

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

MAY 2025

Edition 733



KCC COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2025

RESULTS

Candidates – ELHAM VALLEY DIVISION

COLLEN – Mason Henry –	Labour Party.	333	
HESPE – Christopher –	Reform UK.	2,522	ELECTED
MARTIN – Jim –	The Green Party.	1,439	
NEWING – Emily –	Liberal Democrats.	376	
RICHARDSON – Sarah –	Conservative Party.	1,120	

HI KENT Reg Charity 1052036 www.hikent.org.uk

The local charity for people with a hearing loss. Hi Kent provides FREE NHS hearing aid aftercare, advice and battery supply. The local hearing aid maintenance clinic will be in Coffee & Company in the Durling Hall, Sellindge Village Hall on – **May 13th from 10.15am to 11.15am.**

Hi Kent at Coffee & Company every 2nd Tuesday

2025 dates – June 10th – July 8th – August 12th – Sept 9th – Oct 14th – Nov 11th – Dec 9th



Think you've seen an Asian Hornet? Report it!



Report through the Asian Hornet Watch app or www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport



Asian Hornet – Spring is now here, time to look out for Queen Asian Hornets, who will be coming out of hibernation from sheds and other outbuildings, so keep an eye open. Although no sightings were reported in Sellindge last year. There were sighting in our close neighbour village Lympne.

MOBILE LIBRARIES DATES and TIMES FOR MAY 2025

www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/visiting-a-library/mobile-libraries

Email ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk Tel 03000 41 31 31

Lay By on A20 at the bottom of Swan Lane.

Thursdays – 9.15am to 9.45am on **May 8th & 22nd**

St Kathrines Crescent TN25 6FU.

Fridays – 2.50pm to 3.20pm on **May 9th & 23rd**

SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

www.sellindge-pc.gov.uk 01303 813 271 clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk

The next meeting of your Parish Council is on Tuesday May 13th starting at 6.30pm in the Durling Hall.

Dog Poo Bags – Dog poo bags are still available from the Parish Council Office on Tuesday mornings or Friday afternoon. Dog poo bags are also still available from Nigel at Trust Cottages in Moorstock Lane, he puts them on a patio chair or table outside his house.

Also now available from the Dog Poo Bag dispenser which is located at the entrance to the Village Green.

Parish Councillor Vacancy – There have been no requests for an election to fill the recently advertised vacancy. So, if you would like to become a **Parish Councillor**. Please contact the Proper Officer / Clerk for more details – clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk phone 01303 813271 (please leave a message)

Come to the office when it is open (Tues morning Fri afternoon) or phone to arrange an appointment.

NORTH DOWNS WEST WARD – Cllr Elaine Martin Contact: (Green Party) Elaine.Martin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Following the closure of the Citizens Advice office in Folkestone the independent and confidential advice offered to residents was temporarily made available by the Citizens Advice Dover, Deal and District office. This agreement has now been formalized and Advisers are available to be contacted by calling 01304 353 861, visiting doverdealadvice.co.uk or attending the Rainbow Centre, Folkestone (CT20 2AF) Thurs between 10am - 3pm.

The Reach the Beach bus service will run between Folkestone West station and the Harbour Arm again this summer. They will charge a nominal fee of £1 each way, children under 16 go free and bus passes will be accepted.

F&HDC have been successful in getting a further £171,402 from Rural Prosperity Fund. This runs the same manner as the previous Rural Prosperity Fund grant scheme. Application form available soon on Folkestone Works website.

Work on Folkestone: A Brighter Future commenced on the 7th April and is due to last until September 2026. The works have gone through extensive consultation and will lead the regeneration of the town centre in Folkestone. This will include a new play area in Bouverie Square. There will be traffic diversions in place throughout this time.

F&HDC have also secured £1.44M grant funding for a heat pump heating system in FOLCA2.

This is great news for the project overall, it will also greatly help towards the Council's ambition to become net zero.

Sellindge Surgery Sellindge Patients Participation Group

On 28 April, I attended the above meeting. I was pleased to learn that for over 75's same day appointments can be made by telephoning the Surgery at 8 am. Five slots are available every day to accommodate this new initiative. However, it was disappointing to note that in March 34 patients did not attend their GP appointment and 26 patients did not attend their Nursing appointment.



Keep it, rearrange it, cancel it JUST DON'T MISS IT

In March 34 patients DID NOT ATTEND their GP appointment and 26 patients DID NOT ATTEND their Nursing appointments. This resulted in one full day of wasted clinical time.

Please advise us if you cannot make your appointment. We can then release it to someone else

Governance – On 29 January 2025 I put a motion to full Council to remain as a Leader/Cabinet style of Governance rather than move to a Committee system in view of the Local Government Re-organisation programme. On 2 April 2025, the Secretary of State, Jim McMahon wrote the following “I confirm that I therefore consider that your council’s proposed course of action - to resolve to reverse the council’s decision of June 2023 to move to a committee system form of governance arrangements, and to retain a leader and cabinet model - is likely to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of some or all of the people who live or work in the area of the local authority. For these reasons I consent to your council resolving to retain the leader and cabinet model. The full Council will now need to ratify this decision.

Everist Court Lyminge – On 2 April 2025 at the Full Council Meeting I put a further question to the Leader of the Council asking him to meet with the Community Group to discuss their proposal. For his response please see [Agenda for Council on Wednesday, 2nd April, 2025, 7.00 pm | Folkestone & Hythe District Council](#)

Citizens Advice Bureau

Although the Folkestone Office has closed, at a recent presentation by Citizens Advice we were informed that a presence will be retained in the Folkestone & Hythe district with the ability to increase the services offered. Advisers are available to be contacted by calling 01304 353861, visiting doverdealadvice.co.uk or by attending the Rainbow Centre, Folkestone (CT20 2AF) on Thursdays between 10am and 3pm.

My Community Voice – There is information about six different scams, including voice cloning.

For further information please sign up [to My Community Voice Kent](#)

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

Finally our County Cllr Susan Carey is standing down as a Member of Kent County Council as at 1 May 2025. She has been our Kent County Councillor for 20 years and I would like to put on record my personal thanks and also that of many residents of the Elham Valley Division. Her kindness, expertise and willingness to help and support residents over the years has been exceptional. Personally, I have worked with Susan for 26 years as previously she was also my District Colleague for North Downs West. I will certainly miss such a wonderful friend and colleague and wish her and her husband John, all best wishes for their retirement.

KCC COUNCILLOR Susan Carey, Elham Valley Ward. susan.carey@kent.gov.uk 01303 670 561

As most people will be aware by now, I am standing down from Kent County Council after 20 years as Member for Elham Valley. The Elham Valley division takes in the town of Hawkinge and stretches from Sellindge across to Swingfield and Stelling Minnis to Newington. It's one of the largest divisions in terms of square miles and certainly one of the most beautiful in Kent. It has been a privilege to represent the area and to be part of the community.

I've made friends in Sellindge over the years and wish you all well for the future.

I've been a regular attendee at the meeting of Sellindge Parish Council and seen several generations of Parish Councillors, Chairmen and Clerks come and go. I'd like to thank all those who have done their best for our community on the Parish Council and also my District Council colleague and friend, Jenny Hollingsbee who I have often had to beg not to reply so quickly to emails from residents so that I would also have a chance to help.

In the days before Social Care completely dominated KCC's spending, I was able to fund many local projects such as noticeboards, bus shelters, traffic cones to counter HGV parking, support for the Village Hall, the Sports & Leisure Club, the Youth Club, the Primary School and the Church. I also helped in the early days of Speedwatch and have been delighted to see it back in action and with the latest equipment provided by KCC.

Being a KCC Member is a big-time commitment with meetings taking place at County Hall in Maidstone in daytime. Those of us with special responsibilities are at County Hall most weekdays. In my 20 years I've served as Deputy Cabinet Member for Education, Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance, Cabinet Member for Communications and Cabinet Member for Environment. It was in my time as Cabinet Member for Environment that we introduced the booking system for Kent's Household Waste Recycling Centres which has virtually eliminated queuing and proved so popular that Kent's residents supported its permanent retention. We also won over £25m in Government funding for projects to reduce energy use and carbon emissions which helped pay for two solar parks (both of which went through planning without a single objection) and energy efficiency measures in our offices. In the two years I was responsible for this area we reduced our carbon emissions 30,267 tonnes to 13,550 through our own actions (i.e. over and above the decarbonisation of the grid). We also funded and installed Electric Vehicle charging points in District Council owned car parks across Kent (our EV600 scheme) as well as trials for taxi drivers and some village halls. There are a further 10,000 EV charging points coming for across Kent to help those who don't have off-road parking. We not only planted an additional 169,313 native trees across Kent but saw them established in their early years through mulching and watering. I was also able to support a project to reestablish disease resistant elms and the White-letter Hairstreak butterfly which relies on elms for habitat. Many people talk about the environment but KCC delivers.

Whoever you choose to be your next County Councillor is likely also to be your last County Councillor as the Government is intent on a major re-organisation of KCC and the District/Borough Councils (similar changes are happening across England). Whatever form this reorganisation takes, the challenges remain as intractable as ever. Social Care is consuming an ever greater share of council spending leaving less and less for all other services. If local services are to thrive then we must find a better way of funding Social Care.

There are two important planning matters to report. On 25 March the Government granted development consent to connect Kent and Essex with 14.5 miles of new road including tunnels under the Thames. Sellindge stands to benefit more than most from this as the Lower Thames Crossing will relieve pressure on the M20 and encourage more HGVs to use the M2. It could be in operation by the early 2030s. A planning application has been submitted to KCC for a wastewater treatment plant for Otterpool Park. This has been part of the plans for many years it's good to see it finally coming forward. Details are on the KCC website.

SELLINDGE WALKING GROUP – Please note new meet up time and set off time.

We meet at the Village Hall on a Tuesday morning at approximately 10am and set off at 10.15am.

We walk for 1 and 1/2 hours around the village using local footpaths.

This does involve crossing fields and climbing over stiles so appropriate footwear is advisable.

We are no longer part of the NHS Walking for Health Scheme just a group of locals who enjoy walking.

Everyone walks at their own risk.

Disclaimer – The views are the views of those making the submissions and is not necessarily the views of the Editor or Parish Council

THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB – www.sellindgesportsclub.co.uk



Sunday Roasts booking up fast, please call or text 07876 794 323 to book a table, collection or delivery

(in Sellindge) we would hate you to miss out!! £9 takeaway £10 to eat in, served 1pm till 5pm

Wednesday Noodle Night takeaway and local delivery available.

Thursday Pizza nights, takeaway and local delivery available.

Fridays Fish and Chips, takeaway and local delivery available.

Open from 9am Saturdays and Sundays

serving Breakfast Rolls and full menu.

Mondays Crafty Crafters – 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Tuesdays Whist Drive – 7pm

Wednesdays Pilates – 9.30am

Thursdays Bingo – 8pm

OPENING TIMES

Monday	3pm – 7pm
Tuesday	3pm – 9pm
Wednesday	3pm – 9pm
Thursday	3pm – 10pm
Friday	3pm – 11pm
Saturday	9am – 11pm
Sunday	9am – 6pm
Closing times subject to change	

Next **Tabletop Sale** – **Saturday May 3rd** Tables available to book/info contact Jane on 07850 722 319

See Facebook for what's going on.



AFC Sellindge Play the Ashford & District Sunday League – Division 2 – KO 10.30am

May 4th – Away V Saltwood KO at 10.30am

Sellindge Ladies Football Club play on a Sunday afternoon at 2pm they compete in the Southeast Kent Women's League in Division two

May 4th – Away V Baypoint Seconds KO at 2pm

May 25th – Home V Hawkinge Town.



Sellindge Ladies Football Club Under 9

Ashford & District Youth League – Sats KO 10am

May 3rd – Away V South Ashford u9 KO at 10am



Village Hall Weekly Events

MONDAY	SUPERSTRIKERS	9.30am -10.30am	Main Hall	www.superstrikers.co.uk
	RAINBOWS	4pm – 5pm	Main Hall -	01303 812 297 (Term time)
	BROWNIES	5.15pm - 6.45pm	Main Hall -	01303 812 297 (Term time)
	LINE DANCING	7.30pm – 9pm	Main Hall –	07753 274 913
TUESDAY	COFFEE & COMPANY	9am – 12.30pm	Main Hall	
	MOTHER & BABY GROUP	1.30pm – 3pm	Main Hall	
	LINE DANCING	6pm – 7.30pm,	Main Hall –	07989 210 449
WEDNESDAY	BABY MASSAGE/TUMMY TIME	10am – 12.00 Noon	Durling Hall	
	PLAY GYM 0 – 6 months	1pm - 2pm	Durling Hall	**NEW**
	L+S TABLE TENNIS		Main Hall	**NEW**
	BEES BODS	5.45pm – 6.45pm	Main Hall -	01303 813 274
	AEROBIC BODY BLAST	7pm - 8pm	Main Hall -	01233 820 109
THURSDAY	TINY TALK	10am – 11am	Durling Hall	
	PILATES	9.30 – 10.45am	Main Hall	
	PLAY GYM 6 – 12 months	12 Noon – 1pm	Main Hall	**NEW**
	PLAY GYM 12 months +	1.30pm – 2.30pm	Main Hall	**NEW**
	TAEKWONDO Various classes	5.15pm	Main Hall –	01303 814 635
FRIDAY	RUGBY TOTS	9.15am – 10.15am	Main Hall	
	1st SELLINDGE SCOUT GROUP CUBS - 6 -7.30pm, BEAVERS - 6.00-7.15pm, Both Halls SCOUTS - 7.30-9.00pm, EXPLORERS 7.30—9.00pm. 01303 813 250. 1stsellindgesg@gmail.com (Term time)			

Village Hall Monthly Events

TUESDAY PARISH COUNCIL 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6.30pm [Durling Hall](#) – Parish Clerk 01303 813 271

WEDNESDAY GET TOGETHER CLUB 2nd Wednesday of the month 2pm – 4pm [Durling Hall](#)

SATURDAY SUNDAY



Sellindge Village Hall

Halls available for hire.
Meetings, Clubs, Parties,
Wedding receptions etc

01303 813250 sellindgevillagehall@gmail.com



Stour Downs Parish Brabourne, Mersham, Monks Horton, Sellindge, Smeeth & Stowting Churches
 Rev Susan Manners (Interim Curate in Charge) 01233 500 414 www.stourdowns.org.uk also on Facebook

STOUR DOWNS PARISH Vicar's letter – May 2025

May is a month with a lot going on but the thing which is particularly on my mind is the 80th anniversary of VE day. I am the chaplain of the Brabourne and Smeeth Royal British Legion too.

On the 8th May we will light the beacons around the parish. These beacons remind us of the sacrifice made by an entire generation to ensure that we can live in freedom. Men, women and children who lived in challenging times, went without and lost family and friends.

I grew up in Somerset and my father had cousins from north London who lived with him and his family during the war and they also had an American man who was lodged with them during the war and stayed afterwards until I was a teenager some forty years later. 'Uncle' Fitz as I knew him designed helicopters which were used in latter part of the war. Many of us still have family or remember family who were involved in some way.

The important thing is that we do not forget. We remember the sacrifices that were made by those who fought and those who stayed behind. Also, that while 8th May is the end of the war in Europe it was not the end of the war completely as that didn't come until August with VJ Day.

God Bless, Susan

Services in the Stour Downs

May 2025

	Smeeth 9:30am	Mersham 9:30am	Brabourne	Stowting	Monks Horton	Sellindge
4th May (3 rd Sunday of Easter) No Susan	Parish Communion	Morning Worship - Iona	10am Family Service		6pm Evensong	
11th May (4 th Sunday of Easter)	Morning Praise	Parish Communion				11am Communion
18th May (5 th Sunday of Easter)	Parish Communion	Morning Worship	11am Communion			
25th May (6 th Sunday of Easter)	Morning Praise	Communion for all		11am Communion		
Thursday 29th May (Ascension Day)		Ascension Day Parish Communion 7:00pm				
Wednesday 7/5, 14/5, 21/5, 28/5			9:30am Midweek Parish Communion			

SELLINDGE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 24TH MAY

TENNIS

CRAFTS

FOOTBALL

BOWLS

TAEKWONDO

ARENA

ARCHERY

DARTS FOOTBALL

FACE PAINTING

TEMPORARY TATTOOS

BARREL OF BOOZE

11AM – LATE

EXCITING GAMES & ACTIVITIES
FOOD & REFRESHMENTS

TUG OF WAR COMPETITION

ARCHERY

GIANT BOUNCY CASTLE

SUMO WRESTLING
ADULTS & CHILDREN

LIVE MUSIC

ACHILLIES
CHILLIES

TOMBOLA

TOY STALL

CAKE STALL

SOFT PLAY

SWEET STALL

DEMONSTRATIONS

WITH LEWIS FOREMAN @4PM

& DISCO TILL LATE!

Bring the whole family for a day filled with laughter, excitement, and unforgettable memories

MEMBERS ONLY
LUXURY RAFFLE!!

FREE RAFFLE TICKET UPON
PRESENTATION OF YOUR
MEMBERSHIP CARD...
SIGN UP TODAY AND GET FREE ENTRY!
OVER £1500 WORTH OF PRIZES

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.SELLINDGESPORTSCLUB.CO.UK
01303 812437

SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB, 69 SWAN LANE, SELLINDGE.TN25 6HB