

Eastern Area Committee Meeting September 2023 – Matters arising

No.	Item	Background	Progress on actions
1.	Bus consultation project	<p>At the December 2021 meeting, Eastern Area Committee Members agreed to award £10,000.00 to undertake a public consultation on local bus services. The Project Centre Ltd were commissioned in February 2023 to carry out the consultation, following a delay due to a lack of resource within the department.</p> <p>The consultation was launched on the 24 March 2023 and closed on the 27 April 2023. There were a range of different methods used to collect responses including a 22-question online survey, meetings with members of the community and a youth engagement workshop held at the Abbey School.</p>	<p>The final report will be presented to the Eastern Area Committee at the September 2023 meeting and presented by the Programme Delivery Co-ordinator under item 6.</p>
2.	Flooding in the Whitstable Road area and other parts of Faversham	<p>At the December 2022 meeting, Cllr Julian Saunders provided a written update which included a response from Sue Cobb, Southern Water (SW), about concerns raised by the Area Committee about CSO discharges and the local sewage network.</p> <p>Kent County Council (KCC) have advised investigations were successfully completed, with deeper soils 3 to 4 metres below the ground offering some permeability. They</p>	<p>KCC have carried out some additional works (installation of drain gulleys) in August 2023, they will be monitoring the effectiveness of the works over the next few months.</p> <p>The Greenspaces Manager reported he met with a contractor on site to look at a couple of approaches to the issue which may assist in reducing water run-off. However, he does not believe these are able to make a huge impact</p>

		<p>have subsequently drafted a catchment assessment and are working on designs and costs which would be capable of absorbing at least part, but not all of the run-off.</p> <p>The Greenspaces Manager advised that KCC Highways advised in April 2023 that planned works on Whitstable Road in May 2023 will help alleviate some of the matters raised by residents. They have further assessed the use of soakaways in the Recreation Ground, but advised doing so would require multiple soakaways, pushing up cost and the level of disturbance, versus the benefits it would bring. Therefore, delivering the work in Whitstable Road and monitoring the effectiveness seemed more appropriate at this time.</p> <p>Given the above information, Swale has started to once again consider how to slow and reduce water run-off from the Rec, to try to reduce the impacts.</p>	<p>on the levels of water that have been seen arriving in Whitstable Road:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To cut out some of the kerb stones on the western side of the Park Road path and grade the grass carefully between tree roots to allow greater natural run off from the path with additional creation of low areas to capture run off - £1,280.00 2) To lay a linear interceptor drain across the path before it runs out into Whitstable Road at the junction of tarmac and block surfacing, back from the entrance gates, along with a linked soakaway in the adjacent grass. - £6,715.00 <p>Discussions are ongoing as there is currently no budget identified to cover the cost.</p>
3.	Active Travel update	<p>At the June 2023 meeting, the Active Travel Co-ordinator gave an update on the Faversham Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 project. The project was being funded by the £995k secured from Active Travel England, it was hoped that work would begin by March 2024.</p>	<p>Updated provided by the Active Travel Co-ordinator:</p> <p>Detailed designs for the Cross Town Path are focussing on installing raised table junctions at:</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Road junctions with Wallers Road, Beech Close, Cressway, Lion Field and Ospringe Road • South Road junctions with Tanners Street and Napleton Road • Bank Street junction with Swimming Pool car park access • Newton Road junction with Gatefield Lane • St Johns Road junction with William Street and • William Street junction with Park Road <p>Lower Road bus stops to have a clearway marking operation between 8am-3pm. A new bench is to be added at the footway leading to pathway to Noble Court. A new zebra crossing to be added to Newton Road and Napleton Road. A drop-in session is being planned at the Town Hall.</p>
4.	Solar Together	<p>A Member asked about the authenticity of letters being sent out to residents from Solar Together with the SBC logo on.</p> <p>The Chief Executive said she would check this and advise the Area Committee.</p>	<p>This is the Kent-wide scheme led by KCC with iChoosr managing it. Different installers are selected for each round with SBC (and other Kent districts) being in the current third round.</p> <p>Please see the KCC link for more information Solar Together Kent - Kent County Council</p>
5.	Whiting Crescent, Faversham	<p>A Member spoke about the piece of land at the end of Whiting Crescent, Faversham and asked if a reconditioned slide or swing could be installed. The Chief Executive</p>	<p>Officers confirmed the position is unchanged and as there are two other playgrounds within 10-15 minutes' walk from Whiting Crescent, the</p>

		<p>responded that it wasn't just the cost of equipment that would fall to SBC, but officers would have to carry out playground inspections, which would be difficult due to reduced resource.</p> <p>The Chief Executive said she would raise the matter with the Head of Environment and Leisure.</p>	<p>Council cannot provide any more playgrounds in that location.</p>
6.	Conservation Area Reviews	<p>The Conservation & Design Team report progress on Conservation Area Reviews to the Area Committees.</p>	<p>Faversham Town & Faversham - Preston Next Conservation Area Review - The appraisal documents have been prepared by Urban Vision with input from the Faversham Society. Six weeks public consultation for both the documents is scheduled from 23 October 2023 to 1 December 2023. Consultation responses and any further amendments to the appraisal documents is estimated to be presented to the Planning and Transportation Policy Working Group in January 2024 and to Planning and Resources Committee in March 2024. It is envisaged that the adopted versions of both the Conservation Areas will be published on Swale Borough Council website by summer 2024.</p> <p>Cellar Hill & Green Street Conservation Area - Peter Bell has been appointed to undertake the review work for Cellar Hill & Green Street Conservation Area. A site walkaround was organised on Friday 15 September 2023 with</p>

			the Parish Council and local residents. Public Consultation for the document is estimated to be undertaken towards the end of 2023/early 2024.
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