

## **Council Elections**

See your new look council

## **New Mayor for Swale**

Meet Cllr Ken Ingleton



## **Blue flags for Swale's beaches**

Award winning beaches for Swale

## **What's on**

Your guide to events and days out in Swale



## **Enjoy the great outdoors this summer**

Family fun around Swale

## **Driving in Sittingbourne High Street takes new direction**

One way priorities change

Summer 2019

# Inside Swale



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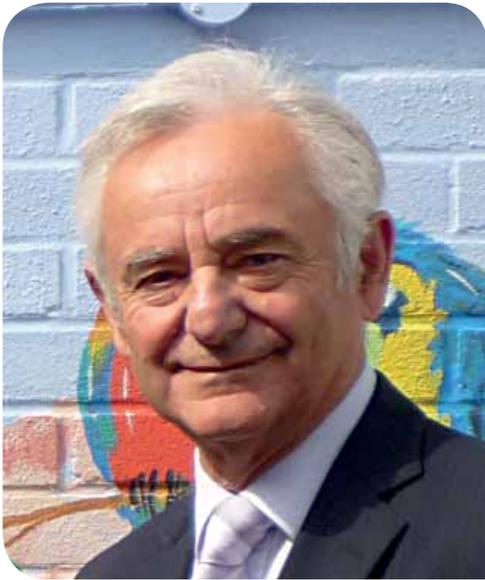
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**Swallows Leisure Centre**  
Central Avenue, Sittingbourne,  
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Tel: **01795 420420**

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*Roger Truelove, Leader, Swale Borough Council*

Welcome to our new format for Inside Swale which I hope you find useful and accessible.

This, of course, is not the only change for Swale Borough Council. As a result of our elections on 2 May, the Conservative administration was replaced by a coalition of parties. I have heard so many times from residents that they would like to see parties working together for the good of the community, and that is what the coalition intends to do.

We have been so pleased about the degree of agreement that exists between us and the extent to which we are prepared to listen to each other. Of course, there will be continuity where things worked well before and innovation to make things better.

Reviewing the Local Plan, tackling homelessness, lobbying for better public health, better community safety, cleaner streets, better leisure and a stronger economy are all on our agenda.

Swale will be working hard too to press for other levels of government to provide the infrastructure that we have been

sorely missing, and we will take a stance on wider issues such as climate change and the need to protect our natural environment.

Of course it will take a little time and we have to be wary of financial constraints such as the continuing loss of income from Government. I am concerned too, that the Sittingbourne Town Centre investment doesn't become a financial burden.

The Conservative members are now in opposition. They have a vital role to play and so we have given them the leadership of the Scrutiny Committee, something that was denied to opposition leaders in the old administration.

Our coalition is excited about the potential to improve the life of people in Swale and we will do our best to listen to the communities that make up our borough.

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Cover photo: The beach huts at Leysdown

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**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.

## Help run Sittingbourne parkrun!

As a business have you thought about giving back to the community on a weekend? Then why not help Sittingbourne parkrun on a Saturday morning and provide the volunteers for a 5k run?

Each parkrun is organised by a group of volunteers who may be runners themselves. All you'll need to do is provide a team of 15 - 22 volunteers from your business and it's all yours! Many of the tasks are simple, and volunteering will only require about 60-90 minutes commitment, starting at around 8am.

Don't worry, the parkrun team won't leave you completely on your own as one/two of the experienced core team will be on hand to provide extra support.

If you're interested, e-mail [sittingbourne@parkrun.com](mailto:sittingbourne@parkrun.com) or have a chat with any member of the core team at Milton Creek Country Park on Saturday morning.

## Rubbish sack delivery schedule

There are a small number of properties that have a sack collection due to issues with lack of access or space for bin storage, and are on a sack delivery schedule.

Once you're added to the delivery schedule, you'll have two deliveries of clear and black sacks a year – in June and December.

If by the end of June you haven't received your sack delivery, please contact us on 01795 417888 by the end of July and we will ensure they are delivered. For December deliveries, please contact us by the end of January.

## Putting the fun back into fitness

Swallows Leisure Centre and Sheppey Leisure Complex have been having a bit of a makeover over the past year and are now nearing completion.

Upgrades to Swallows Leisure Centre, Sheppey Pool and Sheppey Healthy Living Centre are part of a £2 million



investment to make improvements and necessary repairs. Swallows Leisure Centre needed repairs made to the roof, so the swimming pools were completely drained, and scaffolding went up. The pools

remained closed a bit longer than originally planned, as once they were drained, tiles were found to be damaged and needed repairing or replacing.

Both sites are getting a range of improvements, including new equipment and virtual spin studios, where you can attend either an instructor led class, or 'drop-in and spin' to a pre-recorded workout session of your choice.

Other upgrades include:

### Swallows Leisure Centre:

- New family fun zone, with enhanced soft play
- Clip and climb/augmented climbing wall
- Expanded gym, with 10 new stations on new mezzanine floor over café
- Healthy lifestyle toning suite for mobility/postoperative managed exercise

### Sheppey Pool and Sheppey Healthy Living Centre:

- New healthy lifestyle and toning suite in the pool building
- Virtual spin studio
- Extended gym with equipment upgrades and approximately 12 new stations



Sheppey Leisure Complex is also getting a refresh as part of the works. Both leisure centres are due to be fully completed and reopened within the coming weeks. For more information, visit: [www.swaleleisure.com](http://www.swaleleisure.com)

# New Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Swale

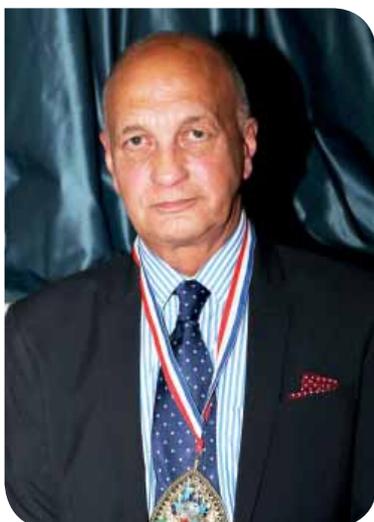


After a successful year as Deputy Mayor of Swale, Cllr Ken Ingleton took over the chains of office from Samuel Koffie-Williams, as he was appointed the new Mayor of Swale for the coming civic year.

Cllr Ingleton was voted in as the new Mayor of Swale at the annual Mayor Making Ceremony at the West Faversham Community Centre in May.

Speaking of his plans for his term as Mayor of Swale, Cllr Ken Ingleton said: "My aims for the year are to promote the borough of Swale and its industry and commerce, as well as supporting youth organisations and their leaders, together with assisting local heritage groups to conserve and publicise the heritage of Swale."

Cllr Roger Clark (right) will serve as Deputy Mayor of Swale for the civic year.



## Bells Pump Station, Sheppey

The new £2.7m Bells pumping station on Eastchurch Marshes has been officially opened by Lower Medway Internal Drainage Board (LMIDB).

In the past there was an impact on agricultural land when pumps failed to keep marshes drained and the fields lay wet for more than a few days. The new twin Archimedes pumps are capable of pumping 3.5 tonnes of water per second, draining 34 square kilometres of the south east side of the Isle of Sheppey.

The project was jointly funded by the Environment Agency and LMIDB and construction took 10 months. The automated pumps are fully enclosed to ensure they are eel and fish friendly.

## Swale achieves Gold from RoSPA

For the seventh year in a row, we have been awarded gold in the RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) Occupational Health and Safety Awards. We are incredibly proud of this achievement as it means that we've also been awarded a RoSPA Gold Medal Award for achieving gold awards for seven consecutive years.

The RoSPA Awards recognise businesses and organisations that have shown commitment to accident and ill-health prevention.

The award was presented during a ceremony at the Excel, London on 18 June.

## New bins to prevent layby litter louts

You may have noticed the new litter bins in laybys around the borough. The 20 new bins are as bright as possible to stand out, encouraging more people to use them.

Litter picking on the high speed roads around Swale is difficult and dangerous for our contractors, which is why we encourage as many people as possible to pop their rubbish in one of these new litter bins, or to take it home with them.

# Blooming lovely!



**Above:** Alliums at King Georges Playing Field, Sittingbourne. **Below left:** Community volunteers, South Road, Faversham. **Below right:** Tony Thorley, Swale In Bloom Chairman, planting at Bell Road, Sittingbourne

It's coming up to that time of the year where the sharp eyes of the In Bloom judges will be out and about in the borough. Over the coming months they will be on the look-out for first rate floral displays in Swale.

The regional judges from South and Southeast in Bloom have already started judging Swale's towns and parks entries. On Friday 21 June they took a tour of Tunstall to judge the parish entry. Over the next few weeks they will be visiting Faversham, Isle of Sheppey and Sittingbourne.

They judge everything they see en-route so everyone can help by making their gardens and businesses bloom.

## Swale in Bloom towns and parks judging dates:

- Tuesday 2 July: Sittingbourne (town entry), Milton Creek country park and King George playing field (Park Avenue).
- Tuesday 9 July : Faversham town and Oare gunpowder works.
- Thursday 11 July: Queenborough and Rushenden (town entry) in the morning and Eastchurch (village entry) in the afternoon.

South and Southeast in Bloom judging has also started for the 'it's your neighbourhood' community group category. Judging will finish on the 12 July.

Local judging of front gardens in Faversham, Sittingbourne, Eastchurch, and Queenborough and Rushenden will take place between the beginning of July and mid-August, where every front garden is judged by our Swale in Bloom teams. There is no need to apply as the competition is open to everyone, but only the best and most beautiful gardens will be selected for a chance to win. Awards will be held in September for the winners.

Minster in Bloom ask for the local community to suggest beautiful gardens to be considered.

To find out more about Swale in Bloom, email [alicorbel@swale.gov.uk](mailto:alicorbel@swale.gov.uk) or call **01795 417240**.



# Bee Roads



Kent is home to many a rare bee, including nationally important populations of bumblebees. Coastal areas, including parts of the Swale are hotspots for some of these pollinators.

We are working with Kent Wildlife Trust and Kent County Council to create 'Bee Roads'. These roadside nature reserves provide corridors to link up populations of rare bees across the Swale. This is part of the 'Making a Buzz for the Coast' project led by Bumblebee Conservation Trust, and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

## Un-bee-lievable insect discoveries

Recent surveys carried out on our Bee Road site at Shellness Road, Leysdown, have identified some exciting creatures:

- **Dusky-horned Nomad Bee** – this was only the second record of this cuckoo bee in the UK! Females sneak into the nests of the rare white-bellied mining bee where they lay their own eggs
- **Black Oil Beetle** – four of these large, shiny beetles were discovered in April. The larvae, called 'triungulins', wait on flowers for solitary bees to land and then climb on their back to catch a lift to the bee's nest. There they consume the bee eggs and pollen, overwintering before emerging as adults the following spring



Black Oil Beetle



Shrill Carder Bee

- **Shrill Carder Bee** – good numbers of this bumblebee have been found in Leysdown. It is one of our rarest in England and a priority for the project. Listen out for their high-pitched buzz!

## What can you do to help?

Small actions can make a big difference for our pollinators. Here are some tips for the garden:

- Aim to provide flowers from March through to October
- Keep an eye out for pollinator friendly plants (look for the bee stickers)
- Don't mow, let it grow - longer grassy areas provide shelter for insects and nesting habitat for bumblebees

Keep an eye out for oil beetles and shrill carder bees and report your sightings on the

iRecord website [brc.ac.uk/irecord](https://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord). For further information about the project and how you can get involved, visit [www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk)

# Swale's summer of fun

## What's on in Swale

Friday 28 June

### Linocut printing at Belmont House



Using the beautiful surroundings of Belmont House and Gardens as inspiration, you'll learn how to carve a linocut tile to produce a repeat pattern or a one-off print onto

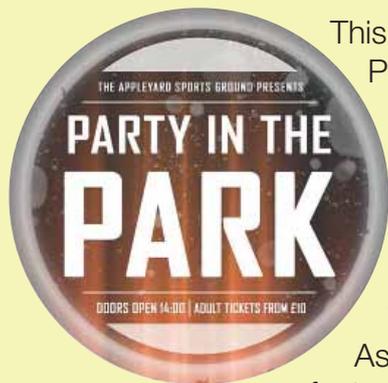
paper, fabric and greeting cards. You will be able to experiment with overlays in different colours and at the end of the workshop take your stamps home to use again and again.

Suitable for beginners, or as a refresher, the course is £25 and includes all materials, printing equipment and refreshments.

For more information and to book a place, visit: [www.belmont-house.org/event/linocut-printing](http://www.belmont-house.org/event/linocut-printing)

Saturday 29 June

### Party in the Park at the Appleyard



This year Party in the Park hosts its biggest music festival yet! It will feature Skadekat, Taking Care of Vegas, The Chaucers, Heroes and Marylebone Jelly.

As well as these fantastic acts, the guest band for this year is the one and only 90's boy band East 17!

For more information and to book, visit [www.theappleyard.net/partyinthepark](http://www.theappleyard.net/partyinthepark)

6 – 7 July

### Faversham Nautical Festival

A fantastic weekend of nautical fun and frolics. See barges, smacks and other traditional boats



at the head of the Creek. Plus nautical displays, stalls, food and drinks, as well as live music on the Town Quay and the Front Brents.

Book the date in

your diary – full details will be available on the festival Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/favershamnaulfest](http://www.facebook.com/favershamnaulfest)

Thursday 11 July

### Cream Tea and Tractor Tour

#### at Brogdale Collections



Enjoy a day out at Brogdale with a Cream Tea and Tractor Tour. Take a special tractor

trailer tour of the National

Fruit Collection orchards led by an expert guide before relaxing in Brogdale rustic rooms with tea and scones.

For more information, visit

[www.brogdalecollections.org/product/cream-tea-tractor-tour-2](http://www.brogdalecollections.org/product/cream-tea-tractor-tour-2)

Saturday 13 July

### Sheerness Freemasons 2019 – Summer Spectacular

Come along to the family fun event, with arena entertainment from 12pm to 4pm as part of a Summer Spectacular.

The day will feature: Cavalry Heroes - medieval jousting display, Paul Hannam - quad bike stunt show, Headcorn Parachute Display Team, Stampe plane formation display, chainsaw art, classic car show, fun bus, food stalls, transporter driving experience, pony rides, kids fun zone and much more fun for all the family.

There will be a free bus service around Sheppey, which has been donated by Travelmasters.

All proceeds from this event will be donated back to local charities.

For more information, visit: [www.facebook.com/Summerspectacular2019](http://www.facebook.com/Summerspectacular2019)

2 – 4 August

### A New Day Festival 2019



A new music festival in Kent, dedicated to the very best in rock, blues, prog and folk. Three days of classic, legendary bands in

the grounds of Mount Ephraim Gardens near Faversham from Friday 2 August until Sunday 4 August.

For more information, visit: [www.anewdayfestival.com](http://www.anewdayfestival.com)

Saturday 3 August

### Leysdown on Sea Carnival 2019

Come to Leysdown-on-Sea this summer and enjoy carnival day with all the fun of the traditional seaside, and the colour and spectacle of the annual carnival procession. There will be plenty of stalls on the day, offering a range of traditional goods for all your needs.

The carnival procession will make its way from Little Groves Holiday Park to the Promenade and turns into Grove Avenue for Central Beach Holiday Park. It will return the same route back to Little Groves between 2pm and 4pm.

Please arrive ahead of the carnival, there is a public car park off the Promenade, as local roads will be closed during the event.

25 – 26 August

### Ivor the Engine at Sittingbourne Steam Railway



Ivor the Engine returns to Kemsley Down on Sunday 25 and bank holiday Monday 26 August for fun and games.

A wide selection of Ivor the Engine gifts

will also be available from the railway shop.

Trains depart Sittingbourne Viaduct hourly 11am-4pm. For more information, visit:

[www.sklr.net](http://www.sklr.net)

Monday 26 August

### Kent Chrome and Cruisers Classic & Custom Vehicle Show & Auto Jumble

Enjoy August bank holiday Monday at this annual event with plenty of classic and custom cars, and live music at the Faversham Showground. Featuring vintage stands, trade stands and bands - The Jets, Hullabaloo and The Shotrods.

31 August – 1 September



### Faversham Hop Festival

Set in the heart of Faversham, this lively and popular event recalls the traditional festivities associated with the hop harvest and celebrates the town's hop heritage.

Now one of the largest free street festivals in the south east, the event boasts plenty to see and do throughout the weekend. Entertainment includes live music on five stages, arts and crafts, morris dancers, street performers, and processions.

For more information, visit:

[www.favershamhopfestival.org](http://www.favershamhopfestival.org)

All of these events, and many more things to do in Swale, can be found on the Visit Swale website: [www.visit-swale.co.uk](http://www.visit-swale.co.uk)

Visit Swale is a great place to advertise events and attractions, and can help you reach thousands of people – locally and from further afield – for free. We also publish as many listings as we can in Inside Swale.

You can submit events online for listing on Visit Swale and Visit Kent. Simply visit [www.visit-swale.co.uk/whats-on/visit-swale-event-submission-form](http://www.visit-swale.co.uk/whats-on/visit-swale-event-submission-form).

Fill in any information you have about the upcoming event – everything from community theatre and comedy shows, to pub quizzes or exhibitions can be included – and upload some jpeg images to appear on any event listing page. Or, you can contact us with your listings by emailing [tourismsupport@swale.gov.uk](mailto:tourismsupport@swale.gov.uk)

Don't forget to follow us on social media:

 @Visit\_Swale

 VisitSwale

# RNLI Lifeguards back for another summer

RNLI lifeguards will be back at all three of our bathing beaches again this summer.

The lifeguards have been at the beaches on the weekends since Saturday 25 May. From Saturday 6 July, lifeguards will be patrolling Leysdown, Minster and Sheerness beaches from 10am-6pm every day until Sunday 1 September.

Ian Arnell, seafront officer, said: "It's great to see the lifeguards back for another season. Having undergone intensive training, they have detailed knowledge of the local risks and hazards at each of the beaches and know how to deal with a variety of situations.

"If you are visiting the beach this summer, please be sure to respect the water. Hopefully no-one will need to have help from the lifeguards this summer, but they are there in case anyone gets into trouble in the water."



## Blue flags flying high over Sheppey's beaches

Get your sunnies and sun cream on, and head to one of the Blue Flag beaches on Isle of Sheppey to enjoy the sunshine this summer!

This year Keep Britain Tidy presented 208 awards to England's very best beaches, including 71 international Blue Flags and 137 Seaside Awards.

Leysdown Beach has been awarded a Seaside Award, and Sheerness and Minster beaches are among the 52 beaches in the country that have achieved both the Blue Flag and Seaside awards.

The international Blue Flag award is widely considered to be the gold standard for beaches. It marks that these beaches are among the cleanest, safest beaches in the country, meeting the highest environmental standards, as well as the tough international bathing water quality standards

To find out more about our local beaches, visit [www.swale.gov.uk/seafront](http://www.swale.gov.uk/seafront)

## Help keep our beaches the best!

Bin it or take it home to help us keep our beaches as clean as they should be.

We're working with Keep Britain Tidy to help reduce beach litter this summer, by asking visitors to Sheppey's beaches to either bin their rubbish or take it home with them.

Unfortunately litter strewn beaches are becoming a common sight over the summer months, harming wildlife and ending up in the sea. But this is something we can change if we all do something simple at the end of our trip to the beach.

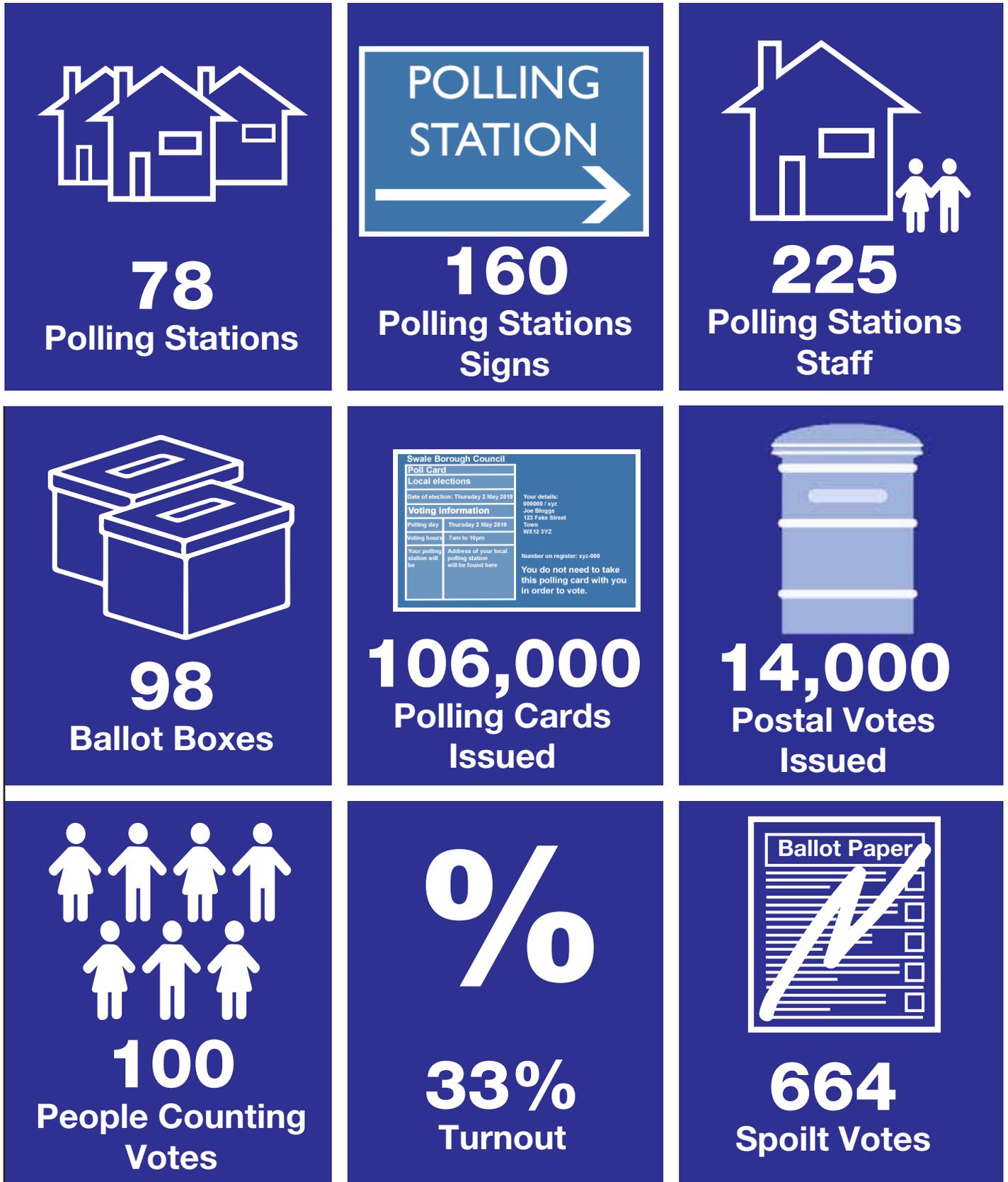
By popping our rubbish in the bin or, if the bin is full, by taking it home with us at the end of the day, we can all help to keep our beaches beautiful.

We've been working with Southern Water as part of their Bathing Water Enhancement Programme. They chose to invest in various measures to improve bathing water quality in Minster and Leysdown beaches.

# Local elections – a look back:

May was extremely busy for the elections team! A lot of their focus was on the local elections at the beginning of the month. Borough, parish and town council elections all took place on Thursday 2 May, along with a Kent County Council by-election for Sittingbourne North. The following day was spent counting the thousands of votes cast.

Here are just a few stats from the busy two days:



# Your councillors

	Conservative
	Green
	Independent
	Labour
	Liberal Democrats
	Swale Independents Alliance
	UKIP

## Changes to Swale Borough Council seats

The local elections on Thursday 2 May saw all 47 seats contested across the borough's 24 wards. Following this, there has been a change in the political composition of the council, which is now:

- Conservative 16 seats
- Green Party 2 seats
- Independent 2 seats
- Labour 11 seats
- Liberal Democrats 5 seats
- Swale Independents Alliance 10 seats
- UKIP 1 seat

With that shift, there are a number of new faces in the council. If you are not sure who your local councillor is following the elections, or need to get in touch with them, here you can find everything you need to know.

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

Abbey		<b>Denise Knights</b> 07774 701381 deniseknights@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Hannah Perkin</b> 07811 035512 hannahperkin@swale.gov.uk
Bobbing, Iwade and Lower Halstow		<b>Roger Clark</b> 01795 430324 rogerclark@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Corrie Woodford</b> corriewoodford@swale.gov.uk
Borden and Grove Park		<b>Mike Baldock</b> 01795 471139 mikebaldock@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Nicholas Hampshire</b> 01795 477560/07739 108756 nicholashampshire@swale.gov.uk
Boughton and Courtenay		<b>Alastair Gould</b> alastairgould@swale.gov.uk
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		<b>Derek Carnell</b> 01795 550190/07988 244364 derekcarnell@swale.gov.uk

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		<b>Tony Winckless</b> 01795 425987 tonywinckless@swale.gov.uk
<b>Minster Cliffs</b>		<b>Richard Darby</b> 01795 227592 richarddarby@swale.gov.uk
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<b>Queenborough and Halfway</b>		<b>Cameron Beart</b> 07592 108351 cameronbbeart@swale.gov.uk
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		<b>Lee McCall</b> 07590 012105 leemccall@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Angela Harrison</b> 01795 665029 angelaharrison@swale.gov.uk

<b>Sheppey Central</b>		<b>Elliot Jayes</b> 01795 877057/07708 956059 elliottjayes@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Peter McDonald</b> 01795 873116 petermcdonald@swale.gov.uk
<b>Sheppey East</b>		<b>Pete Neal</b> peteneal@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Padmini Nissanga</b> 01795 880980/07500 863623 mininissanga@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Bill Tatton</b> 01795 511516 billtatton@swale.gov.uk
<b>St Ann's</b>		<b>Carole Jackson</b> carolejackson@swale.gov.uk
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<b>Teynham and Lynsted</b>		<b>Lloyd Bowen</b> 01795 522357 lloydbowen@swale.gov.uk
		<b>Mike Whiting</b> 01795 842631 mikewhiting@swale.gov.uk
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# Your new look Cabinet

## Cabinet Members



**Leader and Finance**  
Roger Truelove  
Labour



**Deputy Leader,  
Planning and Internal  
Constitutional Reform**  
Mike Baldock  
Swale Independents Alliance



**Housing**  
Ben J Martin  
Liberal Democrats



**Health and Wellbeing**  
Angela Harrison  
Labour



**Environment**  
Tim Valentine  
Green Party



**Economy and Property**  
Monique Bonney  
Independent



**Community**  
Richard Palmer  
Swale Independents Alliance

## Deputy Cabinet Members



**Finance**  
Derek Carnell  
Swale Independents Alliance



**Planning**  
Alastair Gould  
Green Party



**Housing**  
Ghlin Whelan  
Labour



**Health and Wellbeing**  
Hannah Perkin  
Liberal Democrat



**Environment**  
Eddie Thomas  
Liberal Democrats



**Economy and Property**  
Sarah Stephen  
Swale Independents Alliance



**Community**  
Julian Saunders  
Labour

# Enjoy the great outdoors this summer

Sunday 30 June

## **Anna Outdoors activity nature session, Oare Gunpowder Works**

Anna Outdoors will be back at Oare Gunpowder Works once again for another fun session for the whole family.

For more information, visit the Oare Gunpowder Works Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/oaregunpowderworks](http://www.facebook.com/oaregunpowderworks)

28-29 July 11am - 3pm

## **Land Art Fest, Murston Old Church**

Make art, sculpture and patterns with natural materials, like sticks, stones, leaves and seed heads. Come and enjoy the small wildlife gardens at Murston Old Church. You are welcome to bring your own materials. Artists will be on site to help but this is self-led event.

Tuesday 6 August 11am - 1pm

## **Teddy bear picnic, Milton Creek Country Park**

Bring your favourite teddy bear and a picnic along to Milton Creek Country Park. Fun for all the family – and for beloved bears too – have a picnic in the country park with a story teller to make it an extra special trip out.

Tuesday 13 Aug 11am - 2pm

## **Family Fun day, Milton Creek Country Park**

Come along to Milton Creek Country Park for a fun-filled day for the whole family. There will be a range of activities to get involved with including some fun arts and crafts

More information about the family fun day will be available closer to the date at: [www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMiltonCreek](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMiltonCreek)

Tuesday 20 & 27 August

## **Anna Outdoors activity nature session, Milton Creek Country Park**

Anna Outdoors will be visiting Milton Creek Country Park for fun nature-based activities for the whole family.

For more information, keep an eye on the Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMiltonCreek](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMiltonCreek)



# HOLLIS HEATING

Family run business for over 50 years

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**Sittingbourne**

**01795 473170**

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Boiler installations starting from

**£1600 inc VAT**

**10 years parts and labour  
warranty on selected boilers**



# Making the borough spick and span!

**We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in this year's Great British Spring Clean.**

The national campaign to help clean up our beaches, parks, streets, towns and villages of litter thoughtlessly discarded by others was a great success. Thanks to the more than 600 hard working



volunteers, almost 1,000 sacks of rubbish were collected from around the borough.

Local litter heroes also made some interesting finds, including a shopping trolley, footballs, a mattress, a sofa and other unwanted household items.

We were pleased to once again support this campaign as part of our wider efforts to curb littering in Swale. Cleaning up litter from those who think little of the environment around them costs us time and money. We will continue our efforts to issue fixed penalty notices to anyone who we spot dropping their litter on the street rather than popping it in a litter bin or taking it home.

If you missed out on the Great British Spring Clean but would still like to get out and clean up litter, we can help. If you would like to organise your own clean-up in your local village, street, park or beach, we'll provide equipment and advice, and we'll arrange for Biffa – the borough's waste contractor – to dispose of all the litter you collect.



Contact us to find out more  
[environmentalprojects@swale.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalprojects@swale.gov.uk)  
or call **01795 417133**.



# Brown bins for green fingered gardeners

Summer is finally here! Whether you are a lover or a loather of the hotter weather, one thing is for sure – gardens need more maintenance at this time of year.

It could be because you've been less inclined to get out and do the gardening on the colder days of winter, or that you want to spend more time in the sunshine and in your own garden. Either way, you are more likely to generate more garden waste. Grass clippings, weeds and trimmings from your pruning – it all builds up.

So what do you do with all this waste? Our garden waste collection is an ideal solution for frequent gardeners, or if you are unable to home compost large amounts of garden waste.

It's a quick, easy and convenient way to get rid of your garden waste. For just £37 a year, you'll get a 240 litre brown bin and we will collect it every two weeks. It's that simple. All you need to do is fill it up!



## What can go in my brown bin?

-  Grass clippings
-  Hedge / shrub trimmings
-  Cut flowers
-  Twigs
-  Small branches

## What should I leave out of my brown bin?

-  Soil / compost / stones / gravel
-  Seed trays / flower pots
-  Pet litter
-  Kitchen / food waste
-  Black sacks
-  General waste or recycling

To find out more, visit [www.swale.gov.uk/brown-bin-garden-waste](http://www.swale.gov.uk/brown-bin-garden-waste)  
or call **01795 417 888**

# Become a blue bin maestro

Are you a recycling guru? Know what should go in with your recycling, and what should go in general waste?

That's great! But many still find recycling a bit confusing. That's understandable when the packaging isn't always clear about what can be recycled.

So what can you do to make sure you are putting something in the right bin? The quickest and simplest way is to check our online waste wizard.

All you need to do is type in the item you want to pop in a bin and it will tell you if it can go in with your recycling, general waste, brown garden waste bin or your food waste bin. It's that simple! It will even give you suggestions of what to search for if you are not too sure on what to type into the search box.

Visit [www.swale.gov.uk/blue-bin-recycling](http://www.swale.gov.uk/blue-bin-recycling)

You can even contact the team to arrange a home visit so they can offer you simple tips on how you can become more efficient at recycling. Our friendly environmental projects officer, Vikki, can sit down and go through what items around your home can go in the blue bin. After a quick chat, she can help you make the right decision when throwing something in a bin at home.

To find out more, email [environmentalprojects@swale.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalprojects@swale.gov.uk) or call **01795 417 850** to request a home visit.



## Recycling and refuse collection dates

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

Blue wheelie bin collection week

Green wheelie bin collection week

**Don't forget, food waste is collected weekly with both bins.**

### Week 1 collections

July 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### Week 2 collections

July 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

If you are subscribed to our garden waste service you can check your collection dates at [www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day](http://www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day)

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

# Two new tenants for Bourne Place leisure quarter

Lounges and Creams are the latest tenants to the Bourne Place leisure quarter, joining Nando's and Pizza Express along with The Light Cinema and Travelodge.



Lounges is a rapidly growing chain of cafes, with each unit independently branded to reflect the local community. The name and brand of the Sittingbourne branch will be announced later in the year.

It offers a family-friendly retro-inspired café. The breadth of the menu caters for all tastes throughout the day – from a quick coffee to a business lunch or a lazy all-day brunch.

Creams specialises in luxury desserts, with options including freshly made gelato and American style waffles, as well as coffees and sundaes.

The dessert parlour opened its first store in the UK over 10 years ago and now operates more than 80 stores across the UK.



The Bourne Place leisure quarter is due to complete construction by the end of the year, with units opening in 2020.

*All photographs courtesy of Lounges.*

# Community-led housing in Swale

We have teamed up with Action for Communities in Rural Kent for a community-led housing project.

Community-Led Housing Swale offers help and support to people and groups who are interested in providing housing for themselves and their community.

Community-led housing brings together local people to lead, and play a lasting role in solving housing problems, by creating affordable homes, good design and strong communities.

Community-led Housing Swale offers:

- Advice and information on various types of community-led housing
- Grants to help your group set up
- Workshops and events
- Networking opportunities
- Identifying housing need
- Signposting and creating partnerships
- Support for your project

There are various types of community-led housing including:

**Community Land Trusts (CLT)** are community-led organisations that provide land and buildings for the long term needs of their community. They offer a way to provide permanently affordable housing for people who can't afford the open market; this can be rented or low cost home ownership.

**Cohousing** creates a way of living which brings individuals and families together to share common aims and activities while also enjoying their self-contained housing and personal space. The communities can compensate for the alienating effects of modern day life where neighbours often don't recognise each other.

**Co-operatives** can own the properties but residents/members have collective control over them. Co-ops can be shared houses with private rooms or self-contained housing.

**Self-Build and Self-Help** - community self-builds can provide on average 10-30 homes; self-builds can be a CLT, cohousing scheme or a co-op. Self-help housing schemes can enable people in housing need (often young people) to build or renovate properties, providing themselves with a home while at the same time learning new skills.

An event will be held in the autumn to give advice, support and information about community-led housing. More information about the event will be released on the Kent Community Led Housing Facebook page.

To find out more, email [CLH@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:CLH@ruralkent.org.uk), call **01303 813 790**, visit [www.ruralkent.org.uk](http://www.ruralkent.org.uk) or follow [www.facebook.com/CLHKent](https://www.facebook.com/CLHKent)



# Grants funding applications open for another year

Are you looking for a little extra financial support for your local community group? Do you have a project that benefits the community? The member grant scheme could give you the help you need.

There's almost £113,000 available from your local councillors. Each of Swale's 47 councillors has £2,400 available to support small-scale, local community projects through the member grants scheme, which reopened on 3 June.

Community groups throughout Swale can bid for funding for projects that provide benefits in areas including culture, sport, recreation, health, environment and community safety.

It's simple to apply, all you need to do is discuss the project with your local councillor in order to get their support and fill in a simple application form.

Previous schemes that received funding from the member grants scheme include:

- Rotary Club of Sittingbourne Invicta - £850 provided by 5 local councillors to provide a 10k and 2k fun run
- Sittingbourne Food Bank - £3,050 provided by 9 local councillors to help provide funds for storage
- Children Centre's Early Help - £1,000 provided by 8 local councillors to fund a children's Christmas party for disadvantaged families within the area
- Sittingbourne Christmas Lights Association - £400 provided by 2 local councillors to provide an Autism Chill Out Zone at the Christmas Lights
- Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey - £2,000 provided by 3 local councillors to help provide the Dementia Café for the local community. The group was named Alzheimer's Society National Youth Champions 2018 for the Dementia Café. Paul Murray from the Oasis Academy Dementia Café said "Without the funding this would have not been possible."

To find out more about member grants visit [www.swale.gov.uk/member-grants](http://www.swale.gov.uk/member-grants) or contact your local ward councillor.

## Even more grants now available

If you feel like a member grant isn't quite the right fit for your project, there could be other funding you can apply for. Other grants that have reopened include:

- Heritage Grants - £10,000 is available in the Heritage Grants pot. To apply, visit: [www.swale.gov.uk/heritage-grants](http://www.swale.gov.uk/heritage-grants)
- Culture Grants – there is £10,000 allocated in the Culture Grants Fund. To find out more, visit: [www.swale.gov.uk/culture-grants](http://www.swale.gov.uk/culture-grants)
- Sports and Physical Activity Grants –funding of £20,000 is available for this financial year. To find out about how to apply visit: [www.swale.gov.uk/sport-and-physical-activity-grant](http://www.swale.gov.uk/sport-and-physical-activity-grant)
- Environment Grants – after the successful trial of a new Environment Grants earlier this year, we have reopened it for this financial year, with £5,000 available. To find out more, visit: [www.swale.gov.uk/environment-grants](http://www.swale.gov.uk/environment-grants)



*Presented by Angela Rippon, the Oasis Academy win Youth Organisation of the Year at the Dementia Friendly Awards 2018*

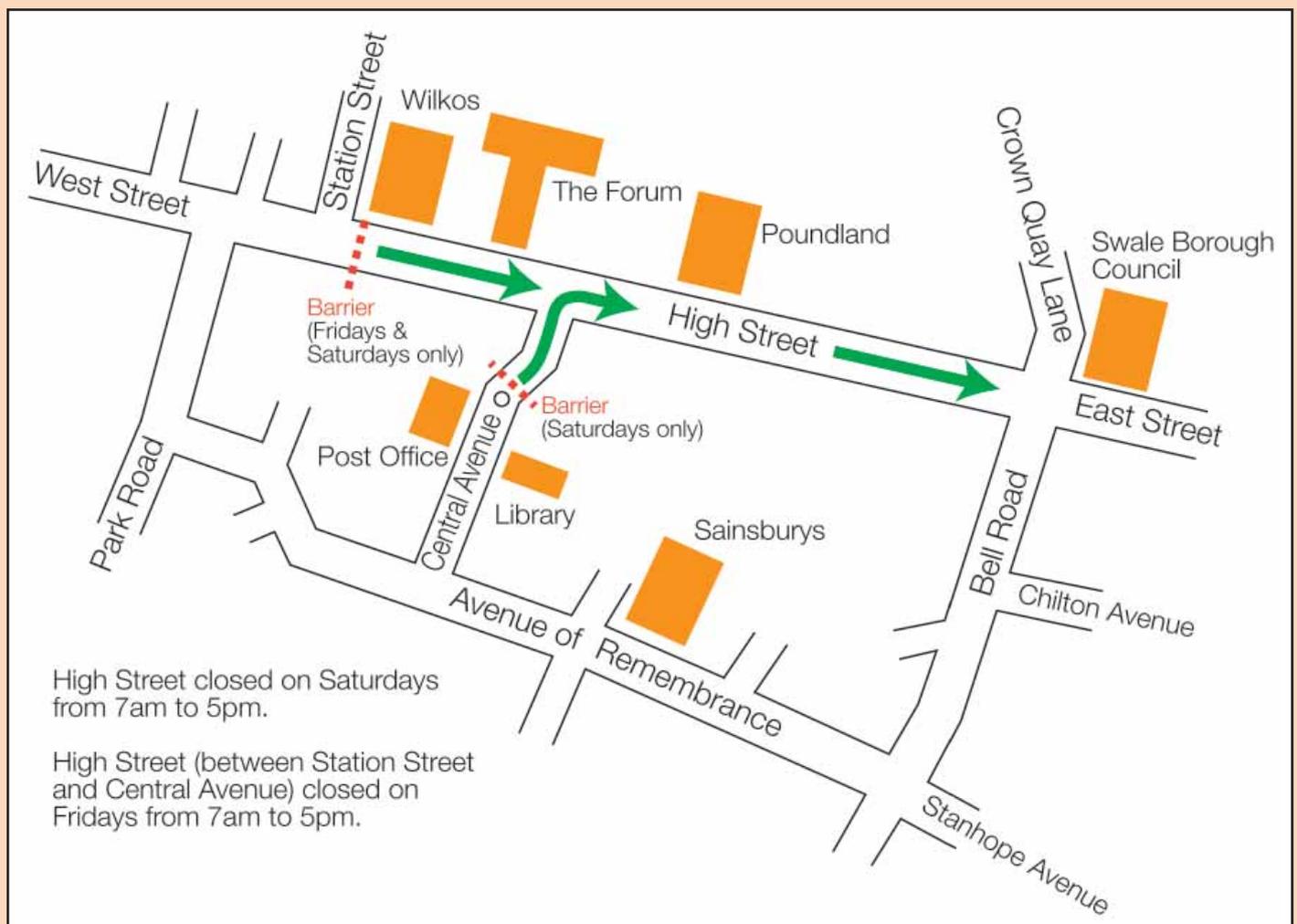
# Driving changes in Sittingbourne High Street

The way you access Sittingbourne High Street is changing.

Kent County Council are carrying out works at the junction of the High Street and Central Avenue this month. This is the final phase of the scheme to reverse the direction of traffic on the lower end of Central Avenue.

Once the works are finished:

- vehicles will **no longer** be able to turn into Central Avenue from the High Street
- the **one-way section** of Central Avenue from the High Street to the mini-roundabout will be **reversed**
- vehicles will be able to access the lower end of the High Street (from Central Avenue to Bell Road junction) via Central Avenue, **except on Saturdays**, when the High Street will remain **closed between 7am and 5pm** as usual.
- vehicles will still be able to drive down the full length of the High Street (Sunday – Thursday) but there will be **no access to Central Avenue from the High Street**.





# Learn to Swim in Swale!

Sign up TODAY!

For full details of all our swimming lessons  
for all ages and abilities please visit:

[www.swaleleisure.com](http://www.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**

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[www.swaleleisure.com](http://www.swaleleisure.com)