



## HALLING STATION BIOBLITZ

**Sarah Deakin, the Kent Community Rail Partnership's Engagement Officer is organising a Bioblitz at Halling Station on Sunday 26th June.**

To be honest we didn't know what a Bioblitz is either, so here's the explanation from Sarah along with an invitation for our community to take part in it.

The aims of the Bioblitz are:

1. Engage the local community in the care of this piece of land next to Halling Station, with a view to station adoption
2. Survey and assess the site for species (plants, insects, birds, small mammals?) to improve biodiversity of the site
3. Contribute to the Biological records for Kent
4. Have fun

The piece of land is the narrow strip behind the fence on the Maidstone bound platform and I suggest that the day is split as follows (this is not definitive, just suggestions, open to ideas):

I will suggest that the sessions are booked in advance (1hr) per group/family:

Saturday the 25th June: set up a Moth Trap

Sunday 26th June:

- 10 - 11 Welcome & Look at Moth Trap
- 11 - 12 Plant ID (bush bash, leaf litter survey, lift logs/tiles, spider web survey)
- 13 - 14 Plant ID (in another part of the site, plus plant matching game)
- 14 - 15 Make stick men to mark best thing found during day

I would like to encourage any individuals or young people's groups from the village to come along and take part. I look forward to hearing from you and my contact details are set out below.

With many thanks

Sarah Deakin

**Engagement Officer - Kent Community Rail Partnership**

email: [sarah.deakin@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:sarah.deakin@sustrans.org.uk)

mobile: 07920 184060

[www.kentcrp.org.uk](http://www.kentcrp.org.uk)

The Kent Community Rail Partnership is hosted by Sustrans –

[www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk) .

Please note that I normally work Mon, Tues and Thurs 9:00 – 14:00. (This does sound like huge fun and should be very popular, so whether you are a youth group, a family or an individual, please let Sarah know in advance if you're thinking of taking part.)



# Halling Fire Station

Update:

At the extraordinary meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March 16, the Parish Council took the final decision to accept an offer of £175,000 from the Baptist Chapel and sell the Halling Fire Station. At the next meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April, solicitors were selected from those that replied to a request for a quotation regarding their fees. Everything is now in place to move forward with the sale.

It has been agreed that the property will continue to be used for community use and the Baptist Chapel have published their plans for future activities that are to be held on the site. These plans are generally in line with the suggestions that have been put forward by Halling residents in the past.

The Council will retain a strip of land to the west of the site and this will provide a permanent access to the Lower Recreation Ground. A right of way will be granted to the Baptist Chapel to permit the continued use of the car park to the rear of the Fire Station.

Once the sale is complete the funds generated will be used to improve facilities in the properties owned by the Parish Council. These properties include the recreation grounds in Upper and Lower Halling where it is planned to replace the play equipment. The Council also owns the Halling Marsh and Marsh Road and is responsible for their upkeep.

Being more complex than the sale of a domestic house, means that completion of the sale will not happen immediately. However the Council looks forward to a successful conclusion to this project and the benefits that can be enjoyed by everyone in the village.

---

## Boot Fairs



The Parish Council is looking at the possibility of holding a series of Boot Fairs on the Lower Rec through the summer to raise money towards the refurbishment of the recreation grounds in Upper and Lower Halling.

If we do go ahead, look out for posters in local outlets, in notice boards and on the Council's website: [www.halling-pc.gov.uk](http://www.halling-pc.gov.uk).

## Personal Invitation to ALL VILLAGERS OF HALLING



HALLING PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2016 Halling Community Centre

12.00	WELCOME by Chair – Cllr George Wenham
12.05	Formal adoption of last year's minutes
12.10	STALLS OPEN (to 3pm)

Stall holders include: Halling Parish Council / Youth Club / Garden Society / Court Farm / Halling Play Equipment Working Group / Redrow / Halling Baptist Church and other local community groups.

This will be an opportunity for all parishioners to meet their parish councillors and ask questions of our guest stall holders to find out about issues happening in and affecting our village.

*Refreshments available courtesy of HPC*

