

DUNTON GREEN NEWS

Dunton Green Parish Council

Issue 034 Winter 2024



In this edition:
News from the School and an article about
Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve plus updates from the
Parish Council

Season's Greetings from all at DGPC



Dunton Green Parish Council
Working for a Better Community in Dunton Green

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DUNTON GREEN NEWS

c/o Parish Council Office, Dunton Green Pavilion,
Recreation Ground, Dunton Green, Kent TN13 2UR

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Printed by Sally Jolly





Cllr. Paul Lockey

Vice Chairman's Update

As the beautiful, colourful trees begin to shake off the last of their autumn coats, it's time to look back at another year in our village.



As ever the Parish Council has been able to bring the community together at regular and one-off events throughout the year.



Our first, big event of the calendar year was the Annual Parish Meeting with the Parish Reception. This has historically been a great place to meet your councillors in the flesh and understand more about what the Council does. It is also an opportunity to hear from Kent Police and important village organisations, like the School. This year, we were also kept entertained with some

stories from our local Town Crier and accomplished after-dinner speaker – Chris Conlon—in his guise as the Bromley Pearly King.



Over the summer we ran a number of sports sessions for our younger residents. They were able to try out tennis, cricket, basketball and a range of other sports encouraged by professional and enthusiastic coaches.



Cont...

...Vice Chairman's Update

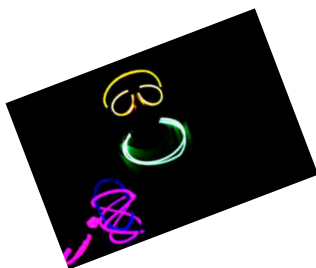
For those who've been with us longer, we've seen our long-running Age UK Lunch Club go from strength to strength as a result of the dedication of the fantastic team of volunteers who run Dunton Green's Lunch Club.



The Age UK Pop In Café has seen a drop in numbers this year but we're delighted that an enthusiastic new team has now taken over this invaluable session. I am sure the Pop In team would be delighted to see more of you for tea and chat during one of their sessions which continue throughout the year. Dunton Green Parish Council continues to support these excellent monthly sessions.

[See page 15 for details of when the sessions take place]

As Summer moved into Autumn, we got busy with our annual Fireworks Event in September. We saw some great attendance this year – thanks to an unusually clear and dry evening.



As young people buzzed around the recreation ground with glowsticks and light rings, everyone enjoyed the mix of music from across the decades played by Lewis Ross.



We were glad to support Education in Full – our charity partner – by donating the proceeds of the event to their very worthy cause. [See pages 8, 9 and 10]



On a more sombre note, we were again encouraged by the large turnout at our Remembrance morning in November. Ably led by Daphne from our local Church (St. Mary's) and with the full support of our local scouting organisation, the Dunton Green Primary School and many other local groups. Thanks to all who



came to show their support for those that are still suffering through conflicts across the globe.



As always we have more events lined up for the end of this year – rounding off the calendar with our traditional Christmas



Singalong on the Village Green on the 20th of December. For some festive fun, wrap up warm and bring your singing voice along. [See back page for details]

We've looked at some of the things that have taken place in 2024, but it is your village, your council and your community. So, if you've got an idea for an event or have any other issues to raise – get in touch!



I am delighted to wish you all a very happy festive season and the New Year.



Paul Lockey
Vice Chairman of Dunton Green Parish Council
paul@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk
www.duntongreen-pc.gov.uk

FIREWORKS 2024

What a spectacle!





Thanks to the generosity of the many of you who attended this year's Fireworks event we collected and were able to donate to the Education in Full Foundation a staggering £777.90

The Charity supports children at Dunton Green Primary through the provision of financial assistance grants, with the aim of enabling their participation in the full range of educational opportunities offered by the School.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!





Registered Charity no.: 1195704

THANK YOU FROM DUNTON GREEN EDUCATION IN FULL



It is almost Christmas but Education in Full (EiF) wants to give a BIG thank you to all those that made donations at the Fireworks. Your support means that we can help local children feel involved and gain confidence as they make the most of their education at the local Primary School.

Without a grant from EiF some children would miss out on the opportunities available to them and not have the correct clothing or equipment through circumstances that they cannot control. Thank you on their behalf.

We are a small and very local charity here in Dunton Green. We say that 'we are local people helping local children'. If you would like to know more about what we do, our Annual Report will be available soon. Just give us a call or drop us a line and we will get one to you.

As a local charity, all but one of the trustees live in the village and ideally we would like to have just one more member of the Trustee Board to make us up to 6 people.

Do you have time and the skills to help EiF?

It takes approximately 1 or 2 hours a month to assess grant applications and help to ensure the charity operates correctly and plans for its future. The Trustee Board is a small friendly group. We meet in Dunton Green or remotely about 5 times a year. If you think this opportunity might be for you and you want to know more, do contact me – no obligation to commit at this stage. Thank you again.

Judy Collins, Chair Education in Full
07790 281462
Info@eifdg.org.uk



NEW COMMUNICATION DETAILS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



In early September, the Parish Council will be transferring over to a new gov.uk domain. This signifies the Parish Council as being an official UK public sector organisation and is a move being made by many parish councils.

**The new address for Dunton Green Parish Council's website is
www.duntongreen-pc.gov.uk.**

All our email addresses will transfer to @duntongreen-pc.gov.uk addresses.

During the transition phase and for a time afterwards, any emails sent to the existing addresses will be forwarded to the new addresses and website views will also be directed to the new site (which is still a work in progress).

**All Dunton Green Pavilion booking enquiries should now be made to
bookings@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk**

**All other enquiries for the Parish Council should be sent to the Clerk
clerk@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk**



Dunton Green Primary School PTA: Supporting Our School and Community

Dear Dunton Green Community,

I have the pleasure of taking over the role of Chair of the PTA (Team DG) from our outgoing Chair, Jamie, and am delighted to give you an update of what has been going on at Dunton Green Primary School.

September saw the completion of the school's new ICT suite, which was generously funded in part by a £3,000 grant from Dunton Green Parish Council alongside the money we have raised as a



PTA over the last year.

The new building replaces the old Nest building that was demolished in 2023 and provides an exciting new teaching space for the school.



This year we have welcomed our new Forest School teacher Mr Manning to the school, meaning we now have a dedicated forest schoolteacher throughout the year to make the most of our forest school area. The Forest School gives the opportunity for the children to gain a deep connection with nature, using the skills they learn to independently create and play.



Over the summer we assembled a climbing frame kindly donated by a former Dunton Green Primary School parent, Michelle Turner, so the children can play on the climbing frame during their breaks. All the children agree that this is a very welcome addition to their playtime activities.

Last month we made an investment in the PTA by replacing our shed, half of which had started to rot away. We made the decision to increase the size of the shed so now we have plenty of storage and everything is easily accessible for the school's events.



The old shed didn't go to waste either! We managed to save half of the shed by cutting out the rotten parts and creating a new shed for the Forest School using the leftovers. We kept the roof at the full size of the old one, so it also provides shelter for the children to sit outside whilst they are doing their outdoor learning.



In October we held our annual Halloween pumpkin carving competition, and the imagination and carving skills of the children really shone.

So, "What next?" I hear you ask. Well, we are looking towards building a sensory garden on the school grounds so we will be fundraising over the coming year to put this in motion. The children on the school's Eco Council will

have the opportunity to help design the garden that will be accessible to all the children when complete.

If you, or anyone you know (or even the company you work for) would like to get involved or sponsor the sensory garden, please do get in touch via email:

teamdgschool@gmail.com

As always, we are reaching out to our community for support. If you have access to match-funding opportunities through your workplace, please consider approaching your employer on our behalf. Additionally, we welcome any one-off donations from those who wish to contribute further.

To make donating easier, we have included a QR code here. Simply scan the code to make a direct donation to the PTA. Every contribution, no matter the size, is greatly appreciated and will make a significant difference.



Please pay [] to Dunton Green Primary School PTA

pay.sumup.com

Once again, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the local businesses that continually support us. Thank you for your generosity and commitment which is so greatly appreciated. Together, we are making a significant difference in our children's educational experience.

And finally, an important reminder that if your little ones are starting in Reception in September 2025 there are still two open days left at Dunton Green Primary School.

These are:

Monday 2nd December 2024 - 9.30am

Wednesday 8th January 2025 - 1.30pm



It is a great opportunity to come along and find out everything there is to know about the school and see what an exciting learning space our school provides. To sign up please visit the school website: www.dunton-green.kent.sch.uk



Best regards,

Drew Barnes

Chair of the PTA (Team DG) - Dunton Green Primary School

 **DUNTON GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Empowering Life-Long Learning

RECEPTION 2025 ENTRANTS

OPEN DAYS

FIND OUT MORE AND BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW



Our latest Ofsted inspection found us to have...

OUTSTANDING Leadership and Management!

'Pupils see their school as a beacon of friendship. They are proud of their school and see it as at the heart of their local community.'



Mobility, Balance & Strength Pop Up



Dunton Green Lunch Club

Would you like help to improve your mobility, balance and strength? Have you had a fall or are you worried about your balance? Meet others in the same situation, get useful health tips, learn exercises to keep yourself strong and mobile and have a chat and cuppa!

For more information, please contact Age UK MST on 01732 454108 or email office@ageukmst.org.uk

Looking to meet new friends and enjoy a tasty two course hot lunch with tea/coffee? Come along to our monthly lunch club! For more information, please contact Age UK MST on 01732 454108 or email office@ageukmst.org.uk



2nd Wednesday of the
Month



1:30pm-3:00pm



Dunton Green Pavilion,
Recreation Ground, off
London Road, TN13 2UR



FREE to attend
Please call to book



1st Wednesday of
Month (Excludes August)



11:45am-2pm



Dunton Green Pavilion,
Recreation Ground, off
London Road, TN13 2UR



£5 per person
Please call to book



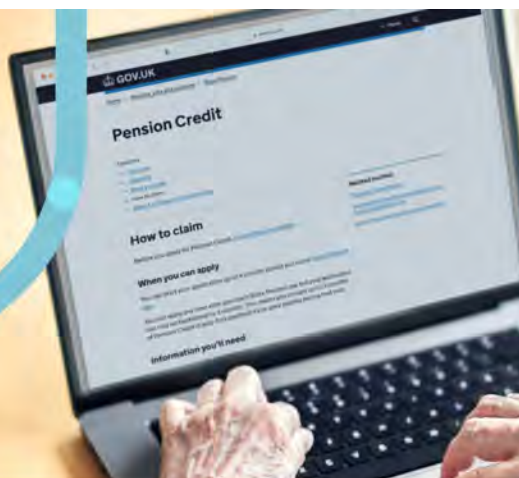
PLEASE NOTE: FOR JANUARY 2025 ONLY sessions will take place on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays and not the 1st and 2nd.

LUNCH CLUB will take place JAN 8th and POP UP will take place on JAN 15th

For more information call 01732 454108

For more information call 01732 454108

Pension Credit



Could you or someone you know be eligible for financial support later in life? Millions of pounds are left unclaimed each year.

It is estimated that up to 18,000 households in Kent are missing out on Pension Credit.

Don't let you or your loved ones be one of them!

Not already claiming Pension Credits?

Then visit www.kent.gov.uk/pensioncredit or contact the Pension Credit helpline on 0800 99 1234 today to check your eligibility and make an application!

Quick check

Over state pension age ☒

Live in the UK ☒

Have a weekly income of below £218.15 if you're single or £332.95 if you're part of a couple ☒

 **Kent Together**
Support in our communities



McCARTHY STONE

Life, well lived

McCarthy Stone Discovery Day



Discovery Day

Local retirees in Dunton Green were given the opportunity to find out more about McCarthy Stone's brand-new age-exclusive Retirement Living development Corn Mill Place, at an exclusive Discovery Day on Wednesday September 18th.

When complete, the development will offer a choice of 17 one and 20 two-bedroom apartments with the first occupants expected in 2025.

Retirees who attended the Discovery Day were able to find out more about Retirement Living at McCarthy Stone and look at plans and apartment specifications, as well as discover more about the purchasing opportunities. The event took place at the Dunton Green Pavilion and was attended by over 60 people.



Corn Mill Place—artists impression

Liz Luesley, Senior Marketing Executive at McCarthy Stone, commented: "Our new Dunton Green development is proving to be very popular amongst local retirees who are looking to continue living their active and independent lifestyle within a vibrant community."

Retirement Living developments, such as Corn Mill Place, are exclusively designed for people aged 60 and over, providing everything they could want for a relaxing and independent retirement.



Finding out about Corn Mill Place

Once complete, Corn Mill Place will feature a communal lounge, which will be perfect for socialising with new neighbours, and future homeowners will also be able to make the most of the landscaped gardens knowing all the maintenance is taken care of. They will also be able to feel secure in the knowledge that the house manager will be on hand to provide any help or support should they need it.

CALLING ALL COMMUNITY HEROES



**DUNTON GREEN
NEEDS YOU!**

**MAKE A CHANGE
BECOME A COUNCILLOR**

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT:
clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk / 01732 462966

Dunton Green Pavilion



Dunton Green Pavilion is a fantastic community facility owned and managed by Dunton Green Parish Council.

Located at the heart of the village on the Recreation Ground with excellent facilities — a modern and spacious Main Hall, plus a clean and well-equipped kitchen and a smaller room ideal for meetings.

If you are thinking of setting up a new class or activity, please do get in touch to see how we can help. The Pavilion is also available to hire for birthday parties and other private events.

For more information including pricing and availability, please contact Wendy Jackson, the Bookings and Facilities Assistant on bookings@duntongreenpc.org.uk / 07305 814694

Or take a look at our website: www.duntongreenpc.org.uk

Dunton Green Parish Council

Working for a Better Community in Dunton Green





DATES FOR THE DIARY START OF THE NEW BI-MONTHLY COLLECTIONS

NO COLLECTIONS OVER WINTER

18th March 2025

LUSTED ROAD 12.45PM TO 1.15PM
MILL ROAD 1.30PM TO 2.00PM

The Parish Council is negotiating with Sevenoaks District Council about more dates for 2025/26

PLEASE BRING ALONG YOUR EXCESS REFUSE AND TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THIS ADDITIONAL SERVICE
NON-RECYCLABLE REFUSE (EXCLUDING METAL)



FREIGHTER REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE



SATURDAY FREIGHTER GUIDANCE

The Freighter cannot accept white goods (excludes microwave ovens), washing machines, dishwashers, fridges, freezers, cookers, cast iron boilers, building materials, manure, large parts of engines or vehicles or hazardous waste.

Hazardous waste now includes items like fluorescent tubes, televisions & computer monitors, batteries, oil tins and filters, paint and paint tins and chemical containers. These items cannot be accepted on the Saturday Freighter service and must be taken to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre.

Compostable garden waste cannot be accepted



**FREIGHTER REFUSE
COLLECTION SERVICE**

DUNTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

DOES YOUR BUSINESS NEED ATTENTION?

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED ADVERTISING IN DUNTON GREEN NEWS?

HALF PAGE - £80 PER YEAR (4 EDITIONS)
FULL PAGE - £140 PER YEAR (4 EDITIONS)

We pride ourselves on providing DG News to every household in the village, every quarter and we keep all back copies available via our website. To find out more please contact us: clerk@duntongreenpc.org.uk

ELIZABETH ANNE NORRIS Jewellery

info@eanjewellery.com | 07773394413



Did you know you can make your own wedding rings?

It's easier than you think, and lots of fun!



Create rings that are uniquely *you*



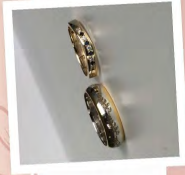
Spend time together making special memories



Be *expertly* guided step by step



Enjoy the picturesque rural setting in Shoreham, Kent



Full details at eanjewellery.com

Elands Veterinary Clinic

Book a wellbeing check-up for your pet

Your pet's wellbeing is a top priority for our team.

We'd love for you to think of us as a wellbeing hub, where you can easily access personal advice and vet care tailored to your pet's individual needs.

Our lovely nursing team run a range of great wellbeing clinics, including:

- Confidence clinics.
- Osteoarthritis clinics.
- Weight and nutrition clinics.
- Post-surgery rehabilitation check-ups (for pets recovering from TPLO or orthopaedic surgeries).



These are a great opportunity to chat to our vet nurses about any specific areas where you feel your pet could benefit from support!

Preventative check-ups can help detect issues earlier, meaning that support can be provided sooner and more costly treatments are less likely to be needed later.

Our nurse clinics cost £33.20 each for a 30-minute consult, or an upfront payment of £99 entitles you to four nurse clinic appointments.

Get in touch today to book an appointment.

Dunton Green 01732 452333

Yoga – a basic introduction

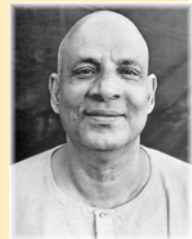


Have you ever wondered about giving yoga a try and then shied away from it? Maybe you think it is only for people who are younger and flexible, or you are worried about an injury or that you wouldn't be able to do it given how your body seems to be.

Well, here's a bit of an insight into what yoga is that might give you the confidence to dip your toe in the water...

Yoga is not simply a physical movement class – it is essentially what you might describe as an attitude to life.

My teacher training was very classical. It was passed down from the lineage of **Swami Sivananda**, who founded his Ashram in Rishikesh, India in 1932, and which is still active today.



By Nobody60 - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=13288465>

From his teachings, at its most basic, yoga can be thought of as having 5 points revolving around “proper”:

- ◇ exercise (asanas, which is the Sanskrit term/word)
- ◇ breathing (pranayama)
- ◇ thinking & Meditation (Vedanta & dhyana)
- ◇ diet (sattvic)
- ◇ relaxation (savasana)



Yoga is about achieving harmony, and the benefits of yoga are numerous, including:

- ◇ increased flexibility, range of motion and joint mobility
- ◇ strengthening and toning muscles throughout the body
- ◇ improved posture, alignment and balance
- ◇ improved and more functional breathing
- ◇ improvements to circulation, digestion, lymphatic system, immunity, endocrine and nervous systems
- ◇ reduced stress and anxiety levels
- ◇ enhanced mental clarity and focus
- ◇ boosted self-confidence and awareness



Yoga can also be thought of as bringing together posture, breath and focus of mind and becoming/remaining aware.

Sivananda Yoga classes are devised around 12 classical postures and breathing practice - there are many differing types of yoga, from Bikram (hot, sweat-releasing sequence) to Ashtanga Vinyasa (strong, flowing) to Yin (slow, static).

You may hear people talk about Hatha Yoga (which is pronounced Ha (as in hat) and Tha (as in ta, with a hard t). Hatha is about bringing polarised forces into balance, for example sun and moon or masculine and feminine, i.e. Ha (sun) and Tha (moon).

I believe that the most important thing to know is that yoga is for anyone of any age (there are some contra-indications, such as pregnancy) and that there should never be any pain when doing yoga.



You are also not competing or comparing with anyone else who happens to be in the same class.



Well-trained and competent teachers will always ask about injuries, etc, at the start, offer alternatives to people to suit their circumstances/bodies and ask permission before laying their hands on anyone in the class.



Most teachers will have a website or leaflet that includes the association that they are a member of, following their qualification (certification) as a teacher.

For example, the two most common in the UK are Yoga Alliance Professionals and the British Wheel of Yoga.



Having said this, it is not a legal requirement to be qualified to teach yoga in the UK, so I would recommend asking any prospective teacher about their certification and whether you can do a trial class to see if they are a good “fit” for you.

There is a lot more to say about yoga, however, I hope that this brief and basic introduction might encourage you to give it a try.



I can honestly say that it has had a hugely positive impact on my life, probably most in terms of my mental health as well as my physical health.

As a result, I would never stop my practice now, although there are times when it is very challenging to fit it in with all the competing demands of life!

Cllr. Annie Norton



Kate Hersey

Bespoke Estate Agent

07792 619 894

kate.hersey@kwuk.com

www.kwuk.com

kw

KELLERWILLIAMS



I am here to offer you an end-to-end service, individually managed by someone who cares.

Property is a massive investment for anyone looking to Sell or Buy so I want to ensure I can help guide my clients to have the most comfortable journey possible by offering a boutique and personal service based on integrity and open communication.

I will personally be your point of contact from the beginning to the end of any transaction, working pro-actively, seeking solutions to ensure we sell your property to the most suited person in an efficient manner. We can also work together to help find you your next dream home!

If you are looking to Sell or Buy a property, please get in touch and let me create you a bespoke marketing plan that will help ensure the best results!

 **OnTheMarket.com**

rightmove 

Zoopla

Dunton Green Social Club

**Need somewhere to hold
that special event?**

- 
- Christmas Party
 - Christening/Baptism
 - Anniversary
 - 40th/50th/60th/70th etc
 - Birthday Party
 - Family Celebration
 - Wedding Breakfast
 - Reception

With lower than average bar prices, our hall hire is perfect for any event that requires a venue. Function room can seat 70+ people

Booking is subject to terms and conditions and a deposit is required at the time of booking.



01732 462549

info@duntongreensocialclub.co.uk

159 London Rd, Dunton Green, Sevenoaks TN13 2TA

Out and About - 'What Katie Saw' Information, Gossip and News from Kate, our roving correspondent



Once again, some fantastic Halloween decorations to be seen around the village!



My reusable recycling bag arrived.
Not sure what I make of it?!

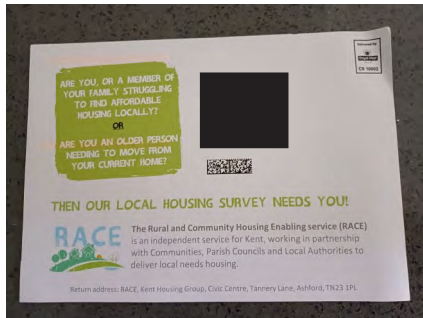


We had a lot of rain back in September—did you see the extensive flooding near the Bullfinch?!



DGPC Comment: Residents can continue to use clear recycling sacks if they want to (this includes clear sacks purchased from supermarkets etc)

Out and About - ‘What Katie Saw’ Information, Gossip and News from Kate, our roving correspondent

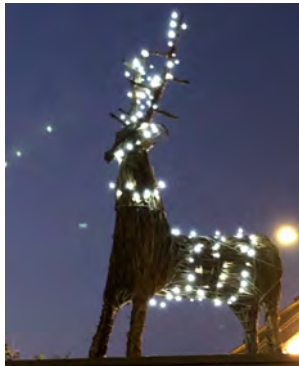


This Housing Needs Survey postcard landed on my doormat. Did you fill yours in?

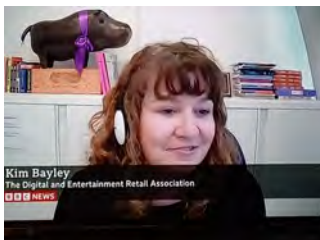


I was so excited to see Christmas decorations going up on the village green—I can’t wait to see them all lit up!!

The reindeer was at The Miners Arms last December—wonder what everyone has planned this year?!



We have some wonderful buildings in Dunton Green. The old St. Johns Church (now Elands Vets) really is a stunning piece of architecture.



One of our two District Councillors, Kim Bayley, popped up on Breakfast News recently (not on Council duty for this, of course)!



Dunton Green Parish Council

Tracy Godden: Clerk & RFO Dunton Green Parish Council

01732 462966 / clerk@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk

Wendy Jackson: Bookings & Facilities Assistant

07305 814694 / bookings@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk

Your local representatives: Dunton Green Parish Council



Cllr Freda England
Chairman DGPC

freda@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Paul Lockey
Vice Chairman DGPC

paul@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Anthony Carrol

anthony@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Andy Lapham

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Cllr Graham Hersey
Allotments

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Cllr Annie Norton

annie@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Angel Gomes-Chodynieski

angel@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Debbie Parker

debbie@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr James Copeland

james@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Guy Forster-Pearce

guy@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk

Your other local representatives:



Sevenoaks District Council - 01732 227000

www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

Cllr Kim Bayley - cldr.bayley@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Cllr Graham Clack - cldr.clack@sevenoaks.gov.uk



Kent County Council - 03000 41 41 41

Cllr Nick Chard - 03000 41 10 09

nick.chard@kent.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL EVENTS : DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tues 10th Dec 2024 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Fri 20th Dec 2024 - Christmas Singalong, 6pm Village Green

Tues 14th Jan 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tues 11th Feb 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tues 11th Mar 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Sat 18th March 2025 - Bulk Freighter Collections (page 19)

Weds 27th Mar 2025 - Annual Parish Meeting 7pm Pavilion (TBC)

Tues 8th Apr 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tues 13th May 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tues 10th Jun 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tues 8th Jul 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Tues 9th Sept 2025 - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Pavilion

Sat 27th Sept 2025—Annual Fireworks Event (TBC)

Visit www.duntongreen-pc.gov.uk for more information

COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

1st February 2025

Please forward items, articles & photos for possible inclusion to

clerk@duntongreen-pc.gov.uk

or to Dunton Green Pavilion (address on page 2)

The Parish Council is also on Facebook and X (Twitter)!



Dunton Green Parish Council Please follow us / give us a like!



@PcDunton [Dunton Green PC Clerk]



**DUNTON GREEN
PARISH COUNCIL**

HARDY

TREE SERVICES

DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL

- TREE CARE
- HEDGE MAINTENANCE
- TREE PLANTING
- THINNING
- TREE FELLING
- SHAPING
- REDUCTIONS
- STUMP REMOVAL
- PLUS MUCH MORE

ALL WORK IS UNDERTAKEN, BY OUR FULLY INSURED, QUALIFIED (NPTC) AND FRIENDLY PROFESSIONALS.

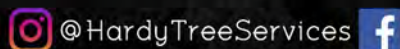
PLEASE CALL FOR A FREE NON-OBLIGATORY QUOTATION.

PLEASE BE AWARE ANY CANCELLATION WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE SCHEDULED JOB WILL RESULT IN A 50% CHARGE OF THE ACCEPTED QUOTE.

HARDY TREE SERVICES CONTACT:

James Hardy - Director
07923672345

James@hardytreeservices.com
www.hardytreeservices.com



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Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve

About the Reserve:



Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve covers 73 hectares and comprises five lakes surrounded by woodland. There are a few ponds, seasonally flooded pools as well as grassland and small areas of reedbed. The clear water of river Darent flows through the northern part of the reserve and supports a decent population of invertebrates and fish.

The deeper lakes attract all the common wildfowl which are especially abundant in the winter. Surface feeding duck such as teal and shovelers tend to frequent the shallower areas. Waders such as green and common sandpiper, greenshank, lapwing and little-ringed plover can be seen around the muddy edges of the shallow water. Grey herons are resident and other birds like kingfisher, grey wagtail can often be located. Birds such as reed bunting and reed warbler can easily be seen in the reedbed in the summertime.

The trees and scrub support breeding perching birds, including the common garden birds, warblers, such as chiffchaffs and blackcaps, woodpeckers, treecreepers and bullfinch. In the winter, the alder trees attract flocks of siskins and redpolls. So far well over two thousand species have been identified on the reserve and more are regularly being added to the list.



Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve runs events throughout the year, including bat walks, craft workshops, wildlife tracking events and many more family friendly activities. For a full list of upcoming events at Sevenoaks, please visit the website.

Recent reserve updates:

One of the key bird breed results for the reserve this summer has been the successful trial of artificial nesting rafts for Great crested grebes on the West Lake. Both the prototype rafts were used, with broods fledged, and the design is looking to be improved and more rafts deployed elsewhere on the reserve next Spring.





In other bird news, we have had ospreys on the reserve this autumn for the first time in over 20 years. These magnificent birds, which are usually a very rare, fly over the reserve on their travels and use it as a feeding point for several days at a time. Visitors have also been treated to the spectacle of hundreds of House Martins

wheeling around the visitor centre, feeding on clouds of insects before they then head off on their long-distance travels.



We have also been looking out for our nocturnal wildlife. A well-attended bat walk in September had attendees both young and old seeing large numbers of three different species of Pipistrelle, and also Daubenton's bats, flying low of the water (and our heads), as well as catching occasional Noctule calls on the bat detectors.

The recent management work with the regular volunteer work parties has mainly involved grass cutting and raking in the low-lying species rich meadows, which we thankfully completed just before the recent heavy rain flooded parts of the reserve. We have also been controlling woody growth in the reedbeds area to encourage the growth of the sedges, reed and rushes, the woody material generated from these works has been put to good use creating woven willow screens in the public areas.

Education at Sevenoaks:

Following the devastating vandalism to our Forest School and outdoor learning area in the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve in June this year, our wonderful team of volunteers quickly set about restoring, repairing and rebuilding what was damaged. The teaching shelter, which was smashed and then burnt, has already been replaced, as have the den building frames, which were also burnt. The mud kitchen has been repaired and some of the utensils have already been replaced, and the fire circle has had new seating logs added and has been fully cleared of all the debris.

Aftermath of the vandalism during the summer



Aftermath of the vandalism during the summer

None of this work would have been possible had the local community not come together and fundraised, with many generous donations coming in from local people. Special mention has to go to Dunton Green Parish Council for their incredibly generous donation which will further help to develop the Forest School area and allow us to offer more to the wide range of education groups who use the site.

Our Forest School site is not only used to deliver Forest School sessions, but also to host year-round school visits, Wilder Holiday Club, Birthday parties and our weekly parent & toddler group Nature Tots. The Forest School site is vital to our Sevenoaks education programme and we are so pleased to have it up and running again so soon!



New den building structures in the Forest School area



New Forest School shelter in Forest School area (still under construction)



Reinstated fire circle in the Forest School area

If you want to find out more about the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve and the Jeffery Harrison Visitor Centre

- take a look at the Kent Wildlife Trust website (www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk)
- or contact the Visitor Centre Management direct for information about activities and opening times on 01732 741673
- or by email sevenoaks.vc@kentwildlife.org.uk

This fantastic facility is literally on Dunton Green's doorstep—enjoy it!



Sevenoaks Larder

A HELPING HAND FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Sevenoaks Larder is a food support service that helps residents of Sevenoaks, Chevening, Chipstead, Dunton Green, Halstead, Kemsing, Otford, Riverhead, Seal, and Weald, who are struggling to pay for their weekly food shop.

Our principles are simple:
Fresh Food, Choice, given with Kindness & Compassion.



To find out how to DONATE visit our website



www.sevenoakslarder.com
sevenoakslarder@gmail.com
 01747 153750

Hope Church
 Mill Lane Centre
 Mill Lane
 Sevenoaks
 Kent
 TN14 5BX





Follow us:
[@sevenoakslarder](#)



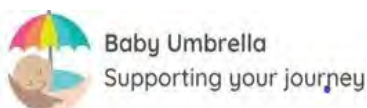
At its October meetings each year, the Parish Council allocates funds to worthy organisations that provide invaluable support and assistance to residents. For 2024-25 donations have been made to the following charities and groups.



Sevenoaks
Volunteer Transport
Group



Sevenoaks and Tunbridge
Wells Beekeepers
Asian Hornet Team



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5 steps to become better prepared

STEP

1

Make an emergency grab bag – consider:

- Torch
- Keys
- Medication
- First aid kit
- Toiletries
- Important documents
- Radio and batteries
- Money and credit cards
- Clothing and blankets
- Mobile phone and charger
- Pet food
- Food and water
- Emergency contacts



STEP

2

Make a 'Household Emergency Plan'

Make an emergency plan for your home and practice it with your household. Your plan should include: contact numbers, how to turn off your gas, electricity and water, and sources of information and advice.



STEP

3

Sign up for weather and flood alerts

- Sign up for Met Office weather alerts: www.metoffice.gov.uk



- Get Environment Agency Flood Warnings: www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings



STEP

4

Check your flood risk

Check your home's flood risk by visiting the Environment Agency website at www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk



STEP

5

Join the Priority Services Register

The Priority Services Register is for customers who may need additional support in a utility outage. Find out if you or a relative is eligible to sign up for this free service by visiting www.thepsr.co.uk



Scan the QR codes for more information or visit
www.kentprepared.org.uk/5-steps

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ready?

Kent and Medway
prepared

202408-029

PARISH COUNCIL News Highlights

- ♦ **Planning Matters.** Following the report in the last edition, a planning application has been received

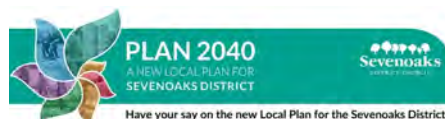


for the old Technical Treatments site in Rye Lane. The change of use

application proposes a 250 seat auditorium venue, a café, soft play, gym and office/working space. And yet

only 31 car parking spaces to accommodate staff and users. The Parish Council has submitted its concerns that the parking is simply not adequate and will cause even more congestion and concerns for local residents, and DGPC questions where the demand is for a venue more akin to a city centre than a village when the three existing halls in the village are all under capacity.

- ♦ **Local Plan (Plan 2040).** There is no firm news regarding timings for the



next phase of consultation on the emerging Local Plan. It is possible that there could be a further delay into mid 2025 to try to address the increase in the housing targets that the new Government is demanding. For Sevenoaks as a district this is an increase from 704 to 1114 new homes per year—currently the average is fewer than 300 which demonstrates just how ambitious the targets are. There are two sites in Dunton Green listed as baseline sites for development, so the Parish Council is watching for news.

- ♦ **Christmas Lighting Project.** In October there was tangible progress



Festive lights going up in October!

with this ambitious project and, by the time you read this, we will have seen the lights in all their glory. We really hope that the sparkling centre of the village lifts the spirits of everyone in Dunton Green. Join us at the village green to sing festive songs and enjoy some refreshments.

All are welcome- details on the back page.

PARISH COUNCIL News Highlights

- ♦ Green spaces in Dunton Green. The village green has had some TLC this year with two new flower beds and a revamp of the existing flower beds.

Established plants have been transferred to other locations. The Rose Garden is also looking particularly good this year. We will be planting a new tree in Price's Wood as one of a



number that were planted last year has mysteriously failed. We have plans for more planting in Longford Meadow to help make this a more attractive area to sit and enjoy the scenery. Tree works have been undertaken across the Parish Council's assets, in line with DGPC's maintenance commitments and its pledge to make Dunton Green greener!

- ♦ The closed churchyard at St Johns (Elands Vets). The maintenance of the closed churchyard is the responsibility of Sevenoaks



District Council but the Parish Council has received complaints and concerns about the area. The Clerk has met with North West



Kent Community Partnership to discuss a maintenance programme and plans for a volunteer led clear up in 2025. Some maintenance has now been completed by SDC.



PARISH COUNCIL News Highlights

♦ **Village Green trees.** After a great deal of chasing, SDC eventually completed some tree maintenance to clear the lower growth on village green trees that was getting out of hand. [The village green land is owned by DGPC but SDC retains responsibility for the trees]. Unfortunately, SDC will not agree to reduce the size of the trees. DGPC did manage to argue the case for some additional maintenance of a tree outside one property following a resident raising concerns.



Growth on trees before...



...and after maintenance was completed.



♦ **Developments in Sevenoaks.** An application for the gas holder site in Cramptons Road, Bat & Ball that includes the 'Rotunda' building has been approved. This will be ten storeys high and at about thirty metres high it will be visible from parts of Dunton Green.



♦ **Station Road—new trees?** A diseased tree was felled earlier this year on a parcel of land owned by DGPC. Recently, two trees appear to have been planted but we don't know who by? If you have any information please let us know as they will need maintaining!



♦ **Asian hornets.** The Parish Council shared information from The British Beekeepers Association about how everyone can help monitor and report sightings of Asian hornets, which are a real threat to honey bees. The Parish

Think you've seen an Asian Hornet? Report it!



Report through the Asian Hornet Watch app or www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport



Animal & Plant Health Agency

Council has made a donation to the Asian Hornet Team of the Kent Beekeepers Association in recognition of the important work that they are doing to try to stem the threat of this invasive species.

A great opportunity from KFRS to get some free training - we have FIVE publicly accessible defibrillators across the village.



Free CPR and defibrillator session

Date 8th January 2024
Time 7 pm
Location Sevenoaks Fire Station

Limited places available, to book yours visit
kent.fire-uk.org/events

or scan this QR code



01444 244444

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS & LOCAL LISTINGS

Taking place in DUNTON GREEN PAVILION, Recreation Ground, London Road
{Bookings: bookings@duntongreenpc.org.uk 07305 814694}

Age UK Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month, 01732 454108
Age UK Pop In Café	2nd Wednesday each month, 01732 454108
Pilates (Bryony Tilley)	07973 345 321
Taekwondo (Oaks Martial Arts)	01732 759988: info@oaksmartialarts.com

Taking place in DUNTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND, London Road

Easy Netball	01732 227000; communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Community Basketball	Kent Panthers - just turn up Mondays 5.30pm

Backyard Bootcamp	07803 050 431 enquiries@backyardbootcamps.co.uk
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DUNTON GREEN VENUES (Other)

Taking place in Donnington Hall, Barretts Road
{Bookings: Mrs J Field 01732 462429}

Darenth Table Tennis Club	David & Janet Field 01732 462429
Gauge One Model Railway Assoc	Jeff Brazier 01732 454890
DG School of Ballroom Dancing	David & Sandra Coppen, 07808 540 315
Dunton Green Badminton	Lilian Bowling 01959 522576
National Kick Boxing & Karate Assoc	Hilary King 07796 858 194
Sevenoaks Table Tennis League	Janet Field 01732 462429

Taking place in Village Hall, London Road

{Bookings: Harry Purves 07790 627393 h.purves426@btinternet.com
dgvillagehall@hotmail.com}

Coffee Morning	3rd Thursday of each month, 10.30am
Holy Communion	1st, 2nd & 4th Thursdays (see St Mary's info)

Taking place in Dunton Green Primary School, London Road

{Bookings: School Office 01732 462221; office@dunton-green.kent.sch.uk}

Kuk Sool Won Sevenoaks	07963 338 544; www.kswsevenoaks.com
Bujinkan Sevenoaks Dojo	bujinkansevenoaksdojo.org 16+ Thurs eve
The Gathering Church Service	Sundays 2.45-4pm

PLEASE DO LET US KNOW IF WE CAN UPDATE THIS LIST WITH THE DETAILS OF OTHER ACTIVITIES AND ORGANISATIONS IN THE VILLAGE

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS & LOCAL LISTINGS

OTHER Organisations and activities

Bessels Green Baptist Church	01732 454921; info@bgbc.co.uk
St Mary's Church Riverhead & DG	Daphne Harrison on 07779 834195
Citizens Advice Bureau (Sevenoaks)	01732 440488; info@sevenoaks.cab.org.uk
Dial-A-Ride (Compaid)	01892 832447
Dunton Green Primary School	01732 462221 office@dunton-green.kent.sch.uk info@duntongreensocialclub.co.uk
Dunton Green Social Club	01732 462549
Gymboree	07827 910 978; sevenoaks@gymboree-uk.com
Kent County Council	03000 41 41 41; www.kent.gov.uk
Kent Fire & Rescue	01622 692121; 999 emergency; www.kent.fire-uk.org
Kent Police	101; 999 emergencies; www.kent.police.uk
Kent Sheds	www.shedsevenoaks.weebly.com
Sevenoaks District Council	01732 227000; information@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Sevenoaks District Council	01732 227000; communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Sevenoaks Volunteer Transport Group	01732 458931; www.sevenoaksvolunteertransport.com

Dunton Green Pavilion & Outside Space
RECREATION GROUND, LONDON ROAD
07305 814694
bookings@duntongreenpc.org.uk

Dunton Green Village Hall
LONDON ROAD
01732 469610



Donnington Hall BARRETTS ROAD
01732 462429

**AFTER THE PANDEMIC THERE IS
CAPACITY AT ALL OF THESE
VENUES - IF YOU HAVE A GROUP,
CLASSES OR NEED A PARTY VENUE
PLEASE GET IN TOUCH**





Remembrance Sunday Service 2024 10th November



Thank you to everyone who came to pay their respects and join us in this Annual Act of Remembrance.



The Parish Council is particularly grateful to the 3rd Sevenoaks Scouts (leaders, scouts, families) who join us each year and really bring a sense of community to the Service.

Thanks also to Daphne Harrison for leading the Service and to the prefects from Dunton Green Primary School for their participation.



Special mention goes to Willow from Dunton Green Primary who crocheted poppies for a wreath, including purple poppies recognising animals who served during war time.

A really beautiful wreath!





BE BRIGHT AT NIGHT

At night or in poor daylight, wearing something **light-coloured, bright, fluorescent or reflective** can help other road users to see you.



WINTER ROAD SAFETY TIPS

WWW.GETABOUT.ORG.UK

With the nights drawing in we are all reminded of the importance of being safe and seen when using our roads and pavements.



CHRISTMAS

AT ST MARY THE VIRGIN
RIVERHEAD WITH
DUNTON GREEN

Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 7th December, 9.30am to 4.30pm
and

Saturday 8th December 11am to 4pm
with carols among the trees at 3.30pm



Nine Lessons & Carols

Wednesday 18th December 7pm
with mulled wine and mince pies after the service

Sunday Club Nativity

Sunday 22nd December 9.30am
all welcome to take part, just come and join in



Christmas Eve Services

2.30pm Crib Service (ages 0-4)
4pm Christingle Service (ages 4 and over)
11.30pm Midnight Mass by Candlelight

Christmas Day Services

8am Communion
9.30am Family Communion



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VILLAGE

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Christmas Singalong 2024

Join us for festive singing
and refreshments!
A warm welcome to ALL!

Friday 20th December
6.00pm
Village Green, London Road

Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas and New
Year from all of us at Dunton Green Parish Council

