

CCTV - Coming soon!

Sandgate Parish Council has been working for some time to install CCTV in three key locations:

- Sandgate High Street
- The Golden Valley shops
- Sandgate Park

We're delighted to say that funding has been agreed for all three schemes, with welcome support from **Folkestone and Hythe District Council, Kent County Council** and the **Sandgate Society**.

A specification has been agreed, contractor appointed and licence applications to install to streetlight columns submitted.

It is planned that the first cameras will be in place by mid September, with the full scheme operational soon afterwards.

Although statistically crime remains very low in Sandgate compared to other areas, we're keen to keep it that way. Regular recent vandalism and graffiti at Sandgate Park for instance has cost many hundreds of pounds to repair and clean. It is hoped the CCTV will prove an effective deterrent as it will provide

recordings of prosecution grade evidence for the Police.

Signage to tell people the CCTV is in place will be installed, and the system operated within strict guidelines to protect personal privacy. It will only be accessed in the event of reported crime or anti social behaviour. Any resident concerned a camera may overlook their property can check and have that "blocked off" the recordings kept by making a formal request to the Parish office.



Socially Distanced Entertainment and Exercise!

SANDGATE WALKING TOURS

Saturday 29th August Saturday 5th September
Saturday 12th September Saturday 19th September
Saturday 3rd October Saturday 17th October
Saturday 24th October



Supported by Sandgate Parish Council

Cost £5 per person for 2 hour tour

Meet at Chichester Hall at 11.00am

Booking essential for 2 hour tour by calling 07738 624522 or emailing tonyquarrington@msn.com

NB: Maximum number of 8 guests per tour

Stroll along Sandgate's characterful High Street and lovely promenade, learn of its history as an elegant holiday resort, dip into detours to discover great buildings and parkland, and explore the lives of many of its most celebrated individuals.

Get Faster News

Sandgate Parish Council has an email newsletter to keep residents in touch with events, news and information that we can usefully pass on - from road works to scam warnings!

Almost 600 people across Sandgate now receive our email updates. They are the easy way to keep in touch with local news, and it couldn't be simpler to sign-up.

- **Get Involved** - email your name and postal address to clerk@sandgatepc.org.uk and we'll add you to our mailing list.

Sandgate Parish Council and Library is located at James Morris Court, Sandgate High Street, Sandgate CT20 3RR.

Phone 01303 248563

Email clerk@sandgatepc.org.uk

Parish Council office opening hours
9.30am - 1pm Monday to Friday
(9.30am - 12.30pm Wednesday).

Councillor contact details are at
sandgatepc.org.uk/councillors-details

Library temporary opening hours are:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Friday & Saturday - 9.30am to noon.
- Wednesday & Sunday - Closed.



Sandgate Parish News

News and Information from Sandgate Parish Council

August 2020

More online at www.sandgatepc.org.uk and www.facebook.com/sandgatepc

Sandgate Library to reopen

Sandgate Parish Council is delighted to announce that Sandgate Library will be re-opening on 7th September.

This is the result of discussions with Kent County Council and reflects the unique status of the library, which will be re-opening well in advance of similarly-sized libraries in the district.

At reopening, Sandgate Library's opening hours will be from 9.30-12.00 Monday-Friday (closed on Wednesdays) and from 9.30-1.00pm on Saturdays.

In keeping with other Kent libraries which are re-opening, a Click-and-Collect loan service will be available, and - for Sandgate residents only - a Home Library Service for those who, because of

age or disability, are unable to get to the library.

To book these services, borrowers will be able to contact the library from 1st September on the dedicated phone number 07552 810271 or by email to Sandgate.Library@kent.gov.uk.

Reading or listening choices can then be discussed with a member of staff, and arrangements made for a suitable time-slot when books will be available for collection or a Home Library Service delivery will take place.

Please note that Click-and-Collect & Home Library Service loans are for a maximum of 6 items per occasion and, for the time being, will be limited to the stock held within Sandgate Library.

In addition, there will be one WiFi area available at the front of the library, bookable via Netloan, but there will be no print facility for the present.

Obviously, every effort will be made to ensure the safety of both staff and customers.

Only one Click-and-Collect user will be able to enter the library at a time and they will be expected to use the available hand sanitiser and to wear a mask. Staff will also be wearing appropriate PPE.

It is hoped that in the near future more access to stock and browsing may become available, but we would ask that you bear with us as we learn a new way of working and understand that we are trying to provide the best possible service.



Robert Bliss 1936 - 2020

It was with huge sadness we learned of the sudden death of Vice-Chairman Robert Bliss on Monday 10 August.

Robert was Chairman of Sandgate Parish Council from 2011 until May this year.

Robert also served as District Councillor from 1995 to 2015, and County Councillor for Folkestone West from 2005 to 2009.

Tim Prater, Chairman of Sandgate Parish Council, said:

"Robert was deeply committed to Sandgate, a long standing and valued member of the Parish Council, and a great support.

"I know how rightly proud he was of his many years as Councillor, Parish Chairman, and the years he led Shepway District Council.

"Robert fought to reopen Sandgate Library after a period of closure over a decade ago. He also helped form the unique agreement that sees Sandgate Parish Council manage our own Library.

"He showed complete commitment to Sandgate, the district as a whole and to his beloved Nina. He was an honest and honourable man.

"Sandgate will be poorer without Robert. We will miss him."

It's been a strange sort of year...

As we started 2020, we had the usual plans for a number of events throughout Sandgate during the year. And then, in mid-March, the world changed...

We hope you and yours have kept safe, and are coming through this "difficult time". We'd like to thank the hosts of key workers and volunteers that have supported us and our neighbours, and we remember those no longer with us.

However, the Parish Council has continued working. Like everyone else we've got a lot of practice with Zoom meetings, and have been meeting online regularly since April.

All meetings are available to watch live on Facebook, and details of that, agendas and minutes of all meetings are on our website at sandgatepc.org.uk

We have taken on the control of Enbrook Valley Park and started improving it. We continue to work to put in CCTV coverage for Sandgate Park, Golden Valley Parade and Sandgate High Street. More on that work and other things are in the rest of this newsletter.

We've worked on keeping the parish clean, fighting litter, removing graffiti and worked with the District Council to find solutions for problems at the Lower Leas Park.

We've again ensured the usual floral display through the village, and our parks and open areas have been kept well maintained throughout.

In May I was honoured to be elected Chairman of the Parish Council, taking on that role from Robert Bliss. I've served on the Parish Council with Robert since 2011 and his are hard shoes to fill. I can only do my best, and I feel that more acutely than ever since Robert's sad death in early August. We're going to miss him.

I'd love to say village life will return to normal quickly, but I can't promise that. We'll do what we can as soon as we can, and hope to have enjoyable events where we can all come together soon.

In the meantime we are planning on reopening the library in early September as it says on page 1, and continue to work on making Sandgate the best possible place to live, work and enjoy.

We hope you love it too.



Sandgate Sea and Food Festival 2021

Sadly, there was no way under the current restrictions and with ongoing Covid concerns that we could go ahead with the Sandgate Sea Festival this year. We have everything crossed and are planning for its return - bigger and better than ever - in 2021.

VE and VJ Day 75

This year has seen the 75th anniversary of VE Day in May, and VJ Day in August. Again, we simply could not have the large events that we would have wished for.



However we were determined to mark the events. VE Day in May saw Union Flags around the War Memorial, specially commissioned signs and a wreath laying.

For VJ Day in August, we have flown the flags of the allies throughout the village, posters of commemoration have been displayed in shops and businesses throughout Sandgate and again, we laid a wreath.

Sandgate promised to remember them. We have and always will.



Now In! Seagull Proof Sacks

Following an approach by Sandgate Parish Council, Folkestone and Hythe District Council have made available 'seagull proof' bags for households in Sandgate that have a purple sack rubbish collection (ie no wheely bin).

This will help prevent your rubbish sacks being attacked by seagulls on collection day. **It's not compulsory, but we hope any household that has seen their sacks attacked will take part to help keep our village tidier!**

You simply put your current purple sacks, sealed, into the outer Seagull proof sack. The sack is then emptied and left for you to use again (and again, and again - they are not disposable).

To order your sack email clerk@sandgatepc.org.uk or call 01303 248563 with your name and address. **We are only permitted to give sacks to those with a current "purple sack" collection, so please don't ask if your usual rubbish collection is a bin collection.** We will drop the sack to your property in the next five working days.

How to use your seagull proof bag:

- Please secure your sack outside your property before 7am on collection day;
- Please place your purple bags inside your gull proof sack and make sure that the sack is securely closed;
- Our waste crews will remove the purple bags from your gull proof sack on collection day;
- Please take your bag in as soon as possible after collection, any gull proof sacks left out permanently will be removed and not replaced;
- You may wish to number your sack so that it can be recognised as yours.

Sandgate Seaside Award 2020

Sandgate beach has AGAIN been named as one of country's best beaches by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy - for the eighth year running!

Keep Britain Tidy's Deputy Chief Executive Richard McIlwain said:

"The success of Sandgate in reaching the very high standards demanded is testament to all those who have worked so hard to protect and improve our beaches - from cleaners, beach managers and volunteers to local people and businesses.

"When you enjoy a trip to a beach flying a Seaside Award, you know you are on one of the safest, cleanest and very best in the country.

"This year, with the pressure on local services created by Covid, we would urge anyone visiting this fantastic beach to help out by taking their rubbish home with them and leaving the beach as they found it."

Tim Prater, Chairman of Sandgate Parish Council, said:

"It's the eighth year running that Sandgate has won this award. It is the only beach in Folkestone and Hythe to have done so."

"It's something our village can be rightly proud of."



New future for Enbrook Valley Park

Sandgate Parish Council took over the maintenance and running of Enbrook Valley Park in Fremantle Road this year, and have already started improving the area.

Playground equipment has been tested and fixed where needed and frames repainted. The bench in the playground has been refurbished, weeds growing through the matting removed and signage updated.



We've also had the 5-a-side goals painted, and there are new planters in place at the front of the park.

We're planning on improving the access from Enbrook Valley, and cut back the side of the football pitch to make it a bit squarer in September!



We'd like to thank the **Sandgate Community Garden** team led by Leonnie Wootton for their work on the new planters there and in Golden Valley parade.

Councillor Adrian Watts is taking a lead on getting as many local people as possible involved in taking care of Enbrook Park: from keeping an eye on it and reporting problems to litter picking as required and even getting involved with new planters and beds. If you would like to help, please email clerk@sandgatepc.org.uk or call 248563.

What's in the Name?

Sandgate Parish Council is considering renaming Enbrook Valley Park to highlight its value as a community asset.

We can easily leave it as it is but perhaps you have a much better name! The council are asking for any nominations for a new name to be put to a community vote in the Autumn.

To suggest a new name, email clerk@sandgatepc.org.uk or call 248563 by 30th September.

All suggestions will be considered by Sandgate Council and a shortlist, which will include as an option the current Enbrook Valley Park, will then be put forward to the community vote.

Suggestions that are offensive or unacceptable (F&H District Council have to accept the final name) won't make it to the shortlist: sorry Parky McParkface!