opening with enthusiasm.</p>
968.	<p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for 37 years and have used the facilities at The Stag on so many occasions during that time. Since retirement my wife and I have increased our attendance substantially for both the stage and cinema. Before attending our entertainment there we usually have a meal nearby which can only benefit the high street. Also my wife regularly meets her friends at the cafe for morning coffee or afternoon tea.</p> <p>We feel that the Stag is an integral part of the Town and if closed would necessitate our spending to be relocated to surrounding towns. We appreciate the difficulties that the</p>

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	Council faces during these trying times, but we would respectfully suggest that to lose the Stag would injure the town both financially and socially.
969.	Dear Sirs, The Stag is a vital part of Sevenoaks and must be kept going at all costs. In the 23 years that I have lived in Underriver, the Stag has been closed twice but after massively well supported appeals, it has thankfully survived. The Pantomime which our grandchildren still insist on being taken to, has drawn thousands of visitors to Sevenoaks, benefitting shops and restaurants in the town. As a "Friend of the Stag" I appeal to the council to keep this wonderful institution going and if a fund-raising effort is required, I would be happy to assist and to contribute.
970.	I understand that on the Council's Agenda for their meeting on Wednesday 24th June is an item relating to the financial support to the Stag Theatre. As long term residents we and our friends have enjoyed patronising many events over many years and although we appreciate the current difficulties we feel that continuing support should be given, with emergency support if necessary, to ensure that this valuable asset to the Town can continue into the future as apart from the employment given to the employees and visiting performers, it provides a valuable function in encouraging visitors into the town who support the local restaurants and other amenities.
971.	I would like to register my support for the Stag Theatre. I am a regular user of the centre having been to events 27 times from March 19 to lockdown. And on most of those occasions, I book for a group that is sometime up to 10 local people. We have seen a huge variety of films, performances & music events. We have all greatly missed our trips to The Stag over lockdown & implore you to keep this wonderful place open, whatever it takes.
972.	Ahead of the forthcoming meeting, I wish to extend my support to the theatre. It should be supported during this difficult period. When open, the Stag is a focal point for the high street and community bringing people together and generating extra revenue for the hospitality sector during evenings when there simply will not be trade.
973.	I am writing to show my heartfelt support for the outstanding quality and consistency of live performances, the Stag theatre brings to Sevenoaks town, as you evaluate future financial support.  I have lived in Sevenoaks for 15 years and since starting a family, have thoroughly enjoyed all performances, particularly the Pantomime for at least the last 10 years.  My daughter was lucky enough to join the incredibly professional Pantomime cast, as a dancer last Christmas, which has sparked her joy of performance, starting in her hometown. It has also educated us into how hard the whole dedicated team and theatre work to enable this performance to be delivered over the Christmas season.  Live performance brings so much joy to so many, of all ages, which is testament to the fact that the Christmas Panto, in particular, outsells the population of the town. I would sincerely hope this is not lost on the council members making difficult decisions about where to apportion financial support, where they are in a position to secure the Stag's future.
974.	It is with great sadness that I heard the news of the possible closure of the Stag Theatre. The theatre is a huge part of the town which bring so many people together. My daughter performed in her first dance show there 2 years ago at the age of 4. Never

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	<p>have I seen her so happy! Her dance school perform there every other year. All the children aged from 2.5 - 17 love all the preparation and indeed performing.</p> <p>We were due to have a show in July which has had to be cancelled due to the present circumstances. The children are devastated so I can only imagine how many broken hearts there will be if the theatre closes and there may be no more shows.</p> <p>Please reconsider the closure and keep the Stag open. Save memories that have already been made there and allow so many more future memories to be made.</p>
975.	<p>PLEASE consider very carefully the future of The Stag. We, who have lived in the area for nearly 60 years, believe it to be very important for Sevenoaks, as a cultural centre, a drama centre and a recreational centre. None of us want to have to drive to Tunbridge Wells to see a film, or even further field. Not good for the world to use all that extra fuel either! Do you want a regular exit of the people of Sevenoaks in search of entertainment?</p> <p>We will all lose if the Stag is closed.</p>
976.	<p>I am so keen to have the Stag kept open, it is our local lifeline and is so very important to the people of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I visit as often as I can and particularly love the movies.</p> <p>I would sincerely request that you keep The Stag open</p>
977.	<p>In this challenging time, it occurs to me to place on record my request for you to support the lovely Stag Theatre in every way and maintain its future.</p> <p>As a National Trust volunteer at Knole and a frequent visitor to various events at the Stag I am very aware that it is the vital hub of Sevenoaks, and a welcoming traditional feature of a very attractive traditional country town. It is so important for the local economy across every aspect - restaurants, shops, bars and travel companies - and no doubt for staff, performers and suppliers as well. And especially given the long restraints of the pandemic, the Pantomime / Christmas season will be an essential emotional release for thousands of families. It's not just about the cost, regard it as a service and investment for the community and which will generate massive goodwill for the Council.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention, and I hope that we can soon emerge from this difficult "limbo" period.</p>
978.	<p>It has come to our attention that there is a very real possibility of The Stag Theatre being unable to open again once the threat of the pandemic is passed.</p> <p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for over 20 years and have been frequent patrons of both the cinema and the theatre. Not only does The Stag bring a great deal of pleasure to those who attend performances, but it also acts as an invaluable hub for the arts and brings custom to the town centre. We have been in this situation before, when the facility was taken over and the facilities were closed and you were personally credited with resurrecting it, for which the local community will be forever grateful. We cannot afford for The Stag to be lost again. We have made a donation to The Stag direct and hope that the council will once again be able to save it for the sake of us all.</p>
979.	<p>The Stag is embedded in the heart of Sevenoaks. My children and I have visited Pantos, school productions and plays on countless occasions, not to mention visiting the cinema. We cannot let the theatre Succum to the corona virus as well.</p>
980.	<p>I am devastated that you would close The Stag Theatre. My daughter has performed there every other year of her life with Temple Academy. It is a fantastic venue and gives Sevenoaks a sense of community.</p>
981.	<p>I was extremely sorry to hear that the closure of the Stag Theatre is being discussed in a few days' time.</p> <p>The Stag Theatre is a real asset to Sevenoaks and, not only does it provide a good café upstairs and a venue for craft markets, etc (the Christmas market in 2019 was</p>



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	<p>particularly good), but it also offers an interesting and varied live music programme. During the past couple of years I have been to several tribute concerts and all were very enjoyable. Please do not close the Stag! There is precious little entertainment in Sevenoaks so if we lose that, the town centre really will become something akin to a ghost town.</p>
982.	<p>I was extremely concerned to read on the Next Door website that The Stag could face closure and I am therefore writing to ask that you please discuss on the meeting on June 29th ways to provide extra funding for it and ways that we can please help to save The Stag.</p> <p>We use The Stag a lot for the cinema, the cafe and for productions. I took my daughter to her first panto here earlier this year and she fell in love with it. We are so lucky to have this in our town, it draws people locally and far and wide and I am also aware that it provides a place for older children with its youth centre, something I am aware is much needed and lacking in this day and age.</p> <p>I am certain that this has a huge impact on children and the youth of today, what will they turn to if we take it away? Also, the older generation use the Stag a lot also. I am sure that the people of Sevenoaks and the local businesses would be more than happy to do some fund raising if extra money needs to be added to whatever the council can give, so please, please, do all you can to keep our Stag.</p>
983.	<p>Very sad to hear the news that the Stag theatre is at risk of closure. This wonderful venue has been at the heart and soul of our community for many years, and I would be devastated to see it go. Please consider their application of a grant to save the many livelihoods this theatre supports - in jobs, hearts, and minds.</p>
984.	<p>This would be devastating for Sevenoaks!</p> <p>We use this every year for Panto, regular Cinema trips and have for as long as I can remember, my daughter also does her annual dance show with Caroline Clare.</p> <p>The town wouldn't be the same without it!</p> <p>We hate going to modern cinemas there just not the same.</p> <p>So many jobs would be lost as well.</p> <p>Do the right things and keep it going, I know it's tough times, we're all feeling it. Don't take away some of Sevenoaks history</p>
985.	<p>I'm writing to give my support to the Stag Theatre as I understand it is under threat of closure due to lack of funds.</p> <p>Myself and my family have enjoyed countless trips to the Stag for theatre and cinema over the last 16 years of living here and we would be devastated to lose this amazing venue. We feel so lucky to have this in our local town.</p> <p>As well as providing fantastic access to the arts for all ages, it brings new people into Sevenoaks, it supports local charities and encourages young people to express themselves through theatre clubs and volunteer opportunities. It also provides a brilliant venue for local schools to present dance skills.</p> <p>I feel it would be a huge loss to our town if we do not support this very worthy cause. Many people would also lose their jobs and the place that they go to for companionship and leisure, so please consider giving it the priority support that it needs.</p>
986.	<p>I understand there is some prospect of the Stag cinema and Theatre closing. If this is the case, I wish to express my support for the Stag and the vital part it plays in the community. Having an entertainment venue in the town high street provides an important focal point for visitors to the town as well for the local community. In a time when the high street is in danger of disappearing, removing the Stag from the town centre would be disastrous. I hope the Council will reconsider any decision to close it.</p>
987.	<p>I understand that the Council is considering the future of the Stag Theatre.</p>

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	<p>I strongly hope that the Council will find some way of keeping the Stag as a key local amenity.</p> <p>It plays a key role in the centre of town for film goers, live entertainment, business events, and youth activities.</p> <p>With the current Covid restrictions, would it not be possible to use some of the facilities to act as classrooms for local schools.</p> <p>This would be far better than closing the doors and would help out with the considerable issues that local schools will face in September when they try to re-open.</p> <p>This could be continued until post Covid when the Stag could return to its previous community hub.</p>
<p>988.</p>	<p>I have just been told that the Sevenoaks Town Council is shortly to make a decision on the future of the much-loved Stag Theatre. I am writing, as I believe are many others in the community, to plead for its survival. I appreciate that funding must be highly challenging in today's climate. However, the Stag is an invaluable community asset and I believe that you will rip the heart out of Sevenoaks if you decide to close it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It brings a lot of custom and spending power into Sevenoaks; there would be a big impact on the pubs and restaurants in the vicinity were the Stag to close.</li> <li>• There is a considerable environmental benefit to having a local arts complex. The closest alternatives are the Odeon at Tunbridge Wells, the Showcase Cinema at Bluewater and the Churchill Theatre at Bromley: all of these involve car travel. (Bromley is, of course, accessible by train but that still involves driving to Otford or Sevenoaks stations if one is not fit enough to walk). I always choose the Stag cinema as a first option for precisely that reason.</li> <li>• As Chair of the Kemsing Players, a local amateur theatre group, I believe strongly that a vibrant local arts scene is helpful to us all, and the Stag is our flagship.</li> <li>• I tend to use the cinema predominantly but was last in the theatre for a Sevenoaks Symphony concert last November. It was a sell-out; we bought two of the last few tickets left.</li> </ul> <p>It is not the first time in recent history that there has been an issue about the Stag's future. A few years ago the council had to step in with a 25-year lease, I understand, to ensure that the Stag stayed open: a wise decision and an admirable leap of faith. I believe strongly that the duty of the Town Council is not only to use funds efficiently but also to ensure that the local community is built on strong and deep-rooted foundations; the Stag is one of those foundations. So I hope that you can once again see the bigger picture and ensure the survival of the Stag for some time to come.</p>
<p>989.</p>	<p>The Stag is the cultural centre of Sevenoaks and surroundings. To allow it to close would be to turn our backs on the wonderful uplifting shows, films and events which are hosted there. We don't want to tear the heart out of our beautiful town.</p> <p>What does it take to keep The Stag going? An increase in Council Tax? How much? I would certainly consider an increase if needed to preserve this essential gem, part of our heritage - part of our life.</p> <p>Please do everything you can to keep the Stag going.</p>
<p>990.</p>	<p>I understand that the Stag is under review for closure. Please can you take into account my objection below.</p> <p>Please consider the Stag is used by many in the community as their cinema of choice. We have also attended comedy evenings and music tribute acts in the past as well as</p>

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	<p>the Panto every year. My son also attends shooting classes through sevenoaks target shooting which are hosted by the Stag every Saturday.</p>
991.	<p>I am emailing in regard to The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks, having heard that it is at risk of closing. This theatre has housed my dance school show performances for the last 20 years and became a second home to me and my friends growing up. A place where our families could watch our performance skills progress through the years, and where we as performers could gain confidence and experience of shows in proper theatres.</p> <p>It would be a crying shame to lose this pillar of the community and would affect the lives of many young budding performers and artists. Please let me know should there be anything we can do to prevent the closure of this facility.</p>
992.	<p>It was hard for me to comprehend anyone starting such a motion at this time when we are and should be looking for anything to cheer us up. The stag is needed for art, culture, social cohesion, acting as centre for the area promoting interaction. I hope it survives.</p>
993.	<p>I am writing in both my capacity as Secretary of <i>The Sevenoaks Players</i> and as the senior partner of a local practice of Chartered Surveyors, in order to confirm my support for the application which has been made by the management of The Stag Theatre for grant funding in order to ensure its' survival during and after the current C-19 crisis. In my opinion, a well-run local theatrical facility is vital to ensure the survival of community theatre which in turn is essential for the morale and mental wellbeing of the wider community. The Stag here in Sevenoaks is no exception. Accordingly, I would respectfully urge the council to make the right decision in favour of a grant so that this much-loved place of entertainment can survive well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond.</p>
994.	<p>I am concerned to hear that the future of The STAG is in jeopardy. My family uses the facility regularly throughout the year. We go to the cinema about 4 or 5 times a year and attend several comedy evenings In the Plaza Suite also. We all particularly enjoyed the production of Joseph last year. Our daughter, like so many children in the area, benefited hugely from taking part in school dance shows and more recently as part of the Act II drama group. I am sure my feelings about The Stag are shared by a majority of people in Sevenoaks. I hope and trust that when it comes under scrutiny by the Council that you will find the will and means to keep this fantastic community facility open.</p>
995.	<p>I believe you are considering the future of The Stag in a forthcoming council meeting. I would like to register my objection to the potential closure of such a crucial part of the Sevenoaks community, not to mention local economy. As a family we have been regular visitors to theatre and cinema events held at The Stag since we moved here 14 years ago. In fact, the presence of such a facility in the town contributed to our decision to settle here. It would be unthinkable for it to close its doors permanently. I urge you to reach out to the local community to consider how we can work together to save such an iconic and valuable part of our town.</p>
996.	<p>Please accept this email to protest against the closure of The Stag. Many children and adults alike either visit the venue to perform or to watch live theatre as going into The West End is not an option for a lot of people. Young people get the chance to shine on your stage, again something they would not ordinarily get the opportunity to do.</p>

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	<p>As a performer myself, I would be devastated to see it close. My son was due to perform in July in Dance Crazy, (Caroline Clare School of Dance) this would be his 4th show. He has also performed with The Henry Desmond Orchestra - Welcome to the stage.</p> <p>Along with the theatre, the cinema is far more personal than the big chain ones and we use it fairly regularly.</p> <p>To have this venue close would also impact the local economy with less people using the town's restaurants before or after a show.</p> <p>I hope that you look again at the impact of losing The Stag.</p>
997.	<p>I cannot comprehend the idea of the council taking a decision to close our Stag theatre/cinema.</p> <p>So much is vanishing from our high street, and the Stag is vital for our community's wellbeing.</p> <p>Please do not take this drastic step. We want the Stag to remain at the heart of our town!!</p>
998.	<p>I would like to express my support in keeping the Stag Theatre running in these unprecedented times. My daughter has had the amazing opportunity in performing at the theatre for the last two pantomimes which have given her first professional on-stage experience. We also bring a lot of family and friends to the town to watch each time and use the local restaurants for pre-show meals. Also being a chaperone myself I use the town for my Christmas shopping as well as many uses of the coffee shops as I spend so much time at the theatre over Christmas. It would be a great loss to the town for such an important cultural building to go which provides many generations of families their traditional pantomime outing every year.</p> <p>I really hope the town doesn't lose its much-loved theatre</p>
999.	<p>I have been reading on the internet the plight of The Stag cinema. Please throw some weight behind it and keep it going if you can. My son absolutely adores the Pantomime and goes twice every year. The cinema is superb, and we really don't want to go to Bluewater or Tunbridge Wells when there is a perfectly good theatre in the town. Not only that friends and I have absolutely loved the National Theatre screenings and a major highlight was watching Hamlet via the Barbican, we couldn't get any tickets to this sold out show but we actually had a better experience watching it through the live series at The Stag. I've even been on a cake decorating course there.</p>
1000.	<p>I have heard that the Stag theatre in Sevenoaks May be closing.</p> <p>I really hope it doesn't, it is such a huge part of this community and we need to keep it, it hosts wonderful shows and cinema and well as employing local people.</p>
1001.	<p>The Stag theatre is suffering because of Covid 19 as are theatres all over the country so why save this one. I have been going to the theatre for 55 years, when it was just one big cinema. It is important to the town whether it is to see a film, play or comedy night. The staff are friendly and helpful. Also, if you don't have a car it easy to get to and if you are alone it can be a lifeline to both the young and the old. I would ask to save The Stag.</p>
1002.	<p>The Stag is an important part of Sevenoaks. To shut it down will destroy what little we have in Sevenoaks. It encourages people to eat out go to the pub.</p> <p>A disgrace if the council does not support it.</p>
1003.	<p>I hope you are all keeping well. We would like to add our voice to the local community that is supporting the Stag theatre. We have lived in and around sevenoaks for over 20</p>

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	<p>years and we think the Stag plays a vital role in the local community by bringing people into Sevenoaks, connecting the local community, supporting local charities and providing opportunities for young people to experience the arts and to enhance their education and career development through work experience and volunteering. We look forward to seeing the Stag reopen in the near future.</p>
1004.	<p>I'm writing regarding your meeting on the 29th June where you will discuss whether to give The Stag theatre financial funding. I would like to wholeheartedly convey my support for providing funding to keep The Stag open.</p> <p>The Stag is a staple of the Sevenoaks community - providing not only theatre and cinema entertainment for the area but also a meeting place for those in our community - old and young. To have somewhere like The Stag on our doorstep in Sevenoaks, where we can see a lively Christmas panto or pop in for the latest blockbuster on a rainy day, is important for the culture of Sevenoaks. Along with the theatre and cinema at The Stag, this location acts as an important meeting place. The Stag is a place where my young son and I can meet with other local mums in a lovely and safe indoor setting. The cafe is run by lovely people, where you can sit any day of the week and have a cup of tea or coffee while our children play - a place like this would be sorely lacking if The Stag were to close.</p> <p>The Stag is a special place and I think it would be absolutely detrimental to Sevenoaks if we were to lose it. I am grateful for everything The Stag has done for our community. Please support The Stag and help it continue to remain open.</p>
1005.	<p>I just want to add my voice to those appealing to Sevenoaks Council to ensure that the Stag Theatre remains open. I am currently undertaking a Future Learn course on 'Becoming a Teacher' and one of the themes this week is how essential creativity is in education. Sadly, creative subjects are often undervalued, and our systems frequently focus on academic studies/university education at their cost. For this reason, I believe that the Stag Theatre plays an essential role in our community because it provides a facility where people can both perform in creative productions and attend as audience members. If we are to be an innovative people then we need to be creative, and we need resources like the Stag Theatre that foster creativity.</p>
1006.	<p>I and my family have been coming to the Stag for 10+ years and have enjoyed the cinema v ODEON Tunbridge Wells, theatre e.g. Les Mis, panto every Christmas and your excellent Outside The Box comedy nights.</p> <p>I have already been in touch and have spoken with Lisa Whitbread and offered my services on a pro bono basis to do anything I can to support the Stag.</p> <p>The Stag is much loved and is at the front and centre of Sevenoaks. The effect it has on the town and the night-time economy is immeasurable. Please don't let this institution fail.</p>
1007.	<p>I hear with disbelief, you are considering closing the Stag, that must not happen. It is the Cultural Centre of Sevenoaks and remain as so.</p>
1008.	<p>I consider The Stag such a jewel in the crown of our town, that any possibility of it not being around in the future would be such an incredible loss. Not only for the future of the town but also after so much time and money has been invested in it since the Town Council took over the running of it.</p> <p>I understand that the phrase "lose it or use it" is often used on these occasions but myself, my family and my elderly mother make use of both the cinemas and theatre regularly - and, whenever we do, are always glad to see how well attended performances are.</p>

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	<p>Clearly the exceptional situation we are all in now with the pandemic puts financial strain on every institution but I feel so strongly that there is not a single more deserving community asset that we have in Sevenoaks as The Stag. It really is too precious to lose. I understand that there is a meeting to decide funding in the next few days. I would please urge you to continue to invest in the most important cultural and community asset we have that is enjoyed by all ages.</p>
1009.	<p>Please consider strongly the decision to help the Stag theatre with financial support. The Stag represents the truest form of community and we would be devastated to lose it from Sevenoaks on so many levels.</p> <p>We actually live in Orpington but every year our daughter has danced in shows at the premises - the friendly, accessible and convenient location has been the venue of much joy for a decade of dance shows and friendships and competitions.</p> <p>Over the years we have attended the Panto regularly - and brought our extended family. It really has been a beautiful place of laughter. Because of the positive experience of being there we have taken on other shows that we might not have gone to in the west end - to support local, or up and coming acts. We took our 13-year-old daughter and 8 friends to see Tina Turner!</p> <p>Where will the local people have for cinema? This will be such a shame for other businesses surrounding it that work well together. It is such a well-supported community venue and we are supporting from outside of the community. I cannot imagine how the locals will suffer Losing A place that lives at the heart of families and friendships.</p> <p>We must do as much as we can to keep these epicentres of community going. We hope to be seeing our daughter dance again on stage there. Please do help them out.</p>
1010.	<p>The Stag theatre is a vital hub in the life of Sevenoaks. It is a place for young and old alike. I find it inconceivable that a town with the reputation for culture that Sevenoaks has would risk losing its only live stage. It would be an unforgivable act. Once placed like this close they do not reopen unless it is as Weatherspoons where bad beer is served to the depressed. Please do all you can to save the Stag Theatre.</p>
1011.	<p>To whom it may concern.</p> <p>Please please please do not close the Stag. It is vital for our community, our children, our grandparents and is part of the fabric of Sevenoaks. You need to think out of the box how to make it financially viable with social distancing. But it can be done, we just need clever entrepreneurs to think of ways around!! Please consider all options and reach out to the community for fundraising and volunteering.</p>
1012.	<p>Please, please, please save our Stag Theatre, it would be a real loss to our town and the community if this great tradition was lost because of COVID-19.</p>
1013.	<p>Please keep The Stag open. It's a great place for our young people and adults to experience a wide range of the arts both on and off the stage.</p> <p>If these local venues close we will lose a valuable place for learning outside of the school environment.</p> <p>Also, it's a social place and once distancing is removed we are social animals and we will all need some entertainment.</p>
1014.	<p>We are a club of 150+ ladies, many retired, who, along with their friends and partners, appreciate the Stag on our doorstep for both cinema and theatre. The Stag has been putting on amazing productions as well as the latest films avoiding having to commute into the city. A few of us have also sung with our choirs there.</p> <p>We are praying for a successful outcome to keep it open and will be pledging our support financially..</p>
1015.	<p>I moved to Sevenoaks 32 years ago and my wife and I (and our children when they were still children) have been regular patrons of The Stag's various venues and we would</p>

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	miss it very much and our town and restaurants would be very impoverished were it to close!
1016.	<p>I have heard that The Stag Theatre is in danger of closing down due to these difficult times. I believe the Stag is the heart of Sevenoaks &amp; without this venue Sevenoakswill lose a lot of people visiting the town.</p> <p>My daughter regularly dances there &amp; both my children use the cinema facilities which are very convenient &amp; every year we come to the panto. We have also been to see many a show here. Please please please save the Stag &amp; secure the future of this lovely theatre.</p>
1017.	<p>Good evening – I am passionate that our wonderful Stag Theatre should be saved at all costs – it is such an asset to our Community, with such a huge variety of events place in the Theatre itself and the Plaza Suite, not to mention the Cinema. To close it, after all its great refurbishment etc, would be unthinkable!! I fully appreciate the financial predicament the Council finds itself in, and, of course, Theatres all over the Country are struggling because of the pandemic, but I am sure the appeal to the people of Sevenoaks, even in these very difficult time, should bring in a large amount of money to help with this situation.</p> <p>I, among many, enjoy taking part in our Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra Concerts in the Stag, and also playing in the Jean Bentley Band at the Tea Dances in the Plaza Suite. I have been trying the donate to the appeal fund but couldn't get any joy when I tried to donate online. I sent an e- mail to ask the way forward but it came back because the site was not being manned at present. I am very keen to donate and will try again! Please do ALL you can to save the Stag!</p>
1018.	<p>I have heard that there is to be a meeting on 24 June the consequence of which may affect the future of the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I understand that the entertainment industry has been blighted by Covid-19 but we, as a family, wanted to write and let you know that the Stag is a VERY important amenity for us. Over the years we have used it regularly: films, live music, theatre, opera, ballet, Sevenoaks Symphony, pantomime, National Theatre Live, to name a few. The cafe is also a great place to meet with friends and young children.</p> <p>Losing the Stag would be devastating for Sevenoaks as it brings people into the town centre who then use the shops, restaurants and pubs. The only alternative option would be the Odeon in Knights Way, thus taking people away from local amenities and affecting businesses.</p> <p>Reviving town centres and protecting them from the move to out-of-town shopping areas is a frequently voiced concern and the closure of the Stag, along with the potential closure of Sencio Leisure Centre, would have a very negative impact in this regard and tear a whole in this lovely town.</p> <p>Please consider supporting the Stag. It is a much-loved and appreciated facility.</p>
1019.	<p>Please, please, please save the Stag theatre! It is the heart of our town and brings so much pleasure to young and old alike. Please don't make us travel to Tonbridge or Tunbridge Wells for our entertainment and enrich their shops, cafés and restaurants. Without the Stag our town will be dead!</p>
1020.	<p>As a performer I would for one be absolutely devastated for the Stag to close! I have grown up within the walls of this building, dancing in shows, singing and performing many a panto, to the people of Sevenoaks and beyond. It's the heart of Sevenoaks and always has been!</p> <p>Upon entering the stag it's like entering a family home! Don't rid Sevenoaks of its family, you wouldn't do it to your own?</p>

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	<p>The Stag not only brings thousands of people a year into Sevenoaks, which benefits many other businesses, many people frequent the local restaurants before a show, it also provides community help to a range of age groups. (Youth theatre, volunteering, work experience etc etc</p> <p>I know from working for the town council that the Stag Theatre was a place that was to be protected for all it's worth so please keep to these words and don't let it close.</p>
1021.	<p>We would like to add our support for financial assistance from The Sevenoaks Council for The Stag Theatre. We remember the struggle many years ago lead by '.....' to get this vital community project up and running. We have enjoyed attending many performances, both in the theatre and cinema. We consider The Stag Theatre to be an essential presence in our town and hope that, with support, it will eventually become so again.</p>
1022.	<p>It would be a devastating loss for the town if The Stag were to close. Me and my girlfriend are a couple in our early 30's and it is a great source of pride to have a local resource such as The Stag. I have been involved with the Stag for decades and Sevenoaks would be much, much the poorer if it was no longer present.</p>
1023.	<p>We moved to Sevenoaks a few years ago. The high street was one of the selling points especially the traditional cinema and theatre. We never go to the big complexes, we love it here. And having never been to a panto until we moved here it's now one of the highlights of our year and something we invite friends and family to.</p> <p>Please save the Stag!</p>
1024.	<p>I am writing to you regarding the STAG Theatre, Sevenoaks. I am a student at Temple Academy of Performing Arts. I have been a student since I was 2 years old and am about to finish my 16 year journey at the dance school next week.</p> <p>As you might be aware, Temple Academy have held their performances here at the STAG theatre since long before I can remember- I have grown up performing here like so many other young performers for the past 20 years. I cannot imagine the younger students not be able to go through the same experience that I did- the friendships, the memories and the experiences made. Therefore I plead you to try your best to keep the STAG theatre open. I am completely aware that COVID-19 has disrupted so many areas of the economy and of society, but I know there is a way that together we can make sure the STAG theatre survives this pandemic.</p> <p>Whether that is massive fundraisers, further donations to your fundraising page or volunteering, we will come together in order to protect this special theatre.</p>
1025.	<p>I am disturbed to hear that Sevenoaks Town Council is considering allowing the Stag Theatre to close.</p> <p>The Stag is a vital part of Sevenoaks town life in terms of bringing professional live performances, providing Sevenoaks residents of all ages the opportunity to perform and facilitating local cinema for all. The Stag also offers a local social focus and forms an important part of the town's culture and history.</p> <p>Whilst Sevenoaks is rich in its sporting clubs, the Stag provides almost the only non-sporting cultural and social opportunity.</p> <p>This current pandemic has hit all aspects of our lives and placed many businesses and livelihoods under threat. However, this time will pass and it is vital that we act to save important assets such as the Stag both for ourselves and for future generations.</p> <p>I am strongly in favour of doing everything possible to save the Stag. I suggest the Council dig deep but also reach out and ask for support from the residents of Sevenoaks. I know there are many who feel the same as myself and would be willing to contribute.</p>



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	Please do not be remembered as the Council who allowed the Stag to die.
1026.	<p>I understand it is your intention to close the The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. This decision would be a travesty not only for the town but also to theatregoers, film lovers and the public alike who gain great pleasure and entertainment from visiting the theatre.</p> <p>I ask you to reconsider your decision.</p>
1027.	<p>I understand you are holding a meeting on 29 June 2020 to discuss financial support of The Stag Theatre to see it through the Coronavirus crisis that has affected so many businesses.</p> <p>Enabling the theatre to continue by way of financial support is crucial for such a huge asset in our community. From putting on plays, holding concerts, running as a cinema and most importantly putting on the Christmas Panto, the theatre has so much to offer all age groups.</p> <p>We as a family in excess of 25 adults and children attend the Christmas Panto each year and it has become a tradition for us as a way of beginning the Christmas festivities and all getting together. The loss of the theatre would cause us great sadness.</p> <p>The Christmas Panto is very special in encouraging the younger members of the family to go to the theatre for entertainment and to hopefully explore what else it has to offer during the year. That and having a chance to scream louder than the adults with 'it's behind you' would be sorely missed if this facility is no longer available.</p> <p>I do hope you are able to offer the Stag Theatre the funding it requires to enable it to stay afloat through these troubled times. I for one will be desperately sad if it allowed to close.</p>
1028.	<p>If Sevenoaks town centre is to have a future then I think it essential The Stag theatre remains open. It is an integral part of the local community and so important to the "pull" of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>No decision should be made without serious consultation with local people and businesses.</p> <p>No councils should have the sole authority to make decisions that will be detrimental to their local communities and which could prove to be a Serious false economy.</p>
1029.	<p>Please please please do not consider closing the Stag. You will loose the heart of the town. No more cinema, live theatre or restaurant would be unthinkable. I have so many happy memories of going to films, live links, opera, comedy acts, prom nights, classical concerts. The staff are lovely. My daughter volunteered there.</p> <p>It would be a travesty if it closed. A lot of people can't go up to London or get to out of town cinemas whereas they can enjoy this wonderful local amenity.</p>
1030.	<p>I find it preposterous that the council considering closing The Stag. Please please consider the impact. It is a facility for the benefit of all the citizens of Sevenoaks and the surrounding area. It seems to have offered so much variety over recent years and is well run.</p> <p>It can't be viewed simply in commercial terms. Surely the council can find funds to support such a facility.</p>
1031.	<p>I have recently heard that the council are considering closing the stag theatre. Therefore I wanted to express my opinion that the closure would be a big mistake as it is the hub of the community in Sevenoaks. We visit the stag theatre 5-10 times a year and my parents take their grandkids each year to the Panto, which had been a Tradition for 20 years.</p> <p>My daughter got her first experience of work, whilst her DofE at the stag serving popcorn and cleaning the theatre after the shows.</p> <p>The community benefits easily outway the subsidies that may need to be paid .</p>

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<p>1032.</p>	<p>This Theatre we recently joined the Cinema club, also offers not only the latest Films but, also local community theatre productions including the annual Pantomime. My wife &amp; I take our German friends especially to see this unique British comedy Production almost every year as this is definitely a British eccentric &amp; very enjoyable production.</p> <p>To lose this theatre would take the heart out of Sevenoaks to old &amp; young as well as the youth area as well as the hall area for indoor markets plus small productions by locals who enjoy their hobby as well as giving back to the community.</p> <p>Life is hard enough at the moment &amp; costs are under consideration but, this theatre is invaluable to the community &amp; it's residents.</p> <p>Please, we would ask you to keep this historic theatre alive &amp; well for now &amp; future generations.</p> <p>With our sincere hope that you accede to the local community wishes &amp; ours.</p>
<p>1033.</p>	<p>I am very concerned at what I hear about the Stag's viability being put in doubt by the Covid situation.</p> <p>I have lived in Sevenoaks for almost 20 years and I believe that the Stag is an incredibly important facility for our community. I think that Sevenoaks would be a less desirable place to live if it did not have a vibrant arts offering such as the Stag provides. From school productions, pantomime, local orchestra, a wide range of cinema, comedians and other performers, it fulfils a real need. It also provides a common space for us all to enjoy.</p> <p>Moreover, I am convinced hat the Stag's clientele are vital in supporting surrounding restaurants and pubs, helping the town to thrive in its own right rather than being a satellite of Tunbridge Wells or London.</p> <p>I really hope that the Council will provide temporary financial support to the Stag to help it get through this difficult period and to ensure that the town continues to benefit from its presence.</p>
<p>1034.</p>	<p>I am writing to express my concern at hearing that the Stag Theatre may be forced to close. This is such sad news as it is a wonderful venue and supports so many cultural activities for local people of all ages. Is there not any way the Council can lend its support?</p> <p>We have been to several shows now, despite the fact that we actually live in Bromley, not Sevenoaks. This is because it is the chosen venue for our daughter's dance school, TAPA, and that is not the only arts organisation that it supports in this way. Moreover, it is a great place to see all sorts of arts events, some of which we have attended, and not just theatre.</p> <p>Covid-19 has brought so many tragedies: not just the terrible loss of life, but also economic, social and cultural ones too. So many theatres and arts centres are threatened with closure now. But the fact that we have had to live our lives very differently recently does not mean that we love the arts any less. Please, please support this wonderful venue so it can remain open. We shall certainly be sending the theatre what we can afford, as a donation, in the hope that it might be of some small help.</p>
<p>1035.</p>	<p>I gather that the future of the Stag Theatre is in doubt. As a member of the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra which has been giving concerts at the Stag ever since it opened, I urge you to keep the theatre open if at all possible, even if it has to go into hibernation for a bit. The Stag Theatre has become a focal point of life in Sevenoaks, bringing in music and drama and other shows of all kinds and also contributes to businesses and jobs in other parts of the local economy, such as pubs and restaurants ( and these should be opening again soon?). It is also a valuable educational resource as well as providing us with the Xmas Panto!</p>

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	<p>Please don't let the Stag go, even if it has to stay closed a bit longer. I have already made a donation in answer to your recent appeal.</p>
1036.	<p>I write in connection with the above proposed theatre closure. I wish to object strongly to the closure of this theatre.</p> <p>Sevenoaks is a town where proposals should be considered very carefully: removing the theatre could ruin the character of the town and remove opportunities available for local and outside residents to use the cinema and theatre for recreational and social purposes. I myself use the cinema regularly with my children, my son belongs to a theatre group and my daughter a dance school where both use your theatre for shows. There is no other facility of comparison in the area.</p> <p>I know from my cinema visits many elderly people use the cinema as well including my mother and this closure I am sure would be detrimental to their wellbeing as said above there is no other facility in comparison for them.</p> <p>I sincerely hope you consider this closure very carefully and the impact it would have on the community of all ages.</p>
1037.	<p>I am a member of the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra which performs there regularly, and I also go to other shows there including the comedy evenings and cinema.</p> <p>The Stag is a really valuable local resource widely valued by a range of ages in the community and it would be a real tragedy if it closes.</p>
1038.	<p>I understand that the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks is potentially under threat from closure. I personally think this would be a tragedy for many reasons.</p> <p>It has become a part of the community and not just that of the people who live in Sevenoaks but the far reaching community.</p> <p>My daughter dances for Temple Academy of Performing Arts and this theatre has been like a second home to the many that have danced their socks off over the last 20 years. It would really put in jeopardy the most amazing show they perform every two years where by so much hard work and dedication is displayed to all to see and at a truly remarkable venue.</p> <p>Not only this having worked in Sevenoaks for many years on the same road as the the theatre I know that so much happens there from other local show, cinema and Christmas pantomime. It is the backbone of the community.</p> <p>Please reconsider any possibility that this theatre is to sadly close its doors it would definitely be the wrong thing to do as so many more people and young children deserve the right to make magical memories of a lifetime either performing on stage or watching the most amazing shows on stage.</p>
1039.	<p>I would ask that you do not close the Stag Theatre it is a very important Community asset that most people of all ages are able to access and enjoy.</p> <p>Sevenoaks has little in the form of entertainment and if this closes our town will be all the poorer both culturally and financially.</p>
1040.	<p>Please do not close the Stag Theatre, as it is the one asset the town has that provides a consistent opportunity for the people of Sevenoaks and the surrounding area to experience several different types of culture under one roof. My family has visited on many occasions; to discos, cinema, theatre - and also performed there.</p> <p>A theatre is the one place that will set the town apart from smaller, less thriving localities. It pulls in people from the surrounding area, providing money for local businesses.</p> <p>Without the Stag, Sevenoaks is in serious danger of becoming a dull commuter town, with little I'd offer in the evenings.</p>

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	I do hope you are able to find the means of finding the theatre from the budget.
1041.	<p>I am writing to express how strongly I believe the Stag community arts centre should receive funding and support to remain open.</p> <p>Growing up in the area I have seen the value it had brought to people from a wide area DN wide age range. The community groups cover everything from parent and baby comedy nights to meet ups and show nights for the elderly.</p> <p>It has also provided an amazing resource for people trying to get work experience in order to become more independent.</p> <p>The youth groups run using the spaces provided at the STAG are numerous, and if it were to close many of them would be unable to provide amazing opportunities to disadvantaged young people.</p> <p>The value of having a community resource devoted to the arts, and the positive impact it has on the community cannot be overstated. It is a place for inclusivity and community spirit.</p> <p>In terms of budgeting, the STAG CEMENTS sevenoaks as a desirable town both to visit and live in, and the impact of its closure would be felt by businesses and public services alike, particularly social services.</p> <p>Please consider continuing to provide financial support to the STAG for as long as it needs.</p>
1042.	<p>I wanted to send this email to say how devastating it would be for Sevenoaks to lose the Stag.</p> <p>As a family we use it for the cinema and shoes and also annually for the pantomime. Two of my sisters travel annually from Bristol just so they can bring their families to the Sevenoaks pantomime with us.</p> <p>I really hope that the Sevenoaks Town Council will provide them with a much needed grant so they can reopen!</p> <p>It is a huge asset to our community and I think local people would be very unimpressed if the Town Council decided not to support it and it then had to close for good!</p>
1043.	<p>Please support the funding request from The Stag Theatre.</p> <p>My family have used the theatre many times over the years. It provides a valuable service to both Sevenoaks and a much wider community.</p>
1044.	Please continue finding The Stag theatre.
1045.	<p>I am writing to ask for you to consider supporting the stag theatre to stay open. It is a brilliant place where myself and my family have enjoyed many shows, pantos, cinema experiences as well as coffee and cake for many years. It is so nice to have a place where it can be enjoyed by old and young bringing the community together.</p> <p>Last year I watched my eldest son perform at love 2 dance show, he loved every minute if it. My youngest son will take part in a few years and it would be gutting if the stag has closed.</p> <p>The shows are always amazing and I am so proud that our little town can host such wonderful performances.</p> <p>So please please help the stag stay open, it really would be such a loss to The Sevenoaks Community.</p>
1046.	<p>I would like to say how important the Stag Theatre is to the town of Sevenoaks. We have a proud tradition of performing arts in this town and district and to lose this venue would be a disaster for the town not only as a performing venue but also it's cinema outlets and the economy for local restaurants, cafes and pubs in the area. Please support the continuation for this valuable venue.</p>

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1047.	<p>I am writing to urge the council to financially support The Stag at this difficult time. The Stag is a much loved and valuable community amenity. It is vital for the future prosperity of Sevenoaks that it survives this challenging period.</p> <p>The Stag gives local people access to film, comedy, theatre, dance, community events and of course the much loved pantomime. As a family, both our children have experienced the excitement of performing live in dance shows, we've established a tradition of going to the panto every year, and we've had a huge amount of laughter watching comedy from Ken Dodd, Harry Hill, Jack Whitehall and Russell Kane to name a few. I was also looking forward to seeing An audience with Ruth Jones, postponed to September. We have had so many enriching experiences and happy memories of events at The Stag.</p> <p>The Stag is simply one of the towns most valuable assets and I sincerely hope that the Council will offer the required support to save it for the future benefit of the Sevenoaks community. I really think It would be desperately sad if Sevenoaks comes out of this relatively short difficult time without The Stag, I've no doubt it would be to the great detriment of the town and its community.</p>
1048.	<p>I am a local member of the sevenoaks community and have heard that The Stag is at risk of closing due to lack of finances.</p> <p>We have lived in Sevenoaks and have visited the cinema and theatre without fail on a monthly basis.</p> <p>The stag is at the heart of the community and provides so much local entertainment that it would be just awful if it was unable to stay open for business.</p> <p>Please support this local business as much as possible and I'm sure the residents of sevenoaks will make sure they support it even more in the future - I know we will.</p>
1049.	<p>This is an amazing community theatre that has so much to offer the town of Sevenoaks. It makes the town what it is with restaurants and visitors Coming from all around to visit our amazing town. The facilities are great to have new release cinema and theatre and music throughout the year plus obviously the panto. The opportunity it offers to young dancers and the support for local charities is too much to loose.</p>
1050.	<p>Myself and my wife are both 'Friends of the Stag' and have been for many years. We have lived in Sevenoaks for over 30 years and have always appreciated that, when needed, Sevenoaks District Council have always been there to offer support. As a town, we both realise how lucky we are to have both a Theatre and 2 Cinema's within the Stag which is a truly excellent facility and one that brings people into our town who contribute to parking charges and also dining either before or after shows they have booked at the Stag. It really would be tragic to witness the loss of the Stag due to the culture it offers to either adults or their children. We have contributed to the 'Save the Stag' fund raising which we believe has already a considerable sum and would be grateful if you could be able to offer this lifeline which is needed due to the Covid 19 pandemic.</p>
1051.	<p>I have been sitting in the cinema which was then the Odeon since 1953 or thereabouts, the first film I watched from my memory was either Bambi or White Christmas. I had to suffer cinema withdrawal symptoms when Kino withdrew and was absolutely thrilled when Sevenoaks Town Council came to the rescue.</p> <p>I have supported the cinema, pantos, various concerts over the years, both with purchasing tickets and donations, and really want to continue this tradition, as I just love the cinema and refuse to attend either the cinemas in Tunbridge Wells or Oxted.</p> <p>Please, please Town Council continue to support The Stag. Surely the number of people who attend the various shows and cinema justifies your support. And also how would the closing of The Stag affect the Youth Cafe and the Plaza Suite?</p>

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<p>1052.</p>	<p>When we moved to Sevenoaks in 1995, the fact that the town had its own cinema/theatre and its own Leisure Centre, were major attractions and we have consistently made use of both facilities ever since, including when our 3 children were young.</p> <p>The Stag has had many ups and downs over the years, but since it's been run by the 'community' it has maintained its central role in providing entertainment for all ages and tastes.</p> <p>Personally, I most enjoy going to the cinema there, especially when broadcasts from the National Theatre, the RSC and the Royal Opera House are streamed - it's wonderful to be able to see these things locally without having to travel up to London.</p> <p>Over the years, we have also enjoyed live stand up performances, concerts and occasional theatre productions, and several Sevenoaks Festival events held there too.</p> <p>When our children were primary and secondary school age, it was marvellous that they could go to the cinema by themselves, meeting friends there, and not requiring us to drive them to Tunbridge Wells or Bluewater.</p> <p>If the Stag were to close, and the Leisure Centre too, the life-blood of the town would be sucked dry and I am sure that the High Street would suffer too - in simple terms, no one would have cause to go into the town centre at all.</p> <p>So I do hope you will consider favourably the Stag's request for a grant of £220,000 to help it survive while it rethinks how it can meet our needs and remain viable in these difficult covid19 times. I have donated to their appeal fund, and I hope the Council will now respond positively as well.</p>
<p>1053.</p>	<p>I am messaging you to lend my support to the Stag Theatre which is seeking funding from you.</p> <p>The Stag (along with theatre such as the Trinity Theatre in Tunbridge Wells and the Churchill in Bromley) are incredibly important theatres providing a variety of entertainment for families and adults.</p> <p>We attend the renowned Christmas panto every year with our children and their grandparents and it is a fantastic family event.</p> <p>Whatever event we attend (and I watch bands and comedians as well) we are seen to by friendly efficient staff who go out of their way to ensure the experience is what we want it to be.</p> <p>As we live in Orpington we also like to spend time at the shops and restaurants such as the excellent Marco's.</p> <p>I sincerely hope you will continue to fund the Stag. I have tickets for shows which have been rescheduled and will buy tickets for the panto.</p> <p>The Stag is an important community hub and must continue to be supported.</p>
<p>1054.</p>	<p>We would like to record our support for The Stag, and our wish that the Council do everything in its power to keep it going.</p> <p>I have lived in Sevenoaks 35 years, and The Stag is an important part of our community. There was a noticeable "hole" when it closed down on the previous occasion.</p> <p>It is essential to the local economy, bringing people into the town for restaurants, cafes and pubs.</p> <p>I have enjoyed concerts, opera, comedy and films there, and would urge you to support it. I have made a donation in the hopes that you can keep it going.</p>
<p>1055.</p>	<p>I write to register my support for maintaining The Stag and to express my concern that this vital part of our community could be at risk.</p> <p>We have lived in Sevenoaks for circa 15 years and can honestly say that The Stag has been a major part of our social life throughout that time.</p>

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	The Stag provides an excellent community service acting as a hub for entertainment and a centre for social and community support.
1056.	I would like to add my voice in support of the Stag Theatre. This is a much loved institution that provides a vital focus and service to the community in Sevenoaks and beyond. We have lived in Sevenoaks since 1984 and it has played a constant part in our lives here. My family and I have enjoyed going to so many events there and Sevenoaks would lose a big part of its heart if it were not to survive.
1057.	I'm very upset with the thought that The Stag could close, I appreciate the hard times the council are going through but The Stag is such a community hub My mum joins in with a knit and natter group weekly there, this is one of the only places she gets to meet people and have a chat with them I love taking my brownie pack to see the annual pantomime each year and over the last few years the pantos have been better than ever before, The brownies always ask if we can go the following year it's very much a tradition now I also enjoy watching the amateur dramatic group productions, live theatre is so great My family also prefer the cinema there as the seats have more leg room and lovely and comfy and they always show the most current films It would be such a shame to lose such a huge part of the town, I'm not sure if that goes there will be anything to go to the town for anymore I do hope you can see a way of helping to keep it going.
1058.	I am writing to express my concern at the threatened closure of our beloved Stag Theatre My family have enjoyed the amenity of a local cinema ,theatre and arts centre in Sevenoaks for over 30 years and we would be devastated to lose it.In addition to seeing films close to home with the benefit of convenient parking , we have enjoyed theatre productions ,concerts and pantomimes over the years . Both my daughter and I have performed with various choirs and dance shows at The Stag .My daughter was a member of the Stag youth theatre as a teenager, which led to her going on to study drama and acting at university and drama school . There will be many local families with similar experiences and happy memories of The Stag and now more than ever ,with the performing arts facing the challenge of a post COVID economy ,we should do everything possible to retain this jewel in the crown of Sevenoaks.I believe that the Stag is central to the cultural life of the area for people of all ages and helps give Sevenoaks a sense of identity ,setting it apart from other commuter towns which do not have that advantage .The Stag definitely contributes to the accolade that Sevenoaks is one of the 'happiest places to live' .Let is all so everything in our power to save it
1059.	The Stag Theatre is a vital lifeline to the community on many levels. A hub of creativity steeped in tradition but also prepared to put forward a modern twist with some of its offerings. Sevenoaks is very lucky to have this amazing cultural and arts facility and it would be extremely sad should the decision be made to close it down. Please consider all options that would allow this historic venue to be saved after the devastating recent closure and would guarantee the employment of all those who work there. As the people of Sevenoaks finally are allowed to enjoy some freedom post lockdown, visits to The Stag will be vital in getting our community back on its feet.
1060.	I am writing in support of the funding application made by the STAG. I remember the time some years ago when the STAG was 'dark' for lack of funds and I hope that will not happen again as it had such a detrimental effect on the town. These facilities are such an asset to Sevenoaks. Having the STAG enables amateur groups to perform in a way they could not achieve otherwise which enhances the lives

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	<p>of many by providing stimulating activity, essential for physical and mental wellbeing. It gives opportunities to young people to develop valuable skills that will stand them in good stead all their lives. It provides safe meeting places for young and old. It brings cultural opportunities to the town that enhance quality of life. And users of the STAG bring business to town for cafes and restaurants.</p> <p>For these and many other reasons I am donating to the STAG funds myself, but the business needs of such a sizeable organisation require substantial support if they are to recover from this enforced period of closure and resulting lack of income.</p>
1061.	<p>I'm writing to you to request the council give funding to the Stag to enable them to stay open. I enjoy visiting it and it is an integral part of Sevenoaks and its history.</p> <p>Regards</p>
1062.	<p>This is a grave decision to close the Stag, it's a lifeline for people and provides a soul to the community. This is a fantastic facility for the who area and it needs to be promoted and stay OPEN!</p>
1063.	<p>Please do not allow this amazing venue to close. It is of tremendous benefit to the local community.</p>
1064.	<p>The Stag is the very heart of Sevenoaks. Residents will do anything to keep it open. Please don't close the Stag. Turn to its community for support.</p>
1065.	<p>We just wanted to add support for the continuation of funding for the Stag Theatre. This is a vital resource to the town providing opportunities for people of all ages to enjoy and participate in local entertainment. Whilst Restaurants and pubs are likely to open soon, theatres currently remain problematic. However it would be short-sighted if a decision to close the theatre were taken at this stage. Whilst we appreciate that local councils have limited resources we feel it is important that the theatre is given further opportunity to raise local voluntary funds and help secure its future as circumstances may change and once the facility is gone then reinstatement would be unlikely.</p>
1066.	<p>I feel it is very important that we continue to fund the Stag Theatre. It is the only space like it in Sevenoaks and provides a place for young and old to come together to enjoy art and popular entertainment.</p> <p>It is also an attraction bringing people from further afield to Sevenoaks And who will then access other aspects of the high street.</p> <p>Lastly it is an employer and offers SEN adults opportunities they otherwise would not have and local children a place to go to hang out in a safe and responsible way.</p>
1067.	<p>Please PLEASE support the Stag and help keep it alive. Offering two cinemas and the stage productions, as a town and as an individual I have been a 'friend' for several years. The facility helps keep the town centre alive and we need to do all we can to retain it.</p> <p>I have donated and hope you, the council, will also support.</p>
1068.	<p>I'm emailing my support to save the Stag Theatre. It would be an absolute tragedy to lose such a fabulous local venue that is a real community hub. I have such happy memories of performing there as a child and my children have now performed there as well. The venue offers something different to the big chain cinemas and has great facilities like meeting places for local teenagers etc. We all enjoy the annual pantomime and the local feel to the theatre.</p> <p>I think young people in particular would lose out massively if this shut. It's a great local option for theatre and cinema.</p> <p>Please, please don't let us lose yet another fabulous Town Centre institution.</p>
1069.	<p>We are writing to support the continuance of the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks</p> <p>This is an excellent facility in our town providing entertainment for all ages.</p>



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	<p>My wife and I have been living in Sevenoaks for 40 years and particularly enjoy taking our grandchildren to pantomimes or similar around Christmas time. We urge you to make every effort to help the Stag survive at this difficult time.</p>
1070.	<p>I wanted to write an email in support of the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. The Stag is such an important resource locally and one that myself and many of my friends use often. In fact during lockdown I was supposed to watch my friend's niece in the show 'Annie' and of course we're all hoping it will be rescheduled. I have used the stag not only for shows but for the cinema and the play cafe too. It is supports groups socially for example new mums. I'm also aware there's a youth cafe. I truly believe having a theatre sets Sevenoaks apart from the surrounding areas. My parents who live in 20 miles away come to The Stag to enjoy what's on offer. It would be extremely sad to see it close and I hope that Sevenoaks council is able to support it so that we can all continue to enjoy it for years to come.</p>
1071.	<p>I would like to add my name as a supporter of asking the council to help in anyway possible to providing funding to The Stage to enable it to stay open. I can appreciate that in these uncertain times the 'coffers' of the council will be tight but The Stag provides a much needed service for the whole area especially with traveling restrictions for the vulnerable, self isolating and elderly - I feel it is imperative for The Stag to remain open not just for now but for the foreseeable future as some people will never feel confident of traveling afar again. I know that they have launched an appeal but fear many people are in the same position as the council with regards to spare cash. It would be a real travesty for The Stag to close. Myself and my family regularly use this venue and we would be very sorry to see it disappear. All I ask is that their plea for cash is not dismissed out of hand but carefully considered by yourselves.</p>
1072.	<p>I am writing as a resident of Borough Green. The Stag is our nearest cinema and theatre. We have enjoyed watching many films there, before lockdown we would go for a meal in Sevenoaks followed by a film on a date night and have fond memories of the stag. I also dance at the local dance school, Caroline Clare dance in Borough Green and have gone to see the students perform at the stag every 2 years. I have never had the courage to perform in the show and massively enjoyed watching my fellow students perform instead. It means a lot to them to put on a show and demonstrate their hard work, they were all so sad to learn we wouldn't be able to do that this year and now the thought that they may never get to perform in a real theatre if the stag closes is devastating. I'm sure once the lockdown ends people will return to using the stag. It is culturally enriching and an important source of entertainment for the local community. It would be a real shame to lose that. There are so few independent cinemas and theatres, it is one of the things that makes Sevenoaks stand out.</p>
1073.	<p>I have been made aware that our wonderful Stag is under threat of closure. It is a fantastic venue where my family have enjoyed many, many movies as well as theatre productions in particular the annual pantomimes. It would be an enormous loss to the community if it were to close - a place where people of all ages can gather to enjoy culture as well as meet each other.  As a mother I have in particular benefited from the proximity and safety of the Theatre for my young children. On reaching a suitable age I have been able to allow them to see movies on their own as I know they will be safe in Sevenoaks and this independence is a key part of their personal development. If the Stag closed it would be</p>

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	<p>a huge loss to our town - for families, children, young adults and the elderly - from a cultural, social and community perspective.</p>
1074.	<p>I am emailing you because I have read that you are discussing the future of The Stag theatre later this week. I urge you to consider how special and valued this landmark building is for our town. It would be a tragedy to lose this facility.</p> <p>The Stag is an important hub for the people of sevenoaks; it is a sociable place to meet for comedy and theatre, a lovely place to have coffee and the only way many of us can see films without relying on our cars.</p> <p>Please consider how important this business is for attracting many people to the town as well.</p>
1075.	<p>We would like to express our support for the Stag managements application for increased funding. We are regular attendees at Stag events and recognise its value to the town. It is an important asset and permanent closure would have a major impact on local cultural activities and reduce the income it brings to local hospitality venues. Hopefully the Town Councillors will recognise this and approve the funding request, even if this means delaying other projects in Sevenoaks.</p>
1076.	<p>I understand that the Stag Theatre is under threat of closure and that this is to be discussed at a meeting of Sevenoaks Council on 29 June 2020.</p> <p>The theatre is a vital part of Sevenoaks and is an asset to the town. Please consider the effect that such an action would have.</p> <p>There is plenty of whinging in the media about the demise of the U.K. high street. Ultimately, closing amenities like the Stag will give people little or no reason to visit Sevenoaks town centre, adding to the downward spiral, exacerbated by high car parking charges</p> <p>The council has done a great job during the lockdown. Please don't spoil your reputation by using Coronavirus as an excuse to save money.</p>
1077.	<p>I understand that you are reviewing whether to keep the Stag open or not?</p> <p>I strongly support keeping the Stag open and running. They do phenomenal work (and have done for some time) and provide an essential community service (and asset). Any funding required would be well worth it.</p>
1078.	<p>Please keep the Stag open, it is a vital facility to our local community.</p> <p>My friends and I enjoy going to live shows, theatre streamings and film screenings on a regular weekly basis.</p> <p>I feel that the Stag is such an important part of our community and is unique in its heritage and the enjoyment it gives to people of all ages in the town and beyond.</p> <p>Best wishes and many thanks for raising awareness of this in our community.</p>
1079.	<p>I have heard that the Stag in Sevenoaks may have to close due to financial issues due to Covid-19. I cannot tell you what a major loss this would be to the community as a whole.</p> <p>This is a place that caters for all generations from Mother and Baby film showings and mental health groups, the many youth projects that go on, the amazing Tea Dances for the golden generation and also all the brilliant productions that they put on and so many volunteers giving their time to ensure that this all goes ahead. I think that the Stag not only offers it services but so many benefit from volunteering their time, it helps in keeping people sane, happy and connected.</p> <p>I live in Edenbridge and have been using the Stag for over 15 years. My son is now almost 20 and he uses the cinema too as it's just such good value for any generation, no matter what you want to see or do. We have been going to the cinema, I meet my friends in the Café at least once a week for a catch up (pre-lockdown and can't wait till</p>

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	<p>we can again) and have watched many bands, I've cried laughing at some of the comedy gigs and all at a cost that doesn't break the bank.</p> <p>I can't afford to travel down the motorway to Tunbridge Wells and spend what the bigger cinemas are asking. I can't afford to and I'm sure the school groups can't afford travel into London and pay London theatre rates. I can't and I'm sure many, many people can't and won't be able to do without the Stag.</p> <p>I hope that there is some way that could be found to save the Stag and keep offering the amazing all round service that it , its staff and volunteers provides. I hope that as a collective, writing in, everyone can show you how loved and needed this resource is within our community.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing from you.</p>
1080.	<p>Hi. We are writing to you concerning the future of the Stag theatre. The theatre provides such an important and wide-ranging service to the Community and it would be a tragedy if it was forced to close. We appreciate the Council has many calls for financial assistance, but we hope you will consider this particular case with sympathy.</p>
1081.	<p>Please do not close the Stag. It is such an important element of our lives as residents. It also resonates in the larger community adding to popularity of Sevenoaks and its environs.</p> <p>We need to advertise its existence more rather than obliterate it.</p>
1082.	<p>The stag theatre is well worth keeping, the cinema is fantastic local and a godsend in the rain.The theatre is wonderful for our children who attend a dance school presentation every other year. please keep it.</p>
1083.	<p>There are so many reasons why I love the stag. Firstly, the movies, I can remember going there to see movies from a very young age and I always get excited whenever I walk in the dark room and the movie is about to start. Secondly, I have been doing the Sevenoaks entertainers panto for years now and I love it, It so much fun and it makes us feel like we are part of the stag family. Please don't close down the stag, it puts so many smiles on children's faces and keeps us happy.</p>
1084.	<p>Please save our Stag! The theatre has been an integral part of our town for the 22 years we have lived in Sevenoaks, and much longer than that! It is a local institution and must be saved. The current pandemic has made people shop more locally, and I think its use will increase once the lockdown is lifted as people realise more than ever that local is best.</p>
1085.	<p>I'm writing to request that you allocate funding to The Stag theatre complex during your next review which I understand will take place shortly.</p> <p>I've lived in Sevenoaks for 26 years have visited The Stag regularly for the cinema, theatre, pantomimes, dancing events, and the coffee shop.</p> <p>The Stag is a key part of making Sevenoaks the lovely place it is to live in and it would be tragic to loose it.</p> <p>Residents of Sevenoaks pay a fair amount in Council tax as it's an affluent area with high value housing, and I'm sure I'm not alone in saying that I'd very much like some of that money to go towards helping the town continue to be an attractive centre and specifically to funding The Stag.</p>
1086.	<p>It's a key part of the town and District. Please support it, before it's too late.</p>
1087.	<p>Please, please do not let our beloved theatre close.</p> <p>Along with my friends we visit the cinema most weeks and support the wonderful shows and always the Panto at Christmas with the family-twelve of us-we shall all be heartbroken if we lose it.</p> <p>I am a senior citizen but will donate as much as I can but don't want my charities to suffer.</p>

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<p>1088.</p>	<p>I have read that you are making a decision soon on whether to keep funding The Stag, or to close it. As a local resident I believe it would be a great shame to lose The Stag as it is, in its own way, the beating heart of the town. I am a member of the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra and therefore regularly perform in the main theatre, but as a family we often use the cinema and/or attend lectures/talks at the Stag Plaza. This is the only community based venue for our town and therefore it would be a tragic loss if it was to go.</p>
<p>1089.</p>	<p>It has come to my attention that The Stag Theatre is in need of funding otherwise it will have to permanently close its doors. I am writing to ask you to fund The Stag Theatre please. As well as offering theatre and cinema, and therefore driving footfall to Sevenoaks Town and its many restaurants and shops, it also offers so many vital opportunities to young children and young adults. My daughter was due to take part in a couple of productions just before lockdown. She was due to perform in the musical Annie, and smaller theatres like The Stag are essential in giving a platform for young performers, who may not get the opportunities of the London Theatres in their early careers. She was also due to perform as part of a music show via Kent Music, an organisation dedicated to providing music opportunities to youngsters and adults alike. The knock on effect of theatre closures means less opportunities to perform, develop a career in the arts and takes away the joy of seeing your loved ones perform. Please do consider funding The Stag to keep it open. It's survival also ensures that Sevenoaks can once again return to being a thriving town centre, as often patrons to The Stag will also eat at the local restaurants and pubs.</p>
<p>1090.</p>	<p>I am writing to urge you to save the Stag Theatre. It's a crucial centrepiece for Sevenoaks and all the more important once we emerge from Lockdown. To lose it would be a death knell for the town. I've lived in the area since 1993 and have supported it throughout the time. I, my children have grown up with the Stag, for kiddie shows, films through to the Comedy evening, live music, opera evenings and of course the annual Panto - we go every year. My children are now in their late 20s. There is a paucity of live entertainment and cinema in the area. I would have said that post Covid, people are more likely to want to visit a local venue. Knights Park is a long car drive and an extremely unpleasant experience. I have always been loyal to the town, even though I spent most of my time working in London. Looking at it today, with so many closing shops, over supply of service shops such as nail bars and barbers, if Sevenoaks lost its one major asset ( after the Library and pool), I fear it will become another 'dead' town centre. Which is ironic, because of the huge wealth in the area. Please support the Stag for us all, both today and for the future.</p>
<p>1091.</p>	<p>As a disabled middle aged man living in Sevenoaks since 1997 the Stag has been a way out for my family and I for many years. My eldest daughter who is hopefully off the Cambridge University to study medicine went to Amherst school in Riverhead. When it was her Y6 leavers musical, it was held at the Stag (Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat.) What a treat for the kids and us parents without the theatre the show would have been in a small school hall and not have the meaning and memories that it does. I cannot drive because of my eyesight so the Stag is the only way I can get to the cinema with the kids. It also allows us to see comedy and another west end like shows without travelling which is so much better for me. The prices are great and is also offers a place for the kids to go with the Plaza.</p>

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	A town like ours needs a theatre. Please do what you can to save the Stag.
1092.	To not have this beautiful building closed the heart of our town would be a dire shame. Not only people from far and wide of Kent prefer to see our shows and pantomimes which of course bring trade to our shops and restaurants. Its a hub of our beautiful people in this living near by, and the elderly that can't travel far.. Maybe have a huge raffle to try to get funds, to help.
1093.	<p>I would like to express my concern about The Stag and ask that the council provide financial backing to support this most important venue in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I and my family feel it is vital to support the theatre to allow it to get back to how it was and what if provided for the community before Covid.</p> <p>We have lived in sevenoaks for nearly eleven years and 10 of these years we have been bringing up our now ten year old child. We have used The Stag at every stage of our 11 years in the town.</p> <p>It was a night out for my husband and I, before becoming parents; either the two of us or with friends - cinema nights and comedy nights. I attended Baby cinema at The Stag two weeks after our daughter was born. This morning cinema is great for getting new mums out and meeting other mums with babies. It's so important for mothers and babies to get out in the early days and beyond.</p> <p>My daughter as a toddler attended baby activity classes in the hall at the back of the theatre. Gymboree, before basing in Riverhead, used the hall. It is important for the town to offer such a modern space for hire. Church halls are not enough.</p> <p>Visits to the cinema, pantomimes and to the family concerts were important events for us and our child from a young age. The family concerts aimed at children are an amazing chance for children to experience classical music and learn about different instruments. The pantomime, of course, has gained a reputation for being the best in the area and seems to light up the town at Christmas, and literally does at the Sevenoaks Christmas lights switch on!</p> <p>Our daughter attended Chance to Dance at The Stag the age of seven. What a wonderful event it is with children of all ages experiencing being on stage for the first time - a huge confidence boost. Dance groups from all over the area come to Sevenoaks for this event and parents and caterers enjoy being part of the audience.</p> <p>At eight, our daughter attended a drama group at The Stag. Again, being able to use the main theatre and be on the stage for the class adds an extra dimension to the class. I work in film and television production and know the importance of opportunities for children to experience the stage.</p> <p>Through all these years we, as a family, or with friends have used the cinema so much. In fact, for our daughters birthday a couple of years ago, she asked for Stag vouchers and her friends came together and gave her £100 worth of vouchers which were used on theatre shows and cinema over the subsequent weeks.</p> <p>We have also used the cafe at The Stag. I have met friends there and socialised there. It is so convenient for people and provides a spacious area for children to be happy too whilst parents and caterers enjoy a break.</p> <p>Going forward, we are pleased that our daughter will have somewhere to 'hang out' when she's a little older - the basement of The Stag where there are facilities and a meeting place for young people. This is of course so important for young people. There are limited venues for young people to meet and socialise.</p> <p>The Stag is such an important part of Sevenoaks. It is probably not an over exaggeration to say that it is 'the heart' of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>It is important for so many reasons that The Stag is supported by the council so that it can continue will all the great things it provided. It brings many people to the town. With the great restaurants around Sevenoaks it provided a good night out for many</p>

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	<p>who live in Sevenoaks and even more from outside. With the additional parking now in Sevenoaks there is a great draw to the town - shops including a Marks and Spencer, cafes, restaurants, bars, theatre and cinema - there is much to draw people in and means investment into the town. Money coming from London with all the new flats going up - you g people moving out of the city - now is the time to make the most of the town.</p> <p>I would be happy to play a part in The Stags future whether that is by buying some Stag vouchers at this point or helping in some practical sense.</p> <p>Let's all support The Stag, secure it's future and use the theatre even more as we get back to normal.</p>
1094.	<p>Please give serious consideration to saving The Stag. We think it would be a great pity to lose such a welcome and terrific addition to the town, both culturally and socially.</p>
1095.	<p>I am writing to you today with concerns over the possible closure of The Stag. My Wife and I both frequently visit the theatre to watch their shows and their youth productions.</p> <p>The shows they put on are fantastic, and we enjoy the Christmas Pantomimes with our children. We also highly enjoy the Sevenoaks Players performances as well as renowned visiting performers.</p> <p>We urge you to rethink and continue to fund and save our amazing Stag Theatre and not allow it to close, it would be a huge loss to Sevenoaks and the many families who live here and use the Stag.</p>
1096.	<p>I write to implore you to retain the STAG THEATRE for future generations of Sevenoaks to enjoy.</p> <p>The Stag is an integral part of Sevenoaks and would be a major loss to so many who use it. It's closure for the past few months should not result in its demise. With the council's support it will serve the community for many decades to come.</p>
1097.	<p>I would like to support The Stag Theatre remaining open. It is a valuable asset to our town and makes it stand out from other towns. The arts are a very vital part of our children's education. Please consider my vote to keep The Stag open and running as part of our lovely town and neighbourhood.</p> <p>I am sure we can all donate if necessary.</p>
1098.	<p>I understand that Sevenoaks Councillors are to meet on 29th June to discuss whether to continue the funding from which The Stag Theatre currently benefits.</p> <p>Speaking as someone who remembers the Sevenoaks of 35 years ago, I would like to make a plea that this support continues, to help see The Stag through what is inevitably a difficult time for so many local businesses and venues.</p> <p>The theatre is a piece of local history, and should be protected as such, and preserved for future generations to enjoy. It is an integral part of the community, as much a part of the Sevenoaks scenery as Knole Park itself, and where else can local people gather to see theatre productions and live music events?</p> <p>Its reach and appeal span a wide range of ages and backgrounds, and it does what theatres have always done - it brings those people together to share in a magical few hours of suspended disbelief. It offers people something to be involved in locally, whether in performing, in employment there, or as one of the many volunteers who are currently helping to keep this wonderful show on the road.</p> <p>I realise that times move on. But surely The Stag Theatre is worth fighting for, now more than ever, when the thought of one day being able to join together in a shared experience that brings us closer than 2 metres together is but a distant hope.</p>
1099.	<p>Please support and don't give up on Sevenoaks stag theatre. Our Family for years enjoyed its presents. It brings Sevenoaks people together. My in-laws are elderly and as</p>

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	a surprise every Christmas they used to take our children to Pantomime at Stag Theatre. That was such a joy for kids. Please support it and don't let it go!
1100.	Please would you add the names of Bryan and Margaret Nicholas of 26 Lambarde Road, Sevenoaks to the petition to keep the STAG open. We should be very distressed to lose this wonderful asset to our town.
1101.	<p>I am writing to express my support for The Stag and my disappointment that the council is considering letting this institution at the heart of the Sevenoaks's High Street fail. On a personal level I much appreciate having a cinema locally and always book to see things at The Stag rather than driving to Tunbridge Wells. Most showings are well attended leading me to believe that other local people also value it. The theatre is also a fantastic local resource with the comedy night and the pantomime being particular favourites of ours.</p> <p>From an economic point of view, I feel that it would be incredibly short sighted to allow The Stag to fail. This is one of the few destination points on the high street. Without it what have you got left to draw people into Sevenoaks, a series of generic shops, chain restaurants and estate agents. You risk killing the night-time economy of the town completely.</p> <p>Additionally, as a council you have a duty of care to provide safe spaces for the young people of the town to spend time together. Countless dance, drama and music groups rely on The Stag to provide an affordable venue for their performances, not to mention The House in the Basement which is such a valuable resource for the town's teenagers. Do not be yet another body which lets down the next generation. They may not pay council tax, but they are the town's future and you must provide for them. I strongly urge you to support The Stag and ensure that this much-loved institution isn't lost.</p>
1102.	The Stag Theatre is a central and important part of Sevenoaks Town. It provides people with wonderful experiences and memories and it would be a real loss if we were to see it go.
1103.	<p>I wanted to write to you to express how important The Stag is to my children and extended family and how it is a vital part of our community for so many reasons. Both of my daughters, aged 7 and 11 years, have performed regularly at The Stag since the age of 4 with The Dance Studio and Sevenoaks Entertainers...it's been a huge part of their life and has been the source of so much enjoyment and education as part of their performing and expressive arts education.</p> <p>There really isn't any other venue within Sevenoaks that can offer the services that The Stag does, I have lost count of the amount of workshops, shows, pantomimes and auditions that my daughters have taken part in within The Stag, it's such an important venue and it's size and facilities allows our extended family to gather together to enjoy the performances that can be shown. I'm not sure how often we would be able to do this if the purpose was taken away- The Stag provides an excuse and reason for us to gather and enjoy our time together.</p> <p>The opportunities that The Stag provides is particularly important to us as my daughters are Dyslexic, my youngest Lianna is severely dyslexic and it has been quite obvious for some time that her life will always involve Dance and Performing Arts. The regular shows that she participates in at The Stag give her a sense of purpose, they provide a reason for her to have a goal and are vital to her positive mental health. Performing at a poorer facility just wouldn't be the same, The Stag provides such a professional atmosphere that it gives children like Lianna the vision of a future career in performing arts.</p>

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	<p>I'm not sure what we would do without The Stag and I would be worried for the future of Sevenoaks Entertainers and The Dance Studio (along with many other performing arts groups) if The Stag has to close.</p> <p>Thank you for reading this and I do hope that Sevenoaks District council can help</p>
<p>1104.</p>	<p>I would like to express my concern that the Sevenoaks council is considering closing the Stag Theatre.</p> <p>The Stag is a big part of the Sevenoaks community and a place people get together. I am unable to drive and it is wonderful to be able to meet with friends in Sevenoaks to go to the theatre or the cinema. It feels so intimate and special. It would be a great loss to Sevenoaks and be missed by many.</p> <p>Please reconsider your plan and look at alternatives, for example some of the staff at the Sevenoaks Plaza are difficult to work with if you want to hire the space. Maybe there needs to be a change in staff to encourage more local events to hire this venue which is a great place but some of the staff have a real 'computer says no' attitude and my husband has first hand experience. When we have mentioned this to other friends they also confirmed this and also said they would not hold events there again. Please note that this does apply to the minority of staff but when it effects your event, you will not use it another time.</p> <p>I hope the Stag will be in Sevenoaks for many years to come and I love coming to the events.</p>
<p>1105.</p>	<p>Dear Council, I gather that the future of The Stag is to be discussed on 29th June. As a long-standing local resident I'd like to say that I think it is incredibly important for the town as a focus for community activity, a venue for young people's events and as somewhere for some much-needed culture.</p>
<p>1106.</p>	<p>It has been brought to my attention that the Stag Theatre is experiencing financial difficulties and that the Council will be meeting shortly to review the future viability of the theatre and cinema.</p> <p>As a Sevenoaks resident, I have seen and experienced the important role played by the Stag Theatre in several different ways. To name just a few:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a member of the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra I have enjoyed the privilege of being able to perform at the Stag on many occasions. Through our concerts we seek to provide entertainment to all sections of the local community, including young people (through our children's concerts) and those new to classical music (through our taster concerts)</li> <li>• As a parent, I have loved the opportunity to watch several 'Chance to Dance' performances, involving young people from across the district. My daughter has greatly benefitted from these experiences</li> <li>• As a school governor, I have seen many children benefit hugely from the opportunity to perform their annual school production in a real theatre</li> <li>• As local residents, my family and I regularly attend showings at the cinema and at the Stag (including the annual pantomime). It is also important to us to be able to do this locally, rather than having to load everyone into a car to travel longer distances to reach a cinema or other venue</li> <li>• I am also aware of the significant wider impact of the Stag on the local town. For example, I know that many people attending performances or rehearsals also spend additional time in the town, purchasing refreshments or popping into a shop or two. The knock-on effect on local business must be considerable.</li> </ul>



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	<p>I would urge the Council to do everything within its power to ensure the future survival and flourishing of the Stag Theatre and Cinema. It provides too many important services for it to be allowed to fail.</p>
<p>1107.</p>	<p>I am writing to you in relation to the Stag Theatre, to urge you to do everything you possibly can to preserve this valuable asset in our community.          Its loss would be a devastating blow to Sevenoaks. The Stag's provision of a valuable performing space for local and visiting groups for theatre, music and entertainment on stage and screen is a wonderful asset to the town. The quality and relevance has been excellent.          Times are difficult at present, but looking to the future, it would be such a mistake to let this asset go.</p>
<p>1108.</p>	<p>I have heard that there is a great possibility that the Stag Theatre is under threat of closure?          I can only ask that you might be able to reconsider this, as the theatre is a great asset to the town, not only being a theatre but a cinema as well.          The theatre itself holds many great shows and many of them are connected with local theatre/dance schools for which it is a great venue, and the Pantomime itself is always a great attraction and very well attended by not just the Sevenoaks community, but from all around neighbouring areas.          I do realise that the current Corona situation has caused closure for a long time and probably it will be some time ahead before the theatre can re-open again, but my family really hope you are able to keep this facility alive for the benefit of the whole community?</p>
<p>1109.</p>	<p>I would like to add my support/plea to ensure that the Stag Theatre is to be saved and not to close down.          My daughter currently attends dance classes with Sevenoaks and is in the Cascade dance troupe at '.....', and over the years she has performed numerous times at the Stag. I am a childminder and work from home in Sevenoaks, so having a local theatre close to home has meant I am able to adapt my work hours with her performances and it has been so helpful. It means I can still get to see her performances even though I can't finish work until 6pm most evenings.           Also, it is so good to have a local cinema that my teenage children can meet up with their friends, knowing that they are safe and I can collect them if I have to because they are close to home.           Please do what you can to save the Stag Theatre. It has been a central figure for the community for so many years and no doubt for generations of other young performers in years to come.</p>