

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

January 2025

Edition 729



WELCOME TO 2025 !!!



SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

It is with sadness that the Parish Council has to report the death of Stanley Bull (known as Pip, to many of his family and Friends), he had been poorly for some time, and although he had not been to many meetings this year, maintained an interest in the life of the village and the Parish Council.

Stan had lived and worked in and around Sellindge all his life and had been a Councillor and Chairman of the Parish Council for many, many years.

He will be sorely missed, along with his knowledge and history of the village. The Parish Council will be looking at ways to remember him, in due course.

INDOOR TABLETOP SALE –

Sellindge Sports & Social Club 9am to 1pm. **Saturday January 4th**

Tables available to book/info contact Jane on 07850 722 319

SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

STEERING GROUP—UPCOMING MEETINGS

SATURDAY 4TH JANUARY 10AM “WALKABOUT”
(MEETING POINT OUTSIDE VILLAGE HALL)

MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 7PM, VILLAGE HALL, (MEETING ROOM)

THE NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING ON SATURDAY 4TH INVOLVES A WALKABOUT OF THE VILLAGE TO LOOK AT ALL THE POTENTIAL ASSETS OF THE VILLAGE AS WELL AS IDENTIFYING WHAT WE WILL BE STRIVING TO PROTECT BY ADDING INTO OUR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



6TH JANUARY WE WILL BE BACK INSIDE LOOKING AT WHAT WE FOUND AND LEARNT ON THE WALKAROUND AND WHAT WE NEED TO DO NEXT.



**The Rural and Community
Housing Enabling Service**

A Local Housing Needs Survey has also been posted to all residents of Sellindge, with part 1 being for all residents to respond to and part 2 for residents of any age who is in need of affordable housing and the responses from this will also be incorporated in the Neighbourhood Plan going

forward. If you did not receive a survey card and wish to do the survey online follow this link

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/sellindge>

or would like a card or a paper copy, pick one up from the Parish Council Office, Primary School.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR RESPONDING TO SURVEY HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO FRIDAY JANUARY 17th 2025 .

The finding of the survey will be published on the Parish Council website.

COMING SOON !! [www.s](http://www.sellindge.org.uk)..... ???

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

The next meeting of your Parish Council is **Tuesday January 14th** 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 The Parish Council Office on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons and from Nigel at Trust Cottages in Moorstock Lane, he puts them on a patio chair/table outside his house. Also available from Dog Poo Bag dispenser located at the Main Village Green Entrance.



CALL TO SHARE VIEWS ON FUTURE USE OF PRINCES PARADE

Folkestone & Hythe District Council is seeking views on the future use of the 18 acres of council-owned land at Princes Parade in Hythe.

A short online survey has been published today (Monday 9 December). It is the first stage of gathering opinions on

possible options for the coastal site stretching between Seabrook and the Hythe golf course.

The survey has six questions and there is a free text box to add any additional comments. It will be open until 5pm on 16 February 2025.

Council Leader, Cllr Jim Martin, said: "As we begin to prepare a new Local Plan for the district, the time is right to have conversations about the future use of the land with the caveat that there are limited financial resources available for the council to pursue any projects.

"I committed to having proper conversations with residents about what they want on the land and this survey is the first stage. I hope it will give us an idea of the direction the local community want us to take, and I would encourage everyone interested to complete it."

The land had been earmarked for a swimming pool, leisure facilities and housing, but this was rejected following the May 2023 district council elections.

Printed copies of the survey are available and can be requested by calling 01303 853 000.

MOBILE LIBRARIES DATES and TIMES FOR JANUARY 2025

www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/visiting-a-library/mobile-libraries

Email ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk Tel 03000 41 31 31

Lay By on A20 at the bottom of Swan Lane.

Thursdays – 9.15am to 9.45am on **Jan 2nd – 16th – 30th**

St Kathrines Crescent TN25 6FU.

Fridays – 2.50pm to 3.20pm on **Jan 3rd – 17th – 31st**



Kent Libraries

SELLINDGE WALKING GROUP

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.

F&HDC NORTH DOWNS WEST WARD – Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee (Conservative)

jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk Mobile 07887 918 458  @jennyhollingsbe

Age UK Hythe Lyminge & Ashford – I was as surprised as most people to learn of the closure of the Lyminge Centre. I have been in contact with Cleo Smith, the Chief Executive who advises that the Centre has not been able to cover its costs for some time and that with the reduction in KCC funding, the minimum wage and the proposed increased National Insurance Costs that running Lyminge is no longer sustainable. I understand that negotiations have also taken place with the District Council who own the building and that while the rent increase could possibly be postponed, this would not materially change the situation. Cleo tells me that the Dementia unit will go to Hythe and that transport will be available to take those in most need to Hythe. Many residents have told me that they will very much miss the café and shop and I hope further consideration will be given to this situation.

Princes Parade Hythe – a short initial survey has just been published seeking views on the future use of this site, the survey is open until 5 pm on 16 February. The land had been earmarked for a swimming pool, leisure facilities and 150 houses, but this was rejected after the May 2023 district council elections. However, as the Council now has to prepare a new Local Plan and with increased housing targets set by Government, all options have to be considered.

Otterpool Park – discussions are on-going with Homes England and a six months collaboration arrangement, along with other papers, will be considered by the Cabinet on 11 December 2024 which, will, as usual, be webcast. The Waste water treatment plant planning application is imminent and a public consultation was held at Sellindge recently.

Devolution – the White Paper on devolution was published in December 2024. KCC and FHDC are likely to disappear as separate organisations. I will report further on this next month and further details can be found at [English Devolution White Paper - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/white-papers/devolution)

Although writing this early in December, I hope you had a lovely Christmas and I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

F&HDC NORTH DOWNS WEST WARD –

Cllr Elaine Martin Contact: (Green Party) Elaine.Martin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

An important step has been taken to start the building of the Otterpool Park garden town and will be discussed by the F&HDC Councilors at next week. The Council has worked with Homes England, the government housing and regeneration agency, to reach a Collaboration Agreement between them. The agreement, if accepted, would be for six months and will allow F&HDC to access the additional skills and expertise needed to attract investment and take the development forward. Prior to any building being started the wastewater treatment plant has to be constructed. I attended the public consultation on the Waste-Water Treatment Plant planning application, held in the Village Hall on 3rd December. Lots of people, including Councillors, attended and there were Officers on hand to answer any questions. The consultation is ahead of the formal planning application which is likely to be submitted in January. Details can be found on www.otterpoolpark.org and comments can be submitted up to the 24th December.

The Chair of F&HDC, Cllr Anita Jones, has recently obtained tree whips from The Woodland Trust and around 600 trees were planted in Hythe recently. Other locations are set to benefit from new young trees soon. There are approximately 200 left and community groups and schools are being encouraged to get in touch with suggestions, contact chair@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

The consultation on the corporate plan has been completed, with 550 responses received, about a third of these were from younger members of the community. This is a really good response rate as these things go, so many thanks if you returned the online questionnaire.

In the New Year we're expecting to see the launch of a new programme of Green Community Grants, building on the success of the Rural England Prosperity Fund and the Green Business Grants. The grants will be available to community groups, town & parish councils, and local businesses, and intended to support a wide range of sustainability and carbon-reduction projects.

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 Coffee & Company in the Durling Hall, Sellindge Village Hall on–
TBC from 10.15am to 11.15am.

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

Here's wishing everyone a Happy New Year. To start with good news, I want to share some details of a scheme that KCC has launched to help those pensioners who have just missed out on receiving a Winter Fuel Payment now that eligibility has been restricted. The scheme provides a £200 voucher that can be used for energy or food or both. It's open to people to apply themselves or refer others. Details of this and other schemes to help those struggling financially are on www.kent.gov.uk or you can ring 03000 41 92 92.

The funding comes from a government grant which KCC decides how best to allocate. This way of helping began during the Covid period and continued throughout the time of the previous Government. It's good to see the new Government continue the grant though I know many of us would prefer the Winter Fuel Allowance reinstated so pensioners do not have the barrier of needing to apply for help.

As more details emerge about the new Government's budget it is now clear that the increase in funding announced for Social Care will not meet the increased costs that care providers face from increase to the National Living Wage and employers' National Insurance Contributions (NIC) and the lowering of the level at which NIC are paid. Local care providers and charities have already made contact with KCC as they will not be able to continue their work without support to meet these costs. (These three measures are also of course impacting the wider economy by raising costs and discouraging companies from taking on staff.)

The final settlement for Local Government will be confirmed in late December but we already know we will need to make substantial savings to balance the KCC budget for 2025/26. One of these savings is from ceasing the Wellbeing Service for Adults to save £3.45m annually. The Wellbeing Service includes an innovation fund to trial new approaches to care and Care Navigators who advise those over 55 on services. You can take part in this consultation and others at <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/> KCC also intends to reduce staff numbers to save money starting at a senior level but the proposed consultation on this is on hold as the Government is expected shortly to announce radical changes to local government and any changes we make must take this into consideration.

Community Speedwatch is considered an effective way of educating drivers about respecting the speed limit and there's a noticeable difference in speed levels where there is regular Speedwatch activity. So I'm really pleased that thanks to Sellindge Parish Council's participation in creating a Highways Improvement Plan, Kent Highways has agreed to fund dedicated Speedwatch equipment for the Speedwatch volunteers in the parish. This will mean they will have the most up to date equipment and be able to arrange more sessions as they will no longer need to share the equipment with another parish.

Many thanks to the Sellindge volunteers who are doing such good work.

Other road safety news is that the team at Kent Highways who work with schools and young people to promote safer behaviour on our roads has just won the Prince Michael International Road Safety award for outstanding achievement and innovation.

The course which the team developed can be taught by schools and colleges as part of the post-16 PSHE curriculum. Kent Highways also work with businesses, motorcyclists and older drivers to help raise driving standards. This award should help raise awareness of this important safety initiative.

We are very sorry to announce that Shepway Citizens Advice is closing and will no longer be delivering Advice Services.

Email advice will stop on 15/12/24 and our telephone call back service accessed via 01303 241 435 will stop answering calls from 19/12/24.

From January anyone wanting advice can call:
01304 353861

Email advice can be accessed by emailing:
contactus@folkestoneadvice.com

Or you can call the Citizens Advice line on:
0808 278 7961

**SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB –
SWAN LANE**

Monday – Crafty Crafters – 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

Tuesday – Whist Drive – 7pm

Wednesday – Pilates – 9.30am

Thursday – BINGO 8pm

Thurs Pizza nights, **Fri** Fish and Chips,
takeaway & local delivery available.

Open 9am Saturdays and Sundays serving Breakfast
Rolls & full menu.

Sunday – The Sunday Roast Eat in, takeaway and local
delivery available, please call or text 07876 794 323 or
pm to book your Slot, book in advance to avoid
missing out.

Table Top Sale - Saturday January 4th Tables
available to book/info contact Jane on 07850 722 319

Big Fat Quiz of the Year! Fri 31st January, please call club house to book tables 01303 812 437.



See Facebook for what's going on.



AFC Sellindge – Play in the Ashford & District Sunday League – Division 2 – KO 10.30am
Jan 12th Home V Park Farm Folkestone

Sellindge Ladies Football Club play on a Sunday afternoon at 2pm they compete in the
Southeast Kent Women's League in Division two.

Jan 12th Home V Staplehurst Monarches – SECWFL CUP.

Jan 19th Home V Ramsgate – SECWFL CUP. **Jan 26th** Away V Baypoint.

Sellindge Ladies Football Club Under 9 Ashford & District Youth League – Sats KO 10am

Jan 4th Away V Wittersham **Jan 11th** Away V Bromley Green

Jan 18th Home V Headcorn **Jan 25th** Away V Lydd Town **Feb 1st** Home V Hythe Town

Sellindge Ladies Football Club Under 14 mixed play Sundays in the Kent Girls/Ladies League
Division 3 KO 10am

Jan 5th Home V Langton Green. **Jan 12th** Home V Margate. **Jan 19th** Away V Cobham.
Jan 26th Away V Anchorians Halo **Feb 2nd** Home V Long Lane.



Membership – To be renewed in January £10 pp for the year.

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

Village Hall Weekly Events

MONDAY

SUPERSTRIKERS	9.30am -10.30am	Main Hall www.superstrikers.co.uk
RAINBOWS	4pm – 5pm	Main Hall - 01303 812 297 (Term time)
BROWNIES	5.15pm - 6.45pm	Main Hall - 01303 812 297 (Term time)
LINE DANCING	7.30pm – 9pm	Main Hall – 07753 274 913

TUESDAY

COFFEE & COMPANY	9am – 12.30pm	Main Hall
MOTHER & BABY GROUP	1.30pm – 3pm	Main Hall
LINE DANCING	6pm – 7.30pm,	Main Hall – 07989 210 449

WEDNESDAY

BABY MASSAGE & TUMMY TIME	10am – 12.00 Noon	Durling Hall
PLAY GYM 0 – 6 months	1pm – 2pm	Durling Hall **NEW**
L+S TABLE TENNIS		Main Hall **NEW**
BEEES BODS	5.45pm – 6.45pm	Main Hall - 01303 813 274
AEROBIC BODY BLAST	7pm - 8pm	Main Hall - 01233 820 109
LANGUAGE CLASSES	6pm – 8pm	Durling Hall

THURSDAY

TINY TALK	10am – 11am	Durling Hall
PILATES	9.30 – 10.45am	Main Hall
PLAY GYM 6 – 12 months	12 Noon – 1pm	Main Hall **NEW**
PLAY GYM 12 months +	1.30pm – 2.30pm	Main Hall **NEW**
TAEKWONDO	Various classes from 5.15pm	Main Hall – 01303 814 635

FRIDAY

RUGBY TOTS	9.15am – 10.15am	Main Hall
1st SELLINDGE SCOUT GROUP	CUBS - 6 -7.30pm, SCOUTS - 7.30-9.00pm, 01303 813 250. 1stsellindgesg@gmail.com (Term time)	BEAVERS - 6.00-7.15pm, EXPLORERS 7.30—9.00pm.

Both Halls

Village Hall Monthly Events

TUESDAY

PARISH COUNCIL 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm **Durling Hall** – Parish Clerk 01303 813 271

WEDNESDAY

GET TOGETHER CLUB 2nd Wednesday of the month 2pm – 4pm **Durling Hall**

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



sellindge Village Hall

Halls available for hire.
Meetings, Clubs, Parties,
Wedding receptions etc

01303 813250 sellindgevillagehall@gmail.com



Stour Downs Parish Brabourne, Mersham, Monks Horton, Sellindge, Smeeth & Stowting Churches
 Rev Susan Manners (Interim Curate in Charge) 01233 500 414 www.stourdowns.org.uk also on Facebook
STOUR DOWNS PARISH Vicar's letter –

Dear all

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2025.

This year we are going to be running a new service at Sellindge church on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11am. It is a trial for six months and we will see how we get on. You are all welcome whether you are a church regular, have never been or haven't been for a long time. It will be around an hour and there will be coffee afterwards. It would be lovely to see you. Why don't you give it a go?

As I write this, I am in the throes of Christmas preparation and by the time you read it we will have begun a new year. I find it helpful to take a bit of time to reflect on the last year before launching into the new one. To stop and consider what has happened, those things I have loved and those I would rather forget. It is important to remember. So as we start a new year take some time to think about 2024.

With every blessing,

Susan

Services in the Stour Downs

January 2025

	Smeeth 9:30am	Mersham 9:30am	Brabourne	Stowting	Monks Horton	Sellindge
5th January (Epiphany)	Parish Communion	Morning Worship - Iona	10am Family Service		6pm Evensong	
12th January (Baptism of Christ)	Morning Praise	Parish Communion				11am Communion
19th January (2 nd Sunday of Epiphany)	Parish Communion	Morning Worship	11am Communion			
26th January (3 rd Sunday of Epiphany)	Morning Praise	Communion for all		11am Communion		
Wednesday No Service on 1/1 services on 8/1, 15/1 22/1, 29/1 at 9:30am			9:30am Midweek Parish Communion			