

Weekly News & Information:

09/02/21

# RALEYS CAR PARK

Car Parking Permits now open for renewal 2021/22



For the past 8 years Sevenoaks Town Council has made provision in its Raleys Car Park for low paid retail workers in the Town. The Town Council is offering 35 parking permits at £50 per annum.

Applications are invited from workers in Sevenoaks Town who meet the following criteria:

- 1. Applicant must be a Sevenoaks Town worker from an independent retail premises
- 2. Application form must be co-signed by employer confirming salary
- 3. Permits are car registration specific
- 4. Permit will be valid from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2022
- 5. Parking is permitted Monday to Friday only
- 6. Cost of permit is £50 per annum

The application form is available on the Town Council's website: sevenoakstown.gov.uk/Raleys Parking Permits

Completed application forms accompanied by a cheque for £50 made payable to Sevenoaks Town Council must be returned by post.

Envelopes should be marked 'APPLICATION FOR RALEYS PARKING PERMIT'

Closing date for applications is 6th March 2021

For further information contact: council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

#### It's only just over a week until Valentine's Day!



We're expecting demand to be high this year so, to avoid disappointment (and finding yourself in the doghouse), click on the link below to order your Valentine's flowers.

https://www.sevenoaksflorist.co.uk/order-online.htm

We're delivering every day next week, including Sunday, plus, we're offering contactless collection.

Thank you for your continued support.

#### NEW MULTI-MILLION FUND UNVEILED TO HELP MOST IN NEED



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sevenoaksflorist co.uk

A further £10million of emergency funding is being rolled out to continue helping Kent's most vulnerable households and businesses hardest hit by the pandemic, Kent County Council announced today.

The Helping Hand Scheme includes a raft of support ranging from assisting just-managing families with heating bills and helping struggling firms stay afloat, to tackling digital poverty and match-funding crowdfunded community projects providing vital local assistance.

The scheme is the latest initiative to help people and businesses in Kent under pressure, because of Coronavirus restrictions, funded by the £95m Emergency COVID Grant awarded to KCC by government over recent months to help contain the outbreak.

Working with district and borough councils, and other key partners, KCC will distribute the latest tranche of money to relevant services and organisations to award to those most impacted by the current national lockdown.

The Helping Hand Scheme includes a range of targeted help, including:

- £4m for low-income individuals and households and those in financial crisis which will be made available via council services such as the Kent Support and Assistance Service, as well as district and borough councils, voluntary and community organisations, including Kent Community Foundation, and utility companies, such as South East Water.
- £3m for businesses and the self-employed which will be allocated through council services, district and borough councils, voluntary and community organisations, and business networks, including the Chamber of Commerce.
- £2.5m to tackle digital poverty working with schools and colleges, district and borough councils and voluntary and community organisations, and
- £500,000 to match-fund crowdfunded community projects that support local communities respond and recover from COVID.

If you are vulnerable and have an urgent need that cannot be met through existing support networks, you can contact the Kent Together helpline at <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/KentTogether">www.kent.gov.uk/KentTogether</a> or by calling on 03000 41 92 92. It is a 24-hour service.

Kent County Council also has a page on its website answering frequently-asked questions and the very latest Coronavirus information on its service updates page.

Visit www.kent.gov.uk to find out more. #Kenttogether

For more information, please contact Scarlett Elworthy, KCC Communications, on 03000 411873 or email <a href="mailto:scarlett.Elworthy@kent.gov.uk">scarlett.Elworthy@kent.gov.uk</a>

# **Take Control Protect Yourself** From Scams





2020 recorded the highest number of people being scammed! Don't feel embarrassed to report it, anyone can fall victim to a scam. Let's work together to protect each other and stop the criminals!

# **GET ADVICE**



If you think something is suspicious, call Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133.

## REPORT



If you suspect something may be a scam or you have fallen victim to a scam call **Action Fraud on** 0300 123 2040.

# TALK



To people you trust, about a suspected scam to protect yourself and them.

# **HOW TO...** SPOT SCAMS

### 5 tips to recognise scams



Are you being asked for your personal details and/or bank details?

Do you feel under pressure to make a decision?

Have you been asked to keep it a secret?

Are they offering you something that seems too good to be true?

If you answered YES to any of the above, it could be a scam. Report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or www.actionfraud.police.uk



# **HOW TO...** STOP SCAMS

Tips to avoid scams and stay safe

- 1. Protect your personal information, do not hand this out easily
- 2. Never send money to people you don't know
- **3 . Don't feel pressured to make a decision**, if you're unsure, it is okay to say 'No' and that you will seek advice first before hanging up
- **4. Strengthen your online security**, with online security software on your digital devices, create strong passwords, open websites with HTTPS
- 5. Don't open any unknown email or text message links
- 6. Register with the free Telephone Preference Service (TPS) to optout of cold calls

# **WATCH OUT FOR...Coronavirus Scams**

During the Covid-19 outbreak and lockdown restrictions, there has been an increase in various scams. We urge you to remain vigilant.



#### **NHS - VACCINE**

If you've been contacted by email, text message or a phone call asking for your personal and bank details to pay for a vaccine - this is a scam.

NHS coronavirus

vaccines are FREE.



# HMRC - TAX REFUNDS & TAX FINES

Beware of emails, texts and phone calls from odd numbers requesting your personal and bank details to issue tax refunds and pay tax fines.



#### CLONE INVESTMENT FIRMS

Criminals have replicated existing investment company websites by obtaining their information from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

For advice call Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133

To report a scam call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040

Talk to people you trust if you become aware of a scam to protect each other