



SANDWICH GUILDHALL PROJECT NEWS

Welcome to the first edition of the Guildhall Project Newsletter!

In this edition: • What is the Guildhall Project? • What has happened so far? • How can I get involved?
• How can I find out more?

WHAT IS THE GUILDHALL PROJECT?

The Guildhall Project involves residents, businesses, community organisations, councils, schools, visitors – in fact anyone who loves the Guildhall and is interested in celebrating and sharing the history of Sandwich in new and exciting ways!

The overall project is made up of a number of brilliant interconnected ideas which are being led by a range of different groups and organisations. There is room for more people and groups to get involved, so please get in touch if you have a great idea and the drive to deliver it.

The common theme of the project is the conservation of the Guildhall and the Market Square, and the precious artefacts housed inside, including Magna Carta and Charter of the Forest, alongside activities and events to tell the story of Sandwich and bring our heritage alive.

Certain elements of the project are already underway – the museum is currently undergoing refurbishment, and a band of volunteers are working hard in the Museum Archive and have recently become a partner with Royal Holloway College in connection with the Magna Carta Project.

Other ideas for the Guildhall project which partners are exploring include:

- Conservation of the listed building
- Community Archaeological Digs
- Museum Expansion
- Development of the Museum archive
- Building tours
- Heritage outreach activities
- Local History Hub
- Improvements to the Market Square
- Support for Community Events
- Volunteer development

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR?

Spring and Summer 2016 - Consultation carried out in relation to the A New Vision for Sandwich programme.

August 2016 - "A New Vision for Sandwich" Report published.

September 2016 - "A New Vision for Sandwich" Project Board established with the following members:

- Discovery Park
- Dover District Council
- Historic England
- Kent County Council
- Sandwich Chamber of Commerce
- Sandwich Town Council
- Sandwich Town Team

November 2016 - "A New Vision for Sandwich" Board launch the Guildhall Project. Meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund.

December 2016 - Partner Organisations become involved in developing the project. Pedestrian and traffic measurements carried out at the No Name St / New St junction.

January 2017 - Consultation with local businesses commences.

February 2017 - On line consultation opens. Meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund.

March 2017 - Face to face drop-in consultation sessions with building users.

COMING UP

April 2017 - Survey work to commence on the Guildhall and the Market Square. Consultation at Sandwich Salutes the 1940s event.



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We want as many residents, businesses, community groups and visitors as possible to get involved in the Guildhall Project! Even at this early stage there are plenty of ways you can join in.

Surveys are available to complete at the Town Council inside the Guildhall. Alternatively you can complete the survey on line through the Dover District Council website, on the Sandwich page, or click here; [Guildhall survey](#).

If you are involved with a Local History Group in Sandwich which would like to be part of the Guildhall Project, please get in touch with us at communities@dover.gov.uk

If you are a group involved with performance or the arts, and you have ideas for activities or events which you could help arrange, please let us know!

CONSULTATION

Hannah Batley, a Community Development Officer at Dover District Council has been speaking with local businesses surrounding the Market Square and regular users of the Guildhall, finding out about their thoughts and ideas about the project. There has been some great feedback so far and we would like to thank those who have already taken part; if you would like to be involved please drop Hannah a line at communities@dover.gov.uk

The Project Team will be out and about at Sandwich events over the summer; so please come to speak to us.



VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to become involved in the Guildhall project?

There will be many volunteering opportunities throughout the project and beyond that require enthusiastic and willing volunteers. Current opportunities -

- Guildhall Archive
- Guildhall Museum
- Community archaeology digs

Become a volunteer and you can develop new skills, learn about heritage and have fun. If you are interested in or would like to receive regular updates regarding volunteering, please contact us at communities@dover.gov.uk

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS

The latest information about news and events in Sandwich can be found by signing up to Dover District Council's Keep Me Posted email alert service. Join up and receive alerts by registering via www.dover.gov.uk or, use the link below.

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDOVE/subscriber/new>



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Full information about the council and its services can be found online at www.dover.gov.uk

