

Forum News



June 2025

This copy of Forum News forms the notes of a meeting held at
Caraway House Care Home at 4.15pm on 18th June 2025
If you would like to know more about any of the items, please contact us at:
mail@selseycommunityforum.uk.

➤ WELCOME

Mike Nicholls welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Caraway House Care Home for their hospitality and to Trena for organising it.

Dates for your diary for Events over the Summer 2025

Lifeboat Week is from Sunday 3rd August to Saturday 9th

Cricket Club Beer and Rounders Sunday 3rd August

Car Boot in support of Selsey Cares 13th July, 17th August and 14th September.

➤ RNLI

Vaughan Turney was unable to attend but sent this message to advise us that he has stood down from Chair of Selsey Lifeboat Management Group, so will be unable to attend meetings in the future.

Vaughan has asked Dickie Turley, the Chair of Fundraising Engagement if he would care to join the Forum to represent to RNLI Selsey. We wish Vaughan all the very best for the future. Linda will follow up with Dickie and invite him to future meetings.

➤ Pavilion News

Keith Batchelor was unable to attend this meeting but was able to send us this update. A lot of work has been going on in the Pavilion. Steel supports have been inserted into the main hall to prevent the bad crack in one of the walls from deteriorating further and initiating a collapse. The installation of the floors was completed just days before the Pavilion welcomed an invited audience of 100 to the Premiere of "The History of Selsey Pavilion". A 25-minute film put together by 20 students from Selsey Academy. The first film to be shown in the Pavilion since 1974. Sadly, for one night only! This was an extremely professional production and received a tremendous ovation.

The Trust is now pausing as more funds must be secured. We are hoping to convert the small hall to the rear of the building into a "Heritage Hub" and a flexible space for the use of local groups.

Our outreach programme included involvement in the "Open Gardens" event when we were based in Pamela Howard's Garden. This was an extremely popular and brilliantly organised event. Congratulation to everybody who contributed to a fantastic day.

➤ Hidden Garden

Paul Sadler who runs the Hidden Garden has confirmed there were over 700 visitors including a coach load from Reading, during the Open Gardens event on Sunday 8th June. Over £7000 was raised on behalf of Charities in Selsey including First Responders who received £4,000, Selsey Care Shop received £2,500, and gifts to Youth Dream and St Peters Church. Everyone agreed that the Open Garden Event was a great success and the Hop-on, Hop-off buses provided by the Venture Club was a brilliant addition.

Recently we have applied for a grant from the Council for £10,000 to provide better Toilet facilities to finish off the area at The Bridge which will benefit Men in Sheds and visitors to the Tea Garden. We await the outcome of that application
Also, Paul has successfully applied for a grant from the County Council for £5,000 for a new waste food collection project led by Paul, and flyers will be distributed about the project.

➤ **Money and Energy Support**

Mike N stated that Money Support deals with different issues and during the Summer the Forum, in liaison with the Medical Practice, are sharing advice about keeping cool in the hot weather.

➤ **Good Morning Call Service**

Amanda Daniels who organises GMS calls for the elderly in the village but noted that calls are also made to people suffering with addiction problems and loneliness. The Friendship and Parkinsons Groups meet regularly and have formed friendships, so they are now meeting outside the groups they attend. The people who attend these groups comment that their spirits are lifted after they meet. The Parkinsons Group meet at The Shop and a small group also meets at Thrive where they can share stories and laugh together. There was a VE Day Party where music was played of old familiar songs and tunes and then at the end everyone sang God Save the King at the end.

➤ **Mental Health Needs**

Mike N was talking to a young mum a short while ago, who has a hidden disability. She has a mobility scooter which helps her to ferry her children around when needed, but some people are not aware of her disability, and this can make things difficult for her.

A lady whose father has dementia and has been finding things tough to deal with, is looking into setting up a support group for other Carers who's loved one has dementia.

The Veterans group make up of 10—12 people meet regularly at The Hopp Inn on the first Tuesday of the month and enjoy a breakfast together and a catchup.

➤ **Venture Bus**

Mike Beal is the Chair of the Venture Bus and updated us with their latest news. There has been a recent meeting with Care Home Providers and Managers regarding Venture Bus services for their residents. A second new Electric Bus will be arriving this week. To join the Transport Club costs just £25 per year which means people who have joined can be collected from home and ferried to one of the events in the village or at any of the Churches, on a Thursday and Sunday. On a Tuesday the bus collects clients registered with the Care Shop and takes them to a variety of meetings around the town. They are always looking for volunteers and if you register as a driver, you can choose your hours to work. Mie B said also The Academy have stated they have a bus which can be loaned out for events too. Electric buses can be driven by anyone holding a valid car licence.

➤ **Sunday Teas**

Richard Lamdin remarked that Sunday ResBite Teas have been going now for about 9 years and currently sees between 40 and 50 people attending. Each Church in Selsey

takes a turn each Sunday to host the Teas, and also Caraway House who Hosts on the 5th Sunday in the month when required. Loneliness is very debilitating Richard likes to chat to as many people as possible. This is where problems can be picked up and address if possible. During one of these chats Richard was talking to a gentleman who said he didn't have a phone, had difficulty ordering food and had mobility issues. He had recently been a month without seeing or talking to anyone. He also need medication in blister packs and help obtaining Attendance Allowance and a Carer to call in and help. It took a while for Richard to earn this gentleman's respect and now Richard is able to visit without any problem.

Neil pointed out that there is a lot of loneliness with young people between the age of 30-40 too and this is becoming a wider problem with young people who play on X-Box and other games on their phones and computers and are not socialising face-to-face.

➤ **Befriending**

Ronelle Juleff updated us with the Befriending events that she runs. On a Monday folk meet for Tea and Talk at The Venture Club 10-11.30.
Movies for Memories is held on a Monday which includes an old familiar film and lunch.

Thursday Ronelle has 40 people attend the group throughout the day, when they have singing, quizzes and games, plus lunch. In the afternoon the Cared for Group join them and this gives their Carers some respite.

Friday pm again Tea and Talk at The Venture Club from 2-3.30.

Many of our folk who attend our groups are suffering with dementia and are always welcomed.

➤ **Men in Sheds**

John Fletcher reminded everyone that five years ago, The High Sherrif of Sussex visited Selsey and opened The Men in Sheds project. Recently he visited Selsey again and went to see The Men in Sheds and was pleased to see for himself the progress of the group.

➤ **Community Warden**

Rich Moorey has recently been dealing with a few problems concerning Rogue Traders in the area. One neighbour reported to him that two guys called on a house and said they could repair their drive but instead spilt yellow paint all over.
Another Company persuaded a lady that her roof needed checking and when they got on the roof they removed some of her tiles, then demanded £5,000 to repair the roof. The police were alerted and this warning has been put out by the Council and The Selsey Care Shop not to trust people who call at the door.

If you need a sign to put on your door Rich has a small supply. Also, if you are displaying the sign, do not open the door if you are not expecting anyone. Rich also has signs which say "Smile you are on CCTV"

➤ **Caraway House – Trena Morey**

Caraway Care House recently contacted Selsey Care Shop and asked if they had any clients who were lonely. The Care Shop contacted a few people and offered the invitation on behalf of Caraway, to attend a special meal. 6 people who live alone accepted and were provided with a lovely meal served in the Dining Room, where they were all waited on.

Caraway also hosts a Ladies Breakfast as well as a Gent's Breakfast during the month.

Trena said they were accepting more residents now and things are becoming busier.

➤ Local Town Council News

Philip Grocott - Philip updated us about the Public Toilets in Warner's Yard that have been closed for some time following damage caused by vandalism. The contractors have now been appointed to renew and upgrade the Toilets in Warner's Yard. It is believed they will start work in July. Also, the refurbishment of Manor Green Park is progressing well.

Ali Archer – Ali, Gareth and Mike Nicholls met for a coffee on Wednesday as a way forward to improve the relationship with the Local Town Council. Future regular meetings will take place and together they have agreed to meet again to discuss a health plan for Selsey and organise a Task Force. In a Forum like this we mention a lot of health needs and have already noted in the minutes about another group where mental health needs were discussed.

Help Hubs Across the Peninsula

Mike updated the meeting with the news that there are now 13 Help Desk Hubs across the peninsula for communities and organisations who have asked for partnerships with the Community Forum and its designed for older people in later life to access the services of The Care Shop if they happen to find it difficult to get to the Care Shop or if the Care Shop is too busy.

We have 3 Hubs in Selsey at different points, three in Chichester at different points because of invitations from organisations, one each in Sidlesham, Hunston, Birdham, East Wittering, West Wittering, Bracklesham and the Hospice at Bosham. We are devoting these Hubs to later life issues at the moment and the first Hub started last September. Most of the others have started since January, and we have already helped 750 people.

Please see further details at the end of this newsletter.

➤ Young people

Mike Nicholls said if Kim Long had been here Kim would have been able to tell us that work at The Bridge received which some of you may know, secured a further grant from The National Lottery for £300,000. Which has enabled them to continue working with 9 schools, 2 Youth Clubs across the peninsula and various other activity sessions, as well meeting a whole variety of needs with counselling and mentoring. Having finished one project about helping young people understand their emotions and learning managing techniques. We have helped over 400 young people over the last year and Children in Need have asked us to continue for a further year and have provided money to assist with this.

➤ Arts Dream

Love Life Laughter – a Group of our talented actors perform in an intimate setting. We explore stories of Love, Life and Hats! July 11th, 12th, 13th at 7:30 pm, 13th also at 2.30pm. Performances at Westberry House, 51 West Street Selsey. Performances All Sold Out.

Annual Art Exhibition: Selsey's very own affordable Art Fair. Bank Holiday Weekend. August 23rd to 25th, Medmerry School. Free Entry.

Sing Your Heart Out - members meet 1:30 to 3:00pm every Monday at St Wilfrid's Church Hall. Now recruiting for September. Sessions cost £5
Contact belindagannon.musicforall@gmail.com

Lots of ideas coming for Choral activity in the Autumn plus additional children's activities.

➤ Sports News

Mike N confirmed there are a lot of sporting activities across the peninsula in one way or another. Several of our Sports Clubs also have activities for young people.

➤ Buddies Day Centre

The new Day provision at The Selsey Centre called Buddies Day Centre. Mondays and Fridays. Fridays are full and Mondays are being developed for half a day. This will be a 2 hour session in the morning 10-12 and then Lunch between 12 and 1pm and this is for people with Dementia, and works along Sage House. Sage House as you know is based in Tangmere and to travel there can be achieved by using 2 buses or a car journey. Chantelle is pleased with the way that this is progressing.

➤ Remembrance – 80th Anniversary VE Day

Many of us in Selsey shared in the Anniversary of D Day and people felt that this was a very good celebration at The Lifeboat Green at East Beach.

➤ Carol Purnell

Asked everyone to look at Selsey Speak Freely on Facebook. The Benefactors Group are asking for organisations to be nominated to receive a donation from them, so please go on to their site and nominate Youth Dream as an organisation.

Click Ctrl Key + Click Link to nominate [Movement for Good - Children & Young People Special Draw](#)

➤ Neil Kimber

The Joy of Singing perform two concerts a year and raises funds towards the St Peters Church Roof appeal. This Summer they are performing a concert on Saturday 19th July 7pm called Be My Guest, at St Peters Church. Tickets are £8 available from Brent Lodge Charity Shop.

➤ Next Meeting: Please Note - Wednesday 16th July 2025 4.15pm at The Academy School Lane. First part of the meeting will be SCF AGM leading onto the Forum Meeting.

Help Bubs Information:

- ◆ Birdham – 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 10.30 – 11.45pm, Pump Café, St James Church Centre
- ◆ Bosham - 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 10am to 12.00pm St Wilfrid's Hospice
- ◆ Bracklesham – 1st Thursday, 2pm to 4pm, Bracklesham Barn
- ◆ Chichester - 2nd & 4th Thursday, 1pm – 3pm Guardian Angel's Care, Eastgate Square
- ◆ Chichester – 4th Tuesday, Graylingwell Chapel, Bloomfield Drive, PO19 6BZ
- ◆ Hunston – Fridays, weekly, 11am to 1pm Hunston Community Club, Hunston
- ◆ Lavant – 3rd Thursdays, 1-3pm Sussex Grange Care, Lavant Road, Lavant
- ◆ Selsey - Tuesdays weekly, 2pm – 3pm, The Beacon Church, Marisfield Place, Selsey
- ◆ Selsey – Thursdays weekly, 12pm – 1pm, Selsey Methodist Church, High Street, Selsey
- ◆ Selsey - Thursdays weekly, by appointment, Selsey Medical Practice, Selsey
- ◆ Sidlesham – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 1pm – 3pm Sidlesham Memorial Hall, Sidlesham
- ◆ Wittering - Tuesdays weekly, 10am to 12pm, Downview Hall, East Wittering
- ◆ Wittering - Tuesdays weekly, 3.30pm to 5.30pm, The Witterings Medical Centre

◆ **Help Hub Contact Number – 07379 789721** Monday to Friday 9.30am – 1pm