



Quarterly newsletter of Westgate-on-Sea Town Council

“Town Talk”

Issue 1, Volume 1

Spring 2017

Keeping you informed

“Welcome to the town council’s first newsletter. The purpose of this publication is to keep you, the residents, up to date on the work of the council and let you know of events and future goings on in the town. The Clerk would like to hear from you with any stories, articles, photographs and future events that we can publish. The Town Council is embracing the opportunity to enhance local services with devolved powers and I hope that you enjoy watching the improvements unfold around the town.”

Cllr Tom King Chairman, Westgate-on-Sea Town Council.

Westgate-on-Sea Annual Town Meeting

Have your say in the future of Westgate

Thursday 27th April - 7.00pm *Refreshments provided
at Westgate Community Centre, Lymington Road

HOUSING

LITTER

STREET
CLEANING



BEACH
LIFE

ANTI-SOCIAL
BEHAVIOUR

LOCAL
SERVICES

Your local representatives would like to hear from you ALL WELCOME!

Future Meeting Dates:

Monday 24th April 6.30 pm

*Planning & Environment
followed by Finance &
General Purposes*

Monday 8th May 7pm

Annual General Meeting

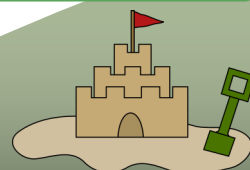
Monday 15th May 6.30pm

*Events and Tourism
Committee*

*Please check the agenda
prior to the meeting for the
latest information on venues
and times.*

Neighbourhood Plan launch success

Thank you to everyone that attended the launch of the Neighbourhood Plan for Westgate on March 4th. The town council is leading the way in setting out the future planning policies for Westgate. A Neighbourhood Plan can be a powerful tool to get the right development in the right place for our town. Electors will be able to vote on the plan in a referendum at the end of the process. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday May 16th at Christchurch Hall in Westgate Bay Avenue. Everyone is invited to come along. Residents will work in topic groups to develop ideas and plans for the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.



The latest news from Westgate-on-Sea Town Council

Street cleansing, it's what you asked for!



One of the first projects embarked upon by the town council after its inauguration in May 2015 was to conduct a survey of the community in order to set the priorities of what was required. Overwhelmingly, the response was that residents of Westgate want a cleaner town. In reaction to this the town council investigated operating a 'top up' cleaning service to complement that provided by the principal authorities. The town council has since recruited two part time operatives who will work for Westgate-on-Sea Town Council to clean and tidy the 'hot spot' areas that we know need extra attention and will be dedicated to improving the appearance of Westgate. If you are aware of an area that needs attention please contact the Town Clerk and we will investigate what the town council can do to make a difference. Email: operations@westgateonsea.gov.uk

Enhancing Westgate for all

"Tourists don't know where they've been, travellers don't know where they're going"



The town council have been working on various initiatives to ensure that Westgate is not only a great place to live and work but also attracts more visitors to the area. The Events and Tourism Committee are lobbying for a cleaner station with more frequent stopping services in Westgate. The committee are also working on more events throughout the year, including traditional beachside 'Punch and Judy' shows in the summer and the return of the 'Pancake Day Races'. Ambitious plans are being considered for a future music festival by the sea and an annual day set aside to celebrate the heritage and cultural assets of Westgate, whilst promoting pride in our town. Please check out the minutes from these meetings on our website to see how the plans are progressing.



Coastal Community Team

Westgate-on-Sea has been granted a 'Coastal Community Team' by Coastal Communities Minister Andrew Percy.

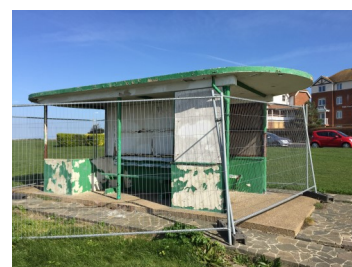
The team – made up of local volunteers, schools and local businesses has already developed a blueprint for economic growth, focussing on increasing the footfall in the shops, organising more events to bring people into the town and increase its profile, lay the basis for more B&B/hotel accommodation in the future. You can read the economic plan on the council website.

Coastal Communities Minister Andrew Percy said: 'The Great British Coast has enormous potential and we're determined to see it thrive all year round.'

By 2020 we'll have invested nearly a quarter of a billion pounds in our seaside areas providing thousands of jobs, training places and opportunities along the shore. Now we are backing another 28 coastal communities with cash and urging them to take back control of their own economic futures.

We want to see radical plans of action and I'd urge these new coastal community teams to go out and create a further wave of enthusiasm along the shore.'

Cllr Martyn Pennington will head up Westgate's team and more information will follow on the website and in this newsletter on what plans are afoot to improve Westgate-on-Sea and what you can do to join in. Already the team have been asked if they can help improve our beach shelters.



NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan

You may have heard of the NHS England Sustainability and Transformation Plans being talked about in the news. They are local blueprints for improved quality of healthcare and finances in the NHS. It was discussed at a recent council meeting that some of the plans may include reviewing the future of our surgeries. It has been confirmed that there are discussions across Thanet about how to improve services but at the current time there are no plans to change Westgate Surgery. Our surgery is under pressure to expand with the growing population and is looking at ways to increase its facilities for the future.



WAR breaks out at St Mildred's Bay

Don't panic Mr Chairman, it's Westgate Against Rubbish on a litter pick! Time to spare to help keep Westgate tidy? Contact: westgateagainstrubbish@gmail.com



Around the town

Defibrillator for Westgate-on-Sea

The Town Council has obtained a defibrillator courtesy of First Rescue. A red telephone box is being investigated to install the all important life saving equipment in the town.



Parking Frustrations

The Town Council are in consultation with the principle authorities to address parking issues in the town. There are many issues including dangerous parking on junctions in Linksfield Road and the usual inconsiderate parking in the busy areas. What do you think about 20mph limits? Tell us!



Fly-Tipping Nuisance #crimenottocare

Thanet District Council has launched a campaign to tackle fly-tipping, which is a blight on the community and draining council resources.

In the past 12 months in Thanet there have been nearly 1700 fly-tipping incidents, costing the council a total of £109,550 in cleaning up more than 1500 tonnes of the resulting waste.

To report a fly-tipping incident, contact: streetscene.enforcement@thanet.gov.uk or via (01843) 577115.

Exciting Adventures!

1st Westgate Cubs are seeking new members. For those aged 8 to 10 and a half there is camping, shooting, swimming and lots more. Email : 1stwestgatecubs@gmail.com

Westgate In Bloom

The town council have voted to get involved with the 'Britain In Bloom' initiative. If you would like to join us or sponsor a bloom contact the Town Clerk.



CONTACT WESTGATE-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL



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