SELLINDGE VILLAGE NEWS

November 2026

Edition 751









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 on **Tuesday November 10th** 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.

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

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 NOVEMBER 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 **NOVEMBER 5th & 19th**

St Kathrines Cresent TN25 6FU. Fridays – 2.50pm to 3.50pm on. **NOVEMBER 6th & 20th**





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F&HDC NORTH DOWNS WEST WARD – Cllr Jenny Hollingsbee: (Conservative Party)
Jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk Mobile 07887 918 458

Otterpool Park LLP, working in collaboration with Homes England, has submitted updated information to the District Council as part of the current outline planning application.
The updated information reflects a number of minor changes and updates that were presented to the community in June. It also brings the application into line with the latest National Planning Policy Framework and other relevant legislation. The updates include additional flexibility to support the early delivery of new homes at Hillhurst Green, following further land acquisition by Homes England earlier this year. Details of the planning process and links to the planning documents can be found here Otterpool Park outline planning application – Folkestone & Hythe District Council. Head of Planning has confirmed to me, this updated planning application will go to the Planning Committee.

New Local Plan – A Local Plan guides decisions about where new homes, employment space and community facilities should be developed, while helping to protect the environment and respond to climate change**.** More information is available at Folkestone and Hythe Local Plan 2045 There will be further public consultation in 2027 once a draft is prepared. I have a Planning Policy Steering Group Meeting on 20 October and will be able to report further on this next month.

Spot the Scam – an event is being held on Friday 6 November from 10.30am to 3pm at Age UK, Sandford House, Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD. The event, organised by the council's Community Safety team, will offer practical advice, support for anyone who wants to learn more about recognising scams and protecting their personal information from scammers.

My Account – please do sign up to this, if you have not already done so. It is an easy way of reporting issues and looking up information. Just go to www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk and click on 'My Account'.

Local Government Re-organisation – the Government has just announced that Kent & Medway may have a Mayoral Authority and that although District Elections will go ahead in May 2027, there could also be elections in May 2028 for a Shadowing Authority. Nothing has been confirmed and FHDC is waiting for further information.

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

Judicial Review of Government's Decision on Local Government Reorganisation – KCC has submitted a legal challenge over the government's decision on local government reorganisation in Kent after repeated requests for an explanation of why and how the decision was reached went unanswered. Whilst the government has recently announced a review and pause to the local government reorganisation process, the original decision to divide Kent into four Unitary authorities remains in place. With the legal deadline to challenge that decision approaching, KCC has taken steps to protect Kent's interests whilst continuing to press the government for answers. Reorganisation would impact massively on residents, KCC believes the public should be informed how decisions were reached, ensuring that it stands up for residents.
Water Resilience Partnership – At KCCs invitation, leaders from water companies, regulators, local authorities, environmental organisations, business and farming attended the inaugural Kent Water Resilience Partnership meeting. KCCs initiative follows significant water interruptions in the past year and growing concerns about the long-term pressures facing water resources. So, the County Council brought together organisations that have a role in the planning, managing, regulating and protecting Kent's water future. Planning took place to ensure the communication continues moving forward, to strengthen water resilience in Kent. Thanks to the many thousands of people who submitted their thoughts prior to the first meeting, which formed the agenda for the day.
Armed Forces Covenant – KCC has pledged its support for the Armed Forces Covenant as a promise to ensure those who serve or have served, and their families, are treated fairly. KCC has pledged to ensure armed forces communities will not be disadvantaged in accessing KCC services as a result of their service in the military.
Active Travel Business Grants – Amounts of up to £5,000 are available for small businesses and not-for-profit organisations providing projects for walking, cycling and wheeling. There is a tight deadline, so visit KCCs website at www.kent.gov.uk for details.

Waste – KCC is now at its highest-ever waste recycling level. Currently, 99.6% of municipal waste is kept out of landfill. KCC manages the 'Kent Community Waste Prevention Fund' through which grants of between £500 and £5,000 are allocated to schemes that promote recycling.
Details can be found on the KCC website at www.kent.gov.uk.
Grants for Bus Shelters – Parishes have been invited to apply for this scheme, managed by KCC, so this is just a reminder for them.
Member Community Grants – Small community grants in the region of £250 or £500 are available to non-profit-making, constituted groups with a bank account. Due to the rules about spending prior to impending local elections in May 2027, the funding should be allocated as soon as possible. So organisations interested in applying for a small grant, whether for an event, equipment costs or a programme of activity, should inform me by email to get the ball rolling as soon as possible (Christopher.Hespe@kent.gov.uk).

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

Angela Raynor announced on the 7th September that the LGR process for Kent and several other County Councils had been 'paused' and elections for the District Council (instead of the Unitary Council) will go ahead on the 6th May 2027. Town and Parish Council were always due to be held on the same date. The Members and Officers have spent an inordinate amount of time working on LGR and are now in limbo waiting to hear what is to happen next.

The first of several events for those thinking of standing for election next May is being held on Wednesday 25 November. The drop-in session is from 5pm until 6pm in the Civic Centre, Folkestone, and is for anyone interested in finding out more about what being a councillor involves. It will be followed by further sessions in early 2027 for prospective parish and district candidates and will cover paperwork and timelines

Otterpool Park LLP has submitted updated information to F&HDC as part of the current outline planning application for Otterpool Park. The updated information reflects a number of minor changes and updates that were presented to residents in June. It also brings the application into line with the latest relevant legislation. The updates include details of the early delivery of new homes at Hillhurst Green, following the land acquired by Homes England earlier this year. The consultation period on the amendments runs between 5 October 2026 and 4 November 2026. The planning documents can be found on the council's Otterpool Park pages at https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/otterpool-park/outline-planning-application

The council's free parking initiative across Folkestone, Hythe and Romney Marsh will return this December. To support the local economy, charges at council car parks and on-street pay-and-display bays will once again be waived on the three Saturdays leading up to Christmas - 5,12 and 19 December.

A new group of local school students has been welcomed to help shape the district's future. The Youth Forum, in its third year, gives young people the opportunity to involve themselves in the democratic process and share their own priorities for the district. Meeting at the Civic Centre in Folkestone, a total of 49 pupils from Brockhill Park School, Folkestone School for Girls, The Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone Academy, Turner Free School, Lighthouse on the Marsh, The Marsh Academy and The Beacon attended.
They contributed their views on outdoor sports and recreation facilities identifying opportunities to enhance parks, play areas and spaces for teenagers.

THE SELLINDGE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB – www.sellindgesportsclub.co.uk

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 November 7th 9am Tables available book/info contact Jane on 07850 722 319

FOOTBALL

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

Nov 8th – Home V Insulators FC – **Nov 15th** Away V Radnor Park – **Nov 22nd** Away V Chairing Sunday

Sellindge Ladies Football Club Sunday afternoon at 2pm they compete Southeast Kent Women's League
Nov 8th – Away V Shrimpos – Nov 22nd Home V Lydd – Nov 29th Away V Sittingbourne.

Sellindge Ladies Football Club Under 15 mixed play Sundays in the Kent Girls/Ladies League KO 10am
Nov 15th – Away V Kings Hill Nov **22nd** – Home V Foots Cray **Nov 29th** – Home V Crayford

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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 10am12.00 Noon		**Durling Hall**	
	PLAY GYM 0 – 6 months 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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Rev. Susan, Vicar Stour Downs (Brabourne, Mersham, Monks Horton, Sellindge, Smeeth and Stowting).

Dear Friends,

November can be a difficult month for many of us. The clocks have changed so the nights get darker so much earlier and it gets colder it is easy for us to turn inwards and become insular. To stay in our homes where it is warm (hopefully) and to spend less time outside. It is a time when loneliness can become more and more difficult. Jesus told us to love our neighbour as ourselves. That means looking out for them, checking in on people and offering a helping hand to those in need. As a church we try to do this through our Thursday coffee and cake in the church room which is a good way to have a chat and meet some new people. We also do pastoral care visits and for those in need of a bit of extra help we run our own foodbank. If you need a bit of help please do reach out.

November is also a time of remembering. On 8th November we will have our Remembrance Sunday services at both Brabourne and Mersham. Both will begin at 10:45 and will include a minute's silence at 11am as we remember all those who laid down their lives so that we may live. At a time when wars seem more prevalent it is important to remember those who have died and remember that we said never again. There will be a memorial on 8th at the Village Hall by our uniformed organisations. On 8th the only communion service in the parish will be at Sellindge church at 8am and will be a spoken service.

You are very welcome at this or any of our services, events and activities. Don't forget at the beginning of December we have the Mersham Christmas Tree Festival. We welcome any group, society, individual or school to decorate a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. Alternatively, just come along and enjoy the show, there will be soup lunches and lots of cake to enjoy.

With every blessing, Rev Susan

Services in the Stour Downs – November 2026

	Smeeth 9:30	Mersham 9:30	Brabourne	Stowting	Monks Horton	Sellindge
1st November All Saints	**Parish Communion + 3pm All Souls**	**Morning Worship Iona**	**10am Family Service**		**6pm All Souls**	
8th November Remembrance Sunday		**10:45 Remembrance Sunday**	**10:45 Remembrance Sunday**			**8am Communion**
14th November			**4:30pm Deanery Confirmation**			
15th November 2nd Sunday before Advent	**Parish Communion**	**Morning Worship**	**11am Communion**			
22nd November Christ the King	**Morning Praise**	**Communion for all**		**11am Communion**		**3pm Stir Up Sunday**
29th November Advent Sunday Rev Susan away		**Parish Communion**				
Mid-week communion 9:30am 4/11, 11/11, 18/11, 25/11			**9:30am Midweek Parish Communion**			

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