

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

JULY 2021

Edition 687



ELECTION OF A KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR ELHAM VALLEY DIVISION

Candidates – Carey Susan	Conservative Party	1,809	Elected
Cowan Gordon	Labour Party	247	
Egerton Joe	Independent	221	
Wade Douglas	Green Party	1,335	

POLLING TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY JUNE 17th 2021 7am to 10pm
POLLING STATION WAS SELLINDGE VILLAGE HALL (DURLING HALL)

SELLINDGE SPORTS and SOCIAL CLUB - OPEN DAY AUGUST 29th 2021 FROM 11am

Sellindge Sports and Social club will be holding an open day for all villages to come along and see what goes on at the club. We will be having fun events and demonstrations to join in from our sports teams, Tennis, Football and Bowls who are always looking for new village members. We are having some work done on the play area at the moment but that should be all open again for the day so it will be great if you could bring the family for some fun and a **FREE BBQ**.

SELLINDGE SPORTS and SOCIAL CLUB

We are now back to open 7 days a week, week days from 3pm and weekends from 9am

We serve food and drink daily and do still have the option to takeaway and delivery

Sunday roasts are continuing to be delivered.

Our first Boot Fair is on Saturday July 17th with further dates on the Face Book page.

The function room is being hired out with dates being booked very quickly, so if you are planning a party etc. Please get in touch soon with your dates.



Summer Holiday Tennis Coaching at Sellindge Tennis Club
Play tennis, learn a new skill, meet new friends, exercise outdoors, have fun!

Visit www.adtennis.co.uk for details



Summer holiday tennis at Sellindge Tennis Club

For the week of 2 august- 7 august, £34.99 for 6 lessons, a racquet, tennis balls and T-shirt.

For 3 weeks from 9th august, choose your 3-hour day for £15 per day or £50 for a 4-day week. Sibling discount available.

More details at adtennis.co.uk or contact Nick Skelton direct on 07545 871 087 adtennis@icloud.com

SUMMER HOLIDAY TENNIS





SELLINDGE FOOTBALL CLUB

The U13 team have training every Wednesday evening from 5pm to 6.30pm

– THE U13 TEAM NEEDS MORE PLAYERS.

Sellindge FC under 13's has now finished its 2020/2021 season and will be playing friendlies during the summer at the Sellindge Sports and Social Club, and will be changing to Sellindge under 14's from September 1st 2021.

Following a recent friendly the Coaches would just like to say how proud they are of the whole team's 5-1 win over a team that beat us 6-0 first game of the season - I'd say that's pretty good progress!!

Everyone played exceptionally well but a special mention to Ed Dunham who was our man of the match.

For more information on the team (we still need new players) please phone Simon on 07795 196 184 or find us on Facebook.



Hello to the lovely village. Unfortunately this will be my last for the news letter for the Co-Op. My final shift at the store will be 17/07/2021. I'm there until 3pm if anyone wanted to pop in to say fair well. We are also having a party at the Social Club. This will be on 08/08/2021 at 2pm.

This is just a gathering to say goodbye to everyone. Food and drink will be available to purchase. I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone in the village and surrounding areas for making me feel so welcome and making it such a pleasure for me to do my job. I have another job at Byebrook Barn in the aquarium so please feel free to pop in and say hi. I'd also like to say well done to Teds and Naomi on their promotions. I'm sure they will do a great job along with Graham, Sam and Tracy. We still have no news on the refit, but it now looks like 2023.

Thanks again for my 4/5 years of serving such an amazing village. I may be back, we shall see. Love Kelly

SELLINDGE WALKING GROUP

Sellindge Walking Group is now back up and running again. We meet at the Village Hall on a Tuesday morning at approximately 10.20 and set off at 10.30. 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.

SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Office opening

Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions 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 Moorstock Lane, he puts them on a patio chair outside his house, as does the Chairman who places them 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.

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

Waste Collection – As you will be aware there has been an unacceptable number of missed collections, affecting households across the district. Our customers have received a level of service well below the excellent standards that were in place through the pandemic and before the route changes. Veolia has fallen short of the service levels we expect as a Council and not acted swiftly enough to address this. Discussions have taken place with the Managing Director and Senior Management of Veolia. It was clearly stated that the Council currently has no confidence in Veolia as our contractor and that corrective action is required immediately. I can assure you that the Veolia team were left in no doubt about the Council's exasperation with a situation, not of our making, that has brought significant reputational damage to the Council.

The Managing Director of Veolia apologised and promised to address the situation through immediate corrective actions. This will include providing additional resources, over and above what has been deployed thus far, to ensure collection rates return to expected service levels as soon as possible. A full review of the data used to develop the new routes will also be undertaken to ensure that any underlying issues are identified and addressed. Veolia will also send a letter of apology to every household across the district and have also agreed to set-up a call centre – details to follow.

We are extremely sorry that our Waste Collection service has not been up to our usual standards and you can rest assured that we will do everything to ensure it returns to the high service level we expect. This issue has naturally caused problems with the Call Centre and additional staff have been drafted in to help address the delay in responding to calls. Please do let me know if you experience further problems as I am very happy to take up individual issues immediately.

Vaccination Programme – The vaccine is currently being given to people who are aged 18 or over, are at high risk from coronavirus (clinically extremely vulnerable), are an eligible frontline health or social care worker, have a condition that puts you at higher risk (clinically vulnerable), have a learning disability, are a main carer for someone at high risk from coronavirus. Appointments can be booked on the www.nhs.uk

If you are not eligible yet wait to be contacted. The NHS will let you know when it's your turn to have the vaccine. It's important not to contact the NHS for a vaccination before then. Please do look out for 'walk-in sessions' where appointments are not necessary – for residents to get their second vaccination.

Covid Testing - There are two types of test for Covid-19 and it's important to use the right one at the right time. No symptoms: Everyone should be doing regular symptom free testing with the Lateral Flow Tests (LTF). You can order these free online or collect from pharmacies. Everyone is encouraged to do twice weekly tests.

Symptoms: If you or someone you live with has symptoms, it's important that you all get tested as soon as possible (within five days of symptoms starting). To get this type of test you can - book an appointment at a drive-through or walk-through test site or ask for a home test kit – this will be delivered to your home.

Otterpool Park LLP is now hosting family-friendly workshops at Westenhanger Castle over the coming months as part of a community outreach project to encourage learning about the history and heritage of the Otterpool Park site. In July, three events are planned at Sellindge Village Hall on July 3 from 12pm-4pm, at Lympne Village Hall on July 10 from 11am-3pm and back at Westenhanger Castle on July 17 from 11am-3pm.

Park & Ride – The District Council is piloting a Park & Ride service which will be operated by Stagecoach – it will run from the Motis Business Centre in Cheriton near J12 of the M20, CT19 4 QJ. Users can enjoy hassle free parking paying just £5 per car to park all day. Shuttle buses will run every 30 minutes between 9am and 6pm to Folkestone Harbour via Folkestone Central Station. The park and ride service will operate every weekend until October and daily from 19 July to 31 August. This park and ride service is a pilot to assess demand and help alleviate parking congestion in the harbour area during the summer months.

The service has been made possible by Welcome Back funding from government.

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

I'm happy to report that I've been re-elected as County Councillor for Elham Valley on 17 June with just over half the votes cast. Thank you to everyone who voted (especially those who voted for me).

I'm also pleased to report that I've been re-appointed a KCC's Cabinet Member for Environment, I'm very much looking forward to taking this work forward as well as all my usual work for the area at a local level. I'll be catching up over the next few weeks and will write a fuller report next month. If you need to contact me, you can once again do so at susan.carey@kent.gov.uk

SELLINDGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION (SGA) – HOLIDAY EXMOUTH (Devon) Monday 4th – Friday 8th 2021

Staying at The Royal Beacon Hotel, Exmouth - £399 per person

The 5 day tour includes:

All Coach travel from Sellindge

Half Board (Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal) at the Hotel

Day trip, with guided tour, to Exeter

A cruise on the River Exe with a cream tea

A visit to the Donkey Sanctuary at Sidmouth

PLUS entry to the RHS Garden at Rosemoor

It is anticipated that in view of the date this holiday will go ahead but should it not however, any money paid will be refunded in full.

We regret there are no more single rooms available.

These were all carried forward from bookings for the planned holiday in 2020.

The holiday is open to anybody who would like to join us - you do not have to be a member of the SGA.

Anybody who is interested should ring **Betty on 01843 597710** (any evening after 7 pm) for any other details required, and for a booking form, but please leave a message with name and number should you not receive a reply.



STOUR DOWNS PARISH

Vicar's letter – July 2021

One of TV's unlikely hits in recent years is The Repair Shop on BBC 1. The concept behind the show, which now attracts audiences of millions, is, on the face of it, a recipe for very dull TV: People bring their dilapidated old possessions and heirlooms to a barn, where a group of experts restore them. Then the owners come and get them. But there is, of course, much more to it than that.



The reason behind the show's success is that almost every item brought into the repair shop has its own very special, and often very moving, story to tell. Last night I happened to catch an episode where a man brought in a plastic box of bits that were the wooden components of a ship's wheel. This was all that was left, apart from the name plate, of a fishing boat that had been in his family for generations. When he returned to the barn for the big reveal, it was as if he had been reunited not only with the boat, but the father and grandfather who had sailed it. Similarly, a raggedy old bear was restored in such a way as to still retain the uniqueness of its worn, ragged shape that told of its decades of love and the link to the airman who had owned it.

When I think of that barn and those expert craftsmen and women, perhaps what the world really needs is an equivalent barn where broken *people* can turn up and share openly and honestly the stories behind how we came to be broken and to acknowledge our own part in that story; a place where, having shared the story, we can then ask to be carefully, lovingly, painstakingly restored to our former glory. Imagine if *we* had the opportunity to be repaired, restored, re-created by our master craftsman creator, lovingly held in his hands as he removes all the dirt and stains, cracks and damage of our lives, restoring us to his original vision for us. Well, the good news is that such a barn does exist. In fact, there is one in almost every village, town and city in the country. Churches are the repair shops where *we* can go to be repaired, renewed and restored by God our Creator. Often sitting reflectively in the timeless peace of the church building or churchyard can be a balm. In the Stour Downs, we are blessed with six places of worship that offer a place of peace that repairs and restores.

If we are moved by the restoration of a ship's wheel or an old bear, imagine the emotion and power of seeing human beings transformed, forgiven, and restored. Now that's a show I love to watch!

God Bless

Chris

Stour Downs Parish Services: July 2021

Date	Time	Church	Service	Available on Facebook Page and by Phone
4th July	9:30am	Smeeth	Parish Communion	√
	10am	Brabourne	Story, Praise, Celebrate	
	11am	Mersham	Story, Song & Celebrate	
	From 3pm	Online	Party Church	√ (video posted to Facebook)
11th July	9:30am	Mersham	Parish Communion	√
	11am	Brabourne	Holy Communion	
	6pm	Stowting	Evening Communion	
18th July	9:30am	Smeeth	Parish Communion	√
	11am	Stowting	Story, Song & Celebrate	
	6pm	Brabourne	Evening Communion	
25th July	9:30am	Mersham	Parish Communion	√
	11am	Smeeth*	Story, Song & Celebrate	
	6pm	Monks Horton	Communion – Book of Common Prayer	

Please note, services may have to be revised in light of any changes in Government Covid-19 restrictions.

* From May 2021, the Smeeth Story, Song & Celebrate Service is moved from the 2nd to 4th Sunday