



TENTERDEN  
TOWN COUNCIL

# TOWN COUNCIL PROJECTS

- Town Hall
- Recreation Ground

# SUPPORTING TENTERDEN BUSINESSES

- Shop Local Initiative
- Business E-Permits Launched

# POSITIVE **SUSTAINABLE** TENTERDEN





## A MESSAGE FROM THE **MAYOR** OF TENTERDEN

"As we move forward into a busy autumn, I'm thrilled to share some exciting updates with you. The Town Hall regeneration project is progressing well, ensuring that this historic building remains a vital community hub. Meanwhile, improvements to the Tenterden Recreation Ground, supported by Sport England, are moving forward, bringing us closer to revamping this important space for sports and leisure.

This year's Christmas lights will brighten the High Street from 22nd November, alongside the festive Christmas Market run by Zoom events on the Friday/Saturday/Sunday and all the community events that spring up around this major event. This will be a wonderful opportunity for local businesses to showcase their offerings to residents and visitors.

On the topic of exploring Tenterden, we are launching new digital maps with a Virtual Hub, integrating QR codes and mobile-friendly access, along with walking and cycling routes, designed to enhance the experience for both visitors and residents.

A special thank you goes out to everyone who contributed to the success of the Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan and to securing our town's Wilder Kent Gold Award - two outstanding achievements we can all take pride in.

Finally, I'd like to remind local businesses that our Business and Tourism Officer, Virginia Hodge, is available to offer support and guidance to local businesses. Ginny is actively working with the TN Card to promote local shopping through their reward card. Do get in touch and find out how Ginny can help you.

We look forward to hearing your views at our forthcoming Town Council meetings which are open to the public! See you there!"

Cllr Sue Ferguson, Mayor of Tenterden



## TOWN HALL PROJECT

**The Town Council's exciting plans to regenerate the Town Hall are steaming ahead, with contractors now on site.**

Town Hall Renovations are focused on creating a first-class facility for our community to provide user-friendly and accessible spaces to host activities and events (whether for art, drama or music) and as a venue for club and society use. On re-opening, the Town Hall will continue to host weddings, making use of the Mayor's Parlour and Assembly Room as well as the new and welcoming downstairs reception and exhibition space. In addition the Town Hall will resume offering in-person advisory services for Tenterden residents. Visit our website for regular updates and project costings.

Town Council Projects ([tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk](http://tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk))  
E-mail: [townhallrefurb@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townhallrefurb@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk)



## TENTERDEN WELCOMES THE **NEW LORD WARDEN**

On the 1st November, Tenterden Town Council was pleased to welcome the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Admiral Sir George Zambellas along with Lady Zambellas and Flag Lieutenant Alex Firth.

Sir George who was installed as Lord Warden at a historic ceremony in Dover on 29th October 2024, visited Tenterden during his tour of all 14 Cinque Port Towns. Our thanks go to town historians, Cllr Jane Mills, Debbie Greaves, Naomi Dickins and Nick Hudd, as well as to Canon Rev Lindsay Hammond, Town Council Chaplain Rev Jeanette Kennett and the Rev Andrew Tapsell, for sharing your knowledge and passion for Tenterden, with Sir George and invited guests.

## TENTERDEN **RECREATION GROUND** PROJECT

**Delivering much needed improvements at the Tenterden Recreation Ground remains a priority for the Town Council.**

In a welcome development, Sport England having reviewed the current Masterplan and phasing documentation, praised the scheme and indicated that they would not raise a statutory objection to a planning application if submitted on this basis. This news is significant as it allows the council to undertake necessary steps towards seeking planning approval for the project.

To deliver the project in its entirety, football teams will be relocated to new pitches being delivered as part of the Appledore Road development. Councillors met with Tenterden Town Football club representatives earlier in the year to discuss this arrangement, which is seen on both sides as an opportunity to secure vastly improved facilities for the town's footballers.

The town council is working with Mark Hanton Studios (landscape architects), Logic PM (project managers) and Price Whitehead (planning consultants) to bring the plans to fruition.

Our website features regular updates on the project, as well as plans and full details of the project costings.

## TENTERDEN'S **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & MARKET**

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Town Council is investing more than £10,000 in updating the infrastructure which powers the town's Christmas light displays to the trees on the High Street and at East Cross. As part of the lead up to Christmas, the Town Council's Christmas Lights will be lit up from 3.30pm on Friday, 22nd November. Due to the Town Hall refurbishment, there will not be an official light switch on this year, however, we hope you can still visit the Town to enjoy the display as well as visit our wonderful shops and businesses.

### **CHRISTMAS MARKET**

The annual Christmas Market which is run by Zoom Events will be taking place this year from Friday 22nd November to Sunday 24th November 2024.

## **FREE PARKING AT CHRISTMAS**



## **NEW EXPLORE TENTERDEN - WALKING AND CYCLING MAP**

Imagine being able to explore your local town on foot or bicycle and discovering the best of what it has to offer. With Explore Tenterden walking and cycling map, you can do just that!

Active Travel is a great way to get out and about around Tenterden. With well-signposted cycle routes and walking routes throughout Tenterden you can walk or cycle to many of the popular destinations in just under 15 minutes. So why not beat the traffic and enjoy some fresh air as you travel around.

Download the Explore Tenterden map to discover the routes available [www.explorekent.org/activities/explore-tenterden](http://www.explorekent.org/activities/explore-tenterden)

Or pick up a copy from Tourist Information in the Tenterden Gateway





# POSITIVE NEWS FROM SUSTAINABLE TENTERDEN

Sustainable Tenterden is a charity creating meaningful projects that move Tenterden towards a more sustainable future.

## TENTERDEN REPAIR CAFE POSITIVE IMPACT

Sustainable Tenterden run a free monthly pop-up repair shop and cafe in the heart of Tenterden. Our brilliant team of volunteer repair experts fix everything from bikes to blenders and toys to turntables.

Thanks to our volunteers and the support of the community, over the last year, the Repair Cafe's positive impact can be seen in the charts below:



**1.8 tonnes**  
CO2 emission prevented



**294 kg**  
Waste prevented



**250+**  
Service users



**500+**  
Volunteer hours

### MONEY SAVING

We have helped save local people hundreds of pounds on repairs and purchasing replacement products.

### SKILLS SHARING

Service users learn simple repair skills to empower them to make repairs themselves, from darning socks to rewiring plugs.

### INSPIRING COMMUNITIES

The Repair Cafe team have inspired communities in Rye and Rolvenden to start their own Repair Cafe's - sharing learnings and best practices to set them up for success.

*"I'm really pleased the repair cafe has started - my Dad was a great repairer of everything, but my husband and I often don't have the skills. You're saving everyone money and saving the planet from waste - win, win!"*

#### SERVICE USER

*"I feel very welcome and valued around a bunch of friendly and cooperative people, volunteers and visitors alike, which is worth more than I can explain."*

**VOLUNTEER REPAIRER**

## REPAIR IN SCHOOLS

Due to the success of the Repair Cafe, we are extending the project to run repair workshops for children aged 10-14. We have partnered with Homewood School and Tenterden Junior School to enable a cohort of their students to learn the practical skills of repair and to bring to life curriculum topics in circuits and optics, energy generation and wireless communication.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, service users, and the team working with the next generation of repairers.

### ACCEPTED ITEMS

**Small wooden furniture, small electricals, small mechanical items, clocks, watches, IT equipment, jewellery, ceramics, clothing and fabric items, bikes, and toys. We are not able to repair microwaves.**

### VOLUNTEER:

**To join the team, email [philauden@btconnect.com](mailto:philauden@btconnect.com)**

## TENTERDEN REPAIR CAFE:

### DATE:

The first Saturday of the month throughout 2025

### TIME:

13:00 to 15:30

### LOCATION:

Highbury Hall, Highbury Lane, Tenterden TN30 6LE

### BOOKING:

There is no need to book, just drop in

### COST:

Repairs are free. We accept cash or online donations if you want to donate to our running costs. Tea and cake are on sale (cash only).

### MORE INFORMATION:

sustainable-tenterden.org or scan the QR code.



# PLASTIC FREE TENTERDEN

Tenterden is part of a UK-wide community network tackling single-use plastic from green spaces, rivers, and seas to the brands and businesses that create it. The network is spearheaded by Surfers Against Sewage, and we have joined their Plastic Free Communities campaign.

As part of the campaign, Tenterden is on the journey to becoming an accredited Plastic Free Community. It's not about removing all plastic from Tenterden but reducing unnecessary single-use plastics responsible for the worst plastic pollution. We are working with local businesses, schools, organisations, and residents to reduce unnecessary single-use plastics and find sustainable alternatives.



### BUSINESSES

We are collaborating with local businesses, like Chapel Down, to reduce the demand for unnecessary single-use plastics and reward them with Plastic Free Champion certification. Join the local movement and register your business for free today.

### SCHOOLS

We are partnering with Tenterden Primary Federation, delivering assemblies to raise awareness of the problems of plastic pollution, and supporting Tenterden Infant School's efforts to become an accredited Plastic Free School.

### COMMUNITY

Our annual Green Fun Day is full of ideas for living a more plastic-free life. Join us on Sunday, 13th April 2025, at Tenterden Station, 10:00 - 16:00. Entry is £1. It'll be jam-packed with entertainment, fun and green living ideas. There's something for everyone, whether you're a music lover, keen recycler, wildlife fan, or just looking for fun over the Easter holidays.

*If you can offer sponsorship, raffle prizes, or your valuable time, please email [nicholson.chrissie@gmail.com](mailto:nicholson.chrissie@gmail.com).*

**Let's make 2025 the year Tenterden becomes a Plastic Free Community!**

We will provide any updates regarding this development on the Town Council's website and will also publish any Steering Committee meeting notes to keep residents as fully informed as possible: [www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk/en/page/land-between-woodchurch-road](http://www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk/en/page/land-between-woodchurch-road)





## THE TN CARD - SHOP LOCAL. BE REWARDED

Tenterden locals are soon to have an exciting new reward scheme, now that Tenterden Town Council has invited the TN card to support its town centre independents.

The TN card is run by Kent mum of four Jess Gibson, who created the TN card four years ago to encourage the communities of Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells to support local. It's grown rapidly since then and now has over 900 businesses from across the TN postcodes in its directory – all thanking TN card members (card holders) for supporting local with exclusive treats, offers or discounts.

Businesses in Tenterden which have joined so far include Bespoke Butcher, Brunch and Brew, Ceci's Corner, Chapel Down, McCann's Tap Room, Raffman & Huckster, Sinden Theatre, The Lemon Tree and Tenterden Trout Waters, and more are being added to the TN card's Tenterden directory each week.

The TN card is a certified social enterprise and is a reward card

with a difference. Members can join for £3 a month or £25 a year and 10% from their purchase is donated to mental health charity Mind. Profits are directed into supporting and promoting its participating businesses, while members get to enjoy everything from free fizz when dining out to 10% off their shopping.

Jess says, "I launched the TN card because I'm passionate about seeing our High Streets thriving. In an online world, our independents are all about people, social connection and personal service, and supporting them is better for our planet too. Tenterden is an incredibly special town and I'm excited to now be working with many of its independents to reward locals for using them.

For more information visit [www.thetncard.com](http://www.thetncard.com) or download the TN card app from your Google Play or App Store.



## ARE YOU A BUSINESS IN TENTERDEN?

Virginia Hodge is the Business and Tourism Officer for Tenterden. Virginia's role is to provide information, advice, and guidance to Tenterden businesses and tourism organisations, to promote the town as a hub for local people, visitors, and tourists and to develop links within the borough council and with towns/villages in the surrounding district.

She's also seeking to develop initiatives and projects to promote and enhance all the business and tourist opportunities Tenterden has to offer. "Please contact me if you want to meet to discuss any ideas, advice, or guidance I can provide for your business" said Virginia.

Contact Virginia by email [towncoord@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:towncoord@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk) or call 01580 762271 / 07915 226568.

Sign up to the Tenterden Business Newsletter



## TENTERDEN YOUTH EVENT

On Sunday, 11th August, the sun shone over the Town Council's first ever Youth Event. The idea behind the event, which was organised by Cllr. Keates, was to showcase all the clubs available to the youth. Visitors enjoyed perusing the stalls, talking to club organisers, and taking part in the activities on offer. There was entertainment from a variety of Youth organisations including dance groups, fencing and local bands. In addition, there was entertainment from UK Pro Wrestling and free face painting and teacup rides were provided. Tenterden Scouts

kept everyone fed with a fantastic BBQ, which went down very well.

All in all, it was a very successful event with many young people finding a club they were interested in. Cllr. Keates is hoping to run the event again in 2025, so save the date - Sunday, 10th August 2025.

We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank all the volunteers who helped run the event on the day and also to our kind sponsors who helped make this event possible.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN & WILDER KENT AWARDS CELEBRATION EVENT

On the evening of Wednesday, 25th September, the Town Mayor hosted a celebration event to mark the positive result of the Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan Referendum, and mark Tenterden winning 'Gold' in the recent Wilder Kent Awards. The Town Mayor provided a speech first thanking all those involved over the last seven years in researching and producing the Tenterden Neighbourhood Plan, which has been designed not only to ensure that local people have more say about what goes on in their area regarding planning applications, but to also protect

nine designated green spaces. The plan was a true labour of love by a very committed team of volunteers to whom the Town Council are extremely grateful and appreciative.

The Town Mayor then thanked all those who were involved in not only pulling together the submission for the Wilder Kent Award, but also those who submitted evidence of the good works taking place in and around Tenterden. It was a great honour for Tenterden to receive such an award and be able to showcase the good works underway in our lovely parish.



## TENTERDEN NOTICEBOARD PROJECT

### The Ultimate Guide for Visitors and Residents

Tenterden Town Council is thrilled to announce an innovative project to update and modernise our town maps, located at various points around Tenterden. This exciting initiative includes the creation of a Digital Virtual Hub with a mobile-friendly interface, which includes the updated town maps. QR codes will be integrated to enhance engagement and encourage

widespread use. The goal is to establish a comprehensive hub for both visitors and residents.

In addition to the new maps, we will introduce suggested walking and cycling routes with way-markers highlighting points of interest to encourage visitors to explore more of Tenterden and discover the town's many attractions and promoting movement throughout the area.

Virginia Hodge, Tenterden Business and Tourism Officer, commented, "This project represents a significant step forward in making Tenterden more accessible and enjoyable for visitors and residents alike. By integrating digital tools and updated maps, we're enhancing the experience of discovering our beautiful town."

Stay tuned for more updates as we bring this exciting project to life in the coming months.

## TENTERDEN BUSINESS E-PERMIT

**Tenterden Business e-Permit** allows a vehicle to park in Bridewell Lane car park and at the rear of the Leisure centre car park Monday to Saturday.

**Tenterden Business e-Permit** is valid for 12 months

**Who can apply for an e-Permit?** Tenterden Business e-Permit must be made by a business based or trading in the borough of Tenterden.

**How much does an e-Permit Cost?** £594.00 for 12 months

**Visit:** Tenterden Business Parking e-Permit

## SEASON TICKETS AND CAR PARK VOUCHERS

**Season tickets** reduce the cost of parking if you frequently visit some of the council car parks. They allow one, three, six or 12 months of parking in advance in the relevant council car parks (Bridewell Lane Car Park and rear section of Leisure Centre Car Park).

**Car Park Vouchers** are a flexible way to reduce the cost of parking for a day if you use council car parks a less frequently. Virtual vouchers can be purchased in books of 10, are valid for one year and can be used in Bridewell Lane and the rear section of Leisure Centre Car Park. You'll need to open a secure, online account. To start a parking session simply log in to your account, add your vehicle registration number, choose the date and start time.

**Visit:** Car parking Season Tickets or Apply for car park vouchers.

Details of the car parks in Tenterden, including a map of their locations and information on how to pay for parking. ([ashford.gov.uk](http://ashford.gov.uk))

*A car park voucher does not guarantee a space in the relevant car parks.*



# TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Town Council holds meetings twice per month which are open to the public. The Planning Committee meets on the first Monday of the month (except when there is a Bank Holiday) and the Town Council and Finance & General Purposes Committee meet on the second Monday of the month; both meeting nights start at 7pm and currently the meetings are held in Highbury Hall. The agendas for each meeting are always published on the Tuesday the week before the scheduled meeting and these, along with the minutes post meeting, can be found on our website:

[www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk)

4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Planning
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Town Council, Finance & General Purposes – from 7pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2024	Planning
9 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Finance & General Purposes, Town Council – from 7pm
6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Planning
13 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Town Council, Finance & General Purposes – from 7pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2025	Planning
10 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Town Council, Finance & General Purposes – from 7pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2025	Planning
10 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Town Council, Finance & General Purposes – from 7pm
7 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Planning
14 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Town Council, Finance & General Purposes – from 7pm
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Planning
12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Annual Meeting of the Town Council, including Mayor-Making – 7pm
19 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 7pm

## WE ARE HIRING

Tenterden Town Council seeks a Maintenance Worker to join its small team of outdoor staff, maintaining and caring for green spaces and buildings under council control and responsibility. The role would suit someone who enjoys working outdoors and who is able and willing to turn their hand to the many and varied tasks that the role requires. A good knowledge and understanding of grounds and building maintenance tasks and the equipment and machinery used is desirable. Experience of and qualifications in tractor driving is preferred.

For more details visit our website or call the Town Hall office on 01580 762 271

## WAR MEMORIAL ADDITIONAL NAMES

The names of 12 individuals missing from the Tenterden War Memorial have now been inscribed on the memorial steps, to ensure their rightful place alongside those of other fallen Tenterden residents. This project which began as a result of extensive research undertaken by the late Carol Douglas, identified names of the fallen who were either born in or resident in Tenterden at the time of enlistment and who are not remembered on any other civic war memorial.

### THE TWELVE NAMES ARE:

Robert Bourner, Charles Edward Croft, James William Croft, William George Foreman, Joseph Gilbert, Charles Goodearl, Rowland Ewart Hook, Ebenezer John Ledger, Alfred Edward Sharp, Harold Robert Sharpe, George Weaver and Oliver Webb.

## REPORT IT.

Many people get confused (understandably) on who to phone if they have an issue or wish to report a fault. Below is a short list which you might find useful of the main issues that are reported to us at the Town Council, and details of who to contact.

### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

Telephone: 03000 418181 or report online: [www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report](http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report)

- Potholes • Damaged footpaths • Overhanging trees or branches on the highway • Streetlights and signage

### ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Telephone: 01233 331111 or [www.ashford.gov.uk](http://www.ashford.gov.uk)

- Missed bin collection • Grass cutting (not including Town Council land) • Council Tax • Benefits • Planning enquiries

### TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Telephone: 01580 762271 or email [townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk)

- General enquiries about Tenterden • General enquiries about the Town Council and its projects • Enquiries or comments regarding Town Council land/property • Tenterden Recreation Ground, including play park and tennis courts • St Michaels Recreation Ground, including play park • Recreation Ground Football Pitch • Sports Pavilion • Public Toilets (Recreation Ground, Station Road & St. Michaels Recreation Ground) • Kiln Field Nature Reserve • Coombe Lane Cemetery • Millennium Garden • East Cross Garden

### ASHFORD ADVICE (CITIZENS ADVICE)

Help to resolve problems. They can deal with any issue, from anyone, spanning debt and employment to consumer and housing plus everything in between.

Telephone: 01233 626185 or <https://ashfordadvice.org/>