

## Western Area Committee meeting: Progress on Matters Arising – July 2025

No.	Item	Background	Actions/updates
1.	<b>Bexon (Bredgar) Conservation Area Review.</b>	<p>A new Conservation Area for Bexon (Bredgar) is proposed to be designated.</p> <p>The review work is programmed to be completed by mid-May 2025, to be followed by public consultation soon after.</p>	The next update on the Bexon (Bredgar) Conservation Area Review will be given at the September 2025 Western Area Committee meeting.
2.	<b>Local Heritage List</b>	Updates have been given at previous meetings on the Swale Local Heritage List.	The next update on the Local Heritage List will be given at the September 2025 Western Area Committee meeting.
3.	<b>Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA)</b>	<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 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. The draft consultation document is estimated to be ready by spring of 2025.</p>	The next update on the Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA) will be given at the September 2025 Western Area Committee meeting.
4.	<b>Inside Swale</b>	A discussion took place about returning to 4 Inside Swale editions a year. The Committee felt that if things like Area Committees were advertised in Inside Swale, there would be	This matter was considered as part of the 2025/26 budget setting process and members agreed not to increase the number of Inside Swale editions per year.

		better attendance/engagement with people who did not have access to the website or social media. Also, they believed it would ensure more people received information on a range of issues.	
5.	<b>Archiving of information on the SBC website</b>	It was agreed at the September 2024 meeting to see if more funding could be allocated for the checking and removal of archived information on the website so that when searches took place, out of date information did not appear, i.e. the promotion of events from previous years. This would make the website more user-friendly and people could find current information more easily.	This matter was considered as part of the 2025/26 budget setting process and members concluded there was no additional funding available to prioritise this work.
6.	<b>Loneliness Project</b>	Members agreed that an update on roll-out of the Loneliness Project come to the next Western Area Committee meeting.	The Communities & Partnerships Manager advised that the project has now commenced, and SBC are working with Swale Voluntary Alliance (SVA) to deliver a community led project. Swale CVS are in the process of recruiting a project role who will embed themselves in the community to enable the project deliverables, some of which include raising awareness about the effects of loneliness, carrying out a gap analysis, delivering information and awareness, expanding existing service directories, supporting the activation of volunteers to increase opportunities, and seeking funding for new and legacy projects. Progress reporting will be via the relevant service committee.