

**Sheppey Area Committee meeting: 15 March 2022 – Matters arising**

No.	Item	Background	Comments on updates
1.	Coach Parking	A member of the public raised the matter of coach parking on the Isle of Sheppey.	The Head of Environment & Leisure has been in discussions with the Cabinet Member and ward members in relation to coach parking provision. The viability of the Ship on Shore car park is under consideration, however any changes proposed will require public consultation as part of the off-street traffic regulation order variation process. The Head of Environment & Leisure is working on a Cabinet Member decision to give authority for the Parking Services Manager to start the consultation process off.
2.	Connectivity across Sheppey	<p>The Council is currently undertaking a review of its Local Plan. One of the documents that is being developed alongside this review is a Transport Strategy.</p> <p>At the June 2021 meeting a briefing by the Public Transport Unit at Kent County Council provided an update on Sheppey bus service provision.</p> <p>The Kent County Council forum that looked at connectivity across Sheppey, originally set up by Mike Whiting when he was the KCC Cabinet Member for Transport, is no longer in existence.</p>	<p>Kent County Councillor Cameron Beart advised there has been a lot of discussion about bus services at the recent KCC budget meeting but no update on the April 2022 roll out.</p> <p>Appendix 1 is a copy of an email from the Kent County Council Public Transport Team regarding the public consultation on proposed savings for the Supported Bus Services. If anyone wishes to respond to the consultation, it closes on 20 April 2022.</p>

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		<p>Additionally, the Quality Bus Partnership has been suspended while KCC look at how to set up an Enhanced Partnership which will replace the QBP. The Chair suggested at the September meeting postponing this discussion until more is be known about the focus of the new group</p> <p>At the November 2021 meeting, Kent County Councillor Cameron Beart advised the new Enhanced Partnership is due to be launched in April 2022 alongside a new Bus Feedback Portal.</p>	
3.	Sheerness town centre regeneration	Updates have been given at previous meetings on the restoration of the Grade II listed Sheerness clock tower, refurbishment of Master's House, Sheerness and the Sheerness High Street project.	Please see Appendix 2 for the latest update.
4.	Restoration of war memorial, Sheerness	Updates have been given at previous meetings on the restoration of Sheerness war memorial.	<p>Peter MacDonald has provided the update below:</p> <p>The first two layers of Portland Stone have been laid by the Stone Masons on our re-enforced concrete foundation, The Stone Masons are staying at The Royal in Sheerness during the week and hope to be complete by the end of the month. I have to say their work is first class, they have a special fork-lift to place the stone blocks, all are tied in by stainless</p>

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			<p>steel stretchers &amp; stainless steel rods. For the top lift I have arranged scaffolding so they can reach! It should be a great credit to Swale, the Island, &amp; the other donors. We hope there is enough funds to properly treat the existing grade 2 listed Memorial including the lady on top who looks a little poorly!! The Stone Masons indicate the job would take about a week, it is hoped all in time for the Dedication due on 24th April this year within days of the 100th anniversary of the Dedication of the existing War Memorial.</p>
5.	Neptune Terrace steps	<p>At the November 2021 meeting, following a request by a member of the public an update was provided by the Director of Regeneration &amp; Neighbourhoods who advised that this was a Sheerness Town Council project and SBC understood they had submitted plans to the Environment Agency on 14th October 2021.</p>	<p>The Environment Agency have confirmed they are happy with designs but Sheerness Town Council need to find funding.</p>
6.	Flood gates at Beachfields & the Catholic Church	<p>At the December 2021 meeting a member of the public asked if the flood gates at Beachfields &amp; the Catholic Church could be kept open all year round and only shut when there were storms and high spring tides which would allow access for disabled people, bikes and buggies? The Director of Regeneration &amp; Neighbourhoods responded that SBC only had limited funds to cover the contractor costs for opening and closing of flood gates over the year</p>	<p>There are 4 floodgates along Sheerness seafront. One at Isle of Sheppey sailing club is left open all year round to allow pedestrian access and boat launching. This is only closed when we receive flood alerts. The gates are difficult and time consuming to close and require a contractor to do this. With the often short notice on warnings, it is not practical to keep all open. The impact of a flood must outweigh the benefits of access.</p>

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		<p>so it was unlikely that regular responsive situations could be facilitated. However, SBC would take this away to look at and report back at the next Area Committee Meeting.</p>	
7.	Flooding issues at Warden	<p>Parish Councillor Pat Sandle raised the issue of the outflows at Warden Beach and said that flooding issues had not been resolved. The Chair confirmed that SBC had addressed this with the EA. Officers would ensure that the outcome of discussions were communicated to Councillor Sandle.</p>	<p>A site meeting took place on 9 February with Swale Borough Council, the Environment Agency and Warden Parish Council.</p> <p>The Parish Council have recently installed flood boards at the village hall. The Environment Agency confirmed that there was nothing that could be done regarding the flooding which only occurs when the outlet becomes tide locked but did advise the Parish Council to look at flood doors as well as the boards. Swale Borough Council have picked up an action to speak to the Internal Drainage Board and agree who will clear the channel next to the village hall of overgrowth.</p>
8.	Queenborough and Rushenden regeneration	<p>The Committee to prioritise which local issues should be added to future agendas for substantive consideration and discussion.</p> <p>It is suggested to request updates twice a year from Homes England.</p>	<p>Please see Appendix 3 for an update provided by Petra Clarke from Homes England on Queenborough and Rushenden regeneration.</p>