



AGENDA

SITTINGBOURNE AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 21 June 2022

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: The Sapling Room, The Appleyard, Avenue of Remembrance, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4DE

Membership:

Councillors Derek Carnell, Simon Clark, Steve Davey (Chair), Mike Dendor (Vice-Chair), Tim Gibson, James Hall, Ann Hampshire, Ken Rowles, Roger Truelove, Ghlin Whelan and Tony Winckless.

Quorum = 4.

RECORDING NOTICE

Please note: this meeting may be recorded and the recording may be published on the Council's website.

At the start of the meeting the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being audio recorded. The whole of the meeting will be recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy.

Therefore by attending the meeting and speaking at Committee you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of those sound recordings for training purposes.

If you have any queries regarding this please contact Democratic Services.

Pages

Information for the Public

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 on 20 June 2022.

Link to meeting: TO BE ADDED

Privacy Statement

Swale Borough Council (SBC) is committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal information. As data controller we ensure that processing is carried out in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and

the General Data Protection Regulations. In calling to join the meeting you will be asked to provide a username which will be visible to those in attendance at the meeting and will not be shared further. No other identifying information will be made available through your joining the meeting. In joining the meeting you are providing the Council with your consent to process your username for the duration of the meeting. Your username will not be retained after the meeting is finished. Please note that you may use a pseudonym as your username, however please be aware that the use of any inappropriate name may lead to removal from the meeting.

If you have any concerns or questions about how we look after your personal information or your rights as an individual under the Regulations, please contact the Data Protection Officer by email at dataprotectionofficer@swale.gov.uk or by calling 01795 417114.

1. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

The Chair will advise the meeting of the evacuation procedures to follow in the event of an emergency. This is particularly important for visitors and members of the public who will be unfamiliar with the building and procedures. The Chair will inform the meeting that: 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, and assemble outside where directed. Await instructions before re-entering the building. Should anyone require assistance in evacuating the building, please make the Swale Borough Council officers aware of any special needs so that suitable arrangements may be made in the event of an emergency.

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 or their spouse, civil partner or person with whom they are living with as a spouse or civil partner. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships. The Chairman will ask Members if they have any interests to declare in respect of items on this agenda, under the following headings:

(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) under the Localism Act 2011. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DPI, the Member must leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or vote. This applies even if there is provision for public speaking.

(b) Disclosable Non-Pecuniary Interests (DNPI) under the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council in May 2012. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DNPI interest, the Member may stay, speak and vote on the matter.

(c) Where it is possible that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts would conclude that there was a real possibility that

the Member might be predetermined or biased the Member should declare their predetermination or bias and then leave the meeting while that item is considered.

Advice to Members: If any Councillor has any doubt about the existence or nature of any DPI or DNPI which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer, the Head of Legal or from other Solicitors in Legal Services as early as possible, and in advance of the meeting.

4. Minutes

To approve the [Minutes](#) of the Meeting held on 8 March 2022 (Minute Nos. 656 - 665) and the [Minutes](#) of the meeting held on 18 May 2022 (Minute Nos. 31 - 32) as correct records.

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 5. Matters arising from previous meetings | 5 - 24 |
| 6. Swale Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) | |
| 7. Public Forum | |
| 8. Local issues to be raised | |
| 9. Update on work plan | 25 - 30 |
| 10. Town Centre Volunteer Group | |
| 11. Raybel presentation | |
| 12. Ellie's Angels | |
| 13. Parkinson's fund raising | |
| 14. Matters referred to Area Committee by Service Committees | |
| 15. Matters referred to Service Committees by Area Committee | |

Issued on Monday, 13 June 2022

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in **alternative formats**. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, **please contact DEMOCRATIC SERVICES on 01795 417330**. To find out more about the work of the Area Committees, please visit www.swale.gov.uk

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

Sittingbourne Area Committee meeting: 21 June 2022 – Matters arising

No.	Item	Background	Progress on actions
1.	Entrance to skate park and Dolphin Barge Museum	The Head of Housing and Community Services advised that conversations had taken place between Swale Borough Council (SBC) and the organisations regarding widening the access so everyone could have appropriate access. A meeting was scheduled to discuss further.	The Head of Housing and Community Services will give a verbal update.
2.	Sittingbourne town centre regeneration scheme	<p>Implementation of this scheme has been regularly reviewed by the Council's Scrutiny Committee for many years. It was proposed that the Committee receive the same written report that the Scrutiny Committee receive.</p> <p>However, as the project has reached practical completion there are no further update reports. The Policy and Resources Committee will oversee the continuing financial model.</p>	The Chair will provide a verbal update.
3.	Bomb shelter at Trots Hall	<p>At the September 2021 meeting the Chair advised he met with Richard Emmett regarding the bomb shelter at Trots Hall Gardens and there could still be evidence of a shelter there. More investigations would take place.</p> <p>The Chair will be contacting Richard Emmett to see if there has been time scheduled to proceed with a ground resistivity examination.</p>	The Chair will provide a verbal update.
4.	Sittingbourne Tennis Club	It was reported at the September 2021 meeting there were still ongoing issues regarding the legal	No further update.

		<p>agreement to be finalised. The Club would like to take on the toilets and facilities at Milton Recreation Ground, an SBC officer was looking into the lease arrangements and would report back.</p> <p>The Leisure & Technical Services Manager advised the agreement hasn't progressed as it has been agreed with the club to hold it back while the LTA and Government funding (£30m) is being worked out. The club is being kept up to date with news and interest has been logged with the LTA to apply for funds to resurface the courts as well as at King Georges.</p>	
5.	E-scooters	<p>The Police advised that 42 people were educated around the correct use of e-scooters between January and March 2021. Those that have continued to ignore this advice and been dealt with by way of S.59 warning or seizure.</p> <p>A Committee Member challenged the wording in the report on education by the Police on the 'correct use of e-scooters' as legally e-scooters should not be used. The Head of Housing & Community Services agreed to raise this with the Police.</p>	<p>The Divisional Member for Sittingbourne North will be raising this matter again with the Police.</p> <p>The Police & Crime Commissioner, Matthew Scott and District Commander for Swale, Chief Inspector Junior Dann both declined an invitation to attend the June 2022 Sittingbourne Area Committee meeting to discuss this and other matters.</p> <p>It is hoped to have a representative from the Police in attendance at the September 2022 meeting.</p>

6.	Kemsley Arms	<p>A Committee Member referred to the excessive planning delays in getting the site developed. The Head of Housing & Community Services agreed to raise this with officers.</p> <p>The Head of Planning advised that officers met with the applicant on Thursday 14 April 2022, and await confirmation from the applicants with regard to agreeing Section 106 payments and agreement to conditions regarding car parking / open (amenity) space.</p>	Cllr Mike Dendor has provided an update – Appendix 1.
7.	Bus services	<p>At the December 2021 meeting a member of the public commented on bus services, in particular route 347 only having one bus instead of two. Residents were not able to use the new facilities in Sittingbourne without a reliable bus service. Stagecoach had said they would not come to Sittingbourne without a depot. The Head of Housing & Community Services said that a meeting was due to take place with KCC, SBC and the bus operators and she would raise this matter at the meeting.</p>	<p>The Quality Bus Partnership isn't currently meeting. The Council did submit a response to the bus consultation, raising concerns about the reduction of bus services in the Swale area.</p> <p>The Divisional Member for Sittingbourne North commented KCC do not control bus companies so do not "close" routes or services. However, they have for many years provided discretionary subsidies to keep some routes and services open. Due to severe budgetary pressures on all departments and necessity to maintain front line services such as Social Care, Education, Highways, etc, KCC</p>

			have been left with no choice other than to reduce discretionary subsidies.
8.	Staplehurst Road	<p>At the December 2021 meeting a member of the public mentioned problems at Staplehurst Road where motorists were turning right when it was left turn only. As there was no enforcement there was no deterrent.</p> <p>the Chairman advised that the Community Warden will look into the matter of motorists turning right when it was left turn only.</p>	<p>The Chair will provide a verbal update.</p> <p>The Divisional Member for Sittingbourne North commented that plans to enact Traffic Management Act 2004 Part 6, permitting civil enforcement by local authorities (KCC) to for moving traffic contraventions, including use of approved cameras - expected to start enforcement early 2023, BUT only at approved sites where action is deemed to be needed according to Highway stats (similar to process required for installation of cameras).</p>
9.	Creekside Plan	At the December 2021 meeting, the Chairman advised that he had spoken with charities about developing an overarching project to rejuvenate the Wharf. He already had a number of ideas from the charities and was in discussion with the Legal Team about forming a group and taking this forward. The Chairman circulated the ideas to the Area Committee Members.	The Head of Housing & Community Services advised there had been a few operational issues but once these were resolved, the wider plan for the site could be considered.
10.	Bollards in Milton High Street	A Member commented that the Conservation & Design Manager had advised he was reluctant to	The Chairman agreed to follow up on this.

		install bollards in Milton High Street as it would spoil the appearance of the area.	
11.	Replace damaged rail and bollard	The Area Committee allocated £893.28 to replace the damaged rail and bollard at Milton High Street.	Please see Appendix 2
12.	Improvements to Milton Regis High Street	The Area Committee allocated £9,649.25 to carry out improvements to Milton Regis High Street (including installing planters and baskets).	Please see Appendix 3
13.	Heritage issues	The Sittingbourne High Street Conservation Area Review and Milton Regis Conservation Area Review.	The Senior Conservation & Design Manager will provide an update at the September 2022 meeting.
14.	Improvements to lighting in Milton Regis area	<p>It was noted that the clock had been reinstated in Milton Regis and the Chairman would be exploring how lighting in the area could be improved.</p> <p>At the March 2022 meeting the Chairman advised he and the Milton Regis Society were looking to resolve this with KCC as soon as possible.</p>	The Chair will provide a verbal update.
15.	Swale Borough Council website	<p>A Member raised concerns about the difficulties residents and Councillors experienced when trying to navigate the Swale Borough Council website. Some items appeared to be 'buried' and took a number of steps to find. It was agreed that the Chairman would refer this matter to Cabinet.</p> <p>The Communications Manager advised three surveys will be carried out, one each for councillors, officers and the public. Officers are currently checking the questions in the surveys before they go live to make sure they will provide valuable insight.</p>	The Communications Manager advised that the questions in the surveys are being finalised and hope to go live soon.

16.	Periwinkle Water Mill Site	At the March 2022 meeting an update was given on the current situation. The Senior Conservation & Design Manager advised that a mid-range cost option was being considered for the remedial works for the structural concerns. There were still issues with the clearing of greenery due to land ownership issues.	Please see Appendix 4.
17.	Options for Roman Square & Square opposite Swale House	<p>At the September 2021 meeting the Chair advised that he spoke to the occupants of Roman Square and the Working Group about brightening up the area.</p> <p>At the December 2021 meeting the Chairman reported that some work had been done and new planters had been installed in the area opposite Swale House. Work on greening the High Street was being looked at and if any Committee Members had ideas could they please email the Chairman.</p>	<p>The Roman Square sign at the junction with the High Street is being painted as part of the Phase 2 works that are currently in progress. The Capital Projects Manager is also meeting with KCC highways officers in the High Street on 15th June so will see if they can make any highway improvements to Roman Square.</p> <p>Future spend on the greening initiative has been deferred while officers consider whether funds available can be increased via UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF).</p>
18.	Sports facilities in the area	<p>At the June 2021 meeting the Chair suggested reviewing sports facilities in the Sittingbourne area to see if any required work.</p> <p>The Leisure & Technical Services Manager advised that we have recently commenced a full review of our Built facilities Strategy (BFS) and we will be reviewing all areas in the coming months.</p>	The Head of Environment & Leisure advised that the Built Facilities strategy work is well underway with assessments of all facilities across the Borough undertaken and they are now working on the analysis. The next stage will be stakeholder

		It was agreed to bring this back to a future meeting once Members had been able to look at facilities in the area.	consultation later this summer. Schedule for completion of the work is Dec/Jan.
19.	Local Heritage List	At the March 2022 meeting The Senior Conservation & Design Officer explained that a process and timeline for making nominations to the Local Heritage List was being finalised. It was hoped to publish the nomination process on the website by early May 2022.	The Senior Conservation & Design Manager will provide an update at the September 2022 meeting.
20.	Swale Media Arts Centre lease.	A written update was provided at the June meeting.	The Interim Property Services Manager has provided an update – see Appendix 5.

Items to bring back to a future Area Committee Meeting:

	Item	Background	Comments on progress
21.	Signage around the town centre	The Chairman had circulated a schedule of signage around the town centre and invited members to comment on whether they thought any needed changing.	There has been no feedback on this from members. The Chair proposes waiting until the signage in the town centre has been finalised and then bring it back to a future meeting to see if there are any gaps.

22.	Brown tourism signs	<p>To commence an audit of existing local brown signs - Cabinet adopted a Visitor Economy Framework Action Plan on 28 October 2020. This includes a medium-term action to undertake a wayfinding audit of signage and identify any gaps. The delivery partners identified for this action are: SBC; town and parish councils; Visit Swale; Kent Highways; and local businesses.</p> <p>The Brown Signs audit for the borough is not underway as yet as it is programmed in for a later stage of delivery of framework Year 4 (currently in Year 2). This is to enable other actions to take place which will identify and support the businesses and develop the offer. We will then be in a stronger position to identify where signs are required and also where the signs are no longer appropriate.</p>	The Chair will bring this back to a future meeting.
23.	Closed Churchyards	The Conservation and Design Manager explained that over £1 million of works needed to be carried out across Swale on closed churchyards to ensure they were maintained for heritage and health and safety reasons but the Council did not have this funding.	It was agreed to bring this back to a future meeting.

Matters Arising update – Kemsley Arms

Cllr Mike Dendor provided the update below:

As well as being a ward councillor for this area, I am also Trustee/Treasurer/Clerk of Kemsley Community Centre Trust (KCCT) managing the KVH premises (Kemsley Village Hall) next door to the Kemsley Arms site. The Trust has a 125-year repairing lease with Swale Borough Council (SBC) for the KVH premises.

On behalf of the KCCT Board and of Kemsley residents, I have to say that the time taken to deal with this application is very disappointing and it is also very disappointing that the Kemsley Arms building has been left to rot by SBC for so long. Frank Lloyd, the founder of the village that built the two community buildings in the 1920s, must be turning in his grave!

The Kemsley Arms building at the top of the hill in Grovehurst Avenue is an eyesore making a mockery of any street view. The site is an invitation to squatters, local gangs of youths, and thieves (all internal metal has been stripped). There have been fights, fires, and vandalism which have often spilled over into KVH premises including the nursery. I have also had a number of complaints about mice and rats in neighbouring buildings.

Trustees, volunteers, and Councillors have spent years trying to raise the public's perception of Kemsley Village area using KVH as the focus. We have been somewhat successful in that, but KVH still loses potential hirers because of (historic) public perception of Kemsley and the fact that the first thing that they see when they come to view KVH is the run-down wreck of a building at the top of the hill!

I spoke to the developers on Monday 6 June 2022. It is now 2.5 years since developers initially put forward plans for the Kemsley Arms site. The Kemsley Arms building has had to weather 8 or 9 winters since being abandoned and is falling apart but still there seems to be no urgency on planning progress. I have several times asked if the developers would like me to call-in the application or if they might appeal on non-determination grounds, but they have continued to say that they would prefer to work with SBC. I think the developers, KCCT Trustees, volunteers and residents have shown a lot of patience, but patience is now wearing very thin.

The developers have agreed (some time ago) to all S106 charges and parking conditions and have been told that there is nothing else stopping approval apart from formal legal agreement for S106. They are surprised that this has only mentioned now. They, and I, believe that the wording of the agreement could have been done long ago with figures simply slotted in when finalised.

As regards parking conditions, agreement with SBC and KCCT on use of KCCT grounds for parking spaces is a property ownership issue that does not need to be resolved for planning approval to be given. Those discussions will take place after planning approval is granted. In the meantime, with planning approval the developers can start renovation of the Kemsley Arms building as they have enough

parking spaces within their ownership to cater for occupancy of that part of the development. They can then leave the second phase of development in abeyance until resolution of ground for additional parking spaces is completed.

Matters arising – Replaced damaged rail and bollard

The Area Committee allocated £893.28 to replace the damaged rail and bollard at Milton High Street. This work has now been completed.



This page is intentionally left blank

APPENDIX 3

Matters arising – Improvements to Milton Regis High Street

The Area Committee allocated £9,649.25 to carry out improvements to Milton Regis High Street (including installing planters and baskets). The pictures below show the progress so far.



Barrier baskets at Brewery Road



Flower Tower at Court Hall



Flower tower at library



Lamp post basket



Lamp post baskets



Planter at dentists



Troughs

Matters arising – Periwinkle Water Mill Site

The Conservation & Design Manager has provided the following update:

- The site is currently quite overgrown as noted by Cllr Dendor, the Greenspaces Manager and myself from recent site visits.
- The Greenspaces Manager is going to arrange for Blenwood to go in and cut back the vegetation so that contractors wishing to bid for the works will be able to meet with East Kent Engineering Partnership (EKEP) on site and be able to clearly see the different areas of planned works.
- I am waiting for EKEP to make the final changes to the tender package (drawings and activity schedule) following a meeting I had with them at the end of May 2022 where some options around the different structural interventions needed to be finalised following some clarifications. I had expected to see this by now, so will chase up next week. It is hoped that we can start the tendering process later this month or early July 2022, and the suggested tendering period is 3-4 weeks, although the period can be extended if needed. EKEP will be handling the tendering process on SBC's behalf.
- The risk register log needs updating (on the advice of EKEP) in relation to the matter of construction costs which have shot up dramatically in recent months. It is likely that the existing contingents built into the estimated costing for the scheme should mean that we can keep the project within the current estimated budget, but this will be checked again with EKEP when I chase them up.
- The design work still needs to be carried out for the planned heritage interpretation and site information signage. The approximate costs for the provision of this are already known (following some initial liaison with a rep from Woolmer Fitzpatrick which we have used before for SBC owned sites) and so the focus will be on putting together a mix of text and images which will help visitors to the site imagine how the site once looked and how it functioned.

This page is intentionally left blank

Matters Arising update – Swale Media Arts Centre Lease

The property is jointly owned by Swale Borough Council and U&I Ltd under the partnership name of Spirit of Sittingbourne.

The joint partner required a 'Deed of Variation' to be agreed and signed prior to approval of the lease terms being signed off.

Due to staff changes the Swale Council appointed directors of the Spirit of Sittingbourne had to be changed and this took sometime to complete as it involved Company's House approval.

Following Registration of the newly appointed directors a Deed of Variation to the Partnership agreement was agreed subject to Swale Council Approval, delegated to the Leader of the Council. This Deed has now been completed and signed off by 9th June 2022 via Mid Kent Legal Services and between the respective parties.

In order to gain access to the property and under-take tenants works the Swale Media Arts Centre were allowed to take occupation on a 'Tenancy at Will' commencing 29th July 2021.

A lease has been agreed and signed by both parties and will complete immediately with the Deed of Variation. The lease term will be effective from 29th July 2021 for a term of 5 years without review. The lease is subject to a rent-free period from date of lease commencement.

A number of outstanding works of repair have been agreed which will be undertaken through the Council's property department.

Interim Property Services Manager

This page is intentionally left blank

Sittingbourne Area Committee Meeting	
Meeting Date	21 June 2022
Report Title	Sittingbourne Area Committee Work Plan proposal for 2022/23
EMT Lead	David Clifford, Head of Policy, Governance & Customer Service
Chair of Area Committee	Councillor Steve Davey
Lead Officer	Janet Dart, Interim Area Committees Coordinator
Classification	Open
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Sittingbourne Area Committee to discuss and agree their priorities and ambitions for 2022/23. 2. The Sittingbourne Area Committee to discuss and agree the criteria which any bids for funding will need to meet. 3. The Sittingbourne Area Committee to discuss and agree what publicity should take place to promote the funding scheme.

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Sittingbourne Area Committee (AC) have worked with officers to put a proposal together for the Sittingbourne AC to consider which will set the Work Plan and criteria for funding bids for the year 2022/23. Once a final list of priorities and criteria have been agreed, the funding application form and guidance notes will be updated ready to launch the bid application process on Friday 1 July 2022. The deadline for bids will be Monday 1 August 2022 after which a thorough assessment process will take place by officers before being taken to the September 2022 round of AC meetings for consideration.

2 Background

- 2.1 In June 2021 the AC Review Working Group and Committee Chairs agreed a process for operating ACs and part of that was for each AC to agree a Work Plan at the June meeting each year. This would set out each Committee's priorities and ambitions for that year and would link in with how the funding should be allocated. Once the priorities/ambitions have been agreed, the Committee will need to set criteria which any bids for funding would need to meet.
- 2.2 The Committee can decide to use the funding exclusively for a proactive theme/ambition or open the scheme up for external organisations to make bids or a combination of the two.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 **Priorities/ambitions for 2022/23** - the AC Review Working Group met in April 2022 to reflect on how the AC's processes worked during the year 2021/22 and to consider what changes would be beneficial going forward.
- 3.2 One of their recommendations was that Heads of Service be consulted to see if there are any existing projects that each AC could use part of their funding to accelerate without requiring much more than minimal officer involvement. This would help to achieve completion of projects earlier as well as benefit the area. Below is a list briefly outlining some potential projects that Committee Members may wish to consider prioritising for 2022/23.
- Active Travel – consultation events (necessary to support the development and adoption of the borough-wide and area-based Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans);
 - Active Travel – infrastructure improvements. This could be for example new or improved cycle storage on SBC land, or following engagement with partners such as Network Rail;
 - Great East Hall shop feasibility next steps – outline design and costing. C. £5k - £6k;
 - Business Crime Reduction Partnership – Radio Schemes;
 - Electric closing gates for new car park at Milton Creek Country park;
 - public toilet refurbishments;
- 3.3 **Criteria for funding applications** - The Chair and Vice-Chair propose that the criteria set by Sittingbourne Area Committee for the year 2021/22 should be carried forward to 2022/23 as they are still relevant for the area. Therefore, bids for funding submitted to the September 2022 meeting should demonstrate they will have a positive impact on the appearance, environment and facilities in the Sittingbourne Area. They suggest the Area Committee may wish to consider adding bids should have a positive impact to the wellbeing of residents in the Sittingbourne Area.
- 3.4 Bids will also be considered that can demonstrate how the initiative or project will contribute to Swale's strategic priorities 2 and 3 as set out in the Corporate Plan as listed below:

3.5 Priority 2: Investing in our environment and responding positively to global challenges;

2.1 Develop a coherent strategy to address the climate and ecological emergencies, aiming for carbon neutrality in the council's own operations by 2025 and in the whole borough by 2030, and pursue all opportunities to enhance biodiversity across the borough.

2.2 Encourage active travel and reduced car use, including through the permeability of new developments, and work with partners to address air quality issues.

2.3 Establish a special projects fund to provide much-needed investment in the borough's public realm and open spaces.

2.4 Recognise and support our local heritage to give people pride in the place they live and boost the local tourism industry.

2.5 Work towards a cleaner borough where recycling remains a focus, and ensure that the council acts as an exemplar environmental steward, making space for nature wherever possible.

Priority 3: Tackling deprivation and creating equal opportunities for everyone:

3.1 Undertake targeted interventions to identify our most disadvantaged families and communities, improve our understanding of the issues they face, and develop new ways of working to reduce social exclusion and enhance opportunities and quality of life.

3.2 Reduce health inequality by developing more productive relationships with local health partners and making health and wellbeing a central consideration in all relevant council decision-making, recognising especially the link between housing and health.

3.3 Develop a communitarian approach to partnership working based on shared objectives with like-minded agencies in the voluntary and community sectors.

3.4 Ensure that the council plays a proactive role in reducing crime and antisocial behaviour, including through the modernisation of CCTV provision.

3.5 Promote wellbeing and enjoyment of life by signposting and encouraging a wide range of sporting, cultural and other leisure activities appropriate and accessible to each age group.

3.6 Publicity of funding scheme – The AC Review Working Group recommended that each AC agree how widely their funding scheme should be publicised. This decision will directly relate to the Work Plan and priorities that are agreed at the June 2022 meeting. The options for the AC to consider are:

- Publicise widely, putting out press releases, social media posts and email local organisations;
- Limited publicity, email any local organisations in the area that may have schemes which Members believe would assist with achieving the AC's ambitions; or
- No publicity, AC Members to advise organisations themselves if they feel they may have a scheme that would assist with achieving the AC's ambitions.

4 Alternative Options

- 4.1 Sittingbourne Area Committee Members could agree not to have a Work Plan with set priorities and criteria for funding. However, officers would advise against this as it will be difficult to adhere to the three-step process recommended by the AC Review Working Group and the AC may find themselves in a position where members will need to vote on individual bids, and any member with an interest which could give them an apparent bias, would have to recuse themselves from all such votes. In addition to unnecessarily disenfranchising members, this also runs the risk that meetings becoming inquorate for these agenda items.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 The Chair and Vice-Chair have been consulted to gain a steer on what they recommend the Work Plan and criteria should be for 2022/23. Officers have also been consulted to seek advice on potential projects Area Committees may wish to prioritise in their Work Plan and to ensure there are no resource implications. No external consultation has been undertaken or is proposed. However, Sittingbourne AC will be consulted at the June 2022 meeting when a final proposal will be agreed and voted on.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	The proposals report provides senior officers the opportunity to check the Work Plan does not conflict with the Corporate Plan priorities.
Financial, Resource and Property	The proposals report provides senior officers the opportunity to check the Work Plan has no Swale Borough Council financial /officer resource implications.
Legal, Statutory and Procurement	No specific implications identified at this stage.
Crime and Disorder	No specific implications identified at this stage.
Environment and Climate/Ecological Emergency	No specific implications identified at this stage.
Health and Wellbeing	No specific implications identified at this stage.
Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	No specific implications identified at this stage.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	No specific implications identified at this stage.
Equality and Diversity	No specific implications identified at this stage.
Privacy and Data Protection	No specific implications identified at this stage.

7 Appendices

7.1 There are no appendices.

8 Background Papers

8.1 There are no background papers.

This page is intentionally left blank