

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>	<p>carried out over the next year or so.</p>
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>	<p>This item is going to March 2023 Environment Committee.</p>
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>	<p>Currently undertaking design/site visits with suppliers (last visit on 31/01/2023) – design drafts due 17/02/2023.</p>

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.