

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>	<p>and the Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee has been made aware.</p>
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	<p>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</p>	<p>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.</p>

		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 & 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 • Graveney Bridge, Graveney Church and Graveney Goodnestone Conservation Area 	<p>Preston Next Conservation Area - The Conservation Area appraisal was presented to the Policy & 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>Faversham Town Conservation Area - The Conservation Area appraisal was presented to the Policy & 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>Cellar Hill & Greenstreet Conservation Area - At the November 2024 P&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 & Resources Committee.</p> <p>Graveney Bridge, Graveney Church and Graveney Goodnestone Conservation Area Review - 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 & 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 & 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 & Resources Committee.</p>
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