

Forum News



July 2026

This copy of Forum News forms the notes of a meeting held at
The Academy School at 4.15pm on 15th July 2026
If you would like to know more about any of the items, please contact us at:
mail@selseycommunityforum.uk.

- **Mike Nicholls** - Continued the meeting following the AGM.
- **RNLI – Richard Turley, Fund Raising Chair**
Richard began by bringing attention to the recently erected flagpoles being erected all around Selsey and the flags which are up on behalf of Selsey Lifeboat day which commences from the Sunday 26th of July until the 2nd of August. This year there's a full programme of events throughout the week and programmes are now available to buy. This year including Tug of war, Fishing competition, Race Night at The Seal on Friday and there's going to be a karaoke night at The Joy on Thursday. Stalls will be set up on Lifeboat Green the on Sunday there will be a Raft Race. Lots of activities for adults and children of all ages throughout the week including Drone and fireworks display. There will be some Civic Enforcement parking restrictions this year. and a short road closure. Thanks to Ashley Pledger who has helped immensely with the organisation. If anybody would like to become involved and volunteer, please log on to www.selseylifeboatweek.co.uk and click on the link **Friends and Family** to get involved.
- **Befriending - Ronelle Juliff**
Movie club runs twice a month and includes lunch. Together Time every Thursday which includes lunch and lots of Tea and Cake. The Venture Club hosts four times a week and We hold ResBite Teas on a Sunday where every church takes turns in hosting. The Venture Club provide transport to our activities so people who find it difficult to get out of the house are able to join groups and see friends.
- **Carers Support - Sue Parsons**
Sue has been busy this month helping a clients complete an Attendance Allowance Application. A lady who needs help to move her father to Selsey so he can be nearer to her. Sue sat with a client while they waited for an ambulance which took about 4 hours.
Lots of requests for short term loans for equipment required from our store. If Sue assess a client needs long term equipment she refers this on to the appropriate organisation. Sue also helps with the Men's Carers Breakfast.
- **Alzheimer's- Deirdre Timney**
Deirdre runs the Carers support group every six weeks in the Methodist Church with Karen Halford and although there has been a reduction in some Carers attending as their loved ones have recently passed away, the Carers who attend find it a lifeline to be able to offload and get help and advice. New carers are welcome to join the group for extra support anytime.
- **The Academy- Matt tyman**
Matt began by apologising as last Thursday it seemed the whole of Selsey was gridlocked between 6 and 7pm whilst the students who were leaving were eagerly being ferried to their Annual Prom. This year we've lost about 90 students who've left, and the new year we have 124 new applicants and a lot of these are gained from the local area. The Academy enjoys the close relationship it has with the community of Selsey.
- **Hidden garden-Paul Sadler**
Paul was pleased to announce that the Open Gardens Event was a success despite the unpredictable weather and the power cut that weekend. We made over £8600. For three local charities in Selsey.

➤ **Richard Lamdin represented local churches**

The churches all meet on a monthly basis to exchange ideas. Alos, each churches takes a turn in hosting the ResBite Teas, supported by the Venture Buses and collect participants and then deliver them home again afterwards. The Beacon church had eight functions they we're happy to host and not charge for.

➤ **Selsey men in sheds - John Fletcher**

The group that attend Selsey Men in Sheds meet in their cabin in The Hidden Garden. The group continue to work on their hobbies and enjoy being in the group and company it provides.

➤ **Selsey Businesses - Neil Kimber**

Businesses are changing in the High Street Some leases are expired, and new leases are being taken up it's been difficult for a lot of the businesses, and I have struggled this year it's been good to see visitors in the High Street frequenting the shops find cafes and restaurants. Neil thanked Luc and Becky at The Joy and the Boulevard for supporting some of the groups in Selsey by providing hot meals twice a month.

Neil explained how busy he'd been since retiring from his businesses on Tuesday evening at 5:15 PM. Following the Trustees Meeting he had a call to go to Portslade shops to pick up some food and take it to the ambulance station rather than it be thrown away, and another call from a young chap who recently had his foot amputated and was losing the feeling in his legs. He needed help to acquire an electric buggy so he could go out with his children and go to the park etc. Neil contacted the lions and organised a buggy for him.

Neil mentioned about his recent activity playing Joseph in the Technicoloured Dreamcoat and that the concerts had raised over £7000 for Saint Peter's Church roof. This Saturday the Joy of Singing choir will be at Saint Peter's from 7:30 and tickets are £10 and can be bought at the door with a donation going to the Church Roof Appeal. Neil went on to say that it looks like he's going to be far busier now he's retired than when he was working in business.

This Saturday the joy of singing call will be at Saint Peter's from 7:30 and tickets are £10 and can be bought at the door.

➤ **The Pavilion – Keith Batchelor**

Keith was happy to report the work on the Small Hall has progressed really well and they are hoping to open in August. The date will be announced. The Opening will be attended by invitation only as space is limited. They are hoping that after the Opening the hall will be available for hire with their first booking already in the book.

➤ **Mike Nicholls**

Mike introduced Kathy Newman who is going to join the Trustees and will attend three meetings before becoming elected officially.

Mike also thanked Peter Lunn who has been busy putting several grant applications together to organisations which we haven't considered previously, this has been a tremendous help to the charity.

Carol Purnell will be standing down as Trustee and Mike thanked for her service over the last few years with organisations she had been involved with and volunteered for including SCF. The meeting gave Carol a round of applause.

Selsey Care Shop is about meeting need. Greg came to us 7 years ago to seek help with his mother who had dementia. After she passed away, he volunteered in our befriending activities. He was friendly, kind and willing to do any practical task. His sudden death from cancer was marked by a group of SCF friends organising constant visits to the Hospice and now arranging his funeral and other affairs. Sarah Palmer responded to his request to counsel him over the last weeks of his life. We became his family.

T is in his early 20's and lives with a serious condition that keeps him in darkness. His mum is his sole carer. We have supported both. For three years we have supported his application for Personal

Independence Payment. Last week he heard he had been awarded £21000 and a regular monthly payment.

The Parkinsons Support Group was recently held at Caraway House Care Home at their request to support one of their residents. Eight were present at a moving session in which all expressed appreciation of being able to speak with like-minded and understanding people. D lost his wife last year. He belonged to some of our carers and male support groups. His recent cancer diagnosis and untimely death saw Robins activity delivered in ways his family appreciated.

These stories illustrate the value of our wide-ranging services which we are seeking to replicate in the Witterings area, a strategy confirmed by the Community Warden. The timing of forming WCF has been determined by Microsoft licence demands, residents' wishes, London funders requirements and local governance experience. A partnership agreement will be formed between the two Forums.

We have made a small profit from our car boots so far and all our publicity signage has been updated.

Clarion is considering us as a key partner.

We continue to benefit enormously from our partnership with Vitale Care, and the Golf Club is raising money for us this year. The Open Gardens event raised over £7,000 for charity. Other groups are now asking to use the Hidden Garden including topics like domestic abuse, music and poetry. Specific donations are being suggested for such use.

We have sent out ten grant appeal letters. The Friends of Selsey Medical Practice has awarded SCF £8,000. I have stood down from being chair of Youth Dream. Paul Wrightman has taken over. The Woodger Trust will fund all costs for the WCS this year valued at £118,688. At least £59,5000 of this will benefit the Selsey budget. In addition, £31,500 will be paid for Selsey services. £54,000 has been paid, £62,188 will be paid later this month and £34,000 in October. They have also agreed to fund the submitted budget for WCS from January 2027 for 3 years.

This includes CEO funding from September 27 and HR support from January 27. It is worth £203,000. It is probably wise if Selsey runs the Care Shop till December and then WCF takes over in January 27. We are grateful for the budget and income from grants (152,000) donations (40,000) and further Woodger Support (amount awaited) plus an NTL application of £20,000 should see us through till March. We have formed the same relationship with WMP as we enjoy with SMP and hope this will quicken the effectiveness of the new Witterings venture.

Mike was thankful that we worked in partnership with lots of organisations including Community Transport, Schools, Charities, Churches and Business and Ali Archer our Town Council Representative. He thanked all the Staff and Volunteers, who make the charity what it is.

Mike announced that he will be standing down as Chair from the end of December when he will be 80. The meeting gave Mike a round of applause and thanked him for all his service to the Charity, and with one voice said without him, there wouldn't be Selsey Community Forum or Care Shop.

- **Next Meeting – Please note this will be Wednesday 16th September at 4.15pm at The Academy for the Selsey Community Forum.**