

Sittingbourne Area Committee: Progress on matters arising – June 2025

No.	Item	Background	Actions/updates
1.	Heritage issues	<p>Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA) 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 historic environment and heritage, a borough wide ASCA can prove beneficial.</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 spring/early summer 2025.</p>	<p>The next update on Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA) will be given at the September 2025 meeting.</p>
2.	Periwinkle Mill	<p>Updates have been given at previous meetings on Periwinkle Mill.</p>	<p>The Strategic Programme & Assets Manager advised that hard landscaping works were completed at the end of March 2025, with some seeding for wildflowers. The maintenance of vegetation on site will now fall within the Council's Ground Maintenance contract. Consideration of the possibility of interpretation boards is taking place, subject to funding.</p>

3.	Swale Local Heritage List	Updates have been given at previous meetings on the Swale Local Heritage List.	The next update on the Swale Local Heritage List will be given at the September 2025 meeting.
4.	Transport issues	<p>Members discussed the difficulties residents were experiencing with bus services in Swale and agreed the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Invite the bus companies and a representative from Southeastern Trains to come along to a future Sittingbourne Area Committee meeting. 2) Councillors Tony Winckless and Karen Watson to report back to the Sittingbourne Area Committee after Bus Focus Group meetings. 	Southeastern Railway, Stagecoach and Chalkwell have all confirmed they will attend the September 2025 Sittingbourne Area Committee meeting.