

Swale Joint Transportation Board
16th March 2009

To-follow Report Agenda Item No. 14

Briefing Note for Swale Joint Transportation Board

Abbey Street, Faversham

A site meeting was held between Kent Highway Services representatives on 17th February 2009 the aim of which was to identify and put in place a strategy for the repair of the footway that concurs with Conservation Area legislation. The site visit identified a number of sites where previous repairs have enabled tree retention but the surface application of tarmac is not in keeping with the character of the area, and that any lasting repair would in all likelihood necessitate the unfortunate removal of some of the trees. Gerard Dore Principal Arboriculturist has following discussion with attendees of the site meeting contacted Paul Hegley of Swale Borough Council and proposed a site meeting that would include Conservation Officers from SBC to discuss mechanisms for footway repair/tree retention/removal and to set a timeline for a full scheme programme. In order to preserve the character of the street scene consideration needs to be given to both tree removal, replanting and identification of a suitable flexible surfacing that is both acceptable to residents and SBC Officers. It is proposed that any emergency repairs to ensure the safe passage of pedestrians should continue to be undertaken using tarmac and that a full programme of works commences in November. This lead time will enable appropriate materials and replacement high impact trees to be sourced and will also enable any trees that do require removal to be replaced within the 09/10 planting season upon completion of the scheme.

Gerard Dore
Principal Arboriculturist
3 March 2009