

Westgate on Sea Local Councillors get trained on CPR & Defibrillator use.

On the evening of 16th January 2019 at Westgate on Sea, six of the local town councillors along with Cllr Sam Bambridge, the Town Clerks and local resident Denise Packer took part in training on CPR and the use of Defibrillators. The training was done by local community first responders who demonstrated how easy it is to treat someone who has had a cardiac arrest or heart has stopped by using CPR and or a Defibrillator. This training is now going to be offered to the whole community and the addition of a new Defibrillator has been placed in Edwards, supplied by Westgate on Sea Town Council. To put your name down for the next training dates please e-mail admin@westgateonsea.gov.uk

More about defibrillators:-



A defibrillator is a device that gives a high energy electric shock to the heart through the chest wall to someone who is in cardiac arrest. This high energy shock is called defibrillation, and it's an essential life saving step in the chain of survival. If you come across someone who has had a cardiac arrest, it's vital to call 999 and start CPR. Then you should find out if there is a defibrillator nearby.

There are many defibrillators available in public places in Westgate on Sea such as Westgate Surgery, My Dentist, Edwards, The Bake & Alehouse and the Fire station. These defibrillators are often known as public access defibrillators (PAD) as anyone can use them in an emergency. You shouldn't be afraid of using a defibrillator if someone has had a cardiac arrest as the machine will direct you step by step in how to use.

Westgate on Sea Train Station to be given a facelift including new waiting room.

Westgate on Sea Town Council are pleased to announce that work started in February on the first part of a three part improvement plan to Westgate on Sea Train Station by Southeastern.

These new improvement discussions have been ongoing between Westgate on Sea Town Council, Southeastern and Network Rail since October 2018.

The initial investment totals £125,000 which is part of a larger seven figure investment to happen over the next 12 months. The initial works will include the opening of a new waiting room on the London bound platform 1, new raised bedding areas created with railways sleepers, improved seating areas, the addition of new lighting, seagull proof bins, new community notice boards, all areas of plant overgrowth cut back and cleared, repointing and fixing of brickwalls and the station weeded and deep cleaned.

Stage Two of the Southeastern Plan will see updated CCTV, new electronic information boards, additional passenger shelters, the platforms having new tarmac and a repaint of the station in the original Heritage colours.

Stage Three of the plan will happen in the next 12 months and will be carried out by Network Rail which will replace the main footbridge from the ticket office to platform 1.

All works are to be done with minimal disruption to passengers and residents.

Discussions are on going about adding more stopping services to the station which if successful would happen in line with the next time table update.



Can you help your community and spare a few hours to reduce speeding vehicles in your area?
Thanet Rural Speedwatch
Working to improve the safety on roads with the support of the Police

“The latest Speedwatch session showed that 17% of vehicles monitored were travelling above 35mph in a 30mph zone with many more vehicles slowing down when seeing the Speedwatch team in position. This shows that the Speedwatch initiative is working. We have welcomed new volunteers Cllr Conford & Cllr Micallef who have now been trained and have two more volunteers due to be trained, this growth in numbers means we can run Speedwatch sessions more often, covering more areas, ensuring safer roads for everyone. Volunteers can sign up at anytime, feel free to contact myself or the Town Clerk for more info.” Councillor Matthew Scott.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Many thanks for taking the time to read up on the news happening in your town! We would love to hear your thoughts for future editions of the newsletter - such as topics, events, editorial and overall design. Please contact the Town Clerk with your ideas.

Quarterly Newsletter of Westgate-on-Sea Town Council



“Westgate Talk”



A message from the Chair.

There's plenty to look forward to this year – a major package of improvements for the railway station (which celebrates its 150th birthday in 2021!) has been agreed with Network Rail and Southeastern, we launch our first 'Westgate Day in July, and we're planning a riot of colour this summer with our 'Westgate in Bloom'. The transfer of Lymington Road recreation ground from TDC to Westgate Council should be finalised soon, so that it can be a football and sports venue we can be proud of. Meanwhile we continue to protest against the reckless development of 2,000 houses around the Minster Road being pushed through by TDC, we are watching closely so that they do not re-introduce parking charges here, and we have highlighted the concerns of Council and residents about our local health services (including QEQM) with the local MP Sir Roger Gale. In May the elections for the Town Council will take place, along with those for TDC, so make sure you are registered to vote, get a postal vote if you need one, and above all *use your vote!*

Councillor Martyn Pennington Chairman



A message from the Vice Chair.

Our plans and preparations for Westgate Day are underway and as things start coming together, the anticipation is mounting. See the next page, where I've written a bit more

Continuing my message about Food Banks : the Food Banks provide vital support and assistance to individuals and families who find themselves in difficult circumstances. Donations of non-perishable foods are always needed. If you can, please help. When you're doing your shopping, think about getting a few extra items to put into the donation box. At the moment, the following items are really needed : tinned main meals, tinned rice pudding, cereal bars (for the homeless), long-life milk and tinned fruit. You can check our notice boards and website for the locations of donation collection points. Thanks again.

Councillor Helen Page Vice Chair
remember



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A FEW DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Annual Town Meeting - 17th April 2019 - Westgate-on-Sea Community Centre*
- Local Town Council Elections - 2nd May 2019*
- Westgate Day - Sunday 21st July. 12pm-9pm. Sea Road, Adrian and Ethelbert Square Gardens*
- CPR Training - 14th March and 30th April. 7pm-9pm. Please call or email to register your interest..*
- Saturday Community Surgeries - 3rd Saturday of each month. 10am-11:30am. Westgate Library, Minster Road.*
- Christmas Light Switch On - 1st December 2019*



WESTGATE DAY

Dates for your diary : Town Anniversary: 18 July 2019 and Celebration Day: 21 July 2019

Westgate Day is the Town Anniversary that has been created to acknowledge and celebrate Westgate-on-Sea. The anniversary date, 18 July, was agreed through discussion with Dr Dawn Crouch, our Curator at the Heritage Centre. It is linked to the time in the town's history when the Coastguard was installed here by the Admiralty and when the first estate began to be developed along our coast. It was also the period when the rich socialites would leave London and come to stay here for the Summer 'social season'.

The fundamental idea to create a Town Anniversary came out of the desire to recognise this unique town; a town with so much history, culture and beauty. To give an uplift of pride and raise more awareness both within Westgate, and outside of the Town.

An underlying aim of this initiative is to reach out to our young people, who are the future of the Town. So, leading up to the Anniversary, our schools are involved in doing some Westgate-related projects to get them thinking about the town's history, culture and environment. We are also encouraging them to do some inter-generational work with senior citizens. Again, to engender that pride and encourage them to feel a sense of responsibility for their Town. There will be a judging and prize-giving on the Anniversary for the best projects.

On the weekend closest to the anniversary, we'll have a Celebration Day for the whole Town with some fun, food and entertainment for everybody. Currently, preparations are under way. This year, it's on 21st July, from 12noon to 9pm. It will be on the greens in Sea Road opposite The Swan pub and going along to opposite Westcliff House (previously part of the school for the deaf). We are involving local people from our community and we'll have community choirs, school bands, local musicians and food / refreshments from local businesses / providers.

Also on the Sunday, we will be using Adrian Square and Ethelbert Square to have something extra in the centre of Town. Each Square will have artisan stalls which we anticipate will be offering, for example, food / handmade & craft items / books.

Would you like to be involved?

Would you like to have a stall in one of the Squares?

Are you a musician or performer - would you like to perform on the Sunday?

If you would, please contact Gill Gray or Jasmine at the Town Council office. The contact details are given in this newsletter.

In this first year of the Town Anniversary, we are getting it started in small ways. However, we plan to develop it more each year and expect it to increase in popularity. Our motto / tag will be :

Westgate Proud!!

and we look forward to seeing you all at this new annual event.

Pride in the Town is also about the everyday aspects of living in Westgate. We should all respect and take care of it and the people who live in it. We should all share in the responsibility to keep our Town to a standard that makes us all happy and proud and which is welcoming for visitors.

So, I'm taking this opportunity to ask you to be mindful and considerate when going about Town. Please :-

put litter in the bins provided : or take it home and put it in your own bin
clean up after your dog and use the bins provided
drive safely and within the speed limits
park vehicles considerately, safely and lawfully
cycle safely and give consideration towards pedestrians and drivers

As a Council, we are working to address / deal with these and other issues in our Town. But, if we all do our bit as individuals, households, businesses or organisations it will make a huge difference all-round. Let's be **Westgate Proud!!**

Westgate in Bloom to be Westgate on Sea's biggest Green Space regeneration project.

WoSTC are planning the biggest green space regeneration plan ever, the plan which will take approximately three years to complete. The audacious plan will see all green spaces in the town updated or improved. Plans cover the replanting of Westgate on Sea Train station with wildflowers and the addition of new planters, both War Memorials will have redeveloped gardens and contemplation spaces, Lymington Road Recreational Ground will have the addition of new Trees and planting, Sea Road will be given a fresh lease of life creating more attractive sheltered spaces using trees and plants making it a nice alternative spot to the beach and a Sensory Garden built at the Community Centre. The biggest project is the intention to restore Adrian Square and Ethelbert Square back to how they were when first constructed in the 1800's.

This year WoSTC will attempt to gain 9 'In your neighbourhood' Awards sponsored by South & South East In Bloom and in 2020 we will enter the South & South East In Bloom competition.

In December Cllr Micallef and Resident Denise Packer started the project by planting over 1250 Spring Flowering bulbs in Lymington Recreation grounds and the planters within the Town Centre.

W/C 1st April will see the first official major planting happen across the town, with the intention being to plant over 400 trees and bushes.

The bulk of this project will be completed using donations, grants and volunteers.

Donations so far include.

TCV & OVO Energy have donated 315 Trees & 100 Hedgerow Bushes.

The Bumblebee Conservation Organisation have donated 7kg in Poppy and Wildflower seeds.

Woodland Trust have donated 300 trees to be delivered in November.

B&Q, Homebase and Thompson Morgan donated between them over 1250 spring flowering bulbs.

To get involved pick up a project pack from the Town Council offices or e-mail admin@westgateonseas.gov.uk for a copy of the Westgate in Bloom Presentation.

