

Forum News



May 2026

This copy of Forum News forms the notes of a meeting held at
The Academy School at 4.15pm on 20th May 2026
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 everyone who was wearing blue in support of Dementia Action Week
- **Dementia Action Week - Karen Pirks** explained this is the third year we have promoted paint your window blue competition in support of Dementia encouraging shops and business to take part and decorate their windows Blue. In Selsey there are 24 windows taking part and the Witterings are also participating this year but will be judged separately. There are 3 judges who will be marking the window displays, Ali Archer, Philip Grocott and Linda Edwards and a prize will be presented next week.

Paul Sadler added there are lots of Forget-me-nots growing in the Hidden Garden and they are still displaying the blue metal Forget-me-nots from a previous year, and apparently Blue Sunflowers are being grown from seed, so come and take a look.

Other activities taking part this week had Mike Beal at The British Legion conducting Dementia Friends sessions on Wednesday. There was Alzheimer's Society attending in the library also Wednesday. Thursday the Help Hub at Bracklesham Barn, the WS Fire Service Rescue, Sage House and 4 Care at Home Providers will be joining together at Bracklesham Barn and Carers with their loved ones are encouraged to come along and talk to the professionals have a cup of Tea and a team of volunteers will keep their loved ones occupied.

Mike Nichols updated the meeting about Fred Allan who had been secretary to the Forum several years ago. Recently, after Fred's wife Luella died Fred went to live with family and Mike heard recently that Fred had also passed away. The family have very kindly informed Mike they wish to make a sizeable donation to the Forum for Dementia support, on behalf of Fred and his late wife.

Similarly, Richard Lamdin and his family have also donated to SCF with respect to Richard's mother who recently passed away.

- **Youth News – Mike Nicholls.** Youth Dream is based at the Bridge and work with the Academy. The Forum supply a couple of Youth Workers to work with families where the attendance of young people is poor for all sorts of reason. It just so happens that all of the Year 11's who have been supported this year have come into the school to take their GCSE's. Also, in the younger age groups where we have a youth worker Danielle Watton supporting them, we've seen 100% attendance this year. At the Bridge we have an Educator called Milly Holden and all the children who were entered for exams have also taken them at The Bridge. We have seen some good outcomes this year.
- **Pavilion News – Keith Batchelor** updated us by confirming the plastering has been done and the work on the sewers have now been completed. Colour charts are now being

referred to and Solar Panels have been installed. We will be looking at a formal re-opening late summer once work has been completed.

We now have a couple of new Trustees since Gillian Plowman resigned and others will continue as before.

➤ **Lifeboat Week**

Selsey Lifeboat week will be from 26th July to 2nd August 2026. This annual event supports the RNLI and features a variety of family-friendly activities including a raft race, funfair, live entertainment, stalls and a spectacular fireworks display. They are looking for volunteers, sponsors, raffle prizes and Auction items. Email selseylifeboatweek@gmail.com if you can help in any way at all.

- **Befriending – Ronelle Juleff** – Mondays is Morning live at the Venture Club with 25 guests. Movie club is Monday afternoon with about 25 attending. Every Thursday we have Together Time with sing-song, puzzles, Tea and Cake, Lunch, and more tea and cake and activities. Friday afternoon again at The Venture Club with 15 or 16 attending. ResBite Teas every Sunday afternoon at each church in turn with between 30 and 40 people attending for afternoon Tea.

- **Good Morning Calls – Amanda Daniels.** Amanda's working pattern has changed temporarily recently and she is helping to cover in the Care Shop on a Thursday and Friday and continues with her usual Sunday morning. Amanda said "It's always busy with so many different problems coming through the door. Listening is the key thing and sometimes that's all someone needs."

➤ **Care Shop**

Linda helps in the Care Shop on the 3rd Saturday morning and also when people are on holiday. Mike Beal also covers in the Care Shop on a Thursday morning and supports with an excellent service delivering loaned equipment where it is required and collecting it again when it is no longer needed and taken back to the storage unit. He makes sure things are serviced and clean ready to go out again.

- **Community Warden - Rich Moorey** advised the meeting he is in the process of moving office from the Fire Station to the Selsey Town Hall. When he is in residence, he will put a Notice on the gate to advise anyone who needs him. His working hours will be publicised on the gate.

Rich was at the council meeting recently. If anyone has a problem with Rogue Traders phone Rich and he will deal with it more quickly than the Police. His contact details are: Telephone number - [07768 206974](tel:07768206974) and Email - rmoores@chichester.gov.uk Rich work Monday to Friday and alternate weekends. Rich will respond to an answer phone message as soon as he is able.

There are still problems with kids with catapults at the Selsey East Beach Pond. Unfortunately, the Police have not dealt with this as promptly as would have been hoped. Rich has managed to get the council to fund 100 more Key Safes, so if The Care Shop contact him he will be willing to organise getting the Key Safe fitted.

- **The Academy News - Matt Tyman** was pleased to report that the school is oversubscribed for Year 7 in September. We have 120 places but are actually taking in 124 as Jo Ford the Head Teacher's philosophy is The Academy should be first choice school in the Peninsula and 124 people who applied who lived in the Peninsula they should get their first choice. We have 4 year groups. There has been a change in CEO in TKAT Russel Hobby who has approached through Trade Unions and then Teacher First. Russel's philosophy is that

schools should be centre of the community. Since the school has taken on Russel's philosophy the school has increased attendance of 4%.

Dance Life has reached the National Finals in Portsmouth and out of 140 schools in they came 2nd which is a tremendous achievement. This is all down to Chris Williams who is from a local based family and has been rehearsing the kids whilst studying his Introductory Year to Teaching at The Academy.

Exams are in full swing and Year 11's will be leaving the school soon. Then we start with Year 9's choosing their options in June rather than wait until the next Academic year. Matt has received some reports of anti-social behaviour whilst around someone's garden and Matt has this in hand.

The school has also had a number of kids working on the Connexion programme with The Bridge and Hidden Garden and its working really well. We've had several children who have been off school for a long time, have been on this programme, and now are back in school. The Teaching Assistants are now running the projects. Forest School is also working very well, and suspensions are down. Alternative options for children helps us meet every Child's needs.

Karen Pirks agreed that it is so important to support children who are disadvantaged and have a variety needs. In response Matt informed us about their ACE Programme. "We call them Premium children, and we assign each one a Champion, a Mentor in school that works with them and supports them throughout their school life."

- **The Venture Club – Mike Beal.** Mike reported that Darren Lee who owns a Scaffolding Company in Surrey, last Saturday thanks to Darren The Venture Club were presented with a cheque for £7,320 to pay for the Solar Panels to go on the roof. They had a grant from Ferry Farm for batteries, and this additional amount will now help to charge the Electric Buses, and this will not only help keep their carbon footprint down but also their costs. We work very closely with Community Forum transporting people to various activities throughout the month. Also, residents from Care Homes who are now Corporate Members of The Venture Club, are taken to All Our Yesterdays on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. A few of the Care Homes have their own drivers and so they can take out the Mini Bus and drive their residents to different activities.
- **Town Council – Ali Archer -** Ali was welcomed as our new representative. The Town Council are waiting for the results from the survey which is taking place at the moment. The survey closes on 15th June and results will be announced once the results have been analysed. Hopefully more news at the next Forum meeting.
- **The Hidden Garden – Paul Sadler** Selsey Open Gardens is on 7th June this year, programmes are £6 on Sale at The Hidden Garden, Village Flowers, Country Gardens and Rudwicks, T&T Fruits at East Beach and Thrive opposite the Selsey Centre. 3 Selsey Charities will benefit from this fund raising. Proceeds will be shared between, Selsey Community Forum, Selsey First Responders, and Youth Dream. There will be a bus service with 2 buses provided by Selsey Shuttle and The Selsey Lions for people to jump on and jump off at bus stops dotted around the village. Free Parking and Bus tickets costing £3 can be bought from The Hidden Garden.
- **Next Meeting – Please note this will be Wednesday 15th July 2026 at 4.15pm at The Academy and will include the Annual General Meeting for the Selsey Community Forum.**