

# Agenda

## Eastern Area Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, 4 September 2025

Time 7.00 pm

Venue: West Faversham Community Centre, Bysing Wood Road, Faversham ME13 7RH\*

Membership:

Councillors Lloyd Bowen, Alex Eyre, Charles Gibson (Vice-Chair), Kieran Golding, Alastair Gould, Carole Jackson, Rich Lehmann, Claire Martin, Ben J Martin (Chair), Hannah Perkin, Julien Speed and Terry Thompson.

Quorum = 4

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Pages

### Information about this meeting

\*Members of the press and public can listen to this meeting live. Details of how to join the meeting will be added to the website by 3 September 2025.

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- a) There is no scheduled test of the fire alarm during this meeting. If

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- b) Assemble outside where directed. Await instructions before re-entering the building.
- c) Anyone who requires assistance in evacuating the building, should make themselves known during this agenda item.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Minutes

To approve the [Minutes](#) of the meeting held on 14 May 2025 (Minute Nos. 26 – 27) and the [Minutes](#) of the meeting held on 17 June 2025 (Minute Nos. 69 - 82 ) as correct records.

4. Declarations of Interest

Councillors should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their families or friends.

The Chair will ask Members if they have any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) or disclosable non-pecuniary interests (DNPIs) to declare in respect of items on the agenda. Members with a DPI in an item must leave the room for that item and may not participate in the debate or vote.

Aside from disclosable interests, where a fair-minded and informed observer would think there was a real possibility that a Member might be biased or predetermined on an item, the Member should declare this and leave the room while that item is considered.

Members who are in any doubt about interests, bias or predetermination should contact the monitoring officer for advice prior to the meeting.

5. Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) - public consultation

6. Consultation on public toilets

7. Public Forum

8. Extension of AONB to interconnect forest areas

9. Community Governance Review

10. Flooding in the Eastern Area 5 - 8

11. Matters arising from previous meetings 9 - 14

12. Reports/updates from Parish/Town Councils

13. Swale Bus Forum update

15 - 18

14. Local issues to be raised

15. Matters referred to Service Committee Chairs for consideration

**Issued on Wednesday, 27 August 2025**

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**Chief Executive, Swale Borough Council,  
Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT**

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### Swale Eastern Area Committee Flooding Tracker

The below tracker is an attempt to note and track all flooding occurring across our communities, the responsible parties and what action has been taken so that we are better able to resolve these issues, identify any patterns and push for wider changes that might benefit everyone affected by flooding. If you have an instance of flooding in the Eastern area or an update on one of the locations listed below please contact Cllr Charles Gibson who will update the tracker as regularly as possible ahead of Area Committee Meetings.

Serial	Location	Notes	Who is Responsible	Last Action Taken	Outcomes
1	Abbey – Whitstable Road Rec	Run off from the recreation Ground is a contributing factor. Recent works have improved the situation but it is not solved. Probable additional pressure from hydraulic locking from over burdened sewers.	Swale Borough Council	Remedial Action taken last Autumn.	
2	Abbey – Whitstable Road Bus stops	there are blocked drains that are completely impacted with earth. This contributes to the surface water flooding at the bottom of the road and also localised flooding near the bus stops. This system is untested	Kent County Council	Were Scheduled to be cleared by KCC 14/12/23 this did not occur	
3	Abbey – Church Road	This is largely due to heavy leaf shedding blocking the drains along the pavement. Needs more regular clearance with road sweeper in the autumn and more regular attention to the clearance of the drains. Maybe additional pressure from private property drains.	Kent County Council	Repeatedly reported in autumn 23, and Summer 2025	
4	Abbey – Orchard Place	Surface Water flooding linked to Serial 1.	Swale Borough Council	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	
5	Abbey – Conduit street	Surface Water flooding repeatedly due to insufficient/blocked drains/gullies.	Kent County Council	Repeatedly reported.	
6	St Anns – Tanners Street	Towards South Road, surface water flooding due to inadequate drainage.	Kent County Council	Repeatedly reported. Drainage enquiry 737456 Still no improvement August 24 Possibly overhanging trees contributing.	

				Could the sludge drains be cleared? Question asked Oct 2024.	
7	St Anns/Watling – Forbes Road under bridge	floods badly in heavy rain in the dip under the bridge. There is clearly inadequate drainage in this area.	Kent County Council	Repeatedly reported	
8	St Anns – Curtis Way opposite Stonebridge Pond				
9	St Anns – Oare Street/Western Link Road	Insufficient drainage/camber	Kent County Council	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	
10	Watling – Love Lane Cemetery	opposite the entrance to the cemetery often floods in heavy rain and takes some time to drain in the following days pushing cars out onto the opposite side of the road.	Kent County Council	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	
11	Watling – London Road	opposite the Ashford Road junction outside the entrance to the small group of houses that are offset from the road floods regularly in even light rain. Insufficient Gulleys	Kent County Council	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	
12	Watling – Ashford Road	whole of the Ashford Road from the new roundabout on the pavement site only has one drain which is inadequate drainage for the area.	Kent County Council	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	
13	Teynham and Lynstead – Frogmal Lane	The residents at No: 42 reported their toilet again unusable for two days due to a "back up". No: 36 reports the manhole in his back garden overflowing and a disgusting smell in his ground floor bathroom. No: 37 reports an overflowing manhole. Contractors have been out on numerous occasions but are unable to provide a permanent fix. No: 43	Sewage Works	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	

		<p>reports sewage flowing into their rear garden from the manhole cover approximately every six months. The residents at No: 42 reported their toilet again unusable for two days due to a "back up". No: 36 reports the manhole in his back garden overflowing and a disgusting smell in his ground floor bathroom. No: 37 reports an overflowing manhole. Contractors have been out on numerous occasions but are unable to provide a permanent fix. No: 43 reports sewage flowing into their rear garden from the manhole cover approximately every six months. It is reported that raw sewage runs down Frognal Lane approx twice a year and thence down the drives of the residents' houses. In heavy rain, there is always a flood in the adjacent orchard. Residents report wastewater coming out of the verge. The sewage works would appear to already be full and running at full capacity. Contractors on site have advised there is no ability to upgrade it. Not only does the plant itself need upgrading, but the underground pipework also appears to be failing. Tankers are having to be brought in to remove excess sewerage every two weeks.</p> <p>This is likely to get worse when 290 more homes are added and an upgrade is urgently required.</p>			
14	Teynham and Lynstead - Hempstead Lane, Tonge End	Every time it rains, the drains at the Tonge end of Hempstead Lane are unable to cope with the water run-off - and the roadway floods. This floodwater then has nowhere to go apart from down the driveway at The Old	Kent County Council	Despite remedial works by KCC Highways, the drains continue to struggle - and the	

		Mill, Church Road ME9 9AW. This in turn floods the entrance pathway to The Old Mill and waterlogs the embankment over the stream tunnel from Tonge Pond.		road is still flooded whenever it rains.	
15	Teynham and Lynstead – Teynham Water Treatment Plant	Unknown substance detected during a sewage discharge no response from Southern Water.	Southern Water	Raised September 2024	
16	Boughton and Courtenay – Staple street Crematorium	Continued run off issues	Kent County Council / Crematorium operators	A new culvert has been installed.	
17	Boughton and Courtenay - Fox Lane Selling station	regularly flooded due to surface rain water and inadequate drainage.	Kent County Council	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	
18	East Downs - Church Road ME13 0HL	Water runs down kettle hill road and Stalisfield road and floods the corner. Doesn't even have to be heavy rain. The drain is blocked solid with sludge from the banks etc. makes the corner quite treacherous especially at night	Kent County Council	Reported repeatedly 2023-24	



## Report to Eastern Area Committee September 2025

### New actions/issues and progress with ongoing actions

No.	Item	Background	Actions/updates
1.	Anti-idling signage	Signs should be installed in Central Car Park and Preston Street, Faversham to stop car idling.	Parking Operations have confirmed they will arrange for some signage to be erected.
2.	Litterlotto App	An SBC councillor asked if it was possible to have the Litterlotto App in Faversham. The way it worked was if anyone took a picture of litter as they placed it in a bin and submitted it on the app, they had a chance to win a prize.	This request has been referred to the Chair of the Environmental Services and Climate Change Committee for consideration.
3.	Whiting Crescent	Would it be possible to install goal posts on the green at Whiting Crescent, Faversham instead of play equipment? They would not require much maintenance and it would provide a facility for older children	This matter has been referred to the Chair of the Environmental Services and Climate Change Committee for consideration including the costs of installation and also the risks relating to them. As part of initial feasibility checks for the project, the Ward Cllr has been consulted on location of the posts.
4.	Taxi-rank, Faversham Railway Station	A Faversham Town Councillor said that enforcement of the taxi-rank at Faversham Railway Station was not taking place. It was suggested that the public should have a drop-off area.	<p>The request to review the area around Faversham Railway Station will be discussed at the next Swale Joint Transportation Board Chair's briefing.</p> <p>The request to increase enforcement patrols in the area has been passed to Parking Services</p>

		<p>It was agreed to refer the matter to the Chair of the Swale Joint Transportation Board to request that the whole area was reviewed.</p> <p>It was also agreed a request be made to increase enforcement patrols in the area via the Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee.</p>	and the Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee has been made aware.
5.	Tree damage/maintenance	<p>A member of the public said that following a car collision a black poplar tree in the Central Car Park/Multisave, Faversham area needed branch clearance. SBC's Environmental Services had said they did not get involved in third party tree clearance.</p> <p>In the same area remedial action was needed on the sycamore tree before it cut off telephone lines at the SBC Central Car Park Public Toilets.</p>	<p>Environmental Services have advised that the tree sits on private property and the concerns have been passed onto the owners.</p> <p>The Greenspace Amenities Officer has advised that there is no direct BT line into the toilet block, the line runs parallel which has a private tree touching the lines. The owner has been contacted to ask that they cut the tree back. However, SBC do not have the authority to make the owner prune the trees, there is no immediate danger being caused by the trees either. BT are a statutory undertaker and could prune the trees if they believed they were an issue.</p>
6.	Local Bus Forum	A Faversham Town Council councillor suggested that they should have a representative sitting on the Swale Local Bus Forum. It was agreed that the local	The Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods advised that Faversham Town Council can feed issues to the Swale Local Bus Forum via the Eastern Area Committee representative, Councillor Alistair Gould.

		representative would be asked to feed this request back.	See item 13 of this agenda pack for the minutes of the Local Bus Forum on 29 July 2025.
7.	Flooding in the Eastern Area	The Cllr Charles Gibson contacted the Member of Parliament Helen Whately, to request that she arrange a meeting with Swale Borough Council, Kent County Council and Southern Water with the aim of resolving the flooding issues in Faversham.	No meeting is currently forthcoming, but Cllr Gibson will continue to chase.
8.	Conservation Area Reviews	<p>The Conservation &amp; Design Team report progress on the following Conservation Area Reviews to the Area Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faversham - Preston Next Conservation Area</li> <li>• Faversham- Town Conservation Area</li> <li>• Cellar Hill &amp; Greenstreet Conservation Area</li> <li>• Graveney Bridge, Graveney Church and Graveney Goodnestone Conservation Area</li> </ul>	<p><b>Preston Next Conservation Area</b> - The Conservation Area appraisal was presented to the Policy &amp; Resources Committee on the 7 February 2024, where it was unanimously agreed to adopt the proposed document along with the proposed boundary changes. The adopted document is now published on the Swale Borough website and notifications to the properties within the conservation area have been sent, and press notification to London Gazette and Kentish gazette were published on 14 August 2025.</p> <p><b>Faversham Town Conservation Area</b> - The Conservation Area appraisal was presented to the Policy &amp; Resources Committee on the 20 March 2024, where it was unanimously agreed to adopt the proposed document along with the proposed boundary changes. Next step is to finalise the document with the proposed changes and send notifications to the properties within the conservation area and to London Gazette. It is</p>

			<p>envisaged that the final adopted document will be updated on the SBC website by Autumn of 2025.</p> <p><b>Cellar Hill &amp; Greenstreet Conservation Area -</b> At the November 2024 P&amp;R committee, it was agreed that another round of public consultation is undertaken to review additional boundary changes. The updated conservation area review is out for 6 weeks consultation, scheduled to run from 11 August 2025 to 19 September 2025. The findings of the public consultation will be presented to the November 2025 Policy &amp; Resources Committee.</p> <p><b>Graveney Bridge, Graveney Church and Graveney Goodnestone Conservation Area Review -</b> The conservation area review has been completed and is scheduled for 6-week public consultation to run from 1 September 2025 to 10 October 2025. The findings of the public consultation will be presented to the November 2025 Policy &amp; Resources Committee.</p>
9.	Heritage issues	Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA)	<p>Swale Borough Council currently does not have an ASCA. Since the adoption of the Heritage Strategy in 2020 and subsequent Action Plans wherein a number of Conservation Areas have been reviewed, it has been proposed that in order to better manage and maintain Swale's</p>

			<p>historic environment and heritage, a borough wide ASCA can prove beneficial.</p> <p>Any designation needs to be based on public consultation and must follow specific legal steps, including consideration of the order by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>Following an all members briefing in May 2024, it was agreed that a draft consultation document be prepared for approval by the Planning Committee, before undertaking public consultation.</p> <p>The draft consultation document is estimated to be ready by autumn of 2025.</p>
10.	Heritage issues	Swale Local Heritage List	<p>The Selection Panel met on 17 October 2024; 278 nominations were presented out of which 150 were shortlisted to be designated as Swale's Local Heritage.</p> <p>The proposed designation list was presented to the Policy &amp; Resources Committee on 27 November 2024, wherein it was unanimously agreed to designate the shortlisted assets with addition of one more asset, taking the total to 151 designated assets on Local Heritage List. The mapping work on SBC GIS system and associated data organisation that will include photo and brief description of each asset is ongoing.</p>

			<p>At the Selection Panel meeting there were several deferrals. Also, the team have identified a few geographical gaps in terms of current nominations and wish to include some recommendations emerging from Conservation Area appraisal work. As such, an additional call for 'invitation to nominate' Local Heritage assets is scheduled to start from mid-September 2025 for 6 weeks, with the Selection Panel meeting again in the autumn of 2025. Following that, it is anticipated the list would be updated every three years following a call for nominations and Selection Panel. The next one being scheduled for 2028.</p> <p>In addition to the above, a protocol for urgent designation of assets on Local Heritage was adopted at the June 2025 Policy &amp; Resources Committee.</p>
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# MINUTES

## LOCAL BUS FORUM

Meeting held on Tuesday 29 July 2025 from 2.00pm, via Teams

**Present:**

- Chris Webber (CW) Stagecoach
- Dan Bruce (DB) - KCC
- David Morton (DM) - Stagecoach
- Dolley Wooster (DW)
- Emma Wiggins (EW)
- Karen Watson (KW)
- Luke Naylor (LN) - KCC
- Mike Baldock (MB)
- Roland Eglinton (RE) - Chalkwell
- Stephne Pay (SP) – KCC
- Tony Winckless (TW)

**In Attendance:** Sharon Dormedy (SD) Minutes

**Apologies:** Alastair Gould (AG)

NO	ITEM	ACTION
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome, Introduction and Apologies</b>	
1.1	Apologies received from Alastair Gould.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of Local Bus Forum – 30 January 2025</b>	
2.1	Item 3.2 – Update on Kent bus portal to be given during meeting. Item 3.8 – Update on Parish Rural Shelter grant to be given during meeting.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>KCC General Updates including Funding Update</b>	
3.1	<p>Dan Bruce update on the Kent BSIP headlines since January 2025 and following the extraordinary meetings in February to form Delivery Plan highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25/26 Delivery Plan submitted to DfT in March 2025 and raised at last Forum.</li> <li>Following clarification from DfT, grant determination letter released and signed by KCC. Funding received in June 2025 to support over next 12 months. DB thanked everyone for their input in achieving this.</li> <li>Kent Bus Information Portal to be formally launched over coming weeks for all journey planning and displaying real time info and reporting tool. Testing taking place to ensure fully functional before going live.</li> <li>Update on major projects in Dover and Canterbury</li> <li>District Shelter Grant Scheme for 25/26 launched. Wider District Grant Scheme to follow shortly.</li> </ul> <p>DB explained the real-time bus information available on the portal will take into consideration planned/scheduled road closures and information will be as live as information provided to Highways.</p>	

# MINUTES

3.2	DB gave a breakdown of the revenue spend for 25/26, including Promotions and Plus Bus Expansion to be introduced to Swale. RE was not aware Plus Bus Expansion was not administered in Swale and DB and RB will discuss outside of meeting.	
3.3	DW raised a question regarding the additional Summer 360 Leysdown bus route and DB will update DW following the meeting.	<b>KCC</b>
3.4	SP summarised the 2025/2026 Capital initiatives including Parish Rural Shelter Grant where Parish Councils can bid for match funding to refresh or install bus shelters. The grant had been made available to all Parish Clerks across the County and will be part funded from capital element through BSIP.	
3.5	SP updated on the bus subsidy and available funding including schools transfer element and the shared aspiration to provide additional and enhanced initiatives.	
3.6	MB raised concerns regarding KCC's future funding for home to school transport within next year's budget. SP advised home to school transport is a different budget as statutory responsibility and will request information from colleagues in Education regarding budget and home to school transport appeal positions.	<b>KCC</b>
3.6	SP advised engagement around these forums is in respect of BSIP funding and whatever we deliver needs to be consistent with the Delivery Plan.	
3.7	SP reminded the meeting that Government support is extremely important as funding through BSIP Revenue and Capital is only secure for this financial year. Currently waiting for spending announcement for next year and future impact to 62 services funded from BSIP.	
3.8	DW raised additional questions via the teams chat facility and KCC will respond following the meeting.	<b>KCC</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Bus Companies Update</b>	
4.1	RE advised main issue is around the challenging road closures at Grovehurst and on the Island. A shuttle bus is being introduced for the planned closure of Key Street.	
4.2	CW – thanked the meeting for the invite to attend. No additional items to raise other than issues already highlighted during the meeting.	
4.3	TL from Travelmaster had been invited to the meeting but unable to attend.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>SBC Updates</b>	
5.1	Mike Knowles looking at capacity to bid under District Shelter Grant and has information available to submit application.	
5.2	DB advised Alan Millard from KCC Highways could attend a future meeting and Ian Harrison from SBC planning will attend if available.	



# MINUTES

6.	Area Committee Feedback	
6.1	DW – Feedback from Sheppey Area Cttee included in chat and KCC to update following meeting.	KCC
6.2	KW – Sittingbourne AC have met and raised concerns regarding accessibility for customers with dementia/zimmer frames and waiting for response from bus companies.	Bus Co
6.3	EW – Western AC – S106 funds provided for bus services and KCC hold the money. EW to look at ways to show S106 allocation for buses.	EW
6.4	EW – Eastern AC – Representative from Faversham Town Council should sit on Swale Local Bus Forum and suggested Cllr Gould is the rep as already on the Group.	EW
6.5	DW invited RE to attend future Sheppey Area Committee to update on Summer Bus Service.	DW
7.	AOB	
7.1	Next meeting to be held end of September/beginning of October 2025. Outstanding Action and responses information be prepared and circulated.	SD
7.2	SP updated on the Enhancement Partnership Board which had not met due to the change of administration and cabinet members. An inaugural introduction board meeting is being scheduled for August and SP will forward update bulletin to stakeholders once taken place. SP conscious regular meeting has not been held allowing Scheme Monitoring Groups to report back.	
Next meeting: - Schedule for end of September/beginning of October 2025.		

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