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A word from the Mayor Councillor Lesley Dyball

Spring is finally here! We have been looking forward to this time, longer days, warmer weather and I'm sure we are all relieved to see the restrictions easing and the opportunity to settle into a new normal.

I am extremely proud that Swanley Town Council has been playing a pivotal role during this difficult period: co-ordinating the local volunteer effort to support some of our more vulnerable residents, making the Alexandra Suite available for use as a vaccination centre, and supporting the fantastic efforts of our local residents who incorporated litterpicking into their daily walks. I have been unable to organise any fundraising events

I am delighted that Swanley Bowls Club have organised a Charity Bowls Day on Saturday 24th April at The Olympic in Beechenlea Lane, with all proceeds going to my Mayor's Charity Fund.

Do come down and show your support at the event, if you would like an outside table at The Olympic then booking in advance is advised.

This is the final few weeks of my term of office. It has been a privilege and honour to serve Swanley as your Mayor for the past three years.

Thank you all for your support, and I look forward to seeing you at some of the events Swanley Town Council is planning for later on in the year.

With every good wish.

Lesley Dyball

Mayor of Swanley Town Council

Our CEO

It is safe to say the past three months has been one of the most challenging periods we have ever encountered as a town.

However, it fills me with immense pride to see how the community has reacted throughout the pandemic. Residents have offered a helping hand by keeping the town tidy, and we have been assisting with the effort by collecting the rubbish gathered.

The Alexandra Suite continues to operate as a vaccination hub and thousands have now received their jabs at the venue.

We have also kept the venue available to the NHS going forward, so the crucial work can continue.

We now have a roadmap to normality. In turn we,

have planned for our facilities to open in line with the proposed government roadmap. Our Swanley Town Council

this year, however

roadmap is outlined on page 4.

page 4.

It is worth remembering that this can change, and the proposed dates are the earliest we would be able to open.

In January, the town centre was sold, and the new owners met with the Council

promptly thereafter.

We now seek to ensure that residents are put at the forefront of their plans for the centre. This has been evidenced through our relentless lobbying to resolve the Nightingale Way issue, which had been set-up by the previous town centre owners.

We have already managed to secure funding for our floral and Christmas displays which help keep the town looking vibrant throughout the year.

In addition, new bins are being installed and the owners have stated these will be emptied regularly.

We have also secured the centre for our annual St Georges Day and Christmas Light's Switch On events. Unfortunately, St Georges Day has had to be cancelled this year.

However, as indicated by the roadmap, it does appear that some of our events, including the Christmas Light's Switch On, will be able to proceed this year.

I hope to see you at our facilities shortly, but in the meantime stay safe.

See page 4: Swanley Town Council's Road Map A route back to normality......

Ryan M Hayman

Swanley Town Council's Road Map A route back to normality.....















Great British Spring Clean

Swanley Town Council took part in the Great British Spring Clean initiative between the 26th - 28th March.

Due to current government guidelines, we could not have the same number of residents assist as in previous years, but we were able to coordinate people to help within their social bubbles.

On Friday, our parks team and staff cleared many of the alleyways in Swanley.

These included Birchwood Park Avenue, Aldi, Hilda May Avenue and St Mary's Road.

In addition to this, the wooded area in Swanley Park was given a thorough cleaning.

St Paul's School in Swanley Village were also able to take part.

On Saturday, a team of people from Christchurch in Swanley cleared up London Road, Swanley Village Residents Association cleaned up Swanley Village, whilst officers Lilly and Toni cleared Hart Dyke Road and Lyndon Way.

Our focus on Sunday was Beechenlea Lane and this time Lilly and Toni were helped by Brigid and Dave who are Swanley residents.

We are very pleased that we now have several residents who are litter picking in Christchurch, with Brigid and Dave signing up to help litter pick on a regular basis.

This helps to make Swanley a nicer place to live.

If you see any fly tipping please report this to Sevenoaks District Council at https://myaccount. sevenoaks.gov.uk/report-flytipping/

Please use the QR Code opposite on your smartphone or tablet.





HOWDENS SWANLEY

01322 660 436

swanley@howdens.com Unit 1, Gateway Trading Estate

London Road, Swamey, BR3 80 www.howdens.com



Swanley Town Council

can carry out additional works for local residents from minimum £10.00 per hour.

Our trained and experienced Grounds Team normally work Monday to Friday but are always looking to earn a little bit more.

Cut Lawns | Strim Hedges
Dig Gardens | Plant Flora and Fauna,
Weed, Spray and Chip

Bookings are subject to availability contact Bradley 0758 4030 957

Items for planting must be purchased by the hirer and staff cannot be used for removing items of furniture and similar rubbish.



Swanley resident (left) with Lilly Hendry-Lewis (right)

Over 750 deliveries and collections

When lockdown hit on the 23rd March 2020 Swanley Town Council staff, Councillors and Swanley residents were quick to volunteer to help vulnerable residents.

This included helping, amongst other things with shopping, prescriptions and dog walking.

At the height of the lockdown around twelve households were being helped every single day. Help was not restricted to normal working hours, with the service still running in the evenings, at weekends and even over the Christmas holiday period.

When restrictions were eased in September 2020, it was great that most of the residents that we had been helping were able to start looking after themselves again. However, the lockdown had identified that some residents would continue to need help for the foreseeable future.

Swanley Town Council liaised with the fantastic volunteers and were able to match up residents with volunteers who agreed to continue to support them for as long as needed.

When lockdown hit again in December 2020, many vulnerable residents needed to self-isolate again and the demand for help increased.

Once again, the response was fantastic and now more than 750 deliveries and collections have now been completed for Swanley residents.

Toni Roast, Assistant Town Clerk



GARDENING SOS!

Residents of High Firs we need your help!! Local resident and Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator John Knight has made it his mission to clear the brambles and undergrowth on Pinks Hill.

John and other local residents are looking for an army of volunteers to participate in the clearing of the land. The plan, in conjunction with STC and Swanley Wildlife and Nature group, is to transform this area into a nature trail for the younger generation, the idea for the nature trail was inspired by Amy and Evie Tiller.

We would like to make this green space a peaceful, well looked after area encouraging local wildlife for the benefit of all residents young and old.

If you are a local resident or a local company that would like to help with this amazing project please contact John Knight at: jpk10654@virginmedia.com

Photo above: L to R John Knight, Charlotte Tiller, Amy Tiller, Stuart Tiller, Evie Tiller and Chris Hunt.

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Swanley Town Council has taken their first steps to becoming a Disability Confident Employer and have registered with GOV.UK as being Disability Committed.

We are now able to use the logo above on our documents, paperwork and social media posts.

We are now working with The Education People to obtain the level 2 award to become a "Disability Confident Employer". Examples of the training which staff will receive are:-

- Working with people with Autism
- · Working with people with Dyslexia
- · Working with people with Hearing Impairments

Toni Roast the Assistant Town Clerk said "These are very excited times and we are looking forward to working with The Education People and to receiving the necessary training to help us achieve our level 2".





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visit westkent.org



and Residents Unite in Town Clean Up

Local residents have teamed up with Swanley Town Council to carry out regular litter picks around the Town.

Resident Nick Sills contacted his local Councillor and Town Mayor Lesley Dyball asking if he could litter pick the town with assistance from the Town Council.

Nick has collected in excess of 80 black bags and shows no signs of stopping. On an almost daily basis he emails the Town Clerk who coordinates a rubbish collection service supplied through the Estates Town Council department.

Sue and Natalia contacted us asking if they could do regular litter picks in and around Northview and The Spinney.

Together the partnerships have worked incredibly well and the town and all residents are the net beneficiaries of these efforts.

The Mayor of Swanley Cllr Lesley Dyball said "I'm sure I speak for all our local residents in thanking Nick and his family, Sue and Natalia for their litter-picking efforts around the town. 'Much appreciated!"

Town Clerk & CEO Ryan Hayman said "Swanley is a place to be proud of – such great community spirit. Well done and thank you to Nick, Sue and Natalia and anyone else who is dedicating their time to improving our town."





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Swanley Town Council

EVENTS CALENDAR 2021

SNBR GALA 35 Year Anniversary

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th July

Luna Cinema

Friday 6th to Sunday 8th August at Swanley Park

1812 Night

Friday 27th August at Swanley Park

Family Fun Fest

Saturday 28th August at Swanley Park

Great British September Clean

Friday 10th to Monday 13th September

Fireworks Night

Friday 5th November

Remembrance Day & Parade

Sunday 14th November

Light up The TownSaturday 4th December

Civic Carol Service

Date to be confirmed

Jack and The Beanstalk Pantomime

Tuesday 21st December







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- · Caring for you if you are feeling unwell and self-isolating
- · Posting letters, so you can keep in touch with your loved ones
- . Our local CAREGivers visit at the time to suit you
- · Helping you use technology to "video chat"

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Local Sports Club

Swanley Rangers Football Club

Swanley Recreation Ground, St Mary's Road,

Swanley BR8 7BU

Telephone: 07553 518 236

Email: clubsec.Swanleyrangers@gmail.com

Swanley Bowls Club

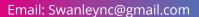
The Olympic, Beechenlea Lane, Swanley BR8 8DR

Telephone: Keith 07877 060 840 Email: info@Swanleybowlsclub.co.uk



Swanley Netball Club

Recreation Ground (netball courts) Swanley Recreation Ground, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU



AFC Green Court Football

Green Court Sports Club, 47 Green Court Road BR8 8HF

Telephone: Geoff Searle 07818 020 540

Swanley Rugby Club

Swanley Recreation Ground, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU

Email: info@Swanleyrfc.co.uk

Every Step Counts

Walking club for all ages Swanley Park, New Barn Road, BR8 7PW

Telephone: 07952 755 863 Email: keith.wood73@outlook.com



London Knightz

Inline hockey based in Swanley Hilda May Aveue, Swanley BR8 7BT

Telephone: 07973 763 561

Email: info.londonknightz@gmail.com

Email: info@sevenoakssuns.com

Swanley Boxing Club

Beechenlea Lane, BR8 8DR



Telephone: Eddie 07411 106 <u>6</u>81 Email: ewelsh@ntlworld.com

Sevenoaks Suns Basketball Club

Sevenoaks School, High Street,



Sevenoaks TN13 1HU

Web: www.swanleyanddistrictac.org

New Barn Road. BR8 7PW





Community grants help boost local charities

Sevenoaks District Council will again be supporting local charity and voluntary groups by allocating £154,675 to help them continue their valuable work across the District.

The grants will support organisations that provide services to Sevenoaks District residents, particularly those in greatest need.

The funding from this year's grant scheme will be particularly welcome to the charity sector after an incredibly challenging year.

Funding totalling £51,135 will be made to 19 local groups who support volunteers, run community transport, help older people and people experiencing mental health problems and assist families across the District.

Amongst the organisations that will benefit from the grants are West Kent Mind, Imago and Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Services.

This year, several new charities and groups have been granted funding including Baby Umbrella, an organisation providing online and face-to-face support to vulnerable families and new parents in Sevenoaks and the surrounding areas.

Another new organisation being awarded a grant is The Layberry Foundation, which provides mentoring for young people who have been in care.

A further £103,540 will be given to Citizens' Advice across the District at Edenbridge and Westerham and North and West Kent (Sevenoaks and Swanley). In addition to this, both the Sevenoaks District Arts Council and the Sevenoaks District Sports Council will receive funding of £2,500 each.

The Council's Cabinet Member for People and Places, Cllr Dyball says, "After an unprecedented year, I am really pleased we can offer much needed support to the incredibly valued voluntary and community sector across the Sevenoaks District.

The last year has hit everyone hard, but charity and volunteer organisations have really struggled to stay afloat."

Cllr Dyball adds, "Residents' wellbeing is one of our top priorities and our grants allow these wonderful charities and groups to continue helping our most vulnerable residents."



SWANLEY IN BLOOM COMPETITION LAUNCH 2021

Swanley Town Council have again teamed up with Coolings Nurseries in Knockholt for the "Swanley In Bloom" competition.

There are lots of categories to enter including best front garden, best back garden, best planted pot, trough or hanging basket and best allotment. Entries are free and all entrants will receive a voucher from Coolings to help get your planting started!

Cllr Lesley Dyball Mayor of Swanley said "I am so pleased that the competition will be able to go ahead this year after the disappointment of last year.

Many local residents plant up wonderful displays in their gardens and containers, and we have a number of allotmenteers, so it would be amazing if we had lots of entries this year from our Swanley residents."

To enter please go to https://www.coolings.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Sevenoaks-District-In-Bloom-2021-Entry-Form-Web.pdf

Entries close on the **5th July 2021** with judging taking place in the last 2 weeks of July 2021 with an awards ceremony taking place in September 2021 (*to be confirmed in line with COVID restrictions*).

Download the form using your smartphone or tablet by scanning the QR Code.





Litter Concerns?

If you have litter concerns in Swanley please contact Cllr J Griffiths member of the Cleaner and Greener committee at Sevenoaks District Council T: Mobile 07720 327779 E: Cllr.griffiths@sevenoaks.gov.uk





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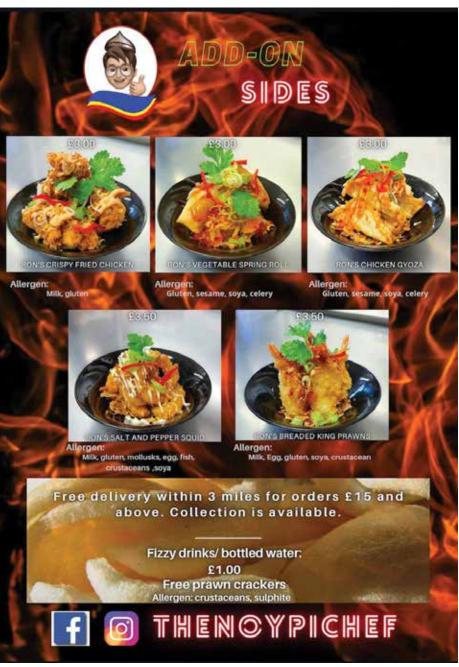
Open Weekend 8/9th May from 1pm

Beginners to Professionals

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Tel 07877 060840







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Council Meetings Dates April - July 2021

Wednesday 21st April

Development Control, Policy & Finance, Estates & Facilities

Tuesday 4th May Mayor Robing & AGM

Wednesday 12th May

Full Council & Development Control

Wednesday 26th May

Development Control & Policy & Finance

Wednesday 9th June

Full Council & Development Control

Wednesday 23rd June

Development Control & Policy & Finance

Wednesday 7th July

Full Council & Development Control

Wednesday 21st July

Development Control, Policy & Finance, Estates & Facilities

All documents for Agendas and Minutes can be found on our website.

For information on agenda items or to join our council meetings please call Suzie Barnbrook 01322 665855 or email sbarnbrook@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



NEW FOR 2021

The Barnyard Indoor Soft Play
Opening 17th May







All activities will be open from 17th May from 11am (weather permitting)

Café open everyday 9-5pm (weather permitting) serving hot & cold food, ice cream, slushies and more!



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https://www.lta.org.uk/ workforce-venues/tennisvenue-support/





Residents Parking Permits Expired in March 2021

Did you know, as a Swanley Resident you are entitled to free parking at Swanley Park?

To register your vehicle for free parking please **Email: csa@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk** a copy of your V5 registration document and your NEW 2021/2022 Council Tax bill.



Any applications received before the new council tax bill is issued will expire at the end of March 2021.





For further information on bookings and joining our events
Please call our sales team on

01322 613900

sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk to find out more.

TOWNCrier

Do you have an event or business you would like to promote in the next edition of the Town Crier?

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Please call Suzie Barnbrook on 01322 665 855 to find out more information including advertising rates.

