

District Councillor Report – Sellindge Parish Council 12 November 2024

Gift card Scams - There has been a rise in scams involving people being requested by criminals to purchase gift cards from stores. Gift card scams start with a call, text, email, WhatsApp or social media message. Scammers will say anything to get you to purchase gift cards, like Google Play, Apple, Steam, iTunes, or Amazon cards Never Assume - If you get a message from anyone claiming to be a friend or family member, or someone claiming to be from a reputable organisation such as HMRC, a bank, or the police, and you are asked to purchase any gift cards – STOP! – it will be a scam. Contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040. Sign up to [Home Page - My Community Voice Kent](#) for further information.

Rural England Prosperity Fund – it has just been announced that this fund has been suspended as it is highly likely that the applications still to be assessed will, if granted, utilise the remaining funds.

Home Essential Fund - is a limited scheme to support low income households with energy efficient solutions to help reduce their costs and supply more efficient items to replace broken ones. This includes:

- Boiler servicing to ensure boilers are as efficient as possible.
- Boiler replacement for items that are no longer suitable for use.
- Oil heating servicing and support for residents that use oil for fuelling their home.
- White goods provision. To supply replacement or new energy efficient items to households including cookers, fridges/freezers, washing machines/dryers, microwaves and other items as appropriate.
- Beds and mattresses to homes that do not have suitable bed provision.

For further information [Home Essential Fund | Folkestone & Hythe District Council](#)

My Account – just a reminder to sign-up for My Account on the www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk website. This allows you to report issues, search for information, see planning applications near you etc. It is also a good way to communicate with the District Council.

Otterpool Park – discussions are on-going with Homes England and the waste water treatment plant planning application is imminent (so I am told). Papers on Otterpool will be considered at the Cabinet Meeting on 11 December 2024 and, as usual, will be webcast.

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