

WHAT'S ON?

Participation from members of the public is encouraged at all Council and committee meetings. Agendas are posted on our website and notice boards the week before meetings, with minutes and audio recordings available soon afterward. Meetings are held at the Town Hall. For details contact the Town Clerk's office.

MAY

16th	Annual meeting of the Town Council, including Mayor-Making: 7pm
23rd	Tourism & Business : 5pm, Planning : 6pm, Finance & General Purposes, Highways & Amenities and Public Buildings: from 7pm

JUNE

13th	Planning: 6pm, Finance & General Purposes and Public Buildings: from 7pm
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JULY

4th	Tourism & Business : 5pm, Planning : 6pm, Town Council and Highways & Amenities: from 7pm
25th	Planning: 6pm, Finance & General Purposes and Public Buildings: from 7pm

AUGUST

15th	Tourism & Business : 5pm, Planning : 6pm, Town Council and Highways & Amenities: from 7pm
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COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN

A community emergency plan is being set up to help in emergencies (severe weather, prolonged power cuts, etc.) – not to replace the emergency services, but to help and support them and give on-the-spot immediate help to victims.

A vital component is a team of *Community Liaison Volunteers*: residents who provide a link between the coordinators of the community emergency plan and residents in their immediate locality. This could be for one street or a cluster of streets. During and following an emergency, their role is to receive information from, and pass it on to, residents in their area.

Some Community Liaison Volunteers may have formal qualifications or training e.g. first aid, which may be of assistance until the emergency services arrive. Others may, for example, visit and monitor vulnerable people, help with transport or pass messages on foot when communications are down.

Please note that volunteers without specific skills or equipment are *not* expected to become directly involved in coping with the effects of any emergency. Their role in an emergency is one of liaison, and this is vital: they form the backbone of the community emergency plan.

Community Liaison Volunteers can also perform useful functions *before* an emergency, such as report problem drains to minimise pluvial flooding, monitoring weather and other warnings, and encouraging residents and businesses

FITNESS AT THE TOWN HALL

Fitness classes are held in the Town Hall each day through week. Please give the instructor a call if you want to attend. If you are looking for a space in which to hold a class, please contact the Town Clerk's office for more information.

MONDAYS

9.15-10.45am: Pilates: Liz—07958 708874

11.15-12.45pm: Pilates: Liz—07958 708874

6.30-8.00pm: ChiBall: Ally—07709 052808

TUESDAYS

12.15-2.00pm: Yoga: Maureen - 01233 861362

WEDNESDAYS

9.00-10.30am: Pilates: Liz—07958 708874

10.45am-midday: ChiBall: Ally—07709 052808

THURSDAYS

9.30-10.45am: Pilates: Annie – 07989 869217

FRIDAYS

9.10am-10.40am : Yoga: Angela - 01580 291215

10.45am-midday: ChiBall: Ally—07709 052808

THE PAVILION

Following extensive refurbishment, the pavilion on Tenterden Recreation Ground is open and seeing regular use by a range of local organisations.

The building is equipped with three changing rooms, a kitchen, washroom facilities, and a large central hall measuring 8.56m x 5.22m (28' x 17'). If you would be interested in hiring it for a class or event, please contact us and we will be only too happy to take you for a tour and give you all the information you need.



TUESDAYS

5.00 - 8.00pm: Canton Martial Arts
Karate with Marc Warmesley - 01797 364821

WEDNESDAYS

6.15-7.15pm: 80s/90s Reload
Aerobics with Suzey Kenny - 07732 789878

THURSDAYS

10.30-11.30am: 80s/90s Reload
Aerobics with Suzey Kenny - 07732 789878



TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2016

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE RETURNS TO THE TOWN HALL

As a result of changes at Tenterden Gateway (to allow improvements to the post office service) the Tourist Information centre there has now closed. The Town Council believes that a Tourist Information centre is essential for our town, so it has resolved to relocate it to its former home in the foyer of the Town Hall, at least until a permanent suitable alternative is in place.

The centre is to be primarily "self-help" using computers, although naturally computers are no substitute for local knowledge, so it is hoped that local people can volunteer their time to staff the centre. If you would be interested in giving a little time to help visitors to our town, please



LITTER BINS

In a joint initiative with Ashford Borough Council, we are replacing old bins of varying styles with a new consistent design which will make savings on the collection contract. The dog bin scheme has been ceased, so you are now asked to deposit dog waste in any standard bin.

Some bins are to be used for recycling only; these show the recycling logo as well as the word "recycling".

Ashtrays are provided to keep our streets clean and tidy.



TOWN MAYOR'S UPDATE

Pamela Smith

After a slight reduction in the precept last year, this year it has increased to £368,000. The annual charge to residents will be just over £100 per band D household. The factors involved in the increase are as follows:

- The council will not be able to use the funds arising from the sale of its land in the Tent 1 development for running costs. These funds will all be allocated to local projects.
- There has been a national reduction in the financial support from borough level.
- We have taken over responsibility for the Tourist Information Centre, which will only receive funding from ABC for 1 year.
- A maintenance facility to house vehicles and equipment is needed and long overdue.
- We hope to encourage & finance youth projects.

In October we will take on many of the tasks currently carried out by ABC and KCC. This will be cost neutral for the council over a 5 year period and should result in a significant

NEIGHBOURHOOD VOLUNTEERS

The Council is looking for local volunteers for the Tenterden Community Emergency Plan - www.tenterdentown.co.uk/emergency - and to act as Neighbourhood Watch coordinators - www.tenterdentown.co.uk/NHW. The responsibilities can be as light or as heavy as you want. Please visit the relevant web pages or contact the Town Hall (01580 762271) for more details - your community needs

LIVE BROADCAST OF MEETINGS

Since the beginning of the year, we have been broadcasting our council and committee meetings live via our website www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk - just go to the *Meetings* tab for a link to the audio player. A schedule for the year can be found on the same page, but please keep an eye out for agendas for special meetings.



NEW MEETING TIMINGS

For a trial period our planning committee meetings will be held at 6.00pm, in order to allow members of the public to attend without having wait so late into the evening for applications to come up. Tenterden Town Council has the role of consultee on planning applications, submitting its recommendations to ABC, which makes the final decision.

improvement in quality and response times to issues with a locally based workforce.

Many litter bins in the town had fallen into a very poor condition. The replacement bins are attractive and consistent. The majority of the funding came from ABC, with the Town Council paying only for those bins on its own land (e.g. the recreation grounds). Specific dog bins are being phased out – you are now encouraged to deposit dog waste in a standard litter bin.

Planned concessionary parking permits for employees have been abandoned, as they proved to not be viable. We are aware of concerns surrounding the new restrictions on the residential areas off the Smallhythe Road. There has been no Parking Forum meeting this year due partly to restructuring at ABC; the Clerk will liaise for a meeting as soon as possible.

The Pavilion has now been successfully restored by our maintenance team and is being used as a venue for fitness classes in addition to the football club using the changing facilities.

The council is still supportive of a cinema in Tenterden, but after consulting two cinema providers, the Town Hall has been ruled out as a commercially viable venue for the facility. However, the reordering and possible extension of the Town Hall is still part of our three-year plan, so this possibility will certainly be revisited.

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, 24 High Street, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6AN. www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Telephone: 01580 762271. Email: townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk



RESIDENTS' SURVEY

We received many responses to the survey included in the last edition of this newsletter. The results will be used by the Town Council in the formation of plans for the future provision of community facilities. The most popular responses are shown below;

1. 48% of respondents felt that the town's buildings and facilities should be considered individually on their own merits, rather than as one cohesive portfolio.
2. 79% of respondents said that they would like to have a cinema in Tenterden.
3. Of those that said they would like to have a cinema, 44% felt that it should be in the Town Hall.
4. 57% felt that the Town Hall should be used for a mix of leisure and office facilities.
5. 49% of respondents felt that the Town Council's offices should be situated near the entrance to the Town Hall.
6. 35% felt that upper floors of the Pebbles building (55 High Street) should be used for a community resource.
7. 45% felt that the footprint of the Station Road toilets should be somewhat downsized, with the rest of the block being redeveloped to generate an income.
8. As above, 46% felt that the Tenterden Recreation Ground toilets should also be downsized.
9. Additional tennis facilities were the most popular option for improvements to Tenterden Recreation Ground, with 39% of respondents choosing it. A mixed-use community building scored 35%, and a combined tennis & bowls clubhouse, a measured walkway, and a skate park scoring 33% each.
10. An official marked football pitch was most popular choice for additional facilities at St. Michaels Recreation Ground at 37%, followed by a sports pavilion at 33%.

Enquiries have been made with commercial cinema operators, who have expressed a strong preference for a purpose-built space, rather than shared usage of the Town Hall, but this can be investigated as part of Town Hall refurbishment plans. Changes to Tenterden Recreation Ground will be led by the needs of local organisations who would make use of the facilities; a consultant will be employed to carry this out.

Please get in touch if you would like more detail on the

TENTERDEN'S BEST-KEPT SECRET?

The Millennium Garden is a beautiful public garden at the heart of the town, which thanks to the dedication of our maintenance team gets more and more beautiful with each year, as the below photographs taken by Maintenance Team Worker David Bourner in 2011 and 2015 show.



The garden is located through the alley to the left of White Stuff (55 High Street). We hope you will be able to take advantage of this stunning space this summer.

UPDATES IN BRIEF

PUBLIC TOILETS

The standard of hygiene at all of the public toilets has massively improved since a new cleaning contract began in September 2015. The Town Council's thanks go to Laura Napper and the Tenterden Twilight Cleaning Company team.

The plan to supply a new toilet block at St. Michaels has been altered at the request of the St. Michaels Village Community Group, who expressed a preference for the redecoration of the existing facilities. This will take place as-and-when the Council's maintenance team is available. The facility was recently closed off once again, due to vandalism.

LITTER BINS

The town's bins have undergone an extensive upgrade program. Working with Ashford Borough Council, we have been replacing them with tidy new bins with greater capacity. The liners of the old bins had begun to degrade due to their lack of drainage, so the upgrade is both aesthetic and functional.

MAINTENANCE FACILITY

A new building, for the storage of machinery and tools which are essential for the maintenance team to carry out their ever-growing duties, is in the planning stages.

GREENS AND VERGES

The Town Council has agreed to take on a contract to look after the town's greens and verges (as well as other ancillary areas). We are certain that undertaking this work locally will mean that problem areas can be tackled swiftly and with proper care and attention to detail.

COOMBE LANE AREA

The Town Council is investigating various ideas for improvements to the Coombe Lane and Station Road area, recognising that it is a focal point for visitors to the town using the coach park and the Kent & East Sussex Railway.

90th BIRTHDAY OF HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II

We have organized a number of events over the weekend of 14th - 15th May to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday - we hope you will be able to join us.

RAMP FOR USE BY PEOPLE WITH MOBILITY IMPAIRMENTS

We have a ramp which can be borrowed for short periods should you need it; please contact the Town Clerk's office.

TENTERDEN COMMUNITY CHEST

Information will follow in coming months about how

THE TENT 1 DEVELOPMENT & FUTURE TOWN PROJECTS

Phase A of the Tent 1 development stretches from behind the Leisure Centre to the Smallhythe Road. The Town Council was part owner of a large area of land to the east of the development. Contracts were recently exchanged on the sale after protracted negotiations. The net receipts from the sale will be £3.5million for the Town Council (deductions in respect of selling fees will have already been made). The final staged payment will be received at the end of July and the contractors expect to start work on the three-year project in September of this year.

The income from this sale is a considerable and exciting windfall and we are confident that additional grant assistance will be available to push this figure even higher. While some monies will be earmarked for long overdue repairs and modifications to the Town Hall, the large majority of the funds will be allocated to community projects.

Few councils of our size have experience of handling projects on such a large scale; for this reason we will employ specialists to handle the public consultations and workshops.

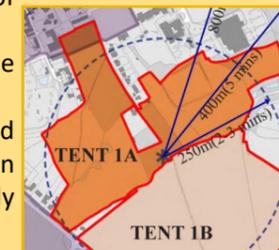
This gives the council a detachment from the process and ensures that selected projects will be community-led and thus will maximise the outside grant funding available.

We are adopting a "packaged" approach to projects on council property and these same consultants will oversee the funding applications, landscape architecture, appointment of contractors and project management through to completion. This whole package will be put out to tender shortly.

In addition, we are expecting that the consultation will prompt outside applications for funding from the Town Council and during the process we will also seek expressions of interest from supporters of outside projects.

Each stage of the process will be widely publicised.

We are entering an exciting and challenging period for Tenterden and the town will benefit greatly from this opportunity.



GETTING IN TOUCH

You can contact your local Councillor directly using the telephone numbers and email addresses listed below, or of course you can bring any matter to the attention of staff at the Town Clerk's office, which is open from 9am until 4pm Monday to Friday. Staff will often be able to help you directly, or of course can refer matters on to Town Councillors on your behalf.

Mike Carter (West ward)	Caxton Cottage, 12 West Cross, TN30 6JH	01580 388709	cllr.carter@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Jean Curteis (St. Michaels ward)	38 Henley Fields, St. Michaels, TN30 6EL	07799 765730	cllr.curteis@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Henry Edwards (North ward)	Eastwell Farmhouse, East Cross. TN30 6AD	01580 763428	cllr.edwards@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Sue Ferguson (South ward)	2 St. Benets Court. TN30 6QS	01580 765546	cllr.ferguson@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Nikki Gooch (South ward)	24 Longfield, TN30 7NH	01580 764349	cllr.gooch@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Emma Hannett (St. Michaels ward)	Sylvania, Shoreham Lane, St. Michaels. TN30 6EG	01580 764843	cllr.hannett@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Harry Hickmott (St. Michaels ward)	High Force, Grange Road, St. Michaels. TN30 6EE	01580 766496	cllr.hickmott@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Roy Isworth (South ward)	11 Elmfield, TN30 6RE	07585 022154	cllr.isworth@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Callum Knowles (North ward)	57 Shrubcote, TN30 7BG	07810 155686	cllr.knowles@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Lisa Lovelidge (South ward)	57 Shrubcote, TN30 7BG	07733 318836	cllr.lovelidge@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Richard Lusty (West ward)	21 Westwell Court, TN30 6TS	01580 766689	cllr.lusty@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Ken Mulholland (St. Michaels ward)	Dering Court, Grange Road, St. Michaels, TN30 6DT	01580 762827	cllr.mulholland@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Justin Nelson (North ward)	66 Rogersmead. TN30 6LF	01580 765313	cllr.nelson@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Pam Smith (St. Michaels ward)	The Old Malthouse, Swain Road. TN30 6PS	01580 765081	cllr.smith@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Alan Sugden (North ward)	60 Rogersmead. TN30 6LF	01580 765581	cllr.sugden@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
Terry Thorpe (South ward)	4 Leslie Crescent, St. Michaels, TN30 6BX	07775 561736	cllr.thorpe@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Phil Burgess
 Deputy Town Clerk: Robert Parham
 Administrative Assistant: Claire Gilbert Town Hall, 24 High Street, Tenterden, Kent. TN30 6AN 01580 762271 townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk
 Site Manager: Lee Jarvis
 Sen. Maintenance Worker: Dave Bourner

MEET YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

You can speak to your Town Councillors face-to-face at sessions on 4th June (St. Michaels Village Hall) and 6th August (Town Hall) at 10.00am. Please come along with any questions or suggestions you may have. Please remember that any issue can also be raised in the Town Clerk's office.

INVITING THE MAYOR TO AN EVENT

The Mayor tries to attend as many local engagements as possible. To invite the Mayor to an event, please contact the Town Clerk's office. In addition to local events the Mayor promotes Tenterden at many functions throughout Kent and beyond.

THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

The easiest way of bringing a matter to the attention of the Town Council is to contact the Town Clerk's office in the Town Hall. We are open from 9am until 4pm from Monday to Friday, and can be reached by 'phone on 01580 762271 or by email at townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk.

JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOLS

Tenterden Primary Federation is looking for volunteers to become governors of the Tenterden junior and infant schools. If you are interested in supporting your local primary schools, find out more by contacting the school office: 01580 763717

OFFICER PROFILE

Lee Jarvis - Site Manager

Lee has lived at Bethersden for thirty years; he worked at the Lamberhurst abattoir on leaving school; when it closed in 2001 he worked at a number of local farms, as well as lambing for various people. He then worked at Homewood School farm, before joining the Town Council as Site Manager in August 2015.

Lee says he loves the job, and the aspects he most enjoys are keeping the town looking tidy, making sure that the grounds look their best, keeping the football pitch in good condition and working with the rest of the staff team.

