

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

AUGUST 2021

Edition 688



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 are now also fully re-open inside and out with plenty of space.

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

Sunday roasts are continuing to be delivered.

The next Boot Fairs are on Saturday August 7th and Saturday August 21st, 10am for Boots £7 per Car and £10 per Van. Open to public at 11am. 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
The week of 2 -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 www.adtennis.co.uk or contact Nick Skelton direct 07545 871 087 adtennis@icloud.com

Family Open Day

Westenhanger Castle

21st August | 11am - 3pm | Free

The castle will be open to the public – come along for a fun, family open day. Enjoy games and craft activities in the marquee. Bring a picnic to enjoy in the castle grounds and have a go at our exciting treasure hunt. All ages are welcome.

Drop by anytime!



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

SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Your Parish Council met in person on Tuesday July 13th, as the rules now only allow us to do, there was one member of the public present along with the Susan Carey and Jennifer Hollingsbee.

Prior to the meeting, a short presentation took place regarding the Solar Farm proposed in Aldington, one of our neighbouring parishes.

While there is a lot of land being taken, not all of this land will have solar panels on it; there needs to be space between the rows of panels access the battery storage cabins, and to keep the panels clean, and more importantly there will be about a third of the land being kept for wild life – both fauna and flora.

After forty years the land will have to go back to being farmland again.

The reasoning behind the positioning is that there will be less damage done to run the cables etc. to the converter station which as you all know has been there for some long time.

Please, do send your comments to the company, either on line or via the leaflet you have been sent, any comments you make will be considered before another round of consultation prior to the planning application being submitted.

While sitting writing this I am having a cup of coffee, probably should be a cold drink, (Not ice cold – this can be dangerous) but whatever you prefer, do remember to drink plenty in the very hot weather we are experiencing.

Also mentioned at your Parish Council meeting was the consultation from the Boundary Commission; they are looking at the number of people in each electoral Constituency, to ensure that there is a fairness of resident numbers in each. This will not change the boundary for Sellindge, we will still be in the Folkestone & Hythe District Council area.

A budget for the Queens 75th Jubilee was briefly mentioned, however it was decided that this should be considered at the Finance committee first; in addition to this it was suggested that having a beacon on the green to light for days of celebration and commemoration would also be considered.

In the near future changes are to be made to the email address of the all the Parish Councillors; this will ensure that the General Data Regulations will be adhered too. The new emails will be listed on the website and put on the noticeboards.

The next meeting of your Parish Council is on Tuesday 10th August, it is now starting at 6.30pm, this allows everyone, Councillors and residents to get home earlier in the evenings.

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 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.

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 10.20am and set off at 10.30am. 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.



Telling the Otterpool Tale

Sellindge Village Hall 6th August 11am - 3pm	Free Craft Events Drop by anytime!
Lympne Village Hall 12th August 11am - 3pm	Come and learn about the history of the Otterpool Park site, including the racecourse, castle and Roman villa. Make a Roman Emperor Medal and a winner's rosette – or have a go at learning rug making techniques and create a racecourse garland. All ages are welcome.

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

There continue to be problems with the kerbside waste collection service. We apologise on behalf of the District Council and want you to know that we raise every report we receive of poor service with the senior management at the council. There is a 'task and finish' group working to put matters right and Veolia (our waste contractor) have set up a dedicated call centre for reports of missed bin collections. This is available from 10 am to 4pm Monday to Friday on 0203 567 2468. This is in addition to the council's own website where you can report missed collections and other problems.

At the meeting of the Full Council on 21 July, Stuart Peall, the Councillor who has responsibility for kerbside waste collections announced the immediate suspension of the garden waste collections to allow the contractor, Veolia, to use all available resources to concentrate on the other waste collections – clinical waste, weekly food waste, purple top and green top bins. There will be refunds to the subscribers to the garden waste service. Stuart spoke at length on the issue and you may wish to watch this in the webcast of the meeting which is available on the council's website at

<https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Vaccinations continue to be available at two sites owned by the District Council. The Civic Centre has a drive-through operation and Folca, the former Debenham's store in Folkestone is a major vaccine centre for our area. Anyone over 18 can receive a vaccination. Appointments can be made online at www.nhs.uk but look out as well for 'walk-ins' with no appointment necessary for first or second vaccinations which are advertised on social media.

Now that KCC can no longer clamp HGVs (see the KCC report) the District Council is once again issuing parking tickets to offenders. The Department for Transport has said 'The Experimental Traffic Order (ETRO) that allowed a 'clamp first' approach to illegal HGV parking in Kent was introduced to prevent the exacerbation of existing problems of inappropriate lorry parking in Kent, following the end of the transition period. The concerns around turn-backs from the border have not materialised, and so the original justification for the ETRO is no longer applicable.' The local Police Inspector has agreed to monitor the situation with PCSOs and report back on what action Kent Police might be able to take. Our MP Damian Collins has also been pressing the case for the ETRO to be reinstated.

We are now close to the end of the very long process for the **Core Strategy** that is required for development in our district. The final public hearing by an Independent Planning Inspector was completed in July and, subject to some modification, the Core Strategy is likely to be judged 'sound'. The Core Strategy then goes out for a further round of public consultation of the amendments proposed by the Inspector. At this stage it is only the amendments that can be commented on. The Inspector will then consider all the comments received before it goes to Full Council for approval.

The District Council is required to make sure the electoral register is accurate so residents will receive an email or - if the council doesn't have your email address - a paper form through their letterbox between now and the end of August to make sure your details are correct. As credit checks, other verification often relies on the information in the electoral register it's not just your vote at stake so please take a moment to check. The Arts Group, Strange Cargo will be running a series of family friendly workshops on the history and heritage of Otterpool Park which is the proposed site of a new Garden Town.

The venues are: Sellindge Village Hall 06 August, Lympne Village Hall 12 August and Westenhanger Castle 21 August. All events are 11am-3pm and are free to attend.

We both attended the Parish Council meeting on 13 July. Jenny attended the Governors' Meeting of Sellindge Primary School and helped direct traffic at the Sellindge Boot Fair and Susan attended the Strawberry Tea at St Mary's church.

Susan Carey and Jenny Hollingsbee

SELLINDGE FOOTBALL CLUB – THE U13 TEAM NEEDS MORE PLAYERS.

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

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.

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

I regret to report that the Department for Transport has withdrawn the temporary powers that allowed KCC to clamp illegally parked HGVs. KCC was pressing for the powers to be extended and it's deeply disappointing that the Road Haulage Industry has campaigned against this when the vast majority of clamped vehicles were foreign registered as we have very little sanction against such vehicles other than to clamp. You will see in the District Council report that we now fall back on parking fines alone.

I know there are also concerns that HGVs are transiting the village because they have missed signs for the Inland Border Facility. Kent Highways have agreed to put more signs up on our network and raise the issue of the M20 signage with Highways England.

As I write (20 July) Operation Brock is still in place on the M20 as precautionary measure. The decision to implement Brock was taken by the Kent Resilience Forum as tourist traffic was expected to surge after 'Freedom Day'. There's been no discernible surge and I'm told the situation is under daily review with a view to returning to normal operations on the M20.

There's a 2 question consultation open on a bus strategy for Kent at www.kent.gov.uk/busfuture

As part of the Government's National Bus Strategy, local authorities are being invited to create an Enhanced Partnership Scheme (EPS) with bus operators. The EPS will set out shared aims and service standards with a view to improving bus services.

Future government grants to support bus services will require an EPS be in place.

KCC launched a Reconnect programme for Kent's children in March and last month we put another £10m of our Government Covid Recovery funding towards it. It's about opportunities to reconnect with activities and friends and includes a free bus pass for young people in school years 6 to 13 for use between 22 July and 31 August. Residents and businesses in Kent are also being asked to volunteer their time or donate equipment or boost the funding available and they can do so at www.kent.gov.uk/reconnect

The link can also be used to sign up for the Reconnect newsletter.

Several people have asked me about the Electoral Commission's proposals to increase the number of parliamentary seats in the Southeast to help equalise the number of voters in constituencies in England.

The proposal involves the creation of a new seat which would see the Elham Valley area (which includes Sellindge) joined to part of the adjacent rural part of Ashford to create a new seat. This would not change the borders of the District Council so Sellindge would still be part of Folkestone & Hythe District Council not Ashford Borough Council and still part of Elham Valley for Kent County Council.

The Electoral Commission is asking for views and you can read their full proposals and give your feedback by 02 August at: <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/6488>

SELLINDGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION (SGA) – HOLIDAY EXMOUTH (Devon) Monday 4th – Friday 8th October 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 597 710** (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.



ASHFORD STOMA SUPPORT GROUP

Ashford Stoma Support Group will be meeting in Sellindge Village Hall on Thursday August 26th from 2pm to 4pm. The Group will then be meeting on the last Thursday of the month.

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STOUR DOWNS PARISH

Vicar's letter – August 2021

I have often written about how we are blessed to enjoy such wonderful countryside here in the Stour Downs. It has certainly been something to draw strength from as a place in which to walk, to reflect and find perhaps an 'escape' in the difficulties of the past year-and-a-half, and certainly help cope with lockdowns. It has been commented on how many of us noticed more deeply the changes of the seasons and the signs and sounds of nature around us in this time. I don't know about you, but often I look at the busy roads again and think back to lockdown when they fell silent, and even the skies overhead were without aircraft.

Recently, our Parish Festival Church at Sellindge hosted an art event where those participating in workshops, talks and exploring art installations were able to reflect on some of the issues around our impact on, and to be inspired by, creation.

We are pleased to have achieved our first Eco Church award for St Mary's Church in Smeeth.

This recognised an ongoing effort to change the way we use resources and raise awareness of Eco issues in four areas: worship, management of buildings and land, community and global engagement, lifestyle.

The Anglican Church includes as one of its "marks of mission": *To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.* Justin Welby, The Archbishop of Canterbury, has said that *"Responding to climate change is an essential part of our responsibility to safeguard God's creation."*

As Christians, we believe that all of creation is God's, therefore we have a duty to treat it with respect as we would a gift. With awareness of the links between our daily actions and climate change, we therefore should be doing what we can to stop our lifestyles causing harm.

Change is hard, and there seems to be a long way to go to counter all the many ways daily life contributes to small and big scale damage to creation. But we can make steps to consciously lessen our impact.

My big step forward this past month was to take delivery of an electric car. The vicar now heads off around the Parish without producing any emissions! The electric used to recharge it is supplied on a zero-carbon tariff and I opted for the interior that uses recycled materials too. Small steps, and now fuel-free "steps"!

I have turned on the sound emitter for low-speed manoeuvring to keep parishioners safe, as it is eerily silent... but it is a joy to hear the sounds of the beautiful Stour Downs birdsong without an internal combustion engine, and to know that I am not pouring out any carbon as I journey around the lanes.

If you want to know more about joining me on the electric journey, get in touch!

God bless

Chris



Stour Downs Parish Services: August 2021

Date	Time	Church	Service	Available on Facebook Page and by Phone
1st August	9:30am	Smeeth	Parish Communion	✓
	10am	Brabourne	Story, Praise, Celebrate	
	11am	Mersham	Story, Song & Celebrate	
	From 3pm	Online	Party Church	✓ (video posted to Facebook)
8th August	9:30am	Mersham	Parish Communion	✓
	11am	Brabourne	Holy Communion	
	6pm	Stowting	Evening Communion	
15th August	9:30am	Smeeth	Parish Communion	✓
	11am	Stowting	Story, Song & Celebrate	
	6pm	Brabourne	Evening Communion	
22nd August	9:30am	Mersham	Parish Communion	✓
	11am	Smeeth	Story, Song & Celebrate	
	6pm	Monks Horton	Evensong	
29th August	8am	Stowting	Communion – Book of Common Prayer	
	9:30am	Sellindge	Parish Communion	✓

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

Blessing OF THE Backpacks



Sunday 5th September
3pm Sellindge Church

Bring your backpack,
book-bag or teacher's
bag along for a blessing
for the new school year.

Stour Downs Parish

www.stourdowns.org.uk

