



AGENDA

SHEPPEY AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 21 February 2023

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Castle Connections, Queenborough Town Community Centre, Railway Terrace, Queenborough ME11 5AY

Membership:

Councillors Richard Darby, Oliver Eakin, Simon Fowle, Angela Harrison, Ken Ingleton (Chair), Elliott Jayes, Peter Macdonald, Peter Marchington, Lee McCall, Pete Neal, Padmini Nissanga, Ken Pugh and Bill Tatton and one vacancy.

Quorum = 5.

Pages

Information about this meeting

Members of the press and public can listen to this meeting live. Details of how to join the meeting will be added to the website by Monday 20 February 2023.

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1. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

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and procedures are advised that:

- (a) There is no scheduled test of the fire alarm during this meeting. If the alarm does sound, please leave the building quickly without collecting any of your possessions, using the doors signed as fire escapes.
- (b) Assemble outside where directed. Await instructions before re-entering the building.
- (c) Anyone who requires assistance in evacuating the building, should make themselves known during this agenda item.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillors should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their families or friends.

The Chair will ask Members if they have any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) or disclosable non-pecuniary interests (DNPis) to declare in respect of items on the agenda. Members with a DPI in an item must leave the room for that item and may not participate in the debate or vote.

Aside from disclosable interests, where a fair-minded and informed observer would think there was a real possibility that a Member might be biased or predetermined on an item, the Member should declare this and leave the room while that item is considered.

Members who are in any doubt about interests, bias or predetermination should contact the monitoring officer for advice prior to the meeting.

4. Minutes

To approve the [Minutes](#) of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 December 2022 (Minute Nos. 486 – 496) as correct records.

- 5. Kent County Council Community Services Consultation 5 - 8
- 6. Marine Town food waste and alternate weekly collection trial
- 7. Levelling-Up update
- 8. Matters arising from previous meetings 9 - 16
- 9. Public Forum
- 10. Local issues to be raised
- 11. Matters referred to Area Committee by Service Committees
- 12. Matters referred to Service Committee Chairs for consideration

Issued on Thursday, 9 February 2023

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**Chief Executive, Swale Borough Council,
Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT**

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Kent County Council Community Services Consultation

Kent County Council (KCC) has launched a public consultation on its Community Services which runs from 17 January to 26 March 2023.

The consultation proposes changes to the way we use our buildings to deliver some of our community services. We invite your feedback on our proposals as part of this consultation.

Why are we proposing changes?

The Council has experienced big increases in costs and has less money to spend. So we need to look ahead and do things differently to make sure we can still help residents in the years to come. Whilst ensuring effective support for residents who need our services, we need to:

- tackle the rising costs of maintaining our many buildings
- find savings, so we can balance the budget
- reduce our carbon footprint to meet our Net-Zero ambitions.

What services are included in the proposals?

Children's Centres and Youth Hubs, Public Health Services for Children and Families, Community Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities, Community Learning and Skills, and Gateways.

What are we proposing?

- Having fewer permanent buildings, meaning that some of our buildings would close - we want to keep buildings in areas where they are needed the most
- Co-locating more of our services, meaning more than one service would be available from some of the buildings you might visit
- Continuing to deliver some services by outreach, which means they do not take place in a dedicated or permanent space, but move around to when and where they are needed
- Ensuring residents can continue to access services and information online.

Our proposals have been designed by considering where there is greatest need for our services.

Find out more and share your views

Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/communityservicesconsultation to find out about the proposals for your area. You can respond to the consultation by using the online questionnaire (or download the Word version).

On our website you will also find a list of our drop-in events where you can come along to talk about the proposals and ask your questions. In Swale the drop-in events are:

- Sheppey Gateway at Sheerness Library, 38-42 High Street, Sheerness, ME12 1NL Monday 27 February 10am-1pm
- Milton Court Children's Centre, Brewery Road, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, ME10 2EE Thursday 23 February 4-8pm

KCC's Kent Communities Programme Team

communityservicesfeedback@kent.gov.uk

Summary of buildings in Sheppey potentially affected by KCC proposals:

(Detailed explanations can be found in the consultation document, page numbers indicated below.)

KCC proposals for co-locating services (page 41):

Proposed Community Hub Location	Co-located Services
Queenborough Library	Family Hub and Library
Sheppey Gateway	Community Learning and Skills, Library and Gateway

This table shows each of the buildings we propose to retain and which we propose to leave. Buildings that we have indicated to 'Remain' are proposed to become Family Hubs (page 52 - 60):

Current Children's Centre / Youth Hub Buildings	Proposal	Nearest Alternative	Distance in Miles
Beaches Children's Centre, Warden Bay Road, Leysdown, Sheerness	Leave	Proposed Community Hub at Queenborough Library	8.0
		Seashells, Sheerness Children's & Family Centre (commissioned service)	9.0
Ladybird Children's Centre, First Avenue, Queenborough	Leave	Seashells, Sheerness Children's & Family Centre (commissioned service)	3.3

This table is specifically about Health Visiting Services. It shows the children's centres that accommodate Health Visiting Services which are proposed to close. It then tells you the nearest venue where you would be able to access this service instead. You will notice that some of the provision is by outreach (page 73):

Current Children's Centre Buildings	Nearest Alternative	Distance in Miles
Ladybird Children's Centre First Avenue, Queenborough	Seashells Sheerness Children's and Family Centre	3.3
	Milton Court Children's Centre	6.2
	New outreach in Queenborough and Halfway Ward	0.6

This table shows the wards where there is existing outreach provision and where we propose to deliver new outreach provision, and which services this will involve (page 78):

Ward	Services	Current Outreach or New Proposed Outreach
Queenborough and Halfway	Open Access, Health Visiting Service and other multi-agency community partners	New outreach offer (includes Current and continuing outreach health visiting services)

Community Services for Adults with Learning disabilities (**page 90**):

Current Buildings	Proposal
Crawford House Edenbridge Drive, Sheerness	Remain

Community learning and skills (Adult education) - fixed buildings and future proposals (**page 98**):

Current Buildings	Proposal
Sheppey Adult Education Centre	Remain

Gateways (**page 105**):

Current Buildings	Proposal	Co-located services
Sheppey Gateway	Remain	Community Learning and Skills, Library and Gateway

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Sheppey Area Committee meeting: 21 February 2023 – Matters arising

No.	Item	Background	Update on actions
1.	Coach Parking	<p>Jenny Hurkett from the Criterion at Blue Town raised the matter of coach parking on the Isle of Sheppey.</p> <p>Owing to issues outside SBC's control, this matter could not currently be progressed but when feedback was received, any decision making would go to the Community Committee.</p> <p>The Head of Environment & Leisure advised reservations were recorded on the conversion of the Ship on Shore car park for coach parking. Officers are currently revisiting the options and will come back to March 2023 Community Committee.</p>	A report will be taken to Community Committee in March 2023.
2.	Connectivity across Sheppey	<p>A question was asked at the June 2021 meeting about transport issues on the Island. The Quality Bus Partnership has been suspended while (Kent County Council) KCC look at how to set up an Enhanced Partnership which will replace the QBP.</p> <p>The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods advised that the Kent County Council (KCC) Enhanced Partnership was still being formed. It would oversee the Countywide bus improvement plan. Although Government funding had been allocated, it had not yet been received. It was hoped that when more was known in the New Year, the Sheppey Area Committee would be able to link into any local issues.</p>	KCC have still not received notification from the DFT that the indicative funding amount awarded will be confirmed. As such they are unable to start work on any initiatives that require funding.
3.	Dumping of spoil on the Eastchurch shoreline	KCC Councillor Andy Booth asked if a report could be brought back to a future Sheppey Area Committee meeting providing details about the spoil that has been dumped on the Eastchurch shoreline. He said that it was important that the public were aware of what was happening.	The multi-agency group continue to explore possible options for action led by the Environment Agency.

		The Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods reported that a multi-agency group continue to explore possible options for action led by the Environment Agency.	
4.	Replacement of lighting along Sheerness Promenade	<p>The Area Committee awarded £8,048.74 of funding for the replacement of lighting along Sheerness Promenade. The Head of Environment and Leisure advised these are part of the LED upgrade works.</p> <p>The latest quote was around £186,000 so our budget of £70k plus the £8k from Sheppey area committee is not enough. The work has been split into phases and the lights for Sheppey are included in Phase 1.</p> <p>The Head of Environment and Leisure advised that the supply to the units was in place and final checks were being carried out. It was unlikely that all lights would be reinstated but there would be a good spread. The intention was to complete that part of the project by May 2023.</p>	<p>A total of 9 replacement streetlights have now been installed along the Sheerness Promenade, spread out from Tesco's to Neptune Terrace, to provide lighting in the most sensitive areas such as steps and ramps.</p> <p>The total cost of the completed work is £14,150, funded with the Area Committee award plus part of the £70k budget.</p>
5.	Coastal Policies Group	<p>Councillor Peter MacDonald asked what progress had been made by the Coastal Policies Group regarding the change from no intervention on erosion to one of protection.</p> <p>The Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods advised a meeting between stakeholders and officers to progress this matter had taken place. A formal working group of the South-East Coastal group will be formed. Following initial fact finding, a report will be taken to Environment Committee detailing the options available to the Council and residents.</p>	No further progress on this due to resource and capacity issues.
6.	Queenborough Guildhall	The condition of Queenborough Guildhall was discussed at the Regeneration & Property Committee and it was resolved that the	Nothing further to update, the condition surveys are in the programme of work to be

		<p>inclusion of Queenborough Guildhall in the recommended programme of Condition Surveys be supported by the Committee.</p> <p>The minutes of the Extraordinary Regeneration & Property Committee meeting can be found on the website or via this Link.</p>	carried out over the next year or so.
7.	Scrapsgate Field, Minster	<p>A group of horse owners requested the horse-riding ring at Scrapsgate Field, Minster be brought back into use and they were willing to contribute to the cost. The Head of Leisure and Environment advised that the support of the Sheppey Area Committee should be sought in the first instance, before taking the matter to the Environment Committee.</p> <p>The Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods advised that officers will be discussing the matter with the Chair of the Environment Committee as to if and when this is put on the agenda to consider.</p>	This item is going to March 2023 Environment Committee.
8.	New Road Play Park, Minster-on-Sea	<p>At the September 2022 meeting members agreed a bid of £20,000.00 submitted by Councillor Elliott Jayes for improvements to New Road Play Park, Minster-on-Sea.</p> <p>The Greenspace Technical Officer provided an update on this project. It has been agreed to leave all the existing play facilities in situ and look to integrate smaller pieces of equipment into the same area to provide different 'play values' than those already on site. An 'aerial runway' at the opposite end of the open space will be included as an additional 'option' when going out to design and tender.</p> <p>The Head of Environment and Leisure advised that he was confident the allocated funding for this project would be spent by May 2023.</p>	Currently undertaking design/site visits with suppliers (last visit on 31/01/2023) – design drafts due 17/02/2023.

9.	Sheerness town centre	At the December 2022 meeting the Head of Regeneration & Economic Development updated on the works to Masters' House, Old Library at 44 Trinity Road and the Levelling-Up Fund bid.	Masters' House update - the Expression of Interest process for a leaseholder / operator ended in December. Following conversations with prospective tenants in January, we are proceeding to the signing of the lease.
10.	Q&R Regeneration	Six-monthly updates are provided by Homes England.	Neil Miller, Homes England, has been asked to provide an update. It will be circulated to Members when it arrives.
11.	Beach Hut proposal	Further to the presentation of the beach huts proposal setting out SBC's intention to install a further 24 beach huts on the Isle of Sheppey. Concerns were raised about parking at Minster, the Head of Environment and Leisure said that officers would look into this further and report back.	<p>A meeting has since taken place with Leysdown Parish Council to try and alleviate concerns. Officers are working on amended proposals.</p> <p>As stated on the night, the problems of parking at Minster Leas are not solely as a result of beach huts and this first phase of 12 huts would not impact the situation.</p> <p>A public consultation is also planned to ensure local voices are heard and will include parking issues.</p>

12.	Trinity Road, Sheerness parking	Members of the public spoke about the problems residents were having with parking in Trinity Road, Sheerness, where they had to pay for parking permits. They also asked about Marine Parade Car Park which was free to park in but due to some of the vehicles permanently parked there, residents did not feel safe to use that car park. Currently there was no clarity about the rules and some residents had received penalty notices. The Head of Environment and Leisure confirmed that the local Ward Member had raised the issue with him and the residents could park in the Trinity Road Car Park whilst an investigation was carried out into the historic agreement. The penalty notices would be put on hold until the matter was resolved.	The investigation has concluded and officers will be in contact with residents soon. A report is needed to determine the final outcome and it will go to March 2023 Community Committee.
13.	Active Travel update	At the December 2022 meeting, the Active Travel Co-ordinator gave a presentation on the Sheppey Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 proposals.	Please see Appendix 1 for an update.

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SHEPPEY AREA COMMITTEE

Subject	Active Travel Update
Lead Officer	Adrian Oliver, Active Travel Co-ordinator

Thank you to everyone who has continued to provide input and support for active travel on Sheppey.

The Sheppey Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 proposals were submitted to Kent County Council, competing with 87 other schemes. The Sheppey proposals made the initial cut to a Medium List, but unfortunately didn't make the Short List.

Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 was finally officially announced on Sunday 5th February, some five months later than expected and very different from the funding previewed in July 2022. Tranche 4 is no longer a £470m capital and £250m revenue multi-year fund, but a one year £200m construction fund. At this point, Swale Borough Council still has one bid in the process.

On 8th February, we received confirmation that Swale Borough Council has been awarded £40,000 from the Active Travel Capability Fund 2022/23. £15,000 of which is specified to "assist with the Scheme Planning and Design of Sheerness – Minster area improvements".

This funding is considered to be early feasibility stage design of schemes, to the point of bidding for capital funds, including early plans sufficient for bid stage assurance against Active Travel England design tools. This project will be commissioned as soon as possible to ensure that we have the evidence for the next tranche of Active Travel Funding.

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