

Eastern Area Committee Meeting June 2025 – Matters arising

No.	Item	Background	Actions/updates
1.	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.
2.	Conservation Area Reviews	<p>The Conservation & Design Team report progress on the following Conservation Area Reviews to the Area Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faversham - Preston Next Conservation Area • Faversham- Town Conservation Area • Cellar Hill & Greenstreet Conservation Area 	The next update on Conservation Area Reviews will be given at the September 2025 meeting.
3.	Heritage issues	<p>Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA)</p> <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</p>	The next update on Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA) will be given at the September 2025 meeting.

		<p>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/early summer 2025.</p>	
4.	Off-road bikes	<p>The issue of off-road bikes causing anti-social behaviour (ASB) problems at a field near the Western Link was raised. The Police had met with the farmer who owned the field but he was reluctant to secure the field due to costs.</p>	<p>The Policy & Communities Manager advised that an operation has taken place in Faversham run by the Neighbourhood Task Force. However, because the it is sporadic when the bikes come, officers did not locate anyone on bikes, and no calls came in. Police are also working with the farmer and he has put concrete blocks in Western Link and a scaffolding pole at the path (marked up safely), however, there is further work they will encourage the farmer to do.</p>
5.	Drug houses	<p>Concerns were raised about drug houses across Faversham and in particular 12-year-olds visiting them to purchase drugs.</p>	<p>The Policy & Communities Manager advised that Police are already aware of concerns raised previously from local Councillors, but have no current evidence of concern from local residents. The Beat Officer is aware of general concerns and will continue to monitor the area.</p> <p>Residents should report any issues to the Police or, via Crimestoppers if they don't wish to speak to the Police.</p>

6.	Anti-social behaviour	Updates provided when they are available.	During the funfair, anti-social behaviour spiked with numerous issues at the fair. Now the fair has gone there are no further reported issues.
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