

SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

September 2026

Edition 749



SELLINDGE WALKING GROUP –

We meet at the Village Hall on a Tuesday morning at approximately 10am and set off at 10.15am.

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.

MOBILE LIBRARIES DATES and TIMES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

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

Email ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk

Tel 03000 413 131

Lay By on A20 bottom of Swan Lane.

Thursdays – 9.15am to 9.45am on

SEPTEMBER 10th & 24th

St Kathrines Crescent TN25 6FU.

Fridays – 2.50pm to 3.50pm on.

SEPTEMBER 11th & 25th

Think you've seen an Asian Hornet? Report it!



Report through the Asian Hornet Watch app or www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport



Animal & Plant Health Agency

SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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

The next meeting of your Parish Council on **Tuesday September 8th** starting at 6.30pm in the Durling Hall.

Dog Poo Bags – Dog poo bags are still available from the Parish Council Office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays during office hours.

Dog poo bags are also still available from Nigel at Trust Cottages in Moorstock Lane, he puts them on a table outside his house.

Dog Poo Bag dispenser is located at the entrance to the Village Green.

Please be aware – that due to the misuse of the dog poo bag dispenser.

The Parish Council have decided to suspend its use until further notice.

SELLINDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Office Opening Hours

Tuesday 11am to 4pm

Wednesday 11am to 4pm

Friday 11am to 4pm

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

Shape the future of Sellindge by joining the [Sellindge Parish Council](http://www.sellindge-pc.gov.uk).

We need passionate residents to voice local needs, guide community projects, and support our village.

Why Become a Parish Councillor?

- **Make a real difference:** Help decide on local matters like planning, village amenities, and community events.
- **Be the voice of residents:** Represent your neighbour's and ensure the community's views are heard by higher councils.
- **Support local growth:** Help balance rural charm with the needs of a growing village.

What the Role Involves

- Attend monthly meetings held on the second Tuesday evening at Durling Hall.
- Share your life experience, common sense, and local knowledge.
- Work as part of a friendly team to plan for the village's well-being.

To find out more or express your interest, contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@sellindge-pc.gov.uk or visit the Parish Council office behind the Sellindge Village Hall

NORTH DOWNS WEST WARD – Cllr Elaine Martin Contact: (Green Party) Elaine.Martin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Coastal Park – Folkestone's coastal park has been officially opened. The £750,000 refurbishment of the south east's largest free adventure playground is offering more play challenges and inclusive elements. The investment has been funded by the council, including the use of developer levies paid to support community infrastructure. Smaller play areas around the district are also in line for upgrades. The £670,000 of play area work is being partly funded by the council's own budget for capital projects and is part of the council's Corporate Plan commitment to invest in local communities.

Waste – Waste crews have been busy keeping the district's coastline looking beautiful as it is enjoyed during this summer's hot weather. Visitors are being urged by the council's #LoveYourBeach campaign to leave rubbish in the bins provided, including special summer high compactor rubbish units and bulk bins.

Green Flags – Green spaces which display the highest environmental standards, are beautifully maintained and have excellent visitor facilities. The parks are maintained by the council's grounds team whose members also planted a beautiful carpet bed on The Leas in Folkestone.

Social Housing – The council has been awarded the Regulator of Social Housing's highest consumer standards rating, C1, becoming the first council in Kent to achieve the distinction and one of just 13% of councils nationwide to hold the top grade.

KCC CLLR Christopher Hespe – (Reform UK) – Elham Valley – christopher.hespe@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Councillor, Elham Valley, Cabinet Member for Local Government Efficiency and Reorganisation

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

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

Folkestone Racecourse – Since this emergency measure was introduced for overspill parking from Eurotunnel, it appears that it has not yet been actioned. This is, of course, a good thing, and, although there is no cost to FHDC, it will be interesting to know the cost to general taxation!

HGV Parking in Otterpool Layby – I have recently been looking into the current situation and questioning what enforcement has been undertaken. I was told that inspections take place at weekends – I have asked that these also be implemented for weekday evenings when the parking seems to be more prevalent. I also queried about the cleaning of the layby and have been informed that this takes place regularly when the bins are emptied.

National Planning Reform – The government is introducing a **national scheme of delegation** for Planning & Licensing Committees to standardize how planning functions are allocated between officers and committees. Applications are categorized into two tiers:

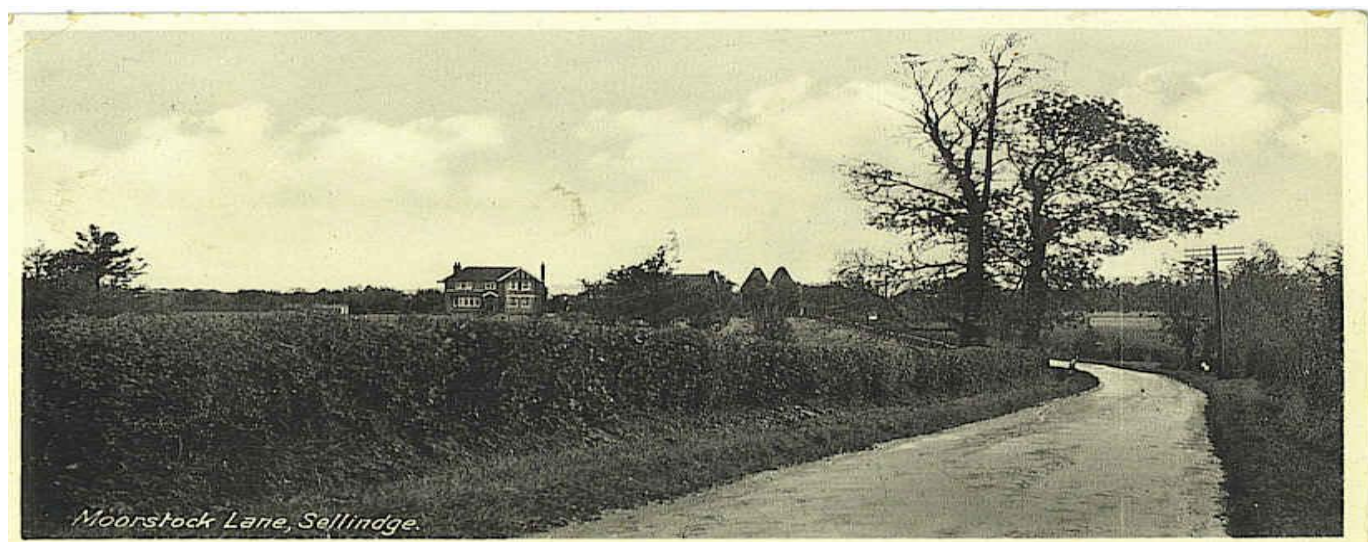
- **Tier A:** Applications that must always be delegated to officers, such as minor developments and certain reserved matters approvals. These will not be considered by committees.
- **Tier B:** Applications that are delegated to officers by default but can be referred to a committee if the Chief Planning Officer and Committee Chair agree.

The reforms set a **maximum size for planning committees**, currently proposed at **13 members**, to balance political representation. The Planning & Licensing Committee at FHDC is currently 12 Members but going into a Unitary Council covering three current Councils, could prove extremely difficult since both Ashford and Swale have more than 13 Members on their Planning Committee. I am waiting for a District Councillor Briefing on the new regulations to learn more. Further information can be found at [Planning Committees and the National Scheme of Delegation of Planning Functions: Guidance for local planning authorities in England - GOV.UK](#)

Local Government Re-organisation – now that we know that the model decided for the Unitary for our area will be made up of FHDC, Dover and Swale, - now called ‘Mid Kent’, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee have received an update on the current situation – see Minutes [Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday, 28th July, 2026, 6.00 pm | Folkestone & Hythe District Council](#)

There are a lot of questions to be asked on how the Unitary will work, eg where the main Office will be, who will be the Chief Executive, how will a Cabinet and Leader be decided, where services will run from, how the democratic system will operate, etc.

Dr George – was hoping to go quietly into retirement but the Members of the Patients Participation Group at Sellindge Surgery, wanted to mark his retirement. Dr George did not want any fuss but suggested patients might like to support his chosen charity, Mary’s Meals UK (www.marysmeals.org.uk) – or you can use the QR code, there is also a book in Surgery Reception that patients are invited to sign.



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



Sundays – Carvery Day – 12 Noon to 5pm – Booking advisable
Takeaway and local delivery available.

Wednesday Noodle Night takeaway and local delivery available.

Thursday Pizza Night takeaway and local delivery available.

Fridays Fish and Chips, takeaway and local delivery available.

Open from 9am Saturdays and Sundays

serving Breakfast Rolls and full menu.

Mondays Crafty Crafters – 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Junior Darts – 6pm to 7.30pm

Tuesdays Whist Drive – 7pm

Wednesdays Pilates – 9.30am

Thursdays Bingo – 8pm

OPENING TIMES

Monday	3pm – 7pm
Tuesday	3pm – 9pm
Wednesday	3pm – 9pm
Thursday	3pm – 10pm
Friday	3pm – 11pm
Saturday	9am – 11pm
Sunday	9am – 6pm
Closing times subject to change	

Tabletop Sale – Saturday September 5th 9am Tables available book/info contact Jane on 07850 722 319

The 12th Late Summer Fun Show – held at the Club on Bank Holiday Monday was another great success, in fact it was the best year ever with a record 50 people entering with 232 entries

Many thanks to all who participated or came up to look. Winners were

Victoria Sandwich (Jam only) – Lyn Blackman **Best in section**, **Furit Scones** – Nicky Beeching,
Cheese Scones – Angela Pumfleet, **Lemon Drizzle** – Lyn Blackman, **Cup Cakes** – Darryl Price,
Fruit Cake – Jan Holliday, **3 Cookies** – Carol Butcher **Carrot Cake** – Angela Pumfleet,
Short Bread – Sharon Pumfleet, **Ginger Cake** – Darryl Price, **Cheese Straws** – Darryl Price,
Jam – Nicky Beeching, **Chutney or Pickles** – Sharon Pumfleet,

Child under 8 colouring/drawing/craft – Fred Rouice. **Child aged 8 to 11 colouring/drawing/craft** – Mia Andrews

A Photograph of an Animal or Bird – Kevin Gipson. **A Photograph of a Sunset/Sunrise** – Nev Crook.

Any Other Craft **Best in show** Christina Sandy **Best in section**. **A Painting (any Medium)** – Rachel Becket

A Hand Made Greetings Card – Christina Sandy. **A Hand Knitted Item** – Christina Sandy.

A Crocheted Item – Marion Lettly. **An Item of Needlework** – Christina Sandy.

1 Stem Large Flowered Rose – Julie Andrews. **3 Rose Stems** – Julie Andrews. **3 Dahlia Stems** – Carol Bond

Vase of Mixed Flowers – Amanda Harris. **A Vase of Perennials** – Sharon Pumfleet **1 Stem Dahlia** – Amanda Harris

A Vase of Annuals – Sharon Finch **Best in section**. **A Flowering Pot Plant** – Amanda Harris.

A Foliage Pot Plant – Sharon Pumfleet. **An Orchid in a pot** – Jackie Kennet.

3 Dessert Apples – Carlton Chislett **Best in section**. **5 Plums** – Heidi Milner **5 Blackberries** – Angela Pumfleet

A Plate of 3 mixed fruit – Carlton Chislett **3 Cooking Apples** – Amanda Harris

3 Runner Beans – Ron Cleere **3 French Beans** – Heidi Milner **5 Potatoes** – Angela Pumfleet.

3 Carrots (tops trimmed) – Amanda Harris **1 Beetroot** – Ron Cleere **3 Sticks of Rhubarb** – Carol Butcher

3 Onion Sets – Angela Pumfleet **Best in section** **1 Cucumber** – Heidi Milner **3 Shallots** – Heidi Milner

8 Cherry Tomato's – Rachel Becket **5 Tomato's** – Nicky Beeching **3 Leeks** – Angela Pumfleet

3 Courgettes – Ron Cleere **3 Different Vegetables** – Carol Bond **Heaviest Marrow** – Heidi Milner

Longest Runner Bean – Amanda Harris **Odd Shaped Fruit or Veg** – Carol Bond

FOOTBALL

AFC Sellindge Play the Ashford & District Sunday League – Division 2 – KO 10.30am

Sept 6th Home V Faversham – Sept 27th Home V Sittingbourne

Sellindge Ladies Football Club play on a Sunday afternoon at 2pm they compete in the Southeast Kent Women's League in Division 1

Sept 13th Away V Crayford – Sept 20th Home V Staplehurst

Sellindge Ladies Football Club Under 15 mixed play Sundays in the Kent Girls/Ladies League Division 2 KO 10am

Sept 13th Away V Burton – Sept 20th Home V Smeeth / Brabourne

Village Hall Weekly Events

Registered Charity No. 302822

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	
	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 mths	1pm - 2pm	Durling Hall	
	L+S TABLE TENNIS	– 2pm – 4pm	Main Hall	
	BEES BODS	5.45pm – 6.45pm	Main Hall	
	AEROBIC BODY BLAST	7pm - 8pm	Main Hall	
THURSDAY	TINY TALK	10am – 11am	Durling Hall	
	PILATES	9.30 – 10.45am	Main Hall	
	NEW CHAIR BASED PILATES	– 11.30am	Main Hall	
	TAEKWONDO Various classes	5.15pm	Main Hall	
FRIDAY	RUGBY TOTS	9.15am – 10.15am	Main Hall	
	1st SELLINDGE SCOUT GROUP CUBS	- 6 -7.30pm, BEAVERS - 6.00-7.15pm,		
	Both Halls SCOUTS	- 7.30-9.00pm,		
	EXPLORERS	7.30—9.00pm. 01303 813 250. 1stsellindgesg@gmail.com		(Term time)

Village Hall Monthly Events

TUESDAY	PARISH COUNCIL 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6.30pm Durling Hall – Parish Clerk 01303 813 271
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Sellindge Village Hall

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

01303 813250 sellindgevillagehall@gmail.com

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Rev. Susan Vicar, Stour Downs (Brabourne, Mersham, Monks Horton, Sellindge, Smeeth and Stowting).

Dear Friends,

September always feels like a month of new beginnings. The long days of summer begin to shorten, the evenings draw in, and the countryside slowly changes colour albeit slightly earlier this year. The fields may be quieter now, but there is still much to notice and give thanks for.

For many, September brings a return to familiar routines. Children and young people go back to school, holidays come to an end, and our villages settle once again into the rhythm of autumn. Yet I hope we can carry something of the rest and joy of summer with us into the months ahead.

The harvest around us is also a reminder of how much we depend upon one another – and upon God's provision. As we see the fruits of the year's work gathered in, may we remember those who grow our food, care for our land and livestock, and work hard whatever the weather. We also pray for our farmers in what has been a difficult year.

September is also a good time to pause and look ahead. Whatever this autumn may bring, we need not face it alone. Our churches remain places of welcome, prayer and friendship, open to everyone.

May God bless you, your families and our community as we begin this new season together.

With every blessing, Rev Susan

Services in the Stour Downs – September 2026

	Smeeth 9:30	Mersham 9:30	Brabourne	Stowting	Monks Horton	Sellindge
6th September 14 th Sunday after Trinity	Parish Communion	Morning Worship Iona	11am Harvest Family Service with lunch afterwards		6pm Evensong	
13th September 15 th Sunday after Trinity Rev Susan away	Morning Praise For Harvest	Parish Communion				Parish Communion
20th September 16 th Sunday after Trinity	Parish Communion	Morning Worship	11am Communion			
27th September 17 th Sunday after Trinity	Morning Praise	Communion for all		11am Harvest Communion		
Mid-week communion 9:30am 2/9, 9/9, 16/9, 23/9, 30/9			9:30am Midweek Parish Communion			

