

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

FEBRUARY 2022

Edition 694



SNOWDROPS

COFFEE & COMPANY

We are open to anyone every Tuesday morning in the Durling Hall. From 9am till 1pm. Starting back open on Tuesday 1st February. Serving drinks and there might be cake! Come and meet friends for a chat, make new friends

COVID regulations permitting.

HI KENT – Reg Charity 1052036 www.hikent.org.uk *The local charity for people with a hearing loss.*

Hi Kent provides FREE NHS hearing aid aftercare, advice and battery supply.

The local hearing aid maintenance clinic will be in the Parish Council Office, behind the Village Hall on Tuesday February 8th from 10.15am to 11.15am.

You could pop into Coffee & Company either before or afterwards – *Just a thought*

INDOOR TABLE TOP SALES

Indoor table top sales **Saturday 12th February 2022**

At Sellindge Village Hall 9am to 1pm £6 per table. To book a table contact Jeanette 07753283575.

Much to see and purchase from books, clothes, house hold items, toys, crafts, homemade preserves and cakes and pastries. With free entry and plenty of free parking come and have a browse.

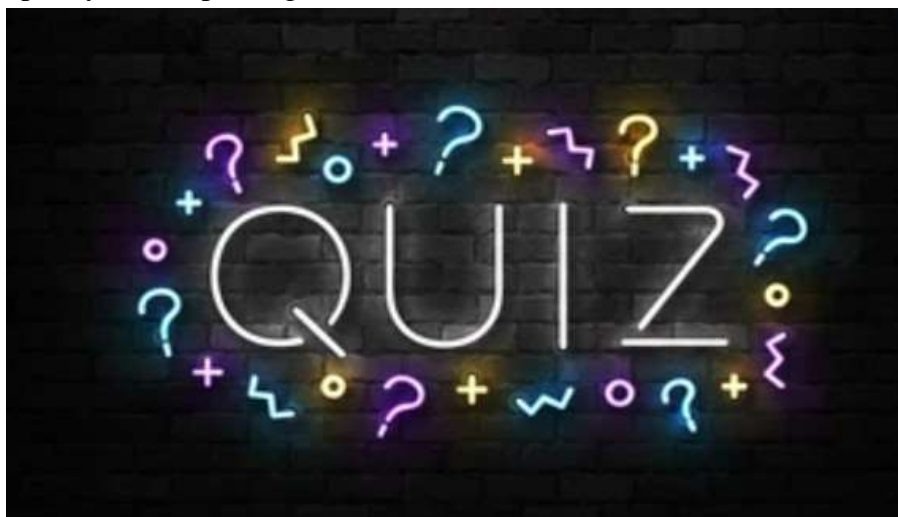
Refreshments available to purchase.

SELLINDGE TENNIS CLUB

Join the Sellindge Tennis Club for a Quiz Night at the [Sellindge Sports & Social Club](#) on Saturday 5th February 2022 from 7 pm.

Teams of 6 to 2 people. £5 per person on the night. If you'd like to enter a team simply email caroline_crumley@mac.com or text on 07816 062205.

All monies raised goes towards the [Sellindge Tennis Club](#).



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

The next meeting of your Parish Council is Tuesday 8th February starting at 6.30pm in the Durling Hall

From your Parish Council Clerk

Linda Hedley

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 260 751.

Also now available from the Dog Poo Bag dispenser which is located at the entrance to the Village Green.

FROM YOUR KCC COUNCILLOR Susan Carey, Elham Valley Ward.

susan.carey@kent.gov.uk 01303 670 561

Just before Christmas, local government was asked by the Government to reinstate some of the measures we took during earlier waves of Covid. As I write it looks like vaccinations and new treatments have thankfully limited the impact of this latest wave of Covid and the omicron peak has passed. However here are some of the measures put in place here in Kent.

- Our Public Health Team is working with the NHS to encourage everyone who's eligible to get vaccinated/boosted.
- We have reinstated our Temporary Place of Rest so that there is capacity for bodies should the hospital mortuaries be unable to cope (always a sobering step to take).
- We are once again promoting 'Kent Together' our online and telephone advice service where people can ask for help for themselves or someone else. Kent Together has helped vulnerable people get food and/or medicines and provided a friendly voice at the end of a phone.

Kent Together can also signpost those in financial difficulty to the help available.

Go to www.kent.gov.uk/kenttogether or call 03000 41 92 92

People are sometimes surprised to find that it's their Council Tax that pays for the coroners' service and it's a good example of one of the many necessary services that KCC provides and which I hope you and your family will never need to use. KCC is responsible for over 300 services with around half the spending taken by social care for adults. KCC has its budget meeting on 10 February and you can find the 2022/23 draft budget, the 2022 – 2025 Medium Term Financial Plan and the 2022 – 2032 draft capital plan here;

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/finance-and-budget/our-budget>

The results of the consultation on whether to keep booking system for KCC's 18 Household Waste Recycling Centres are now public. We had 10,705 responses which is by far the largest response to a consultation any of us at KCC can remember. Of those who expressed a view, 52% were in favour of keeping the system whilst 48% were not. A consultation is not a referendum – it's about asking for comments and making sure we don't miss any relevant issues. One key finding was that 39% of those who objected did so mainly because the booking system did not allow same day bookings. Overall 61% of consultees said they'd like to see the option of 'on the day' bookings. So we've been trialling 'on the day' bookings at three HWRCs (Folkestone, New Romney and Maidstone) and I'm pleased to report that the trials have gone very well. The booking system will be kept and 'on the day' bookings will be extended to all HWRCs

You can see the consultations KCC is currently holding at <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/> They include strategies for Adult Carers, Post 16 Transport and the Minerals & Waste Local Plan. You are welcome to respond to as many of these as are of interest to you. You can also sign up for the residents' e-newsletter at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/residents-e-newsletter> I am also happy to hear from residents with any questions or comments you have on KCC matters at susan.carey@kent.gov.uk

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.

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

We'd like to remind everyone of **MyAccount** which is designed to help you find Council information relevant to you. Registered users can find details about their Council Tax, benefits, bin collections, ward councillors, and more in one place. More services are being added to MyAccount and you should find it's an easier and quicker way to interact with the Council. You can register or log-in at www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Household support fund – Your District Council has been given a Government Grant for a Household Support Fund (HSF), which is (subject to fund availability) will run until 31 March 2022. Anyone aged 16 or over and living in the district in a vulnerable household may be eligible for a payment. Vulnerable households are defined as those that are struggling to afford essential food and utility bills and have no other available support. Grants are available for families with or without children. For full details of the criteria and to make an application, go to <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/household-support-fund>

Budget 2022-2023 – Your District Council is required by law to set a balanced budget by early March and then issue bills and collect Council Tax not just for themselves but on behalf of all other bodies entitled to charge Council Tax. The largest share of your Council Tax goes to KCC, then the District Council followed by Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue and finally your Parish Council. At the District Council our Full Council to agree the budget is on 23 February. We would now like to hear your views on the specific budget proposals within the Budget Strategy as well as feedback on the general spending and income generation priorities for 2022/23 see <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/consultations/budgetconsultation>

Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) consultation on precept – The PCC is also asking for the public's views on the level of Council Tax to fund Kent Police and the Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel (on which Jenny serves) will vote on this proposal in early February. You can comment by emailing: haveyoursay@kent.police.uk before the 23 January.

See Kent PCC: Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (kent-pcc.gov.uk) for further details.

Scrutiny Committee – Residents are being asked to let your District Council know what local issues they would like discussed by the Scrutiny Committee. Suggestions for matters which are important to the community will help shape the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the next financial year. While suggestions do not have to be limited to the Council or the services it provides, proposed ideas cannot include planning applications, licensing matters, housing appeals or disciplinary issues. To share your ideas, please complete the form which can be found at folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/your-council/democracy/council-scrutiny Please note, you will be required to sign in to 'MyAccount'. The deadline for submissions is Friday 25 February 2022.

We were pleased that waste and recycling collections took place as normal over the Christmas/New Year break and hope you've taken advantage of the free collection service to recycle real Christmas trees. If there are any problems with your collections we are always willing to pursue these with the responsible officers so do please contact us with the reference number for any report you have needed to make.

We've recently been contacted by Evolution Power about their plans for a solar park near Aldington (not in the Sellindge Parish Council area). The project is called Stonestreet Green Solar and they have more information at www.stonestreetgreensolar.co.uk Ashford Borough Council will be dealing with this application but as we are close neighbours here in Sellindge we will be asked for views so do please look at the proposals and tell us if there is anything you would like us to raise with either Evolution Power or Ashford Borough Council.

Just a quick reminder to be careful dealing with people/companies you only know on social media. A post was recently seen on a local Facebook site offering to collect waste. The company was not listed on the Environment Agency's list of registered waste carriers. If you employ someone to take your waste you must check they are registered. We'd also advise you to get a receipt and ideally take a note/picture of their licence plate. Criminals can charge hundreds of pounds to dispose of waste and then simply dump it. You can take most items to the Household Waste Recycling Centre, including washing machines, fridges, TVs, batteries even asbestos for no charge. Alternatively a bulky waste collection from your home by the District Council costs £30 for one item and £8 for each additional item to a maximum of four in all.

Jenny attended the Sellindge Parish Council meeting on 11 January (Susan is recovering from a foot operation and hopes to be attending meetings again soon).

This document provides some information about multiple challenges facing frail older

people in 2022, including the challenges of winter and the impact of COVID19 pandemic on older people, our group's views on what needs to happen to tackle this issue and what we are doing to raise awareness.

Summary

Frail older people face multiple challenges in 2022. Winter often brings several challenges for older people and, as we continue to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic and the emergence of the Omicron variant, this winter is likely to be more difficult than most.

Winter often brings loneliness and social isolation for many older people, especially those living alone or without family close by. There is help and support available for people experiencing loneliness and isolation, such as day centres, befriending services and community meals deliveries. Funders should look at investing in widening the availability of these services and promoting their existence to help alleviate the challenges.

Organisations that have traditionally supported this group of people now have less funding than before the pandemic. Statutory sources are limited, and charity reserves have been depleted during the pandemic.

ASHFORD STOMA SUPPORT GROUP

Ashford Stoma Support Group will be meeting in Sellindge Village Hall, Thursday February 27th from 2pm to 4pm. The Group meets on the last Thursday of the month.

THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

Food served from 3pm until close Wednesday to Friday.

Pizza nights Thursday, Fish and Chips, Fridays takeaway and local delivery available.

Open from 9am Saturdays and Sundays serving Breakfast Rolls and full menu, with Sunday Roast on Sundays.

The 2022 membership is now being signed up



The Sellindge Tennis Club is holding a quiz night on Saturday 5th February. It would be wonderful to have representation from the Sellindge Social Club committee, the Parish Council, the Bowls Club and the Adult Football Clubs. The junior football team are already joining.

Not only is an opportunity to help the Tennis Club fundraise but also a great way to see how the Clubhouse team can help you guys to fundraise too. Nick and Kerry offer fantastic support in these

kinds of events and the Tennis club is very grateful for their help and support in 2021. The last quiz night we were able to raise £500 for our club and we got some fantastic feedback on Nick H's quiz master skills and of course these kind of events helps the clubhouse too, bring in revenue for them in these challenging times. We intend to run another Quiz in the summer too so we those concerned about COVID can sit outside but our clubhouse can still retain the revenue from food and drinks which helps everyone.



Advantage Tennis
Canterbury Businessmen's Golf Society
Folkestone and Hythe Council
Jessel Charitable Trust
Kent County Council
Kent Tennis
Roger DeHaan Charitable Trust
Sellindge Parish Council
Quinn Estates
And of course all our 21/22 members....

THE MINISTRY OF CAKE

I've just returned from a coffee morning, where I enjoyed a rather nice slice of lemon drizzle cake. It is often remarked to me how the Vicar has a fondness for cake, as reflected in the choice of decoration for my contribution to the Christmas Tree festival in Advent 2021: entitled "more tea, Vicar?" and featuring decorations of tea bags, Christmas mugs and of course plenty of cake. Sometimes you just have to embrace the stereotype and admit to your weaknesses!

Cake is often offered at the times we gather together for chat and fellowship in coffee mornings and in Church after or as part of services. It is also offered when invited into homes to meet with people, whether that's for a chat, to be with them at a difficult time, or to meet new people. I wonder if you also find time to meet with a friend at a coffee shop for a chat that is accompanied by cake ?

Cake is a sweet indulgence, a tasty treat, food that we don't need, (as the waistline will remind us) but it is good to enjoy. It might be a metaphor one might say as a practical and tangible example of bringing a bit of light, of joy, perhaps even of hope, of love. We might give cake to cheer someone up, celebrate an occasion, or just as a way of saying welcome and showing we value the time spent with someone.

We tend to offer a lot of cake as parish, for all the reasons above, which I see as a "ministry of cake" – a ministry shared by many varied people who are at different places in their journey of life and faith. It is a ministry because it ministers to people – offering welcome, fellowship, joy, kindness and valuing time to walk with and get to know people.

When challenged over my cake consumption, I think of the example of Jesus who tended to a lot of his best work around food – bread, fish and indeed wine feature quite a bit as a big part of his ministry of meeting and walking with others and showing something of the Kingdom of God. So, I hope that the ministry of cake follows in a similar way.

Perhaps, in these continuing challenging times, we can all share some kindness, some joy, welcome and friendship with our neighbours, whether that is via the ministry of cake or other means...?

ST MARY'S CHURCH SELLINDGE – Part of the Stour Downs Parish.

6 th February	Smeeth	9:30am	Communion <i>and Live-Stream on Facebook</i>
	Brabourne	10am	Story and Praise
13 th feb	Smeeth	9:30am	Communion <i>and Live-Stream on Facebook</i>
	Mersham Church Room	4pm	JAM (Jesus and Me)
20 th feb	Brabourne	9.30am	Communion recorded service on facebook
	Smeeth	4pm	Songs of Praise
27 th feb	Stowting	9.30am	Communion
	Smeeth	9.30am	Morning Praise and live stream on facebook
	Stowting	10.30am	Story, Song & Celebrate
	Monk Horton	4pm	Evensong

St Mary's Sellindge in the Stour Downs Parish

You're invited to:



Come along as a family

**Sellindge
School Hall
Monday 7th
February
3.15-4.15pm**