

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

JUNE 2020

Edition 674



THE SWAP BOX

While Covid-19 restrictions are in place, the Swap Box is not to be used for swapping books etc. This is for the health and safety of everyone.

In the event of an emergency and the Defibrillator is required then this is fully accessible.


As restrictions are lifted, then the Swap Box will return.
Please wait for the news.

SELLINDGE VILLAGE HALL

Following Government guidelines the Village hall will be closed for the foreseeable future.

All clubs, societies and services will resume at their usual times once the restrictions have been lifted.

Looking to the future if anyone wishes to provisionally book an event for later in the year please email sellindgevillagehall@gmail.com

SELLINDGE Co-Op -  Sellindge food store community forum

During the Covid-19 restrictions the shop opening hours are 7am to 8pm, we have Social Distancing within the shop for both customers and colleges.

At times when the shop is busy, we will restrict access, and queue people at 2m apart at the front of the shop. Thank you for the support and understanding.

We and our fantastic customers of our shop, have been supporting the Charity – Mind Mental Health over the past few months.

On Sunday May 24th, we walked to every corner of the Village, which as residents know is well spread out !

We had a fantastic response on the Sunday raising a total of £386.50

A big thank you to Gina Kendall who offered to do a forfeit for every £50 raised.

A total of £503.65 has been raised so far.

On the walk around the Village →

A splendid view of the wildflower meadow behind the Village Pond ↓



Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions the Parish Council Office remains closed to the public, you can still contact the Parish Council using the contact information above.

There have been some cases of people not clearing up after their dogs in the Village. The Parish Council have installed some notices asking people to clear up after their dogs.

Dog poo bags are still available **FREE** from the Parish Council, however you are asked to phone the Chairman on 07710 260751 and he will arrange a time for these to be left on his garden wall in Swan Lane (near the Club) for you to collect. Also now you can pick up a bundle of Dog Poo Bags from a patio chair in the front garden of 3 Trust Cottages in Moorstock Lane. No need to contact, just come and collect, but please just take one pack. Thank You.



BONFIRES

Please avoid having bonfires while the coronavirus guidelines are in place. Smoke from bonfires contains chemicals which can harm health, irritate lungs and cause problems with breathing / asthma and cause problems for people that are already suffering from COPD.

There may well be quite a few people in the Village who are very anxious about Covid-19.

Please be considerate of your neighbours. Bonfires can put people's health at risk.



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

I am missing our normal village life and especially the events that were planned for VE Day though I did see some great photos of the celebrations that people managed to stage from home. I was also sent a picture of the new Union Flag, which was funded from my KCC Member Grant, flying outside Sellindge Village Hall.

With so much changing so quickly, the best place for up to date information is online. As well as www.gov.uk there's www.kent.gov.uk with regularly updated information on how services are affected by Covid-19. Compared with many other parts of the country, Kent's services have largely continued. Our call centre still takes normal calls (some other councils have only taken emergency calls), our road repair service continues (some other councils have only dealt with emergency callouts), over 6,000 KCC staff are working from home, many of them home schooling their children and coping with the same challenges we all face. As I write our libraries and council buildings remain closed but our Household Waste Recycling Centres are re-opened and accepting the full range of waste.

Please remember to book at www.kent.gov.uk/hwrcbook or ring 03000 417 373.

There's an enormous amount of work being done to support vulnerable children and adults in Kent both our everyday work and the extra work brought about by the Covid-19 emergency. On 01 April we launched KentTogether a 24-hour phone line (03000 41 92 92) and online form for people to ask for help for themselves or others. Recently we also had to cope with sharp rise in the number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) arriving in Kent. KCC is currently caring for 469 under 18 UASC Looked After Children (LAC) and 932 UASC Care Leavers.

Most strikingly, we have had to cope with 160 new arrivals in 2020 so far (these figures were as reported by 15 May). This is on top of our responsibility to 1,450 of our own indigenous LAC and 1,400 children placed here by other local authorities. We calculate that the additional cost to Kent so far of the UASC arrivals and demands of Covid 19 for isolation is in the region of £200,000 spent already and £672,000 in future commitments. These are costs that are not in our budget and are simply unfair for Kent residents to meet without help from the Government and you will have seen in the media that KCC Leader, Roger Gough has written to the Home Secretary saying, "If you do not take immediate action, I fear we will shortly reach a position where the County Council no longer has the capacity to accept any more newly arrived UASC from Border Force at the port of Dover, as we will no longer be able to safely meet our statutory duty of care to them."

This is just a small part of the work going on right now.

Do please continue to use the website for the most up to date information. Stay safe, help one another and stay alert.

Susan Carey

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FROM YOUR FOLKESTONE & HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Jenny Hollingsbee and Susan Carey, Ward Councillors for North Downs West, F&H D C

Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk 01303 812 066 susan.carey@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk 01303 670 561

The Hythe Community Hub set up in March with Age UK Hythe & Lyminge and supported by the District Council continues to help vulnerable and isolated residents within Sellindge and surrounding Villages, with no family nearby to support them during this Coronavirus crisis. Very many thanks to all who have given up their time and potentially put their own health at risk to deliver essentials, such as food and medicines; there have been over 12,800 incoming calls, 5,200 outgoing calls and almost 15,000 GP welfare calls made from the Hythe Hub. At the end of May Nestlé provided 4,000 Easter eggs for distribution to those receiving prescriptions and shopping baskets as a bit of a pick-me-up and the staff and volunteers made sure VE Day was celebrated.

Contact details - 01303 269 602 Covid-19@ageukhl.co.uk and this is open 9am-4pm currently 7 days per week but subject to change. There is also District Council Covid-19 Helpline on 01303 761 116 open 9am-5pm 7 days Covid-19@folkestone-Hythe.gov.uk and KCC 24/7 - Kent Together support Telephone No 03000 419 292.

The Scrutiny Overview Committee held remotely on 19 May was the first meeting of its kind for the authority and has been organised as part of the measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The District Council has worked hard to ensure these meetings can resume, allowing District Councillors to continue representing their electorate and making decisions in public. Details of meetings and how to watch live can be found on the website.

Unlike other parts of the County, our kerbside Waste collection service continues to operate uninterrupted and the Garden Waste Service is still operating and is accepting new customers - details on the District Council website.

The business rates team continues to process support grants. As of last week the team has distributed £23,845,000 (more than 82% of the total allocation) to more than 93% of eligible businesses; amazing job well done.

A letter has been sent out to ask that the remaining 150 eligible businesses either claim support or let us know that they do not wish to claim.

Coronavirus Small Business Grant & Retail Hospitality & Leisure Grant Scheme – all businesses eligible for these grants need to provide account details for these payments using an electronic form on the District Council's corporate website which can be accessed through this link

<https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/business-grant-fund>

The District Council is setting-up a Discretionary Grant Scheme with additional funding from the Government with the aim of supporting businesses across the District which have not been awarded any grant funding to date.

This is being launched on 6 June and will be open for 3 weeks. Please see website for further details.

A renewed call-out has been made to Folkestone & Hythe District residents who may need help paying their Council Tax - for further information please see website.

PCSO's from Folkestone & Hythe District will be holding Digital Surgeries on Thursday 4th June 2020 for the Wards of North Downs East & West - see website for details.

If you're a #local business that's offering deliveries, takeaways or collections, you can apply to list your details on the new #PurplePages directory from @fstonehythedc. Find out how to apply for your free listing here:

[folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/supportlocal/p...](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/supportlocal/p...) #SupportLocal

On the Core Strategy Public Examination the Inspectors have published the Main Matters, Issues and Questions, Inspectors' Guidance Notes, and Indicative Running Order for Hearing Sessions and the deadline for receipt of written updates on any original submissions is 5pm on Friday 3 July 2020. Further information can be found on website.

Keep Safe and if there are any issues we can help local residents with, please do contact us.

HI KENT –

Due to Corona virus I will not be doing the hearing aid batteries until further notice. If people ring me on 01303 813 271 only on clinic days between 1.45pm & 3.45pm (June 9th). This phone will only work on clinic days. I will arrange a time for them or a neighbour to pick up batteries. Mary Devine



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SELLINDGE SPORTS and SOCIAL CLUB – Although the Club is completely closed, the kitchen can still be used. We are offering a DELIVERY ONLY service on Friday's and Sunday's within Sellindge.

We will be following all recent guidelines in regards to COVID 19.

Please call 07876 794 323 to make advance order or 01303 812 437 during delivery times, you can also PM us.

Please let any elderly neighbours who would be interested in hot food but may not be on facebook aware.

Sunday afternoon delivering between 1pm and 5pm (advanced orders welcome to make sure we have enough!)

Sunday Roast - Beef, Gammon or Turkey and Seasonal Veg – Carvery Baguette and Roast Potatoes

Homemade Cottage Pie and Seasonal Veg – Scampi, Chips and Peas

Gourmet Cheese Burger and Chips – Halloumi Burger and Chips – Veggie Burger and Chips

Chicken bites and Chips

Friday Evening delivering between 4pm and 8pm

Fish and Chips – Scampi and Chips – Sausage and Chips – Battered Sausage and Chips

Cheeseburger and Chips – Halloumi Burger and Chips – Vegetarian Burger and Chips

Chicken Bites and C hips – Chicken Tikka Pitta Bread and Chips – Chicken and chorizo Paella with Prawns

Bottles of Wine – Cans of Beer – Soft Drinks

STOUR DOWNS PARISH CHURCHES – ST MARY'S CHURCH SELLINDGE

Rev. Chris' Thoughts

Rainbows are everywhere at the moment – decorating windows, doorsteps, banners and even vehicles, having become a symbol of defiant togetherness and hope in a time when we face separation, loss and uncertainty – and of course the danger of the Coronavirus.

In the past weeks for online services, I've taken to wearing my stole (the scarf-like piece of priest clothing) that has Noah's Ark, animals and a rainbow decorating it. I usually wear this for baptisms, being a recognisable story in the Bible for those coming along who are less familiar with church and, moreover, for its symbolism of new life and a fresh start. At baptism there are many symbols of this starting a new life with Christ. There's also a lot of water, which connects with the story of the Ark! Promises are made at baptism too, usually by godparents and parents on behalf of a child, and the story of Noah is about God making and keeping his promise – to keep Noah and his family safe and to not send another flood.

Right now, this Coronavirus pandemic might feel like being in the midst of the great flood like in the story of Noah. We have built our own metaphorical ark, gathering in those around us and keeping safe from the danger around, and now beginning to slowly venture out to test if the flood waters are subsiding. We look to science to provide a promise that it will be gone and will not return, such as having a vaccine.

The colours of the rainbow remind us that although we are all very different, we are united together into something beautiful – our common humanity, our love and care for each other, shown in so many ways recently. The rainbow is also a symbol of God's promises to us, that through Christ we can hold onto the promise that God is with us no matter what floods or droughts we pass through. Faith does not take away the bad stuff of life, but it gives you the strength to walk on in those dark valleys and look to the light.

*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you... (Isaiah 43)*

God bless Chris

Our buildings are closed but your Parish Church is alive and active.

Sunday services on the Stour Downs Parish Facebook Page – live video from 9:30am and posted afterwards on the page to view <https://www.facebook.com/Stour-Downs-Parish-275026813134319>

OR BY PHONE: dial the number shown below and enter the Room number followed by the hash key and then PIN followed by hash key when prompted.

Dial: 0333 0110 945

Room number: 15371271#

PIN: 1030#

Morning and Evening Prayer is posted each day at 9am and 6pm on our Stour Downs Parish Facebook

If we can be of any help in this difficult time, please contact Di Dawson on

07779 680 003 / 01303 813 398 / cirrus.five@yahoo.co.uk or The Rectory on 01303 470 791