



Dover District Council report  
for  
Aylesham Parish Council meeting

14/01/2025

## **Aylesham Welfare Leisure Centre update**

We are excited to provide an update on the progress of the new facilities to the leisure centre. A quantity surveyor has been recruited onto the project team and will be supporting the project into its next steps. Whilst some funding has been obtained already, DDC are supporting the Aylesham Welfare Trust with obtaining funding from other sources to meet the necessary funds. The new development will look to include a sports hall, nursery facility, soft play, dance studio and more. This is based on feedback gained from residents.

## **Land to the South of Aylesham**

Axis Land Partnerships is currently bringing forward plans for the Land to the South of Aylesham, a key housing site identified in Dover District Council's Local Plan. Axis have been working closely with the local community on several engagement events. Following an initial round of public consultation in September, which focused on the vision and themes for the site, a further public engagement event is to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> December to showcase the updated proposals.

## **Safe Spaces**

Dover District Council have partnered with Kent & Medway Violence Reduction Unit and Kent Police to promote this Safe Space Scheme to local venues that are publicly accessible and that have pledged to act as a point of contact for any person in the community who might require quick time, short-term assistance upon feeling vulnerable whilst out in the community. Aylesham co-op are now registered as a safe space. If you are a business, workplace or community asset and would like to find out more about becoming a Safe Space please email [csu@dover.gov.uk](mailto:csu@dover.gov.uk) to find out more.

## **IMPACT Fest**

Dover District Council are excited to announce the upcoming Youth Festival, an initiative designed to engage young people in positive, constructive activities and help address the challenges of anti-social behaviour (ASB) within our community. This event will provide a platform for young people to showcase their talents, connect with peers, and participate in a range of exciting and meaningful activities. We believe that by empowering our youth and providing them with constructive opportunities, we can create a safer, more vibrant community for all. If you would like to be involved with the event, please email [csu@dover.gov.uk](mailto:csu@dover.gov.uk)

## **ASB update**

Kent Police have been working with the community after a few thefts from motor vehicles, however these problems have now been solved with less reports of this incident.

## **Community Impact Fund (CIF)**

The latest round of Community Impact Funding has been allocated to groups across the district, to support with the cost-of-living crisis. In total, 40 applicants were funded in the winter round, with £53,783.56 being allocated. A full list of successful applicants will be available on the DDC website soon.

## **Cost of living support**

Dover District Council have a dedicated cost of living support page with information on grants and services available to the community.

<https://www.dover.gov.uk/Community/Cost-of-Living-Webpages/Home.aspx>

## **Household Support Fund**

Dover District Council has received funding from Kent County Council to support households who would otherwise struggle to buy food or pay essential utility bills or meet other essential living costs, through the [Household Support Fund](#).

**New applications can be made by contacting our providers below from December 2024.**

Eligible support could include:

Food support  
utilities such as energy and water  
wider essentials subject to discussion  
housing costs in exceptional cases of genuine emergency  
support and advice around all things cost of living.

If you feel you are eligible to access this fund, please contact one of the organisations below who will be able to discuss with you the support required and assist accordingly:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contact Details</b>
CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau) Dover District	Call: 0808 278 7961

Deal Centre - Age UK South Kent Coast	Call: 01304 372608 Email: <a href="mailto:ianda@ageukskc.org.uk">ianda@ageukskc.org.uk</a>
Deal Foodbank	Call: 01304 728428 Email: <a href="mailto:info@dealarea.foodbank.org.uk">info@dealarea.foodbank.org.uk</a>
Dover Foodbank	Call: 07870361180 Email: <a href="mailto:info@dover.foodbank.org.uk">info@dover.foodbank.org.uk</a>
Dover Outreach Centre	Call: 01304 339022
Dover Riverside Centre	Call: 01304 207268 Email: <a href="mailto:admin@riversidedover.org.uk">admin@riversidedover.org.uk</a>
Sandwich Age Concern	Call: 01304 614237

If you have any questions on the Household Support Fund, please contact [Community@dover.gov.uk](mailto:Community@dover.gov.uk).

### Just missing out fund

The Pensioner 'Just Missing Out' Scheme

This scheme will run from **Thursday 28 November to 12pm 5 March 2025**, or until all funds are allocated.

This scheme is targeting support for Kent pensioners who will be missing out on the Winter Fuel payments. This scheme will operate using an online application form that will be available on the Kent Together Cost-of-Living pages and linked to from the main KCC HSF landing page: [www.kent.gov.uk/householdsupportfund](http://www.kent.gov.uk/householdsupportfund)

Any queries regarding access to the scheme or eligibility can be passed directly to [kcc-hsffoodandenergysupport@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kcc-hsffoodandenergysupport@kent.gov.uk)

The application form will allow applicants to determine the type of support they receive. The award valuation is pre-determined at £200 however, the applicant can choose to have this towards food, energy or a combination of food and energy as. The criterion has

been set to maximise reach to those most in need, including pensioners who remain in employment.

Aged 66 or over.

A Kent resident, permanently living within one of the 12 local authorities covered by Kent County Council.

Not in receipt of or eligible for Pension Credits

Single occupancy households receiving upwards of £218.15 per week or £11,343.80 per year

Couple households receiving upwards of £332.95 per week or £17,313.40 per year

### **Dover District Lotto**

The Dover District Lotto is a local authority lottery run by Dover District Council. The scheme supports charities, CIC's and constituted community groups, to fundraise and support their good cause.

If you would like to register your good cause to become a beneficiary of the scheme, or would like to support local good causes by buying tickets, [please visit the website](#).

To hear from some of our local good causes, please watch our Dover District Lotto video listed below.

Remember, 60p in every £1 goes direct to local good causes in the district [www.doverlotto.com/results](http://www.doverlotto.com/results)

### **Skills and Training Fair**

We are excited to announce the Training and Skills Event, designed to help individuals at all stages of their careers enhance their skills and gain valuable knowledge to succeed in today's competitive job market. Whether you're looking to upskill, reskill, or explore new career paths, this event provides a wide range of opportunities to develop the skills that employers demand. There will be over 20 different taster courses for people to try, with the event being held at Dover Technical College on 19<sup>th</sup> February. For more information or to book please email [community@dover.gov.uk](mailto:community@dover.gov.uk)

### **Community Roots Van theme timetable**

A timetable is currently being developed to take the community roots van across the district, to offer support based on the Community Teams new themes –

**Cost of Living, Pensioners & Inclusion**

**Education, Jobs & Skills**

**Homelessness & Veterans**

**Leisure, Wellbeing, Family & Events**