

**Changing  
the way  
we work**  
How we have  
had to adapt  
during the  
pandemic

**Thank you  
for your  
help**

A big thank  
you to the  
community  
who helped in  
lockdown

**Reopening  
our high  
streets**

Working to get  
you back into  
our high streets  
safely

**AQMA's get  
deep clean**

Cleaning up  
to improve air  
quality

**Introducing  
our new  
Mayor**

New Mayor  
and Deputy  
Mayor sworn in

**Area  
Committees**

First meetings  
for new Area  
Committees

**Special  
projects**

A round up  
of projects  
funded

Autumn 2020

# Inside Swale



a big  
**thank you**

# Opportunities at Kent Police



Are you good with people and passionate about helping others?

Whatever your skills and experience, we have an opportunity for you:

- **Police constable** – every day presents a new challenge, you'll deal with different situations protecting and serving the public.
- **Detective** – Join our fast track 'Investigate First programme.' Complete your initial PC training and become a detective, which could see you investigating the most serious and complex crimes.
- **Police community support officer (PCSOs)** – working closely with communities and businesses to promote community safety.
- **999/101 call handler and dispatcher** – play a key role in the front-line response for members of the public.
- **Special constable** – work in a range of policing areas and investigate reports of crime.
- **Community policing volunteer** – support the local community, vulnerable people and specialist roles.
- **Volunteer** – contribute to the administrative function for all areas of policing.
- **Cadet leader** – inspire and develop young individuals to achieve their potential.
- **Cadet** – get involved in activities which support community policing and learn about responsible citizenship.
- **Support roles** – join IT, human resources and business administration to provide essential support to frontline operations.



**Kent  
Police**

For more information or to apply,  
visit: [www.kent.police.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.police.uk/jobs)



Angela Harrison, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

Since the last magazine our world has turned upside down. Foodbanks – a lifeline at the best of times – have been working day and night, along with council hubs, to ensure that those in need have enough to eat. The voluntary and community sector, along with the hundreds of you who have volunteered, made a big difference to the lives of people shielding. Lockdown led to more people starting exercise, even walking helps with overall wellbeing.

It's a fact that "80-90% of the health and wellbeing needs of residents are not resolved by medical interventions" – which means getting a prescription from your GP. The biggest factors of this are having a roof over your head, having a job which pays decent wages, and being able to feed you and your family.

My role is very much about working closely with cabinet colleagues, and I'd like to touch on some of what we're working on. I want there to be a greater focus on helping, supporting and engaging with residents, and for there to be the thanks for the voluntary and community sector that's deserved.

A decent home to live in – yes, we need more social housing, but I want private landlords to improve their properties. A roof over your head is better than being homeless, but it's not healthy for you or your family if there's mould and mildew in that home.

Achieve healthy lifestyles – there's no one size fits all. The council helped fund the start-up of the Minster parkrun on Sheppey and are in discussions about a junior parkrun in Faversham. The refurb of leisure centres means the elderly, frail, disabled, people with lifelong conditions and people recovering from a stroke have a separate gym to meet their needs. The machinery does the work in moving your body, strengthening it up so you can gradually do more.

Enough to eat – We're working with the foodbanks across Swale to see how we can help.

Going forward, we'll continue to work with foodbanks; we're contacting volunteers who came forward to ask if they're willing to help in the future; work closely with the health sector to tackle obesity by encouraging more residents to exercise.



Inside Swale is written and designed by Swale Borough Council's communications and marketing team and distributed to over 61,000 homes. For advertising, please email [insideswale@swale.gov.uk](mailto:insideswale@swale.gov.uk)

**Our advertising rates are very competitive and offer great value and the best coverage of the Swale area four times a year.**

Swale Borough Council neither endorse nor accept any liability for representations made by its advertisers.

Cover photo: Collage to say thank you to our volunteers who worked throughout the borough.

Do you have difficulty in understanding this magazine? Do you need it in Braille, large print or on audio CD? For translations or interpretations contact us on **01795 417850** or [csc@swale.gov.uk](mailto:csc@swale.gov.uk) and we will do our best to help.



Swale Borough Council  
Swale House, East Street  
Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT

[www.swale.gov.uk](http://www.swale.gov.uk)

[csc@swale.gov.uk](mailto:csc@swale.gov.uk)

**01795 417850**

**Swale Borough Council**

**@SwaleCouncil**



The information in this publication is correct at the time of going to print and every attempt is made to ensure its accuracy.

# The Leader's column by Cllr Roger Truelove



Looking back to January, none of us had much inkling of how our lives were going to be changed from March onwards.

When it became clear that the Government were going to impose a lockdown, Swale

acted swiftly. Staff were set up to work at home effectively, the situation was monitored daily by senior managers and cabinet, and everything was done to communicate what were fast changing events.

The regular work of the council and our policy aims had to work alongside the tasks set out for us by Government; distributing financial support to businesses, organising the community hub to help those shielding and meeting the demand to house homeless people. We owe a lot to the professional dedication of our staff.

Swale people have responded well but beneath the calm we know how hard the last few months have been for many people; all age groups, those shielding, those without gardens, small businesses and frontline workers. There has also been a tremendous amount of selfless community work by people.

I wanted councillors to meet as often as possible. We were ahead of the curve in conducting full council meetings remotely. Essential planning meetings take place. Cabinet has met regularly, and our decision making has been subject to robust scrutiny meetings.

Uncertainty continues. The virus is not beaten, and we face serious economic issues. Decisions will be made on local planning, affordable housing, town centres, climate change and the local economy. The work of Swale Council is important.

## Sad loss of Mark Radford

- The last few months have been challenging for all of us. But we were hit particularly hard in May when we learned the news that Mark Radford, chief executive of Swale Borough Council, sadly passed away.
- Mark had been undergoing treatment for cancer since last year, but during a recent stay in hospital, he contracted coronavirus.
- This proved to be one fight too many, and he passed away.



- Mark began working at Swale in 1987 as the council's estates officer and valuer, responsible for managing property assets.
- In 1996 he was promoted to director of corporate services and was responsible for running the business of the council as well as transforming service delivery of key services.
- He became interim chief executive in February 2017 following the departure of Abdool Kara and the post was made permanent in January 2018.

# Air quality management areas get deep clean to improve air quality



The roads and pavements in the borough's five Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) have been getting a deep clean to help improve air quality.

As well as the usual level of cleansing to remove litter, leaves and debris and clear back the edges of weeds, our contractors Biffa worked to jet wash the tarmac in Newington, Ospringe, East Street and St Pauls Street in Sittingbourne, and Teynham to reduce the dangerous particulate matter deposited in the road from recirculating into the air.

The dangerous particulate matter, which is important for us to eliminate in our AQMAs, can be deposited from vehicle brake pads, tyre wear, tail pipe exhaust emissions and various materials - mud, dust and other particles - attached to vehicle tyres.

The deposits often build up along the road and then recirculate into the air every time a vehicle moves over them, intensifying the pollution in an area already under a heavy burden.

For more information visit [www.swale.gov.uk/air-quality](http://www.swale.gov.uk/air-quality)



## Have you responded to the Annual Canvass?



**YOUR VOTE MATTERS**  
**DON'T LOSE IT**

It's that time of year again when we check to make sure the electoral register is up to date.

By letting us know if the details are correct or if they need changing you are ensuring that you're able to vote.

You can let us know who at your address is eligible to vote by updating your details online or fill in the form and send it back to us.

The electoral register lists the names and addresses of everyone that is registered to vote. It's important that you let us know if any details are incorrect or need updating, by following the instructions on the form, so that you are eligible to vote in next year's Police and Crime Commissioner and Kent County Council elections.

For more information, visit [www.swale.gov.uk/all-about-voting](http://www.swale.gov.uk/all-about-voting)

- Swallows roof repairs
- get go-ahead



- We've now put in the order for the work to start on repairs to Swallows roof, after cabinet approved the funding on 8 July.
- The roof to the leisure centre in Sittingbourne was severely damaged in February by storm Ciara.
- After looking at the options available, we've decided to go for a larger replacement of both the affected and surrounding roofs over the pool, sports hall, café and part of the gym.

# Housing allocation policy open for consultation



You can now have your say on how we allocate social housing.

We reviewed our housing allocations policy earlier this year to provide better access to affordable housing for those who need it most.

The policy is now open for public consultation until Friday 2 October, giving you a chance to submit your views on the proposed changes.

The changes include tapering income considerations to provide a more realistic approach for single people and larger families that are at opposite ends of the spectrum, moving homeless households from band C to B to make it easier for them to be moved from temporary housing into permanent accommodation, and reducing the amount of time a resident is expected to have lived in the area from

four to two years.

For more information about the housing allocation policy and to take part in the consultation visit: [www.swale.gov.uk/housing-allocations-policy](http://www.swale.gov.uk/housing-allocations-policy)



## Solar Together Kent

Solar Together Kent is a group-buying scheme for solar panels and battery storage. It brings households together to get high-quality solar panels at a competitive price – getting better offers by buying together.

We are working in partnership with Kent County Council on this scheme to help deliver Kent's vision of carbon netzero.

Register online before 6 October – it's free, and without obligation. The more people register, the better the deal for each household.

### Why join Solar Together?

- Register for free and without obligation
- Buy solar panels at a highly competitive price
- We provide clear and impartial information
- We ensure you receive a complete, high-quality system

To find out more

Visit - [www.solartogether.co.uk/swale](http://www.solartogether.co.uk/swale)

Email - [kent@solartogether.co.uk](mailto:kent@solartogether.co.uk)

Call - **0800 014 8721** (Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm)

## New website coming soon for Swale council...

We've been working hard in the background to update our website. We are getting close to finishing so check out our website in the next couple of weeks to see the improvements we have been working on.

# Bourne Place close to completion

The main building work for the Bourne Place leisure quarter in Sittingbourne has been completed, despite the lockdown and the impact of coronavirus.

The site has been handed over to the council, and the new tenants – including Nando's, The Light Cinema and Lounges - are preparing their units for opening in the next few months, depending on public health guidance.

The new leisure facilities coming to Sittingbourne will complement the Travelodge which opened in February. The hotel closed temporarily during lockdown but reopened in July.



*These photos of The light's Stockport Foyer (above) and Walsall Bar (right) are an indication of the look and feel of The Light's cinemas.*

Cllr Roger Truelove, leader of the council, said: "I really welcome this initiative - a bowling alley is something that many people have asked for over the years, and the more we can diversify the leisure offer at Bourne Place the better.

"It will help give people more reasons to visit the town centre more often and for longer periods.

Cllr Monique Bonney, cabinet member for economy and property at the council, said: "This is really exciting news for Sittingbourne and, if approved, should be a major attraction for the borough.

"We are working very hard with the tenants to deliver a more diverse offer for local people and visitors that will be less dependent on restaurants than the original scheme.

"If we want our town centres to thrive, we need a broader offer to attract more visitors to support our local businesses and jobs."

The development may also see the inclusion of a 9-lane bowling alley in Sittingbourne, as a decision on a planning application was expected after we went to print.

The plans were put forward by The Light, the firm behind the 8-screen cinema and proposed a change of use of one of the ground floor restaurant units that would share an entrance with the cinema above.



# Transformation at Faversham Rec

You can now enjoy the newly transformed Faversham Rec as work to restore the heritage buildings and revamp the park and green spaces draws to a close.

We started the work last year after receiving £1.9 million funding from the Heritage Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund to restore many of the park's historic features and improve the facilities.

Faversham Rugby Club have returned to their clubhouse at the newly restored lodge and soon will be able to use the new changing facilities at the fully refurbished pavillion which now has a new community room added to host local events and training.

We're also in the process of awarding the contract to run the new refreshment kiosk and outside seating at the pavilion.



*Defibrillator at the pavilion*

A new activities coordinator is now in place to bring volunteers together, organise art projects, music events, school visits, photography competitions and tree trails, and our new park ranger will help take care of the park and be on hand to assist visitors, carry out maintenance work, litter picks and horticultural projects.

We've recently resurfaced pathways, refurbished the main entry gates, installed railings around the perimeter of the park and opened a new outdoor gym which is proving very popular.

We've also installed a brand new SECAMB defibrillator in a secure cabinet at the pavilion for anybody to use in case of emergency.



In 1888, a beautiful stone carving of a robed girl holding an amphora that incorporated a drinking fountain was presented by the Rev. G. J. Hilton and erected near the present playground. Nothing is known about the sculpture, which is said to have been vandalised in March 1950 and removed.

Today all that remains is the red granite plinth that is to be given a new use as a site to potentially exhibit sculptures.

# New Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Swale sworn in

Our new Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Swale were sworn in for the year ahead at our virtual Annual Council Meeting.



Cllr Paul Stephen took over the chains of office from Cllr Ken Ingleton for the coming civic year. Cllr Benjamin Martin is serving as Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Stephen worked for British Telecom for 38 years and was a manager there for 26 years. He was in charge of a team of engineers installing major services of copper and fibre networks to projects like Bluewater and the O2 Arena.

Paul moved to Tunstall, Sittingbourne in 2005 after meeting his wife Sarah. During the Covid crisis Paul and Sarah have volunteered to the Swale Hub to help local residents who were vulnerable. This they will both continue with for as long as they are needed.

A keen DIY man, Paul has been putting his skills to good use by volunteering to help renovate the Raybel Barge at Lloyd Wharf, Milton Creek (behind Halfords).

Paul is on the Planning Committee and Licencing Committee at Swale Borough Council and is a Trustee for Swale Citizen Advice. Along with

MS Swale, he and Sarah will be supporting them both as their chosen charities for the Mayoral year.

The Mayor has chosen Citizens Advice Swale, MS Swale and the Raybel Barge as his charities to support during the civic year. Cllr Stephen said: "During the Covid Pandemic many charities have been unable to raise funds needed to help them support others. As Mayor of Swale I will be supporting Citizens Advice Swale and MS Swale. I am also not averse to getting my hands dirty and am helping to restore the Raybel Barge at the Lloyd Wharf Milton Creek to help preserve our local heritage."

## Do you need to manage the affairs of someone else?

**Watch our Zoom webinar on 'Protecting Your Family Assets'**

We are running Zoom webinars on the 2nd Thursday of every month on the topic of Lasting Powers of Attorney as well as how you can protect your family assets against inheritance tax.

We're now taking bookings for:

**Thursday 8th October at 7.00pm**  
**Thursday 12th November at 7.00pm**



**To register your interest and to receive a webinar link, visit [www.cwj.co.uk/site/seminars](http://www.cwj.co.uk/site/seminars) or email [marketing@cjw.co.uk](mailto:marketing@cjw.co.uk) or call 01795 536820**



"The helpful and efficient way we were dealt with each time was great."

"I have been using your company for years as do other family members - as always excellent service from start to finish."

# Reopening our high streets and making Swale safer

We've worked hard to ensure that you can shop safely in our high streets again following the strict lockdown rules that were in place for a number of months.

We've been supporting businesses to help ensure people can maintain social distancing with one-way systems and safe queuing layouts.



Sittingbourne High Street



Sheerness High Street



Faversham Town Centre

Your shopping experience isn't the same as it once was, so we urge you to be kind, be patient and be safe.

We've also introduced additional temporary traffic restrictions in high streets to enable safe social distancing for shoppers.

The following roads are closed to through traffic in **Sheerness** between 10:00 and 16:00 Monday - Saturday:

- **High Street** – From the junction with Millennium Way to the junction with Victory Street
- **Broadway** – From the junction with High Street to the junction with Trinity Place
- **Hope St** – From the junction with High Street to the junction with Hope Way

In **Sittingbourne**, in addition to the existing restrictions, the following roads will also be closed to through traffic between 10:00 and 16:00 Monday - Thursday:

- **High Street** – from the existing gate near the junction with Station Street to the junction with Central Avenue

In **Faversham** the following roads are closed to all through traffic between 10:00 and 16:00 Monday – Thursday:

- **Court Street** – from the junction with Market Place to the junction with Crescent Road
- **Market Place** – for its entire length
- **Middle Row** – for its entire length
- **West Street** – from the junction with Market Place to a point in line with the boundary of 121 and 122 West Street

It's been a tough few months for a lot of people, so please take the opportunity to speak to the person next to you in the queue, be patient with staff who are working in a different way than normal, and allow enough distance for other people on narrow paths and doorways.

We want you to stay safe, so please keep socially distancing, washing your hands and consider wearing a face mask in shops.

# Thank you to all our volunteers

We want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers and all the staff who were redeployed to help the most vulnerable in the community during the coronavirus outbreak.



We needed to make sure that we were still providing the vital services, like bin collections and housing support, but also needed to make sure those who were shielding had access to the help they needed. We were blown away by the response we had to a call out for volunteers, so much so that we ended up having far more people volunteer their time than we needed. We want to thank everyone who offered their support in the height of the pandemic.

Our volunteers took on a range of tasks including going shopping to help provide a healthy range of meals, picking up prescriptions, and giving support and someone to talk to in what was an incredibly lonely time for some.

Like many of our volunteers, Gill Rapley - who was a nurse for more than 30 years - wanted to help vulnerable people who were struggling during this pandemic. She found that being able to

help in these uncertain times was one of the most rewarding parts of volunteering.

It's not just individuals who have been giving up their time to help their communities. Local organisations and groups have been dedicated in providing help during the coronavirus outbreak and we can't thank them enough.

The need for support has been stepped back as lockdown restrictions have been lifted, but we know that should we need their support again, we have a strong community willing to help out.



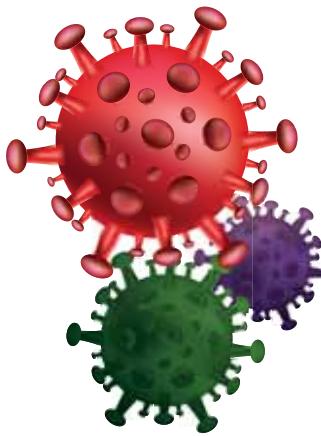
## Where to go for the latest information

The rules around coronavirus and the support available to both individuals and businesses changes at a rapid pace. We strive to get the most accurate information out to you as quickly as we can. The fastest way to keep up to date is to follow us on social media:

Twitter - **@SwaleCouncil**

Facebook- **@SwaleBoroughCouncil**

Or visit **[www.swale.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.swale.gov.uk/coronavirus)**



# Coronavirus

## Changing the way we work

Coronavirus has thrown a number of challenges our way, meaning that a number of our teams have had to adapt the way they work and find new ways to help adapt services.



### Going virtual...

Early on it became clear that in order to continue to provide normal levels of service, there would be a need to have the regularly scheduled council meetings. Our Democratic services team worked hard to get these up and running as soon as possible, but virtually so that everyone could stay safe.

After a short hiatus, meetings started back up again in mid-April, starting with an extraordinary cabinet meeting and swiftly followed by a planning meeting. Meetings have been held and managed virtually over skype ever since. Recordings of the meetings along with the minutes have been made available on our website.

### Helping house the homeless during lockdown

When lockdown hit, we worked hard to provide extra support to anyone sleeping rough in the borough. We're committed in trying to help people who are rough sleeping find somewhere to live, but we know that we aren't always successful.

During the pandemic the Government put in place the 'everybody in' protocol, which ensures no one is rough sleeping during the lockdown. Our housing team worked quickly to find a place for rough sleepers in the borough.

As always, rough sleepers can book an appointment with Housing Options who can provide advice to deal with longer-term homelessness.





# Environmental health teams working hard as lockdown lifts

As lockdown has been gradually lifting, our environmental health team have been working with local businesses to ensure they can open and operate safely.

This includes helping ensure safe social distancing can take place. It's been a busy time for the team who are also regularly checking on businesses who may not be following the rules that are in place to keep everyone safe.

Our licensing team have also been helping businesses with temporary pavement licences for premises wanting to serve food and drinks.

## Adapting our bathing beaches this summer

We've been incredibly fortunate to have had such good weather for the majority of lockdown. With the sun out shining, more people have understandably wanted to make the most of our bathing beaches. We have had to ensure that we can keep you all safe, even out in the open on our beaches.

Luckily, even in the midst of a heatwave, everyone was sensible to give each other plenty of space and to social distance on all of our beaches.

Leysdown was the only bathing beach to be covered by RNLI lifeguards. Unfortunately, lockdown hit just as the training for the lifeguards was due to start. This meant there was a shortage across Kent. We were incredibly lucky to still have one of our popular beaches covered.



During the height of the summer season we also introduced additional officers to patrol the bathing beaches to provide an additional layer of support to beach goers.

Both Minster Leas and Sheerness beaches had two security guards - provided by Total Security - every day throughout the summer. They were in place until early September to answer any questions you may have had.

## Supporting businesses during a difficult time

Businesses have come under a lot of pressure from this pandemic, so the government introduced a number of grants to help support them during a particularly difficult time. Our teams worked to ensure as many businesses as possible that were eligible for the grants, were made aware of the money that was available to them so that they could apply for this vital funding.

The first round of business grants were quite specific, but almost £28 million in business grants was paid out to more than 2,300 businesses.

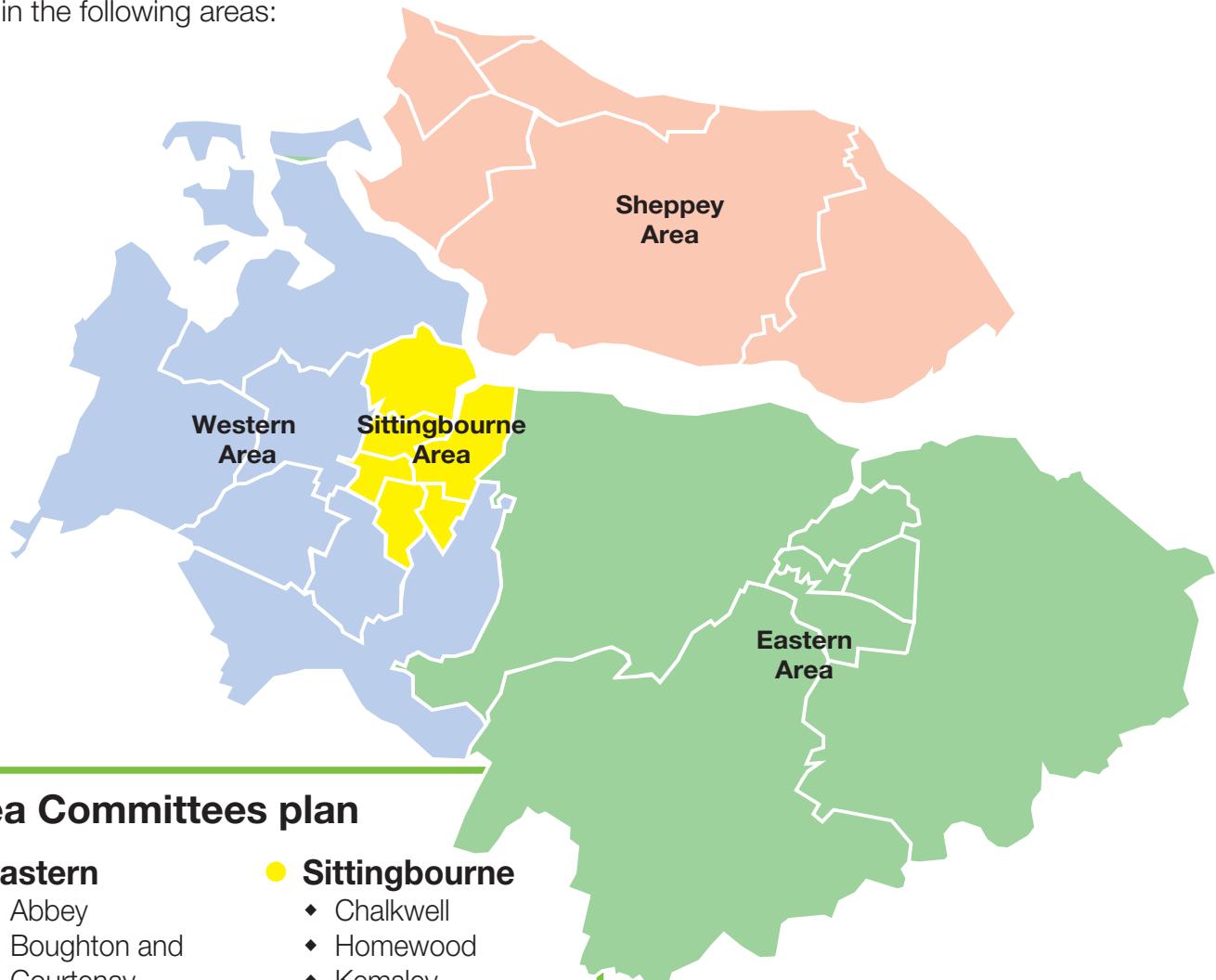
A second round of funding was then announced, and the discretionary grants were launched. After three rounds of applications for varying businesses across the borough, £1.5 million was paid to almost 150 businesses.



# First meetings of area committees get underway

You and your local community can get more involved in council decisions now that the first round of area committee meetings have started.

The four area committees – Eastern, Sittingbourne, Sheppey and Western – will help give local people their say on council matters. The four committees are made up of all the councillors representing wards in the following areas:



## Area Committees plan

### ● Eastern

- ◆ Abbey
- ◆ Boughton and Courtenay
- ◆ East Downs
- ◆ Priory
- ◆ St Ann's
- ◆ Teynham and Lynsted
- ◆ Watling

### ● Sheppey

- ◆ Minster Cliffs
- ◆ Queenborough and Halfway
- ◆ Sheerness
- ◆ Sheppey Central
- ◆ Sheppey East

### ● Sittingbourne

- ◆ Chalkwell
- ◆ Homewood
- ◆ Kemsley
- ◆ Milton Regis
- ◆ Murston
- ◆ Roman

### ● Western

- ◆ Bobbing, Iwade and Lower Halstow
- ◆ Borden and Grove Park
- ◆ Hartlip Newington and Upchurch
- ◆ The Meads
- ◆ Woodstock
- ◆ West Downs

The first meeting for the Western committee took place on 1 September and was followed by Sittingbourne on 8 September, Sheppey will be on 22 September and Eastern on 29 September.

Area committees are an opportunity for local councillors to reconnect with the public which will help bring valuable local insight to council decision-making.

# Special projects round up

We've invested more than £1 million to improve toilet facilities, playground equipment and community halls around the borough.

In the financial year 2019/20 we contributed to 30 projects that improved car park and cycle ways, repaired fences, refurbished toilets, upgraded community halls and contributed towards important climate emergency projects.

We spent more than £500,000 to refurbish toilets in Minster Leas, Barton's Point, Leysdown Sittingbourne town centre, Faversham central car park, and Milton Creek country park, more than £17,000 on new play

equipment at King George V in Queenborough, and £165,000 to upgrade Sheppey and West Faversham community halls and to support Faversham swimming pool.



Above: refurbished play area at Newington Recreation Ground.

Right: new boiler at Faversham Pool.

Below: refurbished toilets at Leysdown.



We also invested £159,000 to update

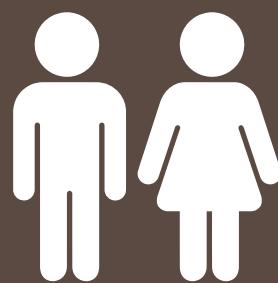
parks and play areas to make them more inviting and stimulating for children.

Protecting the environment is important to us and almost 20 per cent of our investment went on environmental improvements that improve air quality and create a cleaner environment for everyone.



**£159k**

on parks and play areas



**£500k**

on public toilets



**£165k**

to upgrade community halls and Faversham Swimming pool

# HOLLIS HEATING

Family run business for over 50 years

---

## Sittingbourne

---

# 01795 473170

---

Boiler installations starting from

**£1600 inc VAT**

10 years parts and labour  
warranty on selected boilers



**Healthier  
Safer  
Cleaner**

20

# 20s plenty for Faversham



This month work has been completed on implementing a town-wide 20mph speed limit in Faversham as part of plans to increase walking and cycling.

Since lockdown on 23 March cycling has increased nationally by 300%. The government has pledged to support a 'cycling and walking revolution' and awarded Kent County Council (KCC) £1.6 million to invest in walking and cycling initiatives.

The changes around town will include 20mph road markings and signs as well as signed 20mph ‘gateways’ as you drive in.

Studies show that 20mph schemes encourage more walking and cycling because people feel safer.

# Have your say!

This scheme has been shaped by feedback gathered at consultation events run by 20's Plenty for Faversham. Your views continue to be vital to help measure the success of the trial, to inform future improvements and to help to decide whether to make the scheme permanent.

The Experimental Traffic Regulation Order consultation is available to view and give your response at [kent.gov.uk/faversham20mph](http://kent.gov.uk/faversham20mph) until 1 February 2021.

The Town Council are also seeking views throughout the trial and will be holding a programme of events where you can find out more about the project. Visit **20mphfaversham.commonplace.is** to find out more.

- More walking and cycling can help:
    - improve health
    - save money
    - reduce traffic congestion
    - increase levels of physical activity
    - improve air quality.
  - Lower speeds give drivers and others more time to react.

You can also email your views to [commonplace@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:commonplace@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk) or call a member of the team on **01795 503 286**.

# Changes to some garden waste collections

Our brown bin garden waste collection service has proved very popular with more than 18,000 households subscribed to the service. This means that some of our collection days have become extremely busy.

To help reduce any collection issues and delays, we are introducing changes to collection days for 4,000 subscribers to the service. This won't affect everyone, and those who it will affect will already have received a letter. Changes will take place from 21 September.

Because of the changes this improvement will bring, you may find that you have to wait a little longer for a collection as we change over. This will only happen once and then you will be back on to regular fortnightly collections. But we will have interim collections in place to help out during the change over.



## Recycling and refuse collection dates

If you're unsure of your collection week, visit [www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day](http://www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day) and click the 'Next Bin Collection' link, or call 01795 417888.

### Week 1 collections

October 2020							November 2020							December 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4						1			1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30							28	29	30	31			

### Week 2 collections

October 2020							November 2020							December 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2		3	4						1			1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30							28	29	30	31			

Blue bin collection week

Green bin collection week

Christmas collections – please refer to the Winter issue of Inside Swale or [www.swale.gov.uk](http://www.swale.gov.uk) for revised dates.

### Don't forget – food waste is collected weekly with both bins

In the event of severe weather, please leave your green/blue bin and food waste bin out as per your normal collection schedule – we'll get to you as soon as we can. Daily updates will be available on [www.swale.gov.uk](http://www.swale.gov.uk)

You can check garden waste collection dates at [www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day](http://www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day)

# Taking recycling into our own hands – Recycle Week 2020

It's national Recycle Week, a chance for us to help you better understand recycling and to help encourage some you to recycle more.

With most of us spending a lot more time at home over the last few months, we've all been generating more waste. We've also seen recycling increase significantly thanks to all the extra online shopping we've all been doing. While there's lots that can be recycled, it doesn't mean that everything can go in your recycling bin.

## Not everything can be recycled...

Some people may be surprised about what can't go in with your recycling. To avoid contaminating a collection, please don't include:

- **Textiles**
- **Black sacks**
- **Nappies / sanitary products**
- **Food waste**  
(there is a separate bin for food waste recycling)
- **Film plastics or soft plastic packaging**  
(Do the scrunch test – if it unfolds after scrunching it into a tight ball it can't go in)
- **Crisp packets / chocolate and sweet wrappers**
- **Blister packs for tablets**
- **Toothpaste tubes**
- **Pet litter**
- **Electrical items**
- **Batteries**

**DEEP IN THE COUNTRY?  
On the coast?**

TOGETHER WE RECYCLE.  
Britain recycles

### Recycling tip:

- Don't forget to rinse any food waste from your recyclables first. Food residue can also lead to a recycling load getting rejected at the waste transfer station.

### Things from all around your house can be recycled

Don't just think about your kitchen when it comes to recycling, there's lots from all around your house that can go in your recycling bin. There's lots from your bathroom that can go in your recycling too.

Empty liquid soap dispensers, shampoo bottles, conditioner bottles, shower gel bottles, cardboard toilet rolls, and the cardboard packaging from your toothpaste or new toothbrush can all be popped in your recycling.

**Power shower?  
BUBBLE BATH?**

TOGETHER WE RECYCLE.  
Britain recycles

# Harty Ferry Well now running again



Pictured at the well from left to right is: Cllr Tim Valentine, Janet Hill (Oare Parish Council), Cllr Mike Baldock, Laura Steuart (Kent Wildlife Trust warden), Stephen Weeks (Kent Wildlife Trust estate manager).

We committed £10,000 towards the cost of the repairs and local contractors OT Drilling from Sittingbourne completed the work earlier this year.

Now the water is flowing again we've been down to test it and it is as outstanding as it always has been in previously years.



## Been having a clear out? Book a trip to the tip!

If you have been having a clear out, you can still visit one of Kent County Council's household waste and recycling centres, but you need to book a slot first. To help ensure that everyone can safely keep their distance, Kent County Council made a few changes at their sites.

After initially shutting down their tips, they reopened with a new booking system, which means that a household can book trips twice in a calendar month.

Centres will be open from 8:30am to 3:45pm, 7 days a week. The booking slots are:

- 8:30am to 9:45am
- 10am to 11:15am
- 11:30am to 12:45pm
- 1pm to 2:15pm
- 2:30pm to 3:45pm

To visit you must book a slot using their online booking form.

You can only book up to one month in advance. New slots are added every day, so if you are unable to book please keep checking their website regularly.

For more information, or to book a slot at your local tip, visit the Kent County Council website:  
[kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/rubbish-and-recycling/visiting-a-hwrc-during-coronavirus](https://kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/rubbish-and-recycling/visiting-a-hwrc-during-coronavirus)

# Much needed £50,000 boost for Sittingbourne and Sheppey leisure centres



Cllr Roger Truelove and Cllr Angela Harrison with officers of Swale Borough Council and Swale Community Leisure on the announcement of extra funding for leisure centres.



Spinning Studio, Sheppey Leisure Complex

Cllr Angela Harrison, cabinet member for health and wellbeing at the council, said:

“It’s been a tough year for SCL, so I’m glad we can offer them this financial support to continue providing essential services for local people.

“The pandemic has had a huge impact on their operations, but also shows why we need to make sure people are able to keep themselves fit and healthy.

“We don’t know yet if there will be a second wave of the virus, but we do know that people who are healthy and active are better placed to fight it.

“Even if we don’t see cases rise again, more people are committed to keeping themselves fit and healthy, and this money will help make sure they can.”

Running machines at Sheppey Leisure Complex

To help deliver essential health and fitness services, we have given £50,000 of funding to Swale Community Leisure (SCL).

SCL, the charitable trust that operates Swallows Leisure Centre in Sittingbourne and Sheppey Leisure Complex in Sheerness, has had a particularly tough year. It started with Storm Ciara which destroyed Swallows roof and was swiftly followed by the Covid-19 lockdown.

The £50,000 of funding is in addition to the significant investment we made of up to £800,000 to pay for repairs to the roof at Swallows Leisure Centre.



Damage to Swallows Leisure Centre roof.



# Your councillors

For more information about your local councillor visit  
[www.swale.gov.uk/find-my-councillor](http://www.swale.gov.uk/find-my-councillor)

 Conservative

 Green

 Independent

 Labour

 Liberal Democrats

 Swale Independents Alliance

 UKIP

## Sheppey Central

### Elliott Jayes

01795 877057/07708 956059  
elliottjayes@swale.gov.uk

### Peter MacDonald

01795 873116/07523860074  
petermacdonald@swale.gov.uk

### Pete Neal

peteneal@swale.gov.uk

## Sheppey East

### Padmini Nissanga

07500 863623  
mininissanga@swale.gov.uk

### Bill Tatton

01795 511516  
billtatton@swale.gov.uk

## St Ann's

### Carole Jackson

07746 772694  
carolejackson@swale.gov.uk

### Julian Saunders

07746 772695  
juliansaunders@swale.gov.uk

## Teynham and Lynsted

### Lloyd Bowen

01795 522357  
lloydbowen@swale.gov.uk

### Mike Whiting

01795 842631  
mikewhiting@swale.gov.uk

## The Meads

### James Hunt

01795 417830  
jameshunt@swale.gov.uk

## Watling

### Ben J Martin

01795 417806  
benmartin@swale.gov.uk

### Eddie Thomas

07872 472032  
eddiethomas@swale.gov.uk

## West Downs

### Monique Bonney

07973 443527  
moniquebonney@swale.gov.uk

## Woodstock

### Paul Stephen

01795 430774  
paulstephen@swale.gov.uk

### Sarah Stephen

01795 430774  
sarahstephen@swale.gov.uk

## Abbey

### Denise Knights

07774 701381  
deniseknights@swale.gov.uk

### Hannah Perkin

07811 035512  
hannahperkin@swale.gov.uk

## Bobbing, Iwade and Lower Halstow

### Roger Clark

01795 430324  
rogerclark@swale.gov.uk

### Corrie Woodford

corriewoodford@swale.gov.uk

## Borden and Grove Park

### Mike Baldock

01795 471139  
mikebaldock@swale.gov.uk

### Nicholas Hampshire

01795 477560/07739 108756  
nicholahampshire@swale.gov.uk

## Boughton and Courtenay

### Alastair Gould

alastairgould@swale.gov.uk

### Tim Valentine

07752 191807  
timvalentine@swale.gov.uk

## Chalkwell

### Ghlin Whelan

01795 475629  
ghlinwhelan@swale.gov.uk

## East Downs

### David Simmons

01795 532100  
davidsimmons@swale.gov.uk

## Hartlip, Newington and Upchurch

### Alan Horton

07447 925760  
alanhorton@swale.gov.uk

### Richard Palmer

07702 674721  
richardpalmer@swale.gov.uk

## Homewood

### Simon Clark

simonclark@swale.gov.uk

### Roger Truelove

01795 425445  
rogertruelove@swale.gov.uk

## Kemsley

### Derek Carnell

01795 550190/07988 244364  
derekcarnell@swale.gov.uk

### Mike Dendor

07733 937102  
mikedendor@swale.gov.uk

## Milton Regis

### Steve Davey

stevedavey@swale.gov.uk

### Tony Winckless

01795 425987  
tonywinckless@swale.gov.uk

## Minster Cliffs

### Richard Darby

01795 227592  
richarddarby@swale.gov.uk

### Ken Ingleton

01795 873709/07973 303384  
keningleton@swale.gov.uk

### Ken Pugh

01795 871388  
kenpugh@swale.gov.uk

## Murston

### James Hall

jameshall@swale.gov.uk

### Ann Hampshire

01795 477560/07940 142473  
annhampshire@swale.gov.uk

## Priory

### Benjamin A Martin

07734 559089  
benjaminmartin@swale.gov.uk

## Queenborough and Halfway

### Cameron Beart

07592 108351  
cameronbeart@swale.gov.uk

### Simon Fowle

07802 449700  
simonfowle@swale.gov.uk

### Peter Marchington

01795 661960/07767 607456  
petermarchington@swale.gov.uk

## Roman

### Tim Gibson

01795 427074  
timgibson@swale.gov.uk

### Ken Rowles

01795 599003/07831 563354  
kenrowles@swale.gov.uk

## Sheerness

### Mark Ellen

01795 667027  
markellen@swale.gov.uk

### Angela Harrison

01795 665029  
angelaharrison@swale.gov.uk

### Lee McCall

07590 012105  
leemccall@swale.gov.uk

# You're stopping the spread

by  
wearing  
a face  
covering



while  
you  
shop



by giving  
each  
other space



by  
getting  
a test



we're doing  
**MORE**  
for you

We've put the work in,  
so you can workout,  
with bookable sessions,  
social distancing  
and extra cleanliness  
measures.

**JOIN US  
TODAY**  
and workout  
with confidence.

Find out more at  
**[swaleleisure.com](http://swaleleisure.com)**



**Sheppey Leisure Complex**  
Off the Broadway, Sheerness,  
Kent ME12 1HH  
Tel: **01795 668652**

**Swallows Leisure Centre**  
Central Avenue, Sittingbourne,  
Kent ME10 4NT  
Tel: **01795 420420**

**SWALE**  
COMMUNITY LEISURE

let's do  
**MORE**