

## Report to Sheppey Area Committee September 2025

### New actions/issues and progress with ongoing actions

No.	Item	Background	Actions/updates
1.	Barton's Point	Councillors requested that regular updates should be provided at future Sheppey Area Committee meetings under the Matters Arising item.	The Strategic Programme & Assets Manager advised that reports are being prepared for the Economy and Property and the Environment and Climate Change Committees that will be focused on considering and resetting the Council's future approach to realising the site's potential.
2.	Emergency contact details for Parish/Town Councils to use	A parish councillor asked if there was any information that could be circulated to town and parish councils on the Isle of Sheppey about who to contact if they identified a potential emergency situation.	The Policy & Communities Manager advised that Parish and Town councils should contact blue light services or utility companies in case of water/gas emergencies. These organisations will alert Swale Borough Council through pre-agreed responses structures and ensures that the correct agencies are told at the correct point.
4.	Household Support Fund	It was agreed that the reports that go to the Cost-of-Living Group, come to Sheppey Area Committee.	Please see Appendix I of this report for the latest update.
5.	Heritage issues	<b>Area of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCA)</b>  Swale Borough Council currently does not have an ASCA. Since the adoption of the	Update from the Design & Heritage Team: Following an all members briefing in May 2024, it was agreed that a draft consultation document be prepared for approval by the

		<p>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>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>Planning Committee, before undertaking public consultation.</p> <p>The draft consultation document is estimated to be ready by autumn of 2025.</p>
6.	Sheerness - Conservation Area Reviews	<p>Regular updates on Marine Town &amp; Mile Town Conservation Area Review and the Bluetown Conservation Area Review come to Sheppey Area Committee meetings.</p>	<p>Updates from the Design &amp; Heritage Team:</p> <p><b>Sheerness- Marine Town &amp; Mile Town Conservation Area Review</b>  Press notifications to London Gazette and one local newspaper are being organised. The final adopted version of the appraisal documents is envisaged to be published on the SBC website by mid-September 2025. The adopted map of redesignated Conservation areas with their changed boundaries are available on the SBC website.</p> <p><b>Sheerness- Bluetown Conservation Area Review</b>  Review of Sheerness Blue Town Conservation Area is estimated to start in spring of 2026 as part of Heritage Strategy-Action plan 2.</p>

7.	Local Heritage List	<p>Updates have been given at previous meetings on the Swale Local Heritage List.</p> <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 &amp; 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 current designated Local Heritage List is now published on the SBC website.</p>	<p>Update from the Design &amp; Heritage Team:</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 8 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 &amp; Resources Committee.</p>
8.	Lack of enforcement at 10-month occupancy caravan parks	<p>It was proposed that lack of enforcement at 10-month occupancy caravan parks due to the lengthy enforcement process, be referred to the Chair of the Policy &amp; Resources Committee to see what action could be taken.</p>	<p>The Head of Place advised that enforcing the closed season on holiday parks is a complex task. The level of evidence that is required in order to justify serving notices and to bring forward successful prosecutions presents particular challenges, but is an inherent part of the enforcement process that cannot be bypassed.</p>

			<p>A significant number of sites have multiple historical notices served on them, and when we receive complaints, officers will investigate these by conducting unannounced site visits. Letters are also sent to all the parks on the island to remind them of their obligations, usually annually, and we engage with park owners throughout the year where we can.</p>
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