

Edenbridge Reports

Autumn 2016



LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
FOUNDATION

Young people looking at out-door gym and new skate park projects for town

An outdoor gym and new skate park facilities came top of the wish list among young people surveyed by the Youth Forum this year.

Now the Town Council is supporting two groups of youngsters to explore the options of design for the projects, and therefore the possible costs, and also the funding opportunities.

Progress will be reported to Youth Forum meetings, and councillors will help with the investigations if and when asked.

Station subway mural wins

Edenbridge Town station subway mural has won the award for best permanent community art project in the national Community Rail Partnership awards. Painted by local youngsters in the 2015 summer holidays, working with artist Graham Upton, the mural highlights aspects of the town and surrounding area. A second mural to brighten Edenbridge station was produced this summer.

Planting for a brighter Spring



(Pic: Edenbridge Chronicle)

More than 3,000 daffodil bulbs have been planted along the main road through Edenbridge, to brighten up the verges in Spring.

Thanks to donations from the Great Stone Bridge Trust, local businesses, and residents, the Community Warden Rose Briggs has led several small teams of volunteers for planting sessions starting from October half-term.

"The project is a great idea to bring extra colour to the town next year," says Rose. "A big thank you to everyone who gave up their time to help."

French market coming to town for second year

See p.3 for details of the Chamber of Commerce event in the High Street on 27th November

Edenbridge trees judged 'among the best' in Kent

High quality of the trees around the town has earned Edenbridge praise from the 2016 Trees In The Village Competition, and the gift of a tree for the community. The judge who toured the Council sites in the summer was impressed by the standard of care.



This unusual maple (left) at the Rec had a special mention, as it has grown half variegated and half green, divided down the middle.

The Millennium Wood at Mowshurst is maturing well, and larger trees in Stangrove Park were even considered worthy subjects for "trees trail" leaflet for visitors.

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Festive Season arrangements

The Town Council office will close 5pm on 23 December (Fri) and re-open Tuesday 3 January when normal hours resume, 9am-5pm.

Refuse collection days will be one day later than normal in the two weeks after Christmas—check with the District Council on www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/collectionsdays or call 01732 227000

Be Prepared—for Winter

Golden autumn days delayed thoughts of winter but residents are reminded to "be prepared" Those living in a flood-risk area need to think ahead.

Visit www.GOV.UK/floodsdestroy for advice on preparing your home.



Thanks to a grant from the district council's Big Community Fund, Edenbridge has permanent radio aerials improving communication round the parish, and to Sevenoaks District Council office. A small stock of sandbags from Sevenoaks is held locally for residents to collect if needed, and they will deliver more as required. Alternatively there are lightweight 'FloodSax', filled with gel that absorbs water in about three minutes. Once wet the sacks are designed to mould into doorways and act like sandbags. They are easy to store until needed. A standard door will need five, plus some plastic sheeting, and unopened they will keep for five years. These can be bought on-line or ordered direct from the Town Council at a special price £25 per five-pack.

If snow arrives ETC is prepared with salt/grit bins stocked, and will help Highways grit town centre pavements if needed.

New plan to support wildlife for Stangrove Pond

Following a detailed wildlife survey of Stangrove Pond, a new plan is in place to manage the pond to improve its environment.



A gently sloping ramp into the pond to be made at the east end will give an area for aquatic plants to grow, partly under water summer and winter. It will need protecting from ducks to allow the plants to establish, and some fencing initially.

Some larger pieces of dead wood will also be placed to vary habitat for a variety of creatures including newts and snails.

The unmown edges of the pond are being increased by 2m to give good vegetation cover, which helps frogs and emerging dragonflies, and brambles will be cut in patches to 10cms once a year.

People are being asked to help by not feeding the ducks, as left-over food attracts rats, and can foul the pond water as it decomposes.

Edenbridge Partnership celebrating 10th anniversary

Ten years after its launch in 2006, the partnership of over 20 organisations



working with, in, and for the Edenbridge community is celebrating its 10th anniversary.

Under the slogan "forward together", the Partnership meeting quarterly helps communications between organisations, and by pooling resources various combinations of groups over the years have carried out projects to meet identified needs — such as improving the local environment, opportunities for young people, support for start-up businesses, encouraging tourism, promoting volunteering, and also events to bring the community together.

Current Partners range from local councils and churches, to the chamber of commerce, police, housing associations, youth work and rail travellers' association.

A seasonal taste of France

Edenbridge High Street will host a French Market on Sunday 27th November with stalls open from 10am until 4pm. The Chamber of Commerce has arranged this festive event, with the central section of the street closed to traffic.

MEMBERS OF EDENBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL – Elected 2015 Wards: **NE** North and east, **SW** South and west)

JAMES BARNETT SW The Cottage, Cobhambury, Roman Road, Edenbridge TN8 5PN	Tel: 07900 385167 Email: jamesnicholasbarnett@googlemail.com
ROGER BELL SW The Old Eden, High Street, Edenbridge TN8 5AX	Tel: 07957 519814 Email: cllrrogerbell@theoldeden.com
TREVOR BRYANT SW 2 Katharine Villas, Mill Hill, Edenbridge TN8 5BP	Tel: 07865 641 638 Email: trevorbryant@hotmail.co.uk
Mrs JILL DAVISON NE Lyncroft House, Swan Lane, Edenbridge TN8 6AJ	Tel: 01732 863588 Email: jillpe.davison@tiscali.co.uk
RICHARD DAVISON NE Lyncroft House, Swan Lane, Edenbridge TN8 6AJ	Tel: 01732 863588 Email: richard_davison@lineone.net
ALAN LAYLAND NE (Also District Council member for Edenbridge South & West) 14 Frantfield, Edenbridge TN8 5BB	Tel: 01732 864140 Email: alhsconsultant@aol.com
VINCE MAYNARD NE Tralee, Hillcrest Road, Edenbridge TN8 6JS	Tel: 01732 505724 / 07747 002286 Email: vincent.maynard@virginmedia.com
MARGOT McARTHUR SW (Also District Council member for Edenbridge South & West) Virginia Cottage, 25 Lingfield Road, Edenbridge TN8 5DS	Tel: 07879 884404 Email: cllrmvmcarthur@aol.com
STUART MCGREGOR NE (Also District Council member for Edenbridge North & East) 1 Champions Drive, Edenbridge TN8 6GF	Tel: 01732 865559 Email: Stuart_Mcgregor@hotmail.com
BOB ORRIDGE SW 5 Waterlakes, Edenbridge TN8 5BX	Tel: 01732 863672 Email: robert@orridge.com
CLIVE PEARMAN SW Wicken Cottage, Mill Hill, Edenbridge TN8 5DB	Tel: 07802 707606 Email: clive.pearman2@btinternet.com
MARK ROBSON NE 7 Sunnyside, Edenbridge TN8 6HP	Tel: 01732 866132
JOHN SCHOLEY NE (Also District Council member for Edenbridge North & East) The Gables, Crown Road, Edenbridge TN8 6AW	Tel: 01732 865197 Email: scholey_john@talktalk.net
BOB TODD NE Lavender Cottage, Hillcrest Road, Edenbridge TN8 6JS	Tel: 01732 864085 Email: roberthtodd@hotmail.co.uk
JOSEPH WOOLTORTON SW 90 High Street, Edenbridge TN8 5AR	Tel: 01732 866150 Email: josephwooltorton@yahoo.co.uk

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER

CLIVE PEARMAN
Wicken Cottage, Mill Hill, Edenbridge TN8 5DB

Tel: 07802 707606
Email: clive.pearman2@btinternet.com

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT TONBRIDGE & MALLING

Tom Tugendhat MBE MP
House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA

Tel: House of Commons 0207 219 3000
Email: tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk

EDENBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL CONTACTS

Town Clerk – Christine Lane
Doggetts Barn, 72A High Street, Edenbridge TN8 5AR
Email: townclerk@edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01732 865368

Website: www.edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk

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