

## Iwade Reading Group - August

Hilary Foulds

The Reading Group met in August to discuss our book of the month Hidden Harm by Veronica Cook. The book was chosen by member Irene who is Veronica's mother-in-law. It's a biographical account of the difficulties of life growing up with parents who are drug addicts. A big book of some 420 pages, the group found it to be well written but disturbing. That Veronica chose to write it in the third person was challenging and a little irritating at times, but we wondered if writing it in this way, distancing herself, had helped her recount her story and we applauded her for writing it. Although a harrowing account it was clear there was something in her that enabled her to cope with a lack of parenting. Irene told us how Veronica is actively using her past experiences to help children in similar situations.

Understandably, discussion about this book led the group into further conversation about child abuse and addiction.



Some of our members obtain their reading group books from the public library but in this case there was only 1 copy available and there was a waiting list. We were reminded we can have books downloaded onto our ipads from the library and also that there is a mobile library service which comes to the bottom of Sheerstone, Iwade on alternate Thursdays from 1.50-2.20pm.

Our next meeting is 10.30 on Tuesday 12 September hosted by Glenn. Her chosen book is The Rosie Project by Graham Simsion.

October's meeting is hosted by Lianna, book choice to be revealed. This will appear on the Iwade Reading Group Facebook page in due course.



# The Iwade Observer

## September 2017

Thanks from the...

### Mews BrewHouse

First of all, we would like to thank all the village for their support during our first 15 months, it has been fun. During this time, we have started various popular social groups held during the week that always have room for new members. So, every Monday morning between 10am – 12pm we run The BrewHouse Woolly Natters, a knitting and crochet group where you can bring along your current project and get inspiration or learn something new and meet new people and have a chat over a slice of cake and cup of coffee. Do you love Arts & Crafting?????? If the answer is yes, come and join us on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12ish and join in all the fun with our fellow crafters, just bring along a project and have a play.

Calling all ladies who run their own business, every 2nd Tuesday of the month the Swale 'Ladies That Latte'

meet up for networking. Support each other, ask questions, share your successes and learn from others experiences - their next meeting will be held on 12th September at 10am. Wednesday mornings brings Baby Musical Rhyme Time, it is a musical mayhem for all Pre-School children. Come and sing along to well-known nursery rhymes and songs & have some fun with our musical instruments - We will restart on Wednesday 6th September from 10am for Rhyme Time to start at 10.30 until 11am. Then why not stay and catch up over lunch with all the other Mums, Dads, and Grandparents etc.



Finally, if you run a group that is looking for a venue, give us a call on 01795 426520, or pop in & arrange a suitable date

**Don't forget we are open 7 days a week**

**Monday – Friday 9am to 4.30pm**

**Saturday & Sunday 10am to 4pm**

But we are closed all Bank Holidays

We offer not only amazing coffee and artisan teas, but you can also find

Breakfast, light lunches and delicious ice creams and sundaes

Don't forget our choice of cakes and cream teas AND if you want

something special why not book an Afternoon Tea

You can be kept up to date on all our antics on our Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/mewsbrewhouse](http://www.facebook.com/mewsbrewhouse)

We look forward to seeing you all very soon

## BUSINESS FOCUS



**Electrical Contractors – Industrial – Commercial – Domestic – Inspection & Testing – Design – Call out – Free Quotations – Friendly Advice – Fully Insured.**

I began an electrical apprenticeship as soon as I left school at 16 years old which was a 4-year, day release course. I was lucky enough to work for a large company and gain a vast experience in all aspects of the trade.

Fast forward 15 years to late 2014. After working for a few different companies I found myself working behind a desk as an electrical project manager for the past 18 months' responsible for many engineers on large jobs in London & the South East. Ultimately, though, I missed being on the tools and needed to swap the pens back for the screwdrivers!

Therefore, I made the decision to start afresh on my own and start my own company Shanlec Services, it was something I'd always wanted to do. I had the experience to tackle all electrical situations the industry could throw at me by now so I

got Part P registered and went for it.

It was daunting at first with a mortgage, a young family and no great consistency of work ahead of me. I persevered with my decision, put in the long hours during the evenings and weekends, and nearly 3 years later I could not be happier. I'm proud to say Shanlec Services have carried out all types of electrical work in the last 3 years ranging from domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, inspection, testing and certification. I have met some great customers from all walks of life during this period, inside and outside the village, and many have become good friends.

Jon shannon

### Shanlec Services

Office: 01795556052

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Email: [jon@shanlecservices.com](mailto:jon@shanlecservices.com)

## IWADE VILLAGE HALL UPDATE SEPT 17

Back in July, we celebrated the hall being 60 years young. We were honoured to have Oliver Doubleday mark the official anniversary by welcoming everyone. Oliver is the grandson of Sir Leslie Doubleday who officially opened the hall back in 1957. The Doubleday family have been very generous to Iwade and I know I speak on behalf of everyone when I say thank you to them for their generosity. Oliver reminded us all of the struggle the residents had back then to find funding for the hall and to get it up and running, but what an amazing job they did. Through the past 60 years, the hall has been blessed with great support from the residents and the Trustees. A great day was had by all, with local businesses and our regular hirers invited to run a stall to raise some money for their group or business. The sun shone all day (was it just me who forgot to put sun cream on?) and as far as I could tell, everyone had a tremendous amount of fun. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to help on that day.

Looking forward just a little, we have

another quiz night on Saturday 9th September. On the first day we advertised, we sold 10 tables and with us having a limit of around 15 tables, you're going to need to be quick to grab one! Our quizzes are good fun and we welcome secondary school aged children to be a part of your team too. It's bring your own food and drink and the cost is £10 for a table of up to 6 people (extra people (up to 8 on a table) are £2 each. Give us a call on 07724 862744 or email [bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk)

On Sunday 24th September, we have an indoor boot fair booked from 10am-1pm. A space is just £5 and we provide the table too, all you need to do is call or email to book and then sort through your treasures and decide what to sell. It's a great opportunity to earn some money with very little effort. How about booking a table for your children to run? They could sell their old toys, clothes and games while you supervise the prices and drink tea! Don't forget we also hire the hall out for birthdays, christenings and all other kinds of occasions.



Photos show Oliver Doubleday standing by the stone plaque laid in honour of his grandfather and him looking at photos from the opening weeks of the hall.



Take a look at our website [www.iwadevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.iwadevillagehall.co.uk) for more details and for the calendar. You can also follow us on Twitter or Facebook by searching for Iwade Village Hall.



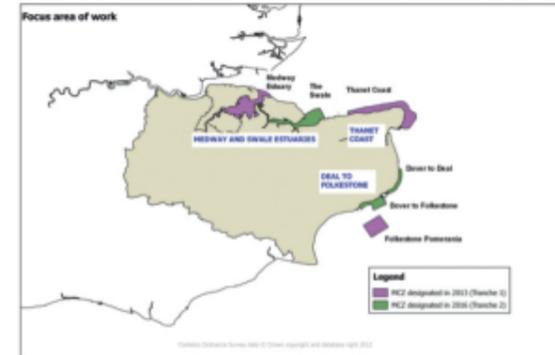
Two great photos this month from Emma Ward, reminding us of the great beauty that lies at our doorsteps!

**All Saints Church, Iwade**  
**Invites you to a Cheese & Wine evening**  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017**  
**In the Barn from 7.30 – 10.00pm**  
**Cost £10 per person payable in advance**  
**For tickets and more information contact Sandra on 01795 410709**

## Guardians of the Deep



The *Guardians of the Deep* project is a partnership between Kent Wildlife Trust, Thanet District Council, Medway Swale Estuary Partnership and Kent County Council. It will involve local people in the protection and monitoring of Kent's coastal wildlife, and get young people excited about marine wildlife through a programme of snorkelling activities and practical learning opportunities at coastal sites around the county.



The project will aim specifically along three stretches of coastline, encompassing the newly designated Marine Conservation Zones – Medway and Swale Estuaries, Thanet Coast, Dover to Deal and Dover to Folkestone.



[To find out more, or to get involved, contact:

**Belinda Lamb, Project Officer**  
**Medway Swale Estuary Partnership**  
**3 Lock Cottages, Lock Lane, Sandling, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3AU**

E-mail: [belinda.lamb@medway.gov.uk](mailto:belinda.lamb@medway.gov.uk)  
 Tel: 01622 768573 or 07803 625496 (Wed-Fri)

## Guardians of the Deep



Kent Wildlife Trust is the leading wildlife conservation charity for Kent and Medway, with over 30,000 members. Reg. Charity No: 239992.



The activities within the project will raise awareness of the wildlife importance of these three areas of the Kent coast and involve volunteers in helping to protect them and promote their enjoyment.

### Coastal Guardians

Creation of a self-sustaining Coastal Guardian network – individuals and groups of volunteers who oversee a stretch of coastline near where they live, promoting the wise-use and enjoyment of these areas.



### Undersea Explorers

Workshops to teach young people snorkelling and water safety skills in swimming pools decorated with submersible 'marine habitat' props, which will help them understand the importance and fragility of marine life.

### WildBeach

A programme of activities aimed at schools, along the lines of Forest Schools, but focusing on the marine environment.



Opportunities to learn about the marine environment, its value as a home for wildlife and the challenges associated with protecting it.

### Coastal Connections

Work with organisations responsible for protection of marine environments, and other like-minded organisations, to build awareness of, and support for, the importance of sustainable use of our marine environment.



Involving everyone in helping to promote and protect Kent's marine environment through a variety of innovative engagement activities and online initiatives.

### Coastal Citizen Science

Training to enable local people to take a direct role to help conserve their local natural coastal heritage.

Establishment of a north Kent Coastbusters team, extending the Thanet Coast's extremely successful pilot Pacific oyster control programme.



Monthly survey events for volunteers to record marine wildlife around the Kent coast, with records provided to statutory bodies, to help monitor the condition of sites.





## Swale Cats Protection

The Swale branch of Cats Protection has been in existence for over 30 years now, helping cats and kittens all over the Swale area. We are a small bunch of volunteers but we do an

enormous amount of work trying to raise funds to cover the costs of everything from neutering feral cats to buying food and toys for any cats in our foster care who will then be rehomed.

We could always do with some more help though, and with this in mind, we'd like to reach out to the residents of Iwade. Do you have, or do you know someone who has a garage, a lock up storage facility or something similar they don't use in Iwade preferably? We could really do with having our stuff in one place, as currently, it's shared out amongst the volunteers and this makes it very difficult when getting things ready for our events.

It's nothing of value that we store, just leaflets, banners, tables and the like, but we desperately need a storage solution that doesn't cost us anything as we are a registered charity. If you think you can help with a storage solution, please contact us at [fundraising@swale.cats.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@swale.cats.org.uk).

Don't worry if you don't have a garage going spare though, perhaps you can help in a different way? We are always in need of large plastic dog beds, old clean towels or blankets, unwanted kennels (for our feral populations) and of course, if you're passing a pet shop and see a cat toy you think would be played with, we'd love that too!

Or perhaps you like a more hands on experience? We are desperate for more foster carers. To be a foster carer, you must have a spare room solely dedicated to being a cat room, or a back garden large enough to house one of our outdoor pens. It is a big commitment but one we can chat to you about if you'd like to help in that way. It's hugely rewarding to help a cat find its forever home. Email our co-ordinator to express your interest [coordinator@swale.cats.org.uk](mailto:coordinator@swale.cats.org.uk)

One thing we always need are more volunteers at our fundraising events which we hold every 2-3 months. It's not shaking a bucket in the high street really, it's more about attending local events where we have a stall booked, selling raffle tickets, promoting the charity by offering leaflets and obviously talking about cats! The events are normally indoors and we share the time so you wouldn't even be expected to volunteer all day; it's a really easy way of helping us to help the cats.

To keep up to date on what events we have coming up, or for help and advice on lost cats, please visit our website at [www.catsprotection.org.uk/swale](http://www.catsprotection.org.uk/swale) or connect with us via Facebook and Twitter by searching for Cats Protection Swale. Hope to hear from you soon or see you at one of our events!

Iwade Village Hall Community Events  
Iwade Village Hall, Ferry Road, Iwade, nr Sittingbourne. ME9 8RG

## INDOOR/OUTDOOR BOOT FAIR Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 10am - 1pm

££ Don't throw it, sell it! ££



If you have used goods to sell,  
book a table now for just £5



££ Have a post-summer  
clear out! ££

Stalls should be booked in advance by  
emailing: [bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk)  
or calling 07724 862744



## SHED PROJECTS

*Cllr Stephen Plumb*

Sheds Kent & Medway (SKM) run by Groundwork South are offering to support local communities to set up Shed projects.

These projects provide a space (a shed) for a community group(s) to form around a common interest e.g. Furniture restoration (upcycle), repair shop, craft/art space, gardening club etc.

These projects have a positive impact on people's well-being as they meet to take part in a shared interest. SKM are looking to support 10 shed projects. There are a variety of grant/funding possibilities and one of the criteria that attracts higher funding is if the project would benefit, all people, but in particular those who have served in the Armed Forces.

Iwade Parish Council are keen to see if such a project could be established here in the village.

So if you did serve in the Armed Forces (or indeed anybody that would be interested) and would like to help in exploring this opportunity please contact Lynda Fisher, Parish Clerk, [iwadep@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:iwadep@blueyonder.co.uk)

## SPEEDWAY SUMMER UPDATE

*Paul Heller*

Sittingbourne Speedway continues to run its summer season of practices and training from its tracks just off Raspberry Hill Lane, however July was a particularly busy month for the club as in the early part of the month it ran a Ladies only day.

The Club first ran a Ladies only event several years ago and it received national interest and was featured on Sky Sports but this event was more low key this time, with some 22 ladies eager to try the speedway experience nervously lining up to take to the track. Many had some motorcycle experience mainly on road bikes and some had no motorcycle experience at all but by the end of the day a tired but happy group of ladies all reported they had a marvellous day, wanted to come back and could not wait to get home and to tell their family and friends about it. During the day, the ladies also had a chance to have a few laps around the track as a passenger on a speedway sidecar outfit, this, surprisingly, was an instant hit with the ladies who thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The event also had an international flavour as two ladies, one from Australia and one from America came along to ride as part of their UK tour of speedway tracks and both ladies made a lot of friends on the day. The Club hope to run another Ladies Day event in September.

The week after the Ladies Day the Club ran the fifth annual Ivor Thomas Memorial Meeting which fondly remembers Ivor Thomas, the man who built and founded Iwade Speedway back in the 1970s, and the Malcolm Simmons Trophy which remembers one of England's finest speedway riders who was a great friend of the Club. The event caters for veteran and vintage bikes up to the present day and riders from youngsters to - well - let's just say those of a certain age. A large crowd enjoyed a full and varied 53 heat programme bathed in glorious sunshine. The prize-giving followed after the racing with speedway legend Barry Thomas presenting the awards.

## Disclaimer

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## Iwade Youth Group

We had a (short) trial run on the last two Fridays before the summer break which was attended by an encouraging number of young people, which seemed to have been enjoyed by those who attended. We now plan to restart on Friday 15th September again at The Barn car park with our double decker bus in attendance. Sessions will run from 6:30 to 8:00

All staff are DBS checked and a qualified youth worker leads our sessions. If you'd like to help on a voluntary basis we'd love to hear from you. In return we can offer training, first aid, DBS checks, etc. Get involved from the start; get in touch NOW!!

For further information, or to express an interest, please contact:

- [asiwade@btinternet.com](mailto:asiwade@btinternet.com)
  - or telephone 07905040119 or 01795470418
- or simply turn up on the day – young people should be accompanied by an adult to the start of the meeting, for the first occasion please. We look forward to seeing you

## Tinkerbells Early Years

*Jody Nichols*

We would like to begin by welcoming back all our existing children and their families as we begin the new academic year. We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and you've had lots of fun with your families. We've missed you all lots and can't wait to hear all about what you've been up to.

We would like to wish the graduated children good luck in their new big schools. We will be missing you lots but we're sure you will have lots of fun in your new adventures. With the school leavers now gone we are very excited to be able to welcome some new children to the setting this term. We know you are going to have lots of fun with us and we can't wait to get to know you and your families too!

Our topic for this term will be 'All about me' where will explore and learn all about ourselves, each other, our homes and families too. We know this will be lots of fun and can't wait to get started on the activities for the term.

Our spaces at Iwade Tinkerbells are very limited now with some days being full until September 2018. Therefore, if you are interested in a place at our nursery please call in for a copy of our prospectus and application form or email us at [enquiries@tinkerbellspschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tinkerbellspschool.co.uk)

## Editor's Note

What a wash-out August was! Early summer promised a great deal more!! Still the "sunshine" has now landed on your doormat in the form of the (back after the summer break) Observer. Thanks to all our contributors - we wouldn't exist without you! We look forward to more news as different organisations get back into the swing of things as the Autumn approaches. Copy for October edition to the [iwade.observer@gmail.com](mailto:iwade.observer@gmail.com) by about 12th September please.

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## IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 14 June 2017

### Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies were received from Parish Cllrs. Dollimore and Cheeseman; County Cllr. Whiting, Borough Cllr. Dewar-Whalley and Lynda Fisher, the Clerk.

### Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Dispensations are in place for Members relating to The Barn and Iwade School.

### Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Horner and seconded by Cllr. Langham, the Minutes of the Parish meeting held on the 10th May 2017 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

Proposed by Cllr. Horner and seconded by Cllr. Langham, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 10th May 2017 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

Proposed by Cllr. Horner and seconded by Cllr. Langham, the Minutes of the monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 10th May 2017 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

### Visitors/Public Time

1. Visitors – Residents raised concerns about motor bikes on Ferry Road. Nick Mayatt, Community Warden, to check on reports and advised residents to call the Police if problems are happening.

2. County and Borough Councillors – Borough Cllr. Stokes has looked at the road sets near to the Medical Centre and has requested repairs to be undertaken on the area. He advised the Pavilion should be complete for hand over at the end of the month.

3. Community Warden/PCSO – The Warden has again been dealing with fly tipping on Old Ferry Road and an increase of this under the Sheppey crossing. He checked concerns regarding CCTV overlooking a public area issues. Cllr. Mitchell raised the issue of cars parking on the zig zag lines outside the School, the Community Warden to look into this.

### Planning

1. KCC/SW/0109/2017: Ballast Phoenix Ltd, Ridham Dock, Iwade, Sittingbourne, Kent,: Section 73 application to vary conditions 15 and 16 of

planning permission SW/12/1184 to permit the facility to operate during a wider range of hours and to also change the number of vehicle movements associated with the operations– Agreed to respond no objections. However, Members do have concerns regarding the wording contained in 2.2.5 in the Planning Statement, relating to occasional Sundays; they believe this wording is too ‘woolly’ and to suggest that the condition associated with this tightened.

2. 17/502678/COUNTY: Ballast Phoenix Ltd Ridham Docks Ridham Dock Road Sittingbourne Kent: Section 73 application to vary conditions 15 and 16 of planning permission SW/12/1184 to permit the facility to operate during a wider range of hours and to also change the number of vehicle movements associated with the operations – see 6.1 above.

3. 17/502271/FULL: 59 School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8SD: Increase in roof height to provide additional bedroom and ensuite to first floor, including alterations to fenestration – no objections.

4. 17/502625/FULL: Erection of part single/part two storey rear extension, two storey side extension and erection of a single storey front extension: 25 Meadow Rise Iwade Kent ME9 8SB – no objections.

5. 17/502753/FULL: Erection of a single storey side and rear extension to join existing garage, conversion of existing garage to gym and utility room, and erection of a detached car port and storage: 2 Fulmar Avenue Iwade Kent ME9 8FW – no objections.

6. KCC/SW/0150/2017: Section 73 application to vary the wording of condition 16 of planning permission SW/10/444 (as amended by SW/10/506680) to allow an amended surface water management scheme at the Sustainable Energy Plant to serve Kemsley Paper Mill: Land North East of Kemsley Paper Mill, Ridham Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 2TD – no objections.

### Finance

1. Approval of the Annual Return 2016/17 –  
a) Section 1. Annual Governance Statement - Each section agreed by the Parish Council; Section 1 was then signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.  
b) Section 2. Accounting Statements - Figures agreed by Parish Council; Section 2 was then signed by the Chairman, having been already signed by the Responsible Financial Officer when completing the form.

The next meeting will be on the 13th September at 7:30 pm in The Village Hall.

## VELUX WINDOWS

It seems that some residents of Iwade (and of course elsewhere if you can pass this on) may be affected by this issue with Velux windows. Do check it out as there have already been some incidents involving broken glass as a result. The following is “lifted” from their website

*“VELUX Product Pane Warning Pane breakages VELUX issued a product warning in June 2011 in relation to a minor risk of spontaneous glass breakage in VELUX windows of a specific type, size and age. For further information please click on our dedicated product warning site. If you have experienced a pane breakage or are concerned that you have a window that may be effected by the product warning please contact us immediately with the approximate size and age of the window. Glazing that is subject to this product warning will be replaced free of charge regardless*

*of the product being outwith the 10 year guarantee period. Please contact us on 0800 980 7030 ... In this instance, cold temperature is a known factor in increasing the risk of breakage. Where possible please avoid opening your window if the weather is unusually cold. VELUX apologize for any inconvenience caused and we will endeavour to rectify the problem as soon as possible.*

*If you have a record of your VELUX window codes, please enter all codes. If you do not have a record of your VELUX window codes, please enter the approximate age and size of all VELUX windows in your property. A full guide is provided on the pane warning website of the next steps to take.”*  
Look at <http://www.velux.co.uk/help-and-advice/product-pane-warning?ref=gc> for all the info.

## Haggis and Health Walks

### James Apps

Having just returned from hunting haggis in the Highlands, glad that we left before the Glorious Twelfth and evaded the fate of the poor grouse it was pleasant to see sunshine and get to collect my cat. I was amazed at the determination of the hikers tramping the paths of Glencoe in the rain, as we sat in a warm coach complaining about the weather!

I cannot but admire the efforts of the family who hiked to the top of Ben Nevis and I longed to have the time to hike some of the hills myself, with the right attire of course. However, the walking done on holiday was mostly on hard surfaces and with limited time to explore except for the one day in Fort William.

I can see a good circuit or two for a Health Walks Group around the town and maybe take in a climb up Ben Nevis – the fastest to the top and back down again was something in the region of an hour and a half which gives us about a quarter of an hour to spare, so we could take it a bit easier perhaps?

The walking group had its barbecue by kind provision of David Payne and his family early in August on a windy Thursday, after the Orchard walk. It was a good social gathering, which is something we do at times during the year, thanks to Molly’s efforts.

Now that we have more or less cracked it for the Summer we can look forward to hedgerow fruits, harvest on the farms and the coming Autumn to change the nature of our walks. As Iwade is growing ever larger we also have to make sure that the public footpaths do not disappear into over enthusiastic development or become paved over as urban walkways.

The Scottish experience of seeing hikers on the moors and glens reminds me of hiking in the Aussie bush and along NZ forest tracks – a long way from a field in Iwade but I can imagine, can’t I? Oh, and the Haggis I caught and ate was tasty, once I had removed the sporran and the tam o’ shanter.

Come and join us – every Thursday at 10:30 for 10:45 in the Village Square.

## Iwade Health Centre

Swale Clinical Commissioning Group released the following statement on 11th August about the future provision of GP services at Iwade Health Centre. “NHS Swale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has been working closely with colleagues from NHS England and the Care Quality Commission for a number of months after concerns were raised about the quality of GP services at Iwade Health Centre.

As a result of ongoing concerns and the findings of a recent CQC inspection, the CCG has come to a mutual agreement with Malling Health to terminate their contract early. Malling Health will not provide GP services in Iwade from 1 September 2017.

A local provider of GP services, DMC Healthcare, will be working with Malling Health with immediate effect until the end of their contract, and will then be providing GP services at Iwade Health Centre while the CCG procures a more permanent solution.

NHS Swale CCG Chair Dr Fiona Armstrong said: “We have been concerned for some time about the service being delivered at Iwade and disappointed that Malling Health has not been able to put in place a better service for patients.

“We have been working closely with NHS England and the CQC, and have negotiated an early end to the contract with Malling Health.

“Fortunately, we have been able to secure support from DMC Healthcare to ensure continuity of care for patients and we hope to see an improvement in services.

“Some staff may remain at the practice after the end of the contract, but working with DMC Healthcare.

“Staff at Iwade have been working hard to try to support patients in what have sometimes been difficult times and we are grateful for this. With the right support and staff levels, we believe DMC Healthcare can improve the patient experience at Iwade.”

Dr Armstrong added: “The CQC report released this week relates to an historic inspection carried out in June and is superceded by further action taken by the CCG and the CQC. A lot of work has gone on since June to get us to the point of a mutual agreement about termination of contract.

“Therefore the CQC inspection report came as no surprise to us and we are pleased that we have been able to agree a solution for local patients which will hopefully improve their experience of GP services in Iwade.”

DMC Healthcare, which will provide services at Iwade Health Centre under a 12 month contract, runs a GP practice in Sheppey which has been rated Good by the CQC.

The CCG is writing to all patients about the changes and is asking anyone concerned about the changes to contact the practice direct or the CCG on 03000 425100 or [swale.ccg@nhs.net](mailto:swale.ccg@nhs.net).”