

# SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

## JANUARY 2021

Edition 681



### NATIONAL LOCK DOWN

*(Not quite the start to the New Year that was hoped)*

You must stay at home. The single most important action we can all take is to stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives. You should follow this guidance immediately. This is [the law](#).

#### Leaving home

You must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary. You may leave the home to:

- . Shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person.
- . Go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home.
- . Exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person, this should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- . Meet your [support bubble](#) or [childcare bubble](#) where necessary, but only if you're legally permitted to form one.
- . Seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse).
- . Attend education or childcare - for those eligible.

If you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should

always stay local - unless it is necessary to go further, for example to go to work. Stay local means stay in the village, town, or part of the city where you live.

If you are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) you should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential. You should not attend work.

#### Meeting others

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone you do not live with or are not in a [support bubble](#) with (if you are legally permitted to form one).

You may exercise on your own, with one other person, or with your household or support bubble. This should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.

You cannot meet other people you do not live with, or have not formed a support bubble with, unless for a permitted reason. [Stay 2 metres apart](#) from anyone not in your household.

#### Education

Colleges, primary and secondary schools will remain open only for [vulnerable children and the children of critical workers](#). All other children will learn remotely until February half term. Early years settings remain open.

Higher Education provision will remain online until mid February for all except future critical worker courses.

This is just a short summary, further details

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home#summary-what-you-can-and-cannot-do-during-the-national-lockdown>



Ladies and Gents.

Due to a couple of extra jobs with the refit and the current situation we have got news today that our refit has now been put back until April.

We are trading for business at our normal opening hours (6am-10pm) until this point. We will keep you updated on anything else via this page and with signs and verbally in store.

Thank you again for your continued understanding and support through these times. Face masks are still compulsory to those in store. We now have a cleaning station at the front of store with sanitiser for your hands (also baskets if you wish but the team are also under instructions to clean the baskets after every customer to go that extra mile). We have been busy cleaning the store and making sure we are sticking to guidelines to help keep you safe. We send our regards and hope everyone is as safe and well as they can be at these tough times. We still offer support to anyone who is stuck for shopping and have volunteers who could help anyone who's isolating. Please feel free to contact myself or the store number if needed. Thanks again Kelly Read (Deputy manager) and the team at Sellindge.



HM Government



# **STAY AT HOME**

- ▶ Only leave home for food, medical reasons, exercise or work
- ▶ Work from home unless you are unable to do so
- ▶ Do not travel unless necessary
- ▶ Essential shops will remain open
- ▶ Schools will remain open for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other children will learn remotely until February half term

**Find the latest guidance and exemptions at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)**

**STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES**

## CENSUS 2021

### Census 2021 will provide a snapshot of modern society

Households across Folkestone and Hythe District will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

“A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed,” Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said.

“This could mean things like doctors’ surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That’s why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them.”

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk) Leigh Poppy - Census Engagement Manager for South East Kent

*It will be interesting to see to see the 2021 census at the end of the year.*

*The population for Shepway District Council (now Folkestone & Hythe District Council) in the 2001 census was 96,238, by the 2011 census this had increased to 107,969 an increase of 11,731.*

*The population for Sellindge in the 2001 census was 1,356, by the 2011 census this had increased to 1,601 an increase of 245.*

**SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL** [www.sellindge-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sellindge-pc.gov.uk) 01303 813 271 [clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk)

### Office opening

Due to the new National Lock Down the Parish Council office is closed.

The Parish Council phone will be monitored for messages, and so will the email, which is the best form of contact.

### Dog Poo Bags

Dog poo bags are still available from Nigel at Trust Cottages in Moostock Lane, he puts them a patio chair outside his house, as does the Chairman who places on the front garden wall if you phone him on his mobile 07710 260751. These can also be collected from the office.

From your Parish Council Clerk Linda Hedley.

### 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.



### HI KENT

Due to Covid 19 the battery service for hearing aid users is not due to start yet.

In the meantime if anyone needs batteries they can ring Mary Devine on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 between 2 and 3 pm on 01303 813 228 to arrange pickup.



Hi all, Following major Lockdown announcement youth football has now been suspended until further notice. Hopefully we'll be back soon. Take care and stay safe.

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## FROM YOUR FOLKESTONE & HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

**Covid19 Vaccination Programme** – Good news that the William Harvey Hospital is one of the first sites to administer the vaccine. Each person needs two doses of the vaccine and the programme will take several months to complete. More hospitals hubs, primary care services and large vaccination centres will open across Kent as further supplies of the vaccine become available and we understand some surgeries in our District will start vaccinations shortly. The NHS advise that they contact you when it is the time to come forward so please do not contact them – for further details see <https://www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/your-health/coronavirus/covid19vaccine>

**Your District Today** – if you have not received your copy, you can download a copy from here <https://folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/yourdistricttoday>

**Police** – Matthew Scott, Kent's Police & Crime Commissioner has launched the *Kent Annual Policing Survey*. The survey helps decide priorities for Kent Police so do take the opportunity to have your say at

[www.makingkentsafer.co.uk/out](http://www.makingkentsafer.co.uk/out)

**Lifeline365** – Is the new look Shepway Lifeline service and offers help and support, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to individuals, their families, friends and co-workers. In an emergency it doesn't matter what age you are, or where you may be. You could be a lone worker, out exercising, playing sport, or living independently and this is where *Lifeline365* can prove a real lifesaver.

For further information visit [www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/lifeline](http://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/lifeline) or call *Lifeline365* on 01303 242 615.

**Princes Parade, Hythe** – The District Council's plans to develop the old landfill site on the seafront in Hythe have cleared their final hurdle. This follows a judgement by Lord Justice Newey that there were no grounds for appeal against the decision made by Mr Justice Dove to uphold the planning permission when it was challenged with a judicial review. This vindicates the process followed by the District Council and work will now start on the new leisure centre, the wider walkway, new public park and homes.

**Otterpool Park** – The Business Plan Otterpool Park, the new town that is planned to be built over the next 30 years, is being scrutinised by Councillors. Councillors are also being briefed on the development of a design code which sets out the District Council's requirements that any developer will need to meet.

**Street naming** – following a debate we initiated, the District Council will now be reviewing its street naming process with a view to allowing more local input into new street names especially from local history societies.

**Rough sleepers** – the 2020 Street Homelessness Count took place the night of 24/25 November and 12 individuals were found. 11 of these have been found accommodation and efforts continue to persuade the one remaining person to accept an offer of accommodation.

Many of those who sleep rough have multiple and complex problems which are not necessarily about housing. There is no doubt that we also have a shortage of housing in our district especially affordable housing which is why projects such as Otterpool Park which will provide over 2,000 Council homes and registered social housing accommodation are so needed.

A reminder that the District Council re-established **community hubs** to help with shopping, meals, dog walking etc for those who need help during the pandemic.

The contact details are:

Email [covid-19@ageukhl.org.uk](mailto:covid-19@ageukhl.org.uk)

Call 01303 269602

(messages can be left outside opening hours)

Open Monday - Friday 8.45am - 3.45pm

Linda Hedley, Clerk to Sellindge Parish Council, recently lost her husband and our thoughts are with her at this time.

We wish you all a peaceful New Year.



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

[Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) 01303 812 066 [susan.carey@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:susan.carey@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) 01303 670 561

**FROM YOUR KCC COUNCILLOR** Susan Carey, Elham Valley Ward. [susan.carey@kent.gov.uk](mailto:susan.carey@kent.gov.uk) 01303 670 561

There's some good news on traffic enforcement powers to help keep HGVs on the main road network.

The Government has granted the powers KCC has requested (for East Kent, Swale and Maidstone areas for initially six months) and so we will be able to both fine and clamp illegally parked HGVs. Any HGV that tries to 'jump the queue' will be sent to the very back of the queue and there will be plentiful signage as traffic leaves the main network to make it clear that there will be penalties. The clamping trial in Ashford is generally considered to have been a success so whilst it won't solve every problem it should be a real help. KCC are employing contractors who are specialists in this work to implement the new powers from 01 January. We've been pushing for these powers for a long time and intend to make good use of them. For more information on the traffic management plans for the M20 etc. should there be disruption, see the website of the Kent Resilience Forum [www.kentprepared.org.uk](http://www.kentprepared.org.uk) which includes all the public sector partners – KCC, Highways England, Kent Police etc.

A team of military logistics specialists has been helping KCC's Public Health Team set up Covid testing for those without symptoms. Initially this will be targeted at the areas with the highest infection rates – Swale and Thanet. It's important people remember that even if they don't show any symptoms themselves they may be transmitting Covid to other people. Until the vaccination programme allows us to get on top of this pandemic we all need to take great care and follow the advice about social distancing, face masks and hand washing.

I'm pleased to report that KCC is once again accepting into care Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (those assessed as being under 18 years of age). On 17 August we had to tell the Government we had run out of sufficient foster places, social workers and funding to safely cope with the numbers of young people arriving in Kent.

Since then, numbers in Kent have reduced from 612 to 412. This is still a high level and KCC continues to press the Government for a national dispersal scheme (as is done for adults and families) across all UK local authorities and share the load more fairly.

Over 2,700 people responded to our budget consultation and the results of this will help inform the decisions we take. The Government has indicated that local authorities can increase Council Tax by no more than 2% in general and another 3% for those Councils with social care responsibilities (higher levels are only permitted with a referendum). We will set our budget in February 2021.

As ever, [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk) remains the best place to find the latest information and I add traffic notices and other information to The Elham Valley Facebook group page. You can also follow me on twitter @susanjcarey

Susan Carey, Member for Elham Valley, Kent County Council

### **SUPPORT SELLINDGE CHURCHYARD PROJECT when you shop at the Co-Op**

The Co-Op Local Community Fund is supporting our project to create a wildlife area for all the community and improve the appearance and accessibility of the Churchyard at St Mary's, Sellindge, one of the six Stour Downs Parish Churches.

When the Wildlife Area and improved Churchyard projects are completed, the community, particularly families and older people, will be able to enjoy walks, wildlife spotting and learning about the natural environment. In creating this space, the community can come together to help work on preparing the wildlife area and improving the Churchyard, promoting positive well-being and community spirit.

Please select St Mary's Sellindge as a cause to support when you shop at the Co-Op by following this link:  
<https://www.membership.coop.co.uk/causes/47395>

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## THE STOUR DOWNS PARISH – SELLINDGE

As I write this month's thought, another national lockdown has begun and on a gloomy wet day there is a sense of heavy shadows falling over what has recently been the chink of light and hope of a new year and waving goodbye to the *annus horribilis* of 2020. The Bishop of Dover, Bishop Rose, has said: "This is hard. We are weary, the days are short and we miss spending time with those we love. But God's goodness remains undimmed, even if we cannot presently see it. Christ came to a world wrapped in darkness, a world that did not understand him, and through his presence he transformed it - and us."

When it's dark we put on a light - and whether bright or dim, it shines in the darkness. We look to the light of the two vaccines and the rollout of these to offer hope against this disease. We see the light of kind and thoughtful deeds to help others who are struggling. We might bring light to others by keeping in touch by the phone or video call. Our churches continue to see to be a beacon of light and hope as they have for many centuries in difficult periods, with the benefit of technology we can gather safely online and by phone to support and worship together, as well as offering practical help with parcels of essentials for anyone struggling (please contact Rev Chris).

As we are reminded in the Bible,

**"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."** (John 1:5)

This year, my daughter and I are putting a piece of paper in a jar each week on which we write down a moment of light, something good from the week, which we will open up and read in January 2022. Perhaps this might be a way to help you look for and notice the light around, and to give thanks for all the good things amongst the challenges ahead.

Stay safe and take care of yourself and those around you,

Blessings

Rev Chris

Apologies that I cannot at this stage give details of services for the coming month as it is not yet known when it will be the right time to begin our usual schedule again, or the shape of a modified form. We continue with online worship via Facebook ( <https://www.facebook.com/Stour-Downs-Parish-275026813134319> ) or by phone on Sundays at 9:30am (dial: 0333 0110 945 Room number: 15371271# PIN: 1030#) and the churches in Brabourne, Smeeth and Stowting are open daily for prayer and reflection.

As Vicar of the Stour Downs Parish, please note my new email address: [vicar@stourdowns.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stourdowns.org.uk)

Please get in touch if you or someone that you know would benefit from a parcel of essentials, or if you need some support in this challenging time. Donations of long-life food products can be left in the porch of the Rectory in Church Road, Smeeth (TN25 6SA).