

22nd February 2022

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL** to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3QG on **Monday 28th February 2022**, at the conclusion of the Finance & General Purposes Committee commencing at 7pm. Town Councillors are reminded that they have a duty to state a Declaration of Interest prior to the appropriate agenda item and to consider the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 s.17 when reaching a decision.

Please note that the proceedings of this meeting will be streamed live to YouTube for the public to watch via the following link: <https://youtu.be/fO9XDBnny2g> and may be recorded in line with regulations set out in the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. A copy of Sevenoaks Town Council's procedure for the recording of meetings is available online at sevenoakstown.gov.uk or by request.

Members of the public wishing to address the Council Meeting should notify the Town Council by 12 noon on the day of the meeting. Members of the public not wishing to be recorded should put this request to the Clerk at the earliest possible opportunity.



Town Clerk

To assist in the speedy and efficient despatch of business, members wishing to obtain factual information on items included on the agenda are asked to enquire of the Town Clerk prior to the day of the meeting.

AGENDA

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To enable any questions previously submitted by members of the public on any matter to be drawn to the attention of the Town Council.

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
To receive and note apologies for absence. —

- 2 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS
To consider written requests from Members which have previously been submitted to the Town Clerk to enable participation in discussion and voting on items for which the Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. (s.31 & s.33 of the Localism Act 2011). —

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3	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> To receive any declarations of interest from members in respect of any items of business included in this report.	–
4	<u>NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</u> To receive, adopt and sign the Notes of the meeting of the Sevenoaks Town Council held on 17 th January 2022 as a true record.	Attached
5	<u>MINUTES OF COMMITTEES</u> Council is asked to consider and adopt the Notes & Minutes of the following Committee meetings: <u>Planning Committee:</u> 10 th January 2022 24 th January 2022 7 th February 2022 21 st February 2022 <u>Youth Services Committee:</u> 12 th January 2022 <u>Finance & General Purposes Committee:</u> 17 th January 2022 <u>Community Infrastructure Committee</u> 31 st January 2022 <u>Open Spaces & Leisure Committee:</u> 14 th February 2022	Copies previously circulated and available on request
6	<u>MEETING SCHEDULE 2022/2023</u> To receive and adopt schedule of meetings for the 2022/2023 year	Attached
7	<u>SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL GREEN COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLAN</u> i) Notes of Councillors Meeting held on 12 th February 2022 ii) Public Feedback to consultation iii) Revised draft document	Attached Attached Attached
8	<u>MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS</u> To receive and note: a) the functions attended by the Mayor or her representative during September and October 2021 b) the forthcoming Civic Events being organised by the Mayor during 2021/2022	Attached Attached

9 PRESS RELEASE

To consider any agenda item which would be appropriate for a press release.

10 **To Resolve under the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for the following item by reason of the confidential nature of the business.**

11 BAT & BALL CENTRE FLOORING

To consider offer from KCC

Documents
to be
forwarded
separately

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Sevenoaks Town Council

Notes of the advisory meeting of Sevenoaks Town Council
Held on 17th January 2022 via Zoom

Livestreamed on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/OtPmLMfpHjI>

Arrangements During COVID 19

Sevenoaks Town Council is endeavouring where possible to continue with its day-to-day activities. There are still public health restrictions and “Council Meetings” via Zoom are not currently permitted.

This advisory meeting was held by electronic means in accordance with the emergency measures agreed at the meeting of the Town Council held on 6th December 2021 (*Minute 411 refers*).

Meeting commenced: 7.48pm

Meeting Concluded: 7.59 pm

Present:

Cllr Keith Bonin (from 7.52)	Present	Cllr Nicholas Busvine	Present
Cllr Sue Camp	Apologies	Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet, Mayor	Present
Cllr Tony Clayton	Present	Cllr Andrew Eyre	Present
Cllr Victoria Granville-Baxter	Present	Cllr Roderick Hogarth	Present
Cllr Lise Michaelides	Apologies	Cllr Tom Morris Brown	Apologies
Cllr Rachel Parry, Deputy Mayor	Present	Cllr Richard Parry	Present
Cllr Robert Piper	Apologies	Cllr Simon Raikes	Present
Cllr Claire Shea	Present	Cllr Edward Waite	Apologies

In Attendance: Town Clerk, Responsible Finance Officer, Senior Committee Clerk

Representations received from Members of the Public: None

472 Apologies for Absence: as shown above.

473 Requests for Dispensations: none received.

474 Declarations of Interest: none received.

475 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 6th December 2021

RESOLVED: to accept and sign the Minutes of the Sevenoaks Town Council Meeting held on 6th December 2021 as a true record.

476 Minutes of Committees

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 13th December 2021 and the Notes of the Report to the Planning Committee Working Party held on 20th December 2021 as true records.

Sevenoaks Town Council

477 Mayor's Engagements

It was noted that the Mayor's Fundraising Quiz had been postponed (from 12th February) to Saturday 26th March 2022.

RESOLVED: To note the functions attended by the Mayor or her representative during December 2021 and the forthcoming Civic Events being planned by the Mayor during 2022.

478 Press Release: None

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting.

Signed

Mayor

Dated

Draft Meeting Schedule 2022-2023

Agenda Item 6

MAY 2022		
Mon 02	Bank Holiday – May Day	
Tues 03	Planning	
Mon 09	Annual Council Meeting	
Mon 16	Planning	
Wed 18	Youth Council	Youth Services
Mon 23	Community Infrastructure	
Mon 30	Planning	
JUNE 2022		
Thu 02	Bank Holiday (moved from 30 May)	
Fri 03	Bank Holiday – Queen’s Jubilee	
Mon 06	Finance & GP	Town Council
Mon 13	Planning	
Wed 15	Sevenoaks Town Team	
Mon 20	No meeting	
Mon 27	Planning	
Wed 29	Youth Council	Youth Services
JULY 2022		
Mon 04	Open Spaces & Leisure	
Mon 11	Planning	
Wed 13	Stag Trustees	
Mon 18	Finance & GP	Town Council
Wed 20	Community Infrastructure	
Mon 25	Planning	
AUGUST 2022		
Mon 01	No meeting	
Weds 03	Sevenoaks Town Team	
Mon 08	Planning	
Mon 22	Planning	
Mon 29	Summer Bank Holiday	
SEPTEMBER 2022		
Mon 05	Planning	
Wed 07	Youth Council	Youth Services
Mon 12	Finance & GP	Town Council
Mon 19	Planning	
Thurs 22	Stag Trustees AGM & Ordinary Meeting	
Mon 26	Open Spaces & Leisure	
OCTOBER 2022		
Mon 03	Planning	
Wed 05	Sevenoaks Town Team - AGM	
Mon 10	Community Infrastructure	
Mon 17	Planning	
Mon 24	Personnel	
Mon 31	Planning	
NOVEMBER 2022		
Wed 02	Youth Council	Youth Services
Mon 07	Open Spaces & Leisure	
Mon 14	Planning	
Mon 21	Finance & GP	Town Council
Mon 28	Planning	
Tues 29	Stag Trustees	

DECEMBER 2022		
Mon 05	Town Council (Christmas)	
Mon 12	Planning	
Wed 14	Sevenoaks Town Team	
Mon 19	Planning	
Mon 26 to Fri 30th Dec - STC Closed		
JANUARY 2023		
Mon 02	Bank Holiday	
Mon 09	Planning	
Mon 16	Finance & GP	Town Council
Wed 18	Youth Council	Youth Services
Mon 23	Planning	
Mon 30	Community Infrastructure	
Tue 31	Stag Trustees	
FEBRUARY 2023		
Mon 06	Planning	
Mon 13	Open Spaces & Leisure	
Mon 20	Planning	
Wed 22	Sevenoaks Town Team	
Mon 27	Finance & GP	Town Council
MARCH 2023		
Mon 06	Planning	
Mon 13	Annual Town Meeting - B&B Centre	
Mon 20	Planning	
Wed 22	Youth Council	Youth Services
Mon 27	Personnel	
Weds 31	Stag Trustees	
APRIL 2023		
Mon 03	Planning	
Wed 05	Sevenoaks Town Team	
Fri 07	Bank Holiday – Good Friday	
Mon 10	Bank Holiday – Easter Monday	
Tue 11	Finance & GP	Town Council
Mon 17	Planning	
Mon 24	No Meeting	
MAY 2023		
Mon 01	Bank Holiday – May Day	
Tue 02	Planning	
Mon 08	Annual Council Meeting	
Mon 15	Planning	
Wed 17	Youth Council	Youth Services
Mon 22	No Meeting	
Mon 29	Spring Bank Holiday	
Tues 30	Planning	
Wed 31	Stag Trustees	

Town Council Meetings commence at conclusion of F&GP **Sevenoaks Town Team** commences at 6.30pm
Youth Council commences at 6pm **All other meetings** commence at 7pm

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Notes of Sevenoaks Town Council's Meeting to
Review Public Responses to its Green Community Investment Plan
Held on Saturday 12th February 2022

Present: Cllr Dr M Canet Mayor and Chair, Cllr Mrs R Parry Deputy Mayor, Cllr N Busvine OBE, Cllr V Granville Baxter, Cllr L Michaelides, Cllr R Parry, Cllr S Raikes, Cllr C Shea, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and Committee Clerk

The meeting of Councillors had been arranged with the following three aims:

1. To review public feedback to the Green Community Investment Plan and agree responses.
2. To consider whether any of the feedback required the Green Community Investment Plan to be altered.
3. To consider priorities of delivery of actions in addition to those that were already in progress.

Attached is a separate document outlining the consideration of 1 and 2 above.

Priorities

It was agreed that in addition to Sevenoaks Town Council's current Priorities as Resolved by Council and actions which were currently in progress the following would be Recommended to Council to be considered as Priorities. Those items marked with an asterisk are subject to verifying with Sevenoaks District Council its progress on the topics to avoid a duplicate of use of resources.

1. Seek quotes for a Pedestrian Audit*
2. Continue to support and encourage progress with the SDC Cycling Strategy Including audit of cycle parking, including appropriate for electric bikes*
3. Progress with development of Car Club*
4. Continue with Tree Planting
5. Progress with providing information to residents and businesses*
6. Create the School's Green Liaison Group

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Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

At a meeting in November 2021, Councillors met to review Sevenoaks Town Council’s (STC) original 2019 climate change initiatives and considered additional and new proposals. It was agreed that STC should communicate more to the public about the practical local initiatives it was already undertaking and its plans for the future and that STC should take a local leadership role, providing information about simple measures that can be taken in helping the local community to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle to help the planet.

Friends of the Earth states: “Parish and Town Councils may not be as powerful as local authorities, but they can ‘do their bit’ in addressing the climate and nature emergency and be a force for change.”

	Name	Feedback Provided	STC Response	Green Community Investment Plan Ref.
1	Alan O’Dowd (Sevenoaks)	<i>As a Sevenoaks Town centre resident, I myself and several of my immediate neighbours would like to support the Green Investment Plan and the aim to achieve Net Zero 2030. There are several of us who are willing to make the expensive switch to having an electric car but as we do not have off-street parking are realistically unable to do so at the moment. In addition, our street is used for public parking by visitors and local business permit holders, and we recognise that any solution has to meet the needs of these various stakeholders and therefore some creative thinking is required to solve this well recognised problem. We are proposing a novel Pilot scheme of Shared On-Street Mini EV Hubs where daytime visitors and business permit holders can charge their cars during the day, and then nearby residents can use the SOS Mini Hubs exclusively in the evenings. This will provide around the clock usage of a valuable resource, could generate income for the council, and will not reduce the number of daytime parking slots available in the town centre. There is a group of residents ready and willing to support a Pilot of this scheme and I would ask the Council to work with us support this Pilot scheme through the appropriate committees. Thank You</i>	<p>STC will install car charging points where possible on its land and recommend and encourage additional charging points within new development and throughout the town and liaise with other authorities.</p> <p>KKC Highways and SDC statutory responsibility.</p>	4.6

<p>2</p>	<p>Elwyn Jones (Sevenoaks)</p>	<p>The Green Community Plan is excellent, but it misses the most important challenge facing the country. - In the past, Electricity was Generated and Controlled centrally (so you could ignore it). But with the Greening of the Grid, the balance of control is shifting for purely technical reasons to local Back-up and Control (where you have to take prime responsibility). This change, which involves strengthening of the distribution grid, will cost the country about a trillion pounds, which you may not have been told about yet. Not only that, but since joining the EU, and the adoption of EN-50160, Energy Companies have over the past 40 years been over-supplying and over charging residents of Sevenoaks by up to 20%. Light-bulbs continue to blow at an alarming rate, equipment fails, and events like Grenfell Tower (which could only happen in the UK) will continue to happen. We don't want a Grenfell in Sevenoaks, do we? - I attach a brief newspaper cutting to back-up my position: -</p>  <p>THOUSANDS of homes and businesses around Sundridge, near Sevenoaks, have benefited from an electricity network upgrade to boost power supplies.</p> <p>Equipment dating from 1954 has been replaced by a modern 26-tonne transformer, <u>lowering the voltage and enabling electricity to safely flow into people's homes.</u></p> <p>UK Power Networks has just finished a £2.5 million upgrade at a Sundridge electricity substation - a project which took nearly two</p> <p>years to complete.</p> <p>This helps deliver electricity supplies to allow people to charge smart phones, power TVs and PCs, and to heat and light homes and businesses.</p> <p>The new transformer, which receives electricity at 33,000 volts, was energised during the summer, along with a new purpose-built switch house.</p> <p>This will supply electricity to a further two electricity substations.</p> <p>Project manager Farukh Amin</p> <p>Since we have left the EU, the EU no longer has any incentive to allow for English exceptionalism; and we can expect a divergence of standards which will</p>	<p>The Enovert site produces electric from methane.</p>	
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		<p>only exacerbate the problem. Installing Solar Panels will also push the agenda and is one reason why the Government has put so many obstacles (such as G98/G99) in the way of their commissioning. Also, leaving the EU, combined with Climate Change, and Greening the Grid will lead to a less reliable supply. - I therefore suggest you take the following actions: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a close working relationship with "UK Power Networks", to really try to understand their challenges, and their long-term future needs (i.e., by 2050). • Set aside land for the grid of the future, including locations for Green Hydrogen Generation and Storage (anticipating the adoption of locally blended gas), Back-up Generation and Battery Storage, and wayleave conduits on new developments. (Co-ordinate with Gas, Water, & Telecommunications Network Companies.) • Install resilient electrical architecture wherever possible. (e.g., Street Lights and Traffic Signals) 	<p>STC can aim to follow up on this suggestion.</p> <p>STC could recommend when appropriate within planning applications land be made available for this purpose.</p> <p>Initially undertake further research on this matter.</p> <p>Note: KCC, SDC, UKPN statutory responsibility</p>	<p>3.2.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Cllr Clayton</p> <p>West Kent Extra</p>	<p>The Council is working with Woodland Trust to increase tree cover in the town and develop 'green corridors' around its parks and open spaces. We're planning to add a piece of woodland on Hillingdon Avenue, at the bottom of Hillingdon Rise, on land which the Council owns.</p> <p>I'd also be interested in the Trust's offer of hedgerow / roadside trees which we could use along Hillingdon Avenue - including the green space outside no's 6-30 Hillingdon Avenue which I think belongs to West Kent. The idea is to 'green' the street without impinging on usable open space. Who could I talk to in the Association?</p> <p><i>This sounds like an exciting idea that I am sure we would like to be involved in.</i></p>		<p>5.1 5.2 5.3</p>

Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<p>The Town Council is developing a plan to replant woodland at the open space on the Hillingdon Avenue / Littlewood junction, using species provided by the Woodland Trust This would extend tree cover to both sides on Hillingdon Avenue.</p> <p>A natural extension would be to plant hedgerow trees along the green space outside the flats at 6-32 Hillingdon Avenue, which I understand belongs to West Kent. As there is already a wooded area (which I think belongs to Sevenoaks District) by the houses from 36-78 Hillingdon Avenue, this would create a green corridor most of the way from Seal Hollow Road to Hospital Road.</p> <p><i>That sounds like a great idea for a pilot.</i></p>	<p>STC Open Spaces Manager working on this.</p> <p>STC Open Spaces Manager to liaise with West Kent Extra.</p> <p>STC will continue to collaborate and link with other organisations.</p> <p>Tree and hedge planting is considered a priority of STC.</p>	
4	Chris Birchall Sevenoaks District Council	<p>I found that very interesting reading.</p> <p>On the business support side, I am not sure if you have heard of the LoCASE Scheme administered by KCC?</p> <p>https://locase.co.uk/about/</p> <p>Also, there is a useful resource for SMEs on climate change support called the SME Climate Hub.</p> <p>https://smeclimatehub.org/</p>	<p>Details to be included in the GCIP and promoted to local businesses.</p> <p>Also, to note Sevenoaks & District Chamber of Commerce have created a Sustainability Forum and will be producing a website with resources and information for local businesses STC can signpost businesses to this to avoid duplication of resources.</p>	6.7
5	Martin Drewry (Sevenoaks)	<p>I'd just like to emphasise the importance of doing much more to support and promote cycling.</p> <p>This could include:</p>	<p>STC have limited influence over such matters but will continue to recommend within appropriate planning applications and support SDC and KCC cycle initiatives.</p>	4.1 4.2 4.3 4.10

Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working to ensure all public services/buildings have cycle racks. (Both my local GP and dentist each provide car parking, but nowhere to chain up a bicycle for example.) Providing more cycle lanes - and making them more pleasant and safer to encourage use (e.g., more scenic, and distanced from motor traffic). 	<p>Initiatives for cycling and improving pedestrian facilities is a key priority within the STC’s draft NDP.</p>	
6	Roland Courtney (Sevenoaks)	<p>I would like to offer the following comments on the above plan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There is barely any practical proposal here to make a real difference to the adoption of active travel in the form of cycling, which has clear benefits not only for the environment but also for one’s personal health. In my view STC should be stating clearly that they will push for the implementation of the Cycling Strategy, which has been lying dormant on the shelves of SDC for the last 8 years or so. This articulates clear and practical plans to improve active travel. Cycle racks are of extremely marginal benefit in the achievement of active travel, and it’s pretty obvious they have been included because they are a tangible, cheap and easy option. When making a choice between driving and cycling, the availability of a cycle rack at the destination is in my view simply not a consideration. Please stop this ridiculous obsession with cycle racks! A leisure cycle path across Knole would provide very marginal benefit. Knole is generally very safe for cyclists and walkers. While an alternative to the approach road leading from the gatehouse to the car park would be helpful for cyclists, it would presumably still require 	<p>STC have limited influence over such matters but will continue to recommend within appropriate planning applications and support SDC and KCC cycle initiatives.</p> <p>STC has consistently made it clear that it wants the Cycle Strategy to be progressed.</p> <p>Noted, however other feedback received to the contrary.</p> <p>Different entry point could be considered although there are</p>	<p>4.1 4.3</p> <p>4.10</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.12</p>

Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<p>cyclists to enter the park via the High Street, which is by far the most dangerous part of the journey. Or perhaps there would be a different entry point via the environmental park, for example?</p> <p>5. A feasibility study for connecting Bat and Ball and Dunton Green stations, while in principle being a good idea, seems like an extremely weak commitment, especially in view of the point made in 2 above.</p> <p>Having said all that, I do appreciate that STC has limited scope in this regard, and many of these points should be directed more to SDC.</p>	<p>concerns that this entry point could be too steep.</p> <p>This would be an action from the Northern Masterplan. It would be a considerable resource for STC to fund.</p> <p>Initiatives for cycling and improving pedestrian facilities is a key priority within the STC's draft NDP.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	<p>4.11</p> <p>3.2</p>
7	Walthamstow Hall School	<p>After looking over the Green Committee Investment plan, we, Walthamstow Hall's Sustainability Prefect Team, were extremely excited about the potential of these proposals. We are very passionate about sustainability within our school and wider community and would love to see these encouraged in our society.</p> <p>Here are some of our thoughts on the different themes:</p> <p>Theme 1 - We thought that the new Bat & Ball Centre is a really encouraging step forward. We wanted to share some of the personal research we have done on sustainable buildings with you:</p>	<p>STC are aware of living roofs and environmental benefits and would support where appropriate.</p>	3.1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biophilia (incorporating nature into design). After researching the profound impact that nature has on the well-being and productivity of humans, we believe that this concept should be encouraged and implemented into design which will ultimately help to reduce carbon footprint. Have you thought about living roofs that provide a thermal energy store as well as increasing natural greenery? It would reduce the embodied carbon needed to heat the building, an example being the back entrance of M&S. • Using sustainable materials is key, but have you thought about using timber which is the most sustainable material as it captures the surrounding carbon in its structure. <p>Theme 4 - We are really encouraged by the Promote Refill Scheme and Sevenoaks Plastic Free Pledge, as we have been trying to implement this in school. Recently we have introduced a new Reworked Plastics Recycling Box and so far, it has been very successful, especially when recycling our PPE. An ongoing issue at our school is food waste.</p> <p>We understand the Sevenoaks Foodsafe Scheme, however, a suggestion in our recent School Council was giving disposed food to farmers for livestock. Is this something that local independent food cafes or restaurants could try?</p> <p>On behalf of the Walthamstow Hall Prefect Team, thank you for asking for our feedback. We are very hopeful and excited about the changes that can and will be made to our community.</p>	<p>The Bat & Ball Centre roof has double the amount of insulation to a normal roof as the original was retained and a new roof installed on top. It also has solar panels.</p> <p>A lot of the building has been built using sustainable timber, which was within the build specification.</p> <p>That is good news. STC and the Town Team will continue to promote this.</p> <p>STC have started to consider how it can help with this e.g., discarded pumpkins as pig food. It would welcome any further research.</p> <p>STC will be creating a school liaison group to discuss green matters including travel plans and learn from each other. It is hoped that</p>	<p>6.1 6.2</p> <p>6.6</p> <p>4.8</p>
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Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

			Walthamstow Hall school will join in with this. The creation of the School's Green Liaison Group will be a STC priority.	
8	Reg Oakley (Sevenoaks)	<p>Let me state at the outset, I am very much pro cycling and was one of the principal stakeholders involved with producing the 2009 SDC/KCC cycling strategy.</p> <p>I am though rather alarmed by the proposal of the Bat and Ball to Dunton Green cycle route in 4.11 of your plans, particularly if there is any intention of routing it immediately North of the KWT reserve. As a reserve, it has been severely damaged in the diversity of bird life it attracts by the ruinous circular path. Installed possibly at the behest of STC. The presence of an adjacent cycle path would further compound the damage already done to the reserve.</p> <p>I would prefer that, if possible, a cycle route is to be constructed let it mainly be beside the A25 and turning North well West of the KWT reserve to link it to the road network of the estate built on the former cold store site.</p> <p>Such a route would have the additional advantage that it would enable use of the A25 underpass near Knole Academy and allow access to the low traffic network of roads South of the A25.</p>	STC are recommending at this stage funding of a Feasibility Study for the proposed cycle path, this could include reviewing alternatives.	4.11
9	Helen French Sevenoaks District Council	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Green Community Investment Plan. Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) are pleased that the Town Council are also working to reduce carbon emissions within Sevenoaks Town.	<p>Noted, STC is keen to work with SDC on this.</p> <p>STC would appreciate regular updates on SDC work and</p>	

	<p>We are generally supportive of the aims of the Plan and look forward to working together to deliver projects within the Town where possible. The Investment Plan identifies a number of areas that align with SDCs own Net Zero 2030 commitment and actions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of EV Charging Points • Car clubs • Improved cycling infrastructure • Working with schools and businesses • New planting including trees • Sharing advice, best practice, and opportunities with the local community. <p>There are multiple references to cycling in Theme 2 - Transport & Movement. SDC have recently secured funding from the Kent County Council (KCC) Capability Fund to support the production of the first Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which will be focused on Sevenoaks Urban Area. We are currently in the process of appointing consultants to undertake the LCWIP with an estimated completion date towards the end of 2022. A stakeholder group will be set up for the LCWIP and we will invite the Town Council to be a part of the group.</p> <p>In addition, in June 2021 KCC invited SDC to submit three bids for their consideration for Department for Transport’s Tranche 3 of the Active Travel fund. KCC as the local highway authority were invited to submit bids for funds to install cycling and walking improvements. SDC put forward three bids for Sevenoaks Urban area- East to West cycling route, Otford to Sevenoaks Town Centre cycle route and improvements to sections of Darent Valley Path to enable shared use for cycling and walking. KCC have since advised one of these bids, the Sevenoaks Urban area-</p>	<p>information on progress to date on the following for Sevenoaks town:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of EV Charging Points • Progress on Car Clubs • Improved cycling infrastructures • Walking and Cycling improvement plans. <p>STC would be keen to join the LCWIP.</p>	<p>4.6</p> <p>4.7</p> <p>4.10</p> <p>4.13</p>
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		<p>East to West cycling route project, in addition to an Otford and Kemsing PROW link have been submitted to the Active Travel fund.</p> <p>In Paragraph 6.7 the plan refers to supporting business, something the District Council have also committed to do through the Net Zero 2030 Actions. Our Economic Development Team have identified certain resources that are available for businesses, particularly SME’s who are looking to reduce their emissions and become more energy efficient including the Government’s SME Climate Hub and Low Carbon Kent which includes the LoCase scheme and match funded grants for small businesses on green capital investments. These may be useful to share with your own business contacts. https://smeclimatehub.org/ https://lowcarbonkent.com/</p> <p>The Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is also referenced throughout the investment plan and as you know officers from SDC have been working with the Town Council on the NDP and will continue to do so.</p> <p>SDC are committed to working with partners, such as the Town Council, to achieve our aligned aims to reduce carbon emissions within the District. If there are opportunities or projects where you think we could work together please do not hesitate to contact us at netzero2030@sevenoaks.gov.uk.</p>		
10	Sophie House	I read with interest the draft GCIP and was pleased to note that the plan addresses several issues that I have been concerned about, notably provisions for cycling and ECPs, as well as greening spaces. However, I		

		<p>would like to make a few suggestions where these actions could be taken further to have a greater impact.</p> <p>Travel and Transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council should implement the local routes in the Sevenoaks District Cycling Strategy, for example by making funding available for feasibility studies and implementation of any proposed actions emerging from such studies. • Consider investing in an eBike hire-to-buy (or similar) scheme to promote non-motorised travel • Provide funding for secure bike lockers and more cycle racks generally • Help to implement a 20mph zone in central Sevenoaks which would encourage active travel • Invest in a campaign to promote active travel (working with schools and other organisations) 	<p>STC has limited scope for implementing the SDC Cycling Strategy. However, has consistently stated that it would want it to progress asap and work in partnership to assist.</p> <p>STC had started to consider this, however, is aware that SDC is currently working on this project.</p> <p>STC has stated that it will make grants available for public ‘green’ initiatives within resources available.</p> <p>STC has supported such campaigns where appropriate.</p> <p>Please see item 4.8</p>	<p>4.12</p> <p>4.10</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.4</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide grants to the bus operator in Sevenoaks to buy electric buses. • Consider how to increase the number of EV Charging points <p>Biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a Pesticide Free Town Action Plan (see link to Faversham's Plan https://favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Faversham-Pesticide-Free-Town-Action-Plan-2020.pdf) • Consider reduced frequency of mowing at council owned verges and parks and replacing grass verges with wildflowers where appropriate. 	<p>One of STC’s priorities is to obtain external funds for a pilot scheme to have an electric bus for the No. 8 bus. It would also work with the local bus companies to obtain external funding for electric buses. STC’s funds come from the domestic rate payers, and it is unlikely to be able to fund bus companies.</p> <p>STC will install car charging points where possible on its land and recommend and encourage additional charging points within new development and throughout the town.</p> <p>STC has a Biodiversity Policy. Thank you for bringing the Faversham Free Town Action Plan we will review this for relevant information.</p> <p>STC is responsible for some verges and mows these at certain time of the year to take into account wildflowers, however, will also receive complaints from public about them being ‘overgrown’, It should be noted that SDC and KCC</p>	<p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p> <p>5.10</p>
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		I hope these suggestions are useful and wish you all the best in making Sevenoaks Town more sustainable for the whole community.	are responsible for the majority of grass verges.	
11	David Finch	<p>Please see attached my response to the council's draft Green Investment Plan 2021. I hope the council will find my suggestions useful.</p> <p>Thank you for giving residents the opportunity to respond to the Sevenoaks Town Council draft Green Community Investment Plan. I have read the plan with interest, and I welcome proposals to make Sevenoaks a more sustainable, eco-friendly and Zero Carbon town. I particularly like the idea of connecting green areas and developing cycle paths in Sevenoaks.</p> <p>I have made a note of some things that the council might consider before finalising the plan:</p> <p>Investment Plans/Budget</p> <p>The historic Community Investment Plan 2014 (appendix page 18) contains no projects that are related to sustainability, eco-living or zero carbon. It is difficult to understand therefore why these figures are shown in the plan. Perhaps they should be removed?</p> <p>The 2019 Community Investment Plan (appendix page 20)</p>	<p>The Green Community Investment Plan (GCIP) is an Appendix to the original Community Investment Plan. The new document would be incomplete without reference and details of the original document. Due to the points, you have raised this is why details of the original document are at the rear of the new document rather than within its text.</p>	Appendix

		<p>contains general lump sums of funding for community facilities, but no detail. I would have expected cost estimates for various “green” projects to be shown here, even if they have yet to be approved. Examples might be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of EV charging points • Planting of trees connecting green areas • Cycle paths <p>Without project cost estimates or projected timescales, I think the STC draft Green Community Investment Plan lacks an element of seriousness.</p>	<p>This was the first draft of GCIP which is a strategic document and will be costed where STC are responsible for financing.</p> <p>STC to date has entered into a scheme at no cost to the rate payers.</p> <p>STC provides trees within its current revenue budget and within the Adopt a Tree project. This budget heading could be separated to make more visible.</p> <p>STC have limited influence over such matters but will continue to recommend within appropriate planning applications and support SDC and KCC cycle initiatives.</p> <p>STC has consistently made it clear that it wants the Cycle Strategy to be progressed.</p> <p>Estimates and projected timescales will be installed for STC elements as the GCIP progresses. STC has a good record of delivering on its Community Investment Plans to date.</p>	<p>4.6</p> <p>5.1 5.2</p> <p>4.10 4.13</p> <p>Item 1</p>
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	<p>Targets</p> <p>In its current form, The Green Community Investment plan has no carbon emission reduction targets.</p> <p>In section 1 page 4, a table shows a breakdown of average carbon emissions per household in Sevenoaks. I would suggest that target (year on year) carbon reductions for Sevenoaks town should be published in the plan. This would facilitate prioritisation of proposed green investment projects.</p> <p>For each project, there could be an estimate figure of how much carbon reduction it would be likely to achieve.</p> <p>Home Insulation</p> <p>According to Friends of the Earth, 43% of carbon emissions in Sevenoaks are from housing. The Green Community Investment Plan mentions sustainability, but it contains no specific reference to home insulation. This seems a quite a large omission from the plan.</p> <p>Renewable Energy</p>	<p>Within the plan it is identified that STC as a smaller local authority has limited actions on this matter but is trying to identify practical measures that it can do and influence locally. This target may be difficult to influence however further advice will be sought on this.</p> <p>This is a good point and where possible will be implemented as the GCIP progresses.</p> <p>Friends of the Earth states: <i>“Parish and Town Councils may not be as powerful as local authorities, but they can ‘do their bit’ in addressing the climate and nature emergency and be a force for change.”</i> STC are able to make recommendations via its Planning recommendations.</p> <p>SDC will address this via its Economic Development Plan.</p>	
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		<p>The term “renewable” doesn't occur even once in the Green Community Investment Plan.</p> <p>Should there not be proposals in the plan such as working with and encouraging local renewable energy businesses, renewable energy fairs, advice for residents on renewable energy options etc.?</p> <p>Nearly a thousand new houses planned for North Sevenoaks on Green Belt Land</p> <p>I find it very surprising that the “Green” Community Investment Plan alludes to the parent NDP plan which proposes that STC will build nearly a thousand new houses on Green belt land in Northern Sevenoaks. I don't know how this is “Green” in any way, shape, or form. Quite the opposite.</p> <p>Even if the proposed houses are zero carbon and fully sustainable, the building of the houses will create at least 30 thousand tons of CO2 emissions. Also, as most households in Sevenoaks own about two cars, we are looking at an additional 2000 cars driving through the streets of Sevenoaks, creating pollution, and emitting more CO2.</p> <p>Involvement of the next generation</p>	<p>STC will be looking at methods to provide clear information to residents or ‘signpost’ them to relevant information.</p> <p>STC is not responsible for the Housing Needs Assessment or for the requirement for development in the area.</p> <p>STC has set out to influence via the draft NDP where the required housing development takes place and create new publicly accessible open space and green infrastructure and including cycling and pedestrian linkages.</p> <p>To note STC does not build houses, this is a developer proposal in line with policies within the draft NDP and draft Local Plan.</p> <p>STC have always included consultation with young people on</p>	<p>7.1</p> <p>3.2</p>
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		<p>I applaud section 8.7 of the report and the inclusion of the Sevenoaks Youth Council in Sevenoaks TC Green Plan meetings.</p> <p>I am aware that Sevenoaks Youth Council have made a compelling proposal for the pedestrianisation of Sevenoaks High Street. I am disappointed that this proposal has not been mentioned in the Green Investment Plan. If the youth of Sevenoaks are giving their time to develop proposals, I think their views should be aired to all readers of the plan, even if Sevenoaks TC do not agree with them.</p> <hr/> <p>I wish the Sevenoaks Town Council well with the development and implementation of the Green Community Investment plan and I look forward to reading the finalised version.</p>	<p>key matters relating to the future of the Sevenoaks.</p> <p>Sevenoaks Youth Council have not made a proposal for pedestrianisation of the High Street, do want more pedestrianisation.</p> <p>A small group of Sevenoaks School students recently made a presentation to STC which included references to pedestrianisation of the High Street.</p> <p>Such a proposal would require a full traffic feasibility study in relation to traffic impact and potential traffic displacement. It would also require a Traffic Regulation Order.</p>	<p>4.8</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Peter Ashlee. BAhons DipRCOT CertED</p>	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above. Overall, there appear to be some good ideas but some of it is too "woolly" in view of what is accepted to be a climate emergency and the caveat, "the NDP is progressing to referendum" is concerning.</p>		

	<p>(Dunton Green)</p>	<p>Theme 4 - Consumption. All good and particularly liked the community cycle workshops and the Repair cafe. The opportunity to repair could be a great chance for young and old to come together and share skills and knowledge.</p> <p>Theme 5 - Information & Access to information. 7.2, similar to the above, another good idea. As someone who can repair many things and grows vegetables and plants, I would like to be involved with sharing my skills while learning from others their skills and knowledge.</p> <p>I am not saying that I disagree with the other themes, far from it, just that the above ones caught my eye.</p> <p>My particular interest is Theme 2 - Transport and movement. I drive a car, and motorcycle, am secretary of a motorcycle club but my main concern is the need to reduce motor traffic.</p> <p>4.1.and 4.2 talks about reducing cars and increased safety for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>I have sold a motorcycle and bought and ebike to commute from Sevenoaks to my work in Peckham, London. However, until there are separate and segregated cycle routes (Simple white lines in the road) the vast majority of people will not feel safe to get out of their cars and onto bicycles.</p> <p>There is no reason why the hills in Sevenoaks can be argued to be a deterrent for cycling when ebikes make them easy for anyone to climb. E bike charging points is a good idea.</p> <p>If increasing cycle use is to be a reality there MUST be segregated cycle lanes, just as there are in so many other parts of the country. This is not radical, but it will not be easy to persuade the car orientated people of Sevenoaks of the need to do it.</p>	<p>It is understood that a voluntary organisation is opening a monthly Repair Café in St Luke’s Church, STC have offered to support this venture.</p> <p>Thank you for the offer which is noted.</p> <p>STC have limited influence over such matters but will continue to recommend within appropriate planning applications and support SDC and KCC cycle initiatives.</p> <p>STC has consistently made it clear that it wants the Cycle Strategy to be progressed.</p>	<p>7.2</p> <p>4.10</p>
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		<p>I work as an Occupational Therapist, with disabled people with the aim of enabling them to be safe and independent. It is the disabled people who know what the needs are and know what they need to help them to be safe and independent.</p> <p>Likewise, cyclists know what is needed, know a safe road layout from an unsafe one and it is they that need to be consulted when drawing up realistic and workable plans.</p> <p>There is already a Sevenoaks cycle strategy, but my feeling is that there is no will in incorporating it, effectively a "glass ceiling" that the car-oriented council prevents.</p> <p>There is expertise and goodwill out there. I have given up participating because after 16 years I have seen so little progress there appears to be no point wasting my valuable time. However, if this Green Community Investment plan really does want to achieve its aim, I am very happy to be involved.</p> <p>Good luck!</p>	<p>STC will liaise as widely as possible with the public and organisations including the Access Panel at SDC.</p> <p>Thank you for the offer.</p>	<p>7.1</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Louise Everitt Sevenoaks</p>	<p>I would like to comment on your proposals in the Green Community Investment Plan.</p> <p>I am broadly in favour of the items raised in the document and would like to highlight areas of particular interest as follows:</p> <p>Energy Efficiency should be an easy win where action can make a fast and measurable difference albeit where funds permit. Sevenoaks could identify itself a 'centre for excellence' in promoting energy efficiency at householder level. People struggle to know where to start, who to trust and how to fund it. Promotion</p>	<p>STC is keen to encourage this and looking into practical methods to encourage 'home energy audits'</p>	<p>7.1</p>

	<p>via council website and literature, even info sessions for residents' associations on grants/funding/loans plus advice and recognised traders. The existing building control with the district council is largely focused on new builds whilst most residents are in older properties.</p> <p>Transport is an area of improvement for all - lockdown saw our town transformed into a town of easy & enjoyable access for all rather than the usual polluting, car-dominated rat run through the town. People drive for convenience with a sliding scale of justification from no-viable option to base laziness. Encourage other road users - pedestrians and bikes - they need space and safety on our roads.</p> <p>If I could change one thing it would be the speed and dominance of cars. Speeds are too high and road space needs to be shared. Reduce speeds - 20mph please.</p> <p>Review the use and layout of our roads - give us all room to breathe. The reduced traffic during lockdown improved the centre Of Sevenoaks significantly. It was a pleasurable experience despite the restrictions rather than a necessity to get in and out as quickly as possible. Give people another reason to come and enjoy the town. A town centre that isn't over run by cars - pedestrianise sections, re-examine a one way system - other towns make it work!</p> <p>The air pollution is not an attractive aspect of Sevenoaks.</p> <p>A car club is a boon in other towns - Whitstable has a very efficient service.</p> <p>A fantastic idea for an empty shop is bike day care, working model in central London - cyclists can park their bike in a secure environment and use additional</p>	<p>STC wherever possible is encouraging a wider use of the public by cycling, walking, bus, and train use.</p> <p>STC has supported reduction in speed limits where appropriate</p> <p>Please see 4.7.</p> <p>Please see 6.4.</p>	<p>4.1 4.2 4.3 4.10</p> <p>4.4</p> <p>4.7</p> <p>6.4</p>
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Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<p>services - repairs, maintenance, cleaning etc. We already have a great bike business - there is synergy here to link into the expertise we already have in the town. There are already bike routes that Sevenoaks is established on - maximise the opportunities.</p> <p>Building on these existing strengths and attractions I would be delighted if green routes, additional trees, and integrated public transport were promoted too.</p>	<p>It is hoped that a cycle repair initiative can be progressed with the local cycle business.</p> <p>STC are aiming to do and influence these aspects.</p>	<p>5.3</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Harriett Finch</p>	<p>To the Sevenoaks Town Council</p> <p>Thank you for giving us the opportunity to review the draft plan and to allow us to comment and feedback on the content. The fact that the STC are actively seeking to improve the green credentials of the town is really positive.</p> <p>My comments focus mostly mainly on transport, but I had a couple of other observations.</p> <p>Community Impact Calculator (Page 4). It's interesting to see the per-household CO2 consumption data, but unless we are provided with a target of what we should be aiming for, or even a comparison with the UK as a whole, the data is rather meaningless.</p> <p>Sevenoaks Refuse Collection - food waste. I couldn't see any mention of this in the report, but neighbouring boroughs e.g. Tonbridge, Maidstone)</p>		

	<p>provide food waste bins and collect food waste along with other recycling and general refuse. I find it surprising that Sevenoaks still don't do this.</p> <p>Investment Plan Costings - The majority of the items listed in the Appendix are good to see but they aren't specifically there for the purpose of reducing CO2, apart from the Number 8 bus and the cycle racks.</p> <p>On Transport</p> <p>Electric Charging Points - Very brief mention of these in point 4.6. It's great that STC are installing these at their offices. However, given that take-up of electric cars in Sevenoaks is increasing and will continue to increase massively, unless there is a structured plan to increase access to ECPs to cater for the demand, people without access to home charging points will be discouraged from switching to electric.</p> <p>In particular, ECPS are needed in roadside areas where residents don't have their own private parking spaces. ECPs need to be installed in the public car parks (Blighs etc) and supermarkets to be encouraged to install ECPs. As far as I am aware, only Tesco's have an ECP.</p> <p>Car Club - "A Car Club operating similar to other towns should be supported by STC, potentially by grant funding, but not operated by STC". STC should pro-actively liaise with existing car clubs in Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells, and other towns where a club is operating for the purpose of getting one set up in Sevenoaks.</p>	<p>The Appendix items were projects prior to the creation of the GCIP.</p> <p>STC are aiming to install these within its asset base at buildings which are used by the general public e.g., Bat & Ball Centre. The Town Council office site also has a community room for hire and a Business Hub for start-up and small businesses.</p> <p>STC is not responsible for the roadside but will continue to advocate for increased availability of ECPS.</p> <p>Please see 4.7. It is a good point about the liaising with neighbouring towns.</p>	<p>4.5</p> <p>4.7</p>
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		<p>Pedestrianise High Street - I couldn't see any specific mention of this, but pedestrianising one of the two main artery roads between certain hours (i.e. 9am and 6pm) would encourage people to visit the town without driving there and would improve the quality of the experience of visiting the town.</p>	<p>Please see 4.4. Such a proposal would require a full traffic feasibility study in relation to traffic impact and potential traffic displacement. It would also require a Traffic Regulation Order.</p>	<p>4.4</p>
15	<p>Maximilian Yakubovskiy</p> <p>Sevenoaks School Comments shown in purple</p>	<p>I am a Lower Sixth student, writing on behalf of the Sevenoaks School Eco committee.</p> <p>A couple of weeks back we looked at your Green Community Investment Plan. Our ideas were written in the form of comments on the document that I have attached to this email. If you could spare some time to go through them, that would be fantastic.</p> <p>I hope you find our alterations to the plan compelling and maybe even bring them into existence!</p> <p>Pg. 9 The new Bat & Ball Centre is as eco-friendly as possible Green wall policy could also be introduced to these reforms for Bat & Ball Centre.</p> <p>Pg. 10 3.2.</p>	<p>The new Bat & Ball Centre had increased insulation to a general code of build. STC are investing in the ecological landscape within the site. If it was to invest in a Green Wall this would be for an older building which required additional insulation.</p>	<p>3.1</p>

		<p>Deliver a sustainable expansion of Greatness on land currently being worked to extract gravel by Tarmac Ltd (subject to release from Green Belt) in order to deliver new homes to meet local needs.</p> <p>Make a bike road to connect the train stations to the town: would encourage eco travel, however they would need to flatten the road.</p> <p>Also, you could have a bike drop, it is possible to place it next to the station and maybe another one in the centre of town. There are many such in London, however, the issue in Sevenoaks might be the necessary capacity that we would need to reach for it to be effective.</p> <p>Perhaps ways to incentives would permit the needed critical mass to be reached (cycle roads, reduced traffic...)</p> <p>Make ‘sevenoaks triangle’ one way.</p> <p>There is a road that is isolated from cars; however, the road has many cars parked there, it could be possible to get rid of a lot of the unnecessary parking spaces on the road as the majority of the houses have a large space on their property already to park their cars. The</p>	<p>There is a Sevenoaks District Council Cycling Strategy which STC believes needs to move forward to implementation. There are limits due to the local landscape.</p> <p>It is unlikely that there would be the capacity to commercially operate a bike drop / collect and leave system as there is in large urban areas such as London.</p> <p>This is a proposal that has been discussed and would need to be researched further.</p> <p>There is a possibility that one way traffic will increase the speed of traffic, displace it into residential roads, also be detrimental to pedestrians. STC has previously advocated ‘Shared Space’ as per Maidstone town centre.</p> <p>This is working on the assumption that the cars parked in the road are linked to the ownership of the</p>	<p>4.10</p> <p>4.13</p>
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		<p>remaining space could be used for better, safe bike lanes from the town to the station.</p> <p>Regenerate and revitalise the Northern Sevenoaks area around Bat & Ball Station. The quarry next to the Sainsburys in bat and ball, use it for watersports, i.e., Sailing, water skiing etc.</p> <p>Well insulated, green spaces around them, solar panels, new water sport lake, unused buildings could be used for gyms.</p> <p>4.2. Cycle Racks Cycle racks on the high street</p> <p>I feel like these racks (<i>Bat & Ball Centre</i>) might not be effective for encouraging people to use a bike; the roads have many inclines / hill terrain, many people also have very expensive bikes, electric ones that they want to make sure are safe, maybe would be better to have a bike drop which is not exposed.</p> <p>4.4. Proposals for 20 mph, one way system and shared space Risk that one way system will cause a lot of traffic. Would be a good implementation but it needs to be accompanied by reforms to reduce the use of cars. This is a reform that will impact the whole of Sevenoaks, even non car users, therefore a referendum is needed in order to make this clause not feel forced.</p>	<p>homes. It is likely that the cars parked in the road are commuters and would not be able without agreement to park in householders drives.</p> <p>STC would want the development to include green infrastructure and community facilities.</p> <p>The cycle racks located at Bat & Ball Station and the Bat & Ball Centre are the same design as those at Sevenoaks mainline station and are covered by CCTV cameras.</p> <p>Referendums cost approx. £20,000 it is unlikely that one would be held on this matter. Permanent traffic changes would require considerable consultation with</p>	<p>4.13</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.4</p>
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	<p>4.5. Encourage increased use of public transport – buses and trains – by having improved facilities Hard to find (<i>bus</i>) times, maybe put on website Have a sign at the station to have a countdown to when the next bus is going to be Maybe council would pay for taxis, instead of buses, cheaper? Possibly make the buses electric. The bus schedule is very difficult to locate; could be improved by developing a simple website with the bus timing, also, while waiting for the bus, there could be a small tabloid with when the next bus is going to arrive. Another concern is the pollution from the buses, could be better to convert them from diesel to electric. When will the oyster card / contactless pay be introduced to the Sevenoaks Station, its absence is very inconvenient. This means making the station cleaner and more appealing. Its outside should definitely be redesigned, possibly having a green wall.</p> <p>Linking the use of trains to sustainable modes of transport e.g. walking and cycling Considering Sevenoaks location compared to other socio-economic centres, trains must be central and integrated to the new sustainable Sevenoaks transport system.</p> <p>4.6. Electric Vehicles & Charging Points How many people use electric cars? Higher than average? Possibly, incentivise teachers to drive evs, have a charging point on duke’s meadow, have a similar crediting system like when teachers prefer to use a bike. Expand school bus routes as well, maybe need a lot smaller vehicles.</p>	<p>detailed data available and a Road Traffic Order provided by the Highway Authority.</p> <p>It is the intention to increase the use of public transport both buses and trains. The comments are noted and will be passed on where relevant.</p>	<p>4.5</p> <p>4.13</p>
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		<p>The buses have been very inefficient with transporting people i.e. 1 person per huge bus; could it be less polluting and cheaper for the council to pay for a taxi service; then again people might prefer to use the taxi instead of using a bike. Possibly another solution would be to decrease the amount of people the buses can carry, make them smaller. This could also make it easier for buses to squeeze through the very small streets and make it safer for pedestrians. Would be good to consider a change to electric buses, of smaller size, to reduce carbon footprint while increasing efficiency.</p> <p>4.10 Encourage cycle path across Knole Estate I personally know that many regular visitors of Knole might have an issue with this clause. I believe that this course of action should be made clear to every Knole stakeholder.</p> <p>4.11 Programme of installing QR codes on signposts identifying walking and cycling routes Make the QR codes lead to a main simple website, where there would be 3 sections: walking routes, cycling routes and train routes / timings.</p> <p>4.12. Continue to support Cycling Strategy for Sevenoaks The problem is that people are lazy and would prefer to use their car for a trip to the high street and back, to incentivise the use of bikes, you have to make them electric.</p>	<p>Further research will be carried out where possible.</p> <p>It would be good if school sites could encourage teachers by providing these facilities.</p> <p>It is a difficult ‘chicken and egg’ situation, if buses are not provided people cannot catch them. Smaller buses have been used where possible and it is hoped to move to electric buses in the future.</p> <p>STC are beginning to receive feedback on this proposal. It is Knole’s land and would require their involvement which would anticipate involving public consultation.</p> <p>This would be the intention.</p>	<p>4.5</p> <p>4.12</p> <p>4.10</p>
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		<p>5.2 Adopt a Tree Expand policy to a green wall policy</p> <p>As the cost of trees are quite expensive, it would be incentivising to make sure that people buying the trees know exactly where they are planted in order to see their impact.</p> <p>GW are more expensive than trees, but people could be willing to invest into them as they can see these walls really make a difference for the greenery of the city.</p> <p>Many good places to place green walls, Sainsburys', Waitrose car park lot etc, maybe even residents could think about doing it for insulation purposes as well.</p> <p>Would there be a reduced price if people that buy the tree plant it themselves?</p> <p>5.5. Sevenoaks in Bloom and STC Planting Many good places to place green walls, Sainsburys', Waitrose car park lot etc, maybe even residents could think about doing it for insulation purposes as well.</p> <p>In places where trees do not fit, planting other greenery, i.e., flowers could be encouraged.</p>	<p>These comments are noted.</p> <p>STC are currently only able to plant on its own land, however, will continue to encourage other landowners, businesses, and organisations to do this.</p> <p>The cost would not be reduced, many people are already involved in planting their tree, as they like to do this.</p>	<p>5.1</p> <p>5.2 5.6</p> <p>5.2</p>
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		<p>5.7 Streetlighting to LED provision Are the LEDs for Christmas lights part of the plan for the whole LED shift. Would be good to include further details, including dates, about the LED plan.</p> <p>5.8. Acquisition of Land Might this impact the competitiveness of Sevenoaks for the creation of new ventures.</p> <p>5.9. Draft Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan ...create new publicly accessible open space and green infrastructure With the new global emphasis with sustainability and the preservation of nature this clause can have the potential to enrich the whole of Sevenoaks Town Community and in my opinion is essential for the Green Community Investment Plan.</p> <p>6.1. Promote Refill Scheme ...STC will continue to lobby for drinking fountains to be provided at Railway Stations I believe that the quality of the placements is much more critical than the quantity of overall water fountains. As this scheme needs to be efficient so I believe that the water fountains should only be placed where they are used regularly.</p> <p>6.2. Sevenoaks Plastic Free Pledge Create special bins in the town centre, i.e. glass, plastic, paper</p> <p>The waste shop, the location could be next to dumpster, you bring your old fridge there and you might exchange it there for something else.</p>	<p>Noted, STC will look to do this in the future.</p>	<p>5.7</p> <p>5.8</p> <p>5.9</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p>
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		<p>Also possibly using empty shops as locations.</p> <p>Provide incentives that have sustainable practices, i.e. increased recycling rates, offsetting carbon in exchange for financial benefits and decrease business rates paid to the council.</p> <p>6.3. Installation of drinking fountains Drinking water refill facilities ... There are not many around the high street, could be more.</p> <p>The vine is not lit up whatsoever there needs to be more lights.</p> <p>6.6. Food Waste Sevenoaks currently operates a Foodsafe scheme where supermarkets and other businesses offer surplus, close to sell by date to voluntary organisations... Will there be research into where the food is going and effective it is in helping the community, perhaps which organisations are best?</p> <p>7.1. Signpost residents to existing schemes e.g. compost provision, energy audits Weekly or monthly article to show the progress of the sustainable development.</p> <p>7.3. Information to enable residents to make practical and positive changes Green walls may be an effective way to clearly present the town’s move to a greener state. The green walls could perhaps be accompanied with</p>		<p>6.3</p> <p>6.6</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.3</p>
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		research into the benefits displayed at the green wall and other areas of the town.		
16	Doug Elish Sevenoaks Bicycle Users Group	<p>We very much welcome the Town Council’s Green Investment Plan and look forward to seeing monies being applied to green initiatives in Sevenoaks in order to reduce carbon emissions and promote a greener, more sustainable way of life.</p> <p>We strongly recommend support for investment in active travel, which could, for example, be by way of implementing the local (Sevenoaks Town based) routes in the Sevenoaks District Cycling Strategy (i.e. by making funding available to carry out or update feasibility studies and/or providing funding</p>	<p>STC has consistently made it clear that it wants the Cycle Strategy to be progressed. STC would be a willing partner with KCC and SDC to progress this matter. STC has funded Feasibility</p>	4.10

Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<p>towards the implementation thereof).</p> <p>Other measures we suggest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Invest in an eBike hire-to-buy (or similar) scheme to promote non-motorised travel * Provide funding for secure bike lockers (especially important for eBikes) in Town and other appropriate locations. * Provide funding for implementing a 20mph zone in central Sevenoaks (to encourage active travel) * Invest in a campaign to promote active travel (working with schools and other organisations) * Provide grants to the bus operator in Sevenoaks to buy electric buses. 	<p>Studies previously and in principle agreed for future Feasibility Studies within its resources available.</p> <p>STC had started to consider this, however, is aware that SDC is currently working on this project</p> <p>STC has put in place secure bike racks on its land and has said it will consider grants for green initiatives within its resources available.</p> <p>STC can review the provision of secure bike lockers also on its land.</p> <p>STC will consider grants for green initiatives within its resources available.</p> <p>Please see item 4.8</p> <p>One of STC’s priorities is to obtain external funds for a pilot scheme to</p>	<p>4.2</p> <p>4.4</p> <p>4.8</p> <p>4.5</p>
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Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<p>We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these, and other possible projects, with the Town Councillors and Officers to promote green initiatives in Sevenoaks.</p>	<p>have an electric bus for the No. 8 bus. It would also work with the local bus companies to obtain external funding for electric buses. STC's funds come from the domestic rate payers, and it is unlikely to be able to fund bus companies.</p>	
17	<p>Paul Williams St Nicholas Church</p>	<p>I am a member of the St Nicholas Church family and lead a group within the church seeking to care for God's creation. We are very supportive of the Town Council making its aim to move to zero net carbon its No.1 priority, and welcome the measures proposed in the draft plan designed to reduce carbon emissions and promote biodiversity. I apologise for submitting these comments after your deadline has passed.</p> <p>In particular we welcome STC's initiatives to make its Buildings more eco-friendly and sustainable. Over the past two decades we have taken a number of initiatives to reduce the carbon footprint of our Grade 2* listed building and have been rewarded with an EcoChurch bronze award. We are seeking to take further measures to achieve a silver award.</p> <p>On transport we welcome the initiatives to promote more active transport. We have installed cycle racks at the Church, to encourage cyclists.</p> <p>We too wish to make Sevenoaks greener and in addition to the measures within the Church buildings we have taken steps to increase the biodiversity in the Churchyard by planting wildflowers that were once common in the area and providing habitats for pollinators and other invertebrates. The Mayor,</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments STC welcomes the opportunity to work further with St Nicholas Church and other local churches on this important topic.</p>	7.4

Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<p>Councillor Merilyn Canet, was kind enough to visit us when we held our 'Churches Count on Nature' morning last year.</p> <p>Regarding consumption we are aware that it is incumbent on us as families and individuals to reduce our consumption and to reuse and recycle where we cannot. As a Church with a large congregation, and as Christian's called by God to be stewards of his creation, we have a great opportunity to teach about our duty to tread lightly on this earth. In the run up to COP 26 we took part in the Climate Sunday initiative.</p> <p>We welcome STC's intention to make information more accessible and are also grateful to the Town Council for its work in maintaining our Old Churchyard, for inviting us in the past to take part in Sevenoaks in Bloom and more recently in providing equipment to undertake regular litter picks.</p> <p>We look forward to the publication of the Green Community Investment Plan and to joining with you in taking small steps to achieve a more sustainable future and address the existential threat of climate change.</p>		
18	Paul Williams Chair Empathy Action	<p>I am very supportive of the Town Council making its aim to move to zero net carbon its No.1 priority, and welcome the measures proposed in the draft plan designed to reduce carbon emissions and promote biodiversity.</p> <p>In particular I welcome STC's recognition of the feeling of many young people that they do not learn enough about climate change in school. I am a trustee of Empathy Action, a local charity, which has produced 'The High Life', a simulation about climate justice for use in schools. The simulation is freely available to teachers and youth leaders from our website (www.empathyaction.org), and I attach an article on it published in GA magazine.</p> <p>The High Life was launched at Sevenoaks School last summer. In a survey of students taking part: 96% agreed that THL had increased their awareness</p>	<p>Thank you for making STC aware of your organisation and its resources – it is hoped we can work together in the future on this important topic.</p>	4.8

Sevenoaks Town Council: Green Community Investment Plan – Public Feedback (2)

		<p>of the injustice suffered by those who had done least to contribute to climate change; 95% agreed that their awareness of the impact their life choices could have on others had increased; 87% wanted to take action against climate injustice; 89% agreed that THL had given them ideas about how they could make a difference to climate injustice; 99% said that they would recommend others to experience THL. Sevenoaks School's Geography Department described it as a “really great experience for our students. A well-produced and thought-provoking resource, the concept and videos were excellent.”</p> <p>I apologise for submitting these comments after your deadline has passed but hope that our initiative may be helpful in involving the next generation in our town and further afield in this existential threat.</p>		
19	Graham Birch	<p>I have the following comments relating to items 4.10 to 4.13 concerning the encouragement of cycling:</p> <p>I endorse, in general, the benefits of cycling and the improvements to our infrastructure in order to encourage families to explore the countryside around Sevenoaks.</p> <p>In my role as voluntary PROW officer for Chevening Parish, I have met families seeking to make a circuit ride of lake assets but are frustrated by the lack of safe cycling options.</p> <p>In particular, I support the initiative for a cycle path between Bat & Ball and Dunton Green railway stations. This could easily be combined with an alternative route on the opposite side of the lake to enable families to complete a circuit.</p>	<p>STC does not have the ability to influence facilities at Chevening Lake – outside of STC parish.</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>4.10</p> <p>4.11</p> <p>4.11</p>

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Sevenoaks
TOWN council

DRAFT **Green Community
Investment Plan 2021**

Extension to Community Investment Plan 2019 – 2023

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Draft Green Community Investment Plan 2021
Extension to Community Investment Plan 2019 – 2023

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1. Summary

In November 2019 Sevenoaks Town Council (STC) resolved to make the following its Number 1 Priority:

- To recognise the Government and KCC declarations for aiming for Zero Carbon.
- To integrate this within the vision and throughout the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and within the Town Council's general operation.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic had disrupted some of the STC original plans from 2019. However, STC has used the time to refocus its draft Neighbourhood Development Plan on climate and green issues, identifying policies which would contribute to a more sustainable town.

At a meeting in November 2021, Councillors met to review STC's original 2019 climate change initiatives and considered additional and new proposals. It was agreed that STC should communicate more to the public about the practical local initiatives it was already undertaking and its plans for the future and that STC should take a local leadership role, providing information about simple measures that can be taken in helping the local community to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle to help the planet.

Friends of the Earth states: *"Parish and Town Councils may not be as powerful as local authorities, but they can 'do their bit' in addressing the climate and nature emergency and be a force for change."*

Impact: Community Carbon Calculator – provides the following information as at November 2021

Sevenoaks	
20.1t CO₂e* per-household consumption footprint (p.a.)	
EMISSIONS BREAKDOWN (t CO₂e)	
Consumption of goods and services	7.17
Housing	4.48
Food and diet	4.36
Travel	4.02
Waste	0.03

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*CO2e stands for "carbon dioxide equivalent" and is a standard unit of measurement in carbon accounting. It expresses the impact of a number of different gases collectively as a common unit.

For further information see the Impact calculator developed by Exeter University
<https://impact-tool.org.uk>

STC's overall aim is to put in place affordable and practical initiatives with long term green benefits for the local community and to support and encourage residents to pursue individually. Little steps together, reducing Sevenoaks carbon consumption footprint = big changes to the planet.

STC's Green Community Investment Plan (appendix to STC Community Investment Plan 2019 – 2023) brings together all of its climate change initiatives to publicise to and involve the local community and progress practical delivery under the following five themes:

- Theme 1 Buildings
- Theme 2 Transport & Movement
- Theme 3 Making Sevenoaks Greener
- Theme 4 Consumption
- Theme 5 Information & Access to information

2. STC Community Investment Plan 2019 - 2023

In 2014 Sevenoaks Town Council (STC) set out its first ambitious £4m Community Investment Plan to restore and improve community facilities. Building on the success of that Community Investment Plan the 2019 second document continued with the original 2014 plan and set out additional priorities for the next four years which increased investment to £6.5m+, for further details see appendix.

The STC 2021 Green Community Investment Plan moves away from primarily investing in community facilities and towards investing in the local environment and making Sevenoaks greener.

3. Theme 1 - Buildings

3.1 Sevenoaks Town Council's buildings and assets

STC when constructing new buildings will aim for them to be as sustainable and eco-friendly as possible. Existing buildings to be more sustainable with reduced carbon footprint where practicable.



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The new Bat & Ball Centre is as eco-friendly as possible.

- Rebuild instead of new build.
- Eco friendly and sustainable materials.
- Solar panels.
- Motion sensor lighting.
- Additional insulation.
- Improved heating and ventilation systems.



STC has agreed to research costs and practicalities for the following for its buildings:

- Solar panels.
- Motion sensor lighting.
- Additional insulation.
- Improved heating and ventilation systems.
- Energy audit for each building

3.2. Draft Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) can be viewed at sevenoaksndp.wordpress.com and is currently at draft stage in preparation for a referendum. Following a hoped-for successful referendum an Action and Implementation Plan would be the next step.

The NDP is based upon a vision and accompanying set of objectives. An important focus for the plan is to improve the health and well-being of the people that live within the NDP area. The plan also recognises the importance of addressing the nationally declared climate emergency and supporting sustainability.

The NDP draws upon the town’s existing strengths, reflects the positive qualities identified by the local community and identifies the following number of challenges and opportunities.

Respond positively to climate change and encourage a more sustainable approach to both land use and lifestyle choices.	Deliver a sustainable expansion at Greatness, on land currently being worked to extract gravel by Tarmac Ltd (subject to release from Green Belt) in order to deliver new homes to meet local needs.
Enhance and preserve the town’s heritage assets and special open spaces.	Unlock new opportunity for leisure, recreation, and community infrastructure – including a new watersports lake as part of this development.
Enhance the arrival experience into the town to create a more welcoming impression.	Grow the town’s economy and support the creation of new jobs.
Enhance the town’s network of roads, footpaths and cycling routes to improve connections and create a safer and more attractive environment for users.	Deliver new community assets including a new community centre at Bat & Ball and new health and education provision.

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Improve access to, and better connect, the town's open spaces	Deliver enhanced recreational and sports facilities for the town.
Regenerate and revitalise the Northern Sevenoaks area around Bat & Ball Station	Enhance the town's thriving cultural scene.

Objective 14: to promote high quality development that enhances the town and consolidates vacant or underutilised land.

Objective 15: to deliver a range of new homes to meet local needs.

Objective 16: to provide homes that are energy efficient and minimise environmental impact.

3.3. Energy Audits for Buildings

STC will carry out Energy Audits for its buildings. It is noted that other Transition Towns (*Transition Towns is a voluntary movement focusing on benefits of Local Money, Local Skills, Local Power with the aim to improve the local climate*) had initiated Energy Audits for homes. STC will research further and signpost residents to such initiatives and provide practical cost effective solutions for residents to improve energy use in their own homes.

4. Theme 2 – Transport & Movement

4.1 Reducing cars / traffic particularly in relation to school traffic

The NDP is progressing to referendum and includes relevant proposals. It was noted that subject to a successful referendum the NDP would then move to an Action and Implementation Plan – see section 3.2. for further details.

4.2. Cycle Racks

New facilities to park 30 bikes have been installed at the Bat & Ball Centre. Previously also at Bat & Ball Station.

Plans are in place with KCC for the installation of cycle racks, which double as planters, in the town centre. Cycle planters will be installed at STC office / Business Hub site.



STC will consider opportunities to install cycle racks on the rest of its estate and public open spaces.

It is noted that there may be a need for different parking facilities for electric bikes and this will be considered for STC land, in planning recommendations and liaison with other organisations.

4.3 Increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists

The NDP is progressing to referendum and includes relevant proposals. It was noted that subject to a successful referendum the NDP would then move to an Action and Implementation Plan – see section 3.2. for further details.

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4.4. Proposals for 20 mph, one way systems, and shared space

The NDP is progressing to referendum and includes relevant proposals. It was noted that subject to a successful referendum the NDP would then move to an Action and Implementation Plan – see section 3.2. for further details.

4.5. Encourage increased use of public transport – buses and trains – by having improved Facilities

STC wants to encourage increased use of public transport – buses and trains – by having improved facilities.

STC is committed to working with the Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership (DVCRP) to encourage more local sustainable travel. The DVCRP aims to

- Brings together six separate stations: Swanley, Eynsford, Shoreham, Otford, Bat & Ball and Sevenoaks
- Encourages passengers to visit local tourism attractions along the line
- Connecting communities to their railway and boosting local economy
- Working to improve station facilities, accessibility, and the natural environment
- Linking the use of the train to sustainable modes of transport e.g., walking and cycling
- Raising awareness of local heritage and culture including the artist Samuel Palmer

Subject to funding availability – STC considers proposals to increased bus usage is important. Building on the success of the introduction of the No 8 Bus and subject to funding availability STC would want the provision to move to a half hourly provision and available in the evening **and use of electric buses**. STC would also support where possible other bus initiatives. STC provides the wooden bus shelters within the town.

One of STC's priorities is to obtain external funds for a pilot scheme to have an electric bus for the No. 8 bus. It would also work with the local bus companies to obtain external funding for electric buses. STC's funds come from the domestic rate payers, and it is unlikely to be able to fund bus companies.

4.6. Electric Vehicles & Charging Points

STC has purchased its first electric vehicle and will continue to invest in electrical vehicles and equipment where possible as it replaces its vehicles.

STC aims to install electric car charging points at its sites. Electric charging points have been installed at the Bat & Ball Centre and it is hoped will soon be installed at the STC Office / Business Hub site.

STC will recommend and encourage additional vehicle charging points within new developments (current planning policy) and work with SDC & KCC on provision of these throughout the town.



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- 4.7. Car Club and Car Sharing
A Car Club operating similar to other towns should be supported by STC, potentially by grant funding, but not operated by STC.
- 4.8. Create liaison between individual schools' safety and travel schemes to reduce overall town congestion
STC are supportive of School Safety & Travel Schemes and will seek to arrange a meeting between schools to discuss these and review the overall school travel congestion.
- 4.9. Programme of installing QR codes on signposts identifying walking and cycling routes
STC will include and encourage other providers to provide information on signage to include walking and cycling routes – include QR codes where possible.
- 4.10. Continue to support Cycling Strategy for Sevenoaks
STC would continue wherever possible to work with SDC / KCC and other agencies to improve local cycling provision. STC would also support schemes that enables cycle renting.
- 4.11. Feasibility study for cycle path from Bat & Ball Station to Dunton Green Station
Within the Northern Sevenoaks Masterplan commissioned by STC was a proposal to link Bat & Ball Station and Dunton Green Station via a cycle path. STC believes there are potential benefits to current and new residents, commuting to London, commuting locally to schools and for shopping and leisure. STC want to continue to investigate the feasibility of this and will be obtain costs for a professional Feasibility Study.
- STC will also lobby for the inclusion of the proposal in KCC / SDC Cycling Strategies / Movement Strategy / LC WIP and also liaise with Dunton Green Parish Council.
- 4.12. Encourage cycle path across Knole Estate
STC to liaise with and encourage Knole Estates to create a leisure cycle path across its land, alongside the existing path/route from the main entrance gate to the rear gate at the junction of St Julian Road and Fawke Wood Road.
- 4.13. Draft Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan
Objective 6: to work with the District Council, and Kent County Council, in consultation with neighbouring Parish Councils, to identify a long term strategic approach to transport in Sevenoaks to respond to and mitigate any impact of new development on the existing network.
Objective 7: to promote a co-ordinated approach to transport and movement that encourages use of sustainable transport modes, including walking and cycling, and reducing pollution levels, whilst ensuring that the centre is still accessible by car.

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5 Theme 3 – Making Sevenoaks Greener

5.1 Trees (Noting: Right Tree – Right Place)

A particular feature of Sevenoaks is its trees. Sevenoaks is famed for its oaks but there are many other species and individual trees that are important to the character and ecology of the town.

STC maintains and manages more than 38 hectares of public open space of which approximately 26 hectares are covered in trees. STC wants to plant more trees and where possible fruit and nut trees.

In 2020 STC planted 790 trees and plans for 2021 are progressing with over 300 planned up to November. STC would keep a running total – clearly available for public to view e.g., on its website and linked to the national database.

Where there used to be tree lined avenues, STC will encourage the public via resident associations to plant trees in their front gardens (subject to KCC permission). STC will consider providing grants for trees to voluntary organisations and will support the Queen’s Jubilee Tree Canopy initiative.

When there is a need to fell trees STC will repurpose for posts and bollards where possible.

5.2. Adopt a Tree

In 2021 STC launched an Adopt a Tree in Sevenoaks project.

Why Adopt a Tree?

- Trees benefit the local environment
- Help improve air quality
- Provide homes for wildlife
- Food for insects
- are visually attractive

Where can the trees be planted?

There is a list available of land owned and maintained by Sevenoaks Town Council. These areas vary in size and many of the trees to be planted would be understorey trees and hedgerow bushes, but all of them would be extremely beneficial to the local environment.

Can I plant the tree myself?

If your tree is going to be planted in a Town Council park or open space, then you can come along and help with the planting. If your tree is going on a roadside verge, unfortunately you will not be able to help as safety guidelines must be followed when working on a public highway.

The Choice of Tree

It is important that the right tree is chosen for the right location to enhance its chance of flourishing. Native species will be chosen for the most part with an emphasis on fruit and nut trees. You are encouraged to water and nurture your tree and watch it grow over the years.

The Cost

Your tree can be planted at one of our parks and following the planting, you will receive a certificate with a picture of the newly planted tree and a plan showing its location. If you would like to be in the photograph, this can be arranged. Individual plaques are not provided, but if you would like to provide your own, we can

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attach to the stake. Standard tree - £100 (10/12 cm bare root wrapped tree). This price includes purchase of the tree, digging a hole for its roots, adding compost, installing an irrigation pipe, backfilling, mulching, and staking.

Planting

The best months for planting trees are December and January. So that we can plant new trees during this time, our deadline for applications is 30th September. This gives enough time to order the trees agree and mark the final locations and organise planting.

Once the tree is planted Sevenoaks Town Council will be responsible for maintaining the tree. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee the lifetime of the tree, and we will not be able to replace any trees, which do not establish themselves. If the tree is near your home, you can increase its chances of survival by giving it water during periods of drought and hot weather. For queries, please email osl@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

5.3 Link Sevenoaks open spaces together with ‘green routes’

Via its NDP proposals STC will improve access to, and better connect, the town’s open spaces

5.4 Give it a Grow project

In 2020 the Mayor, Cllr Dr Canet launched the Give it a Grow project encouraging all residents to become involved in making Sevenoaks greener.



5.5. Sevenoaks in Bloom and STC Planting



The annual Sevenoaks in Bloom garden competition plays a vital role in celebrating and directing focus onto the value of plants and their impact on the community and environment. This in turn transforms areas into better places to live, work and visit and help to make residents, businesses, and communities proud of their town. STC will continue with its edible gardening project. Including edible foods within planting in public open spaces and encouraging residents to pick and use. Planting will be chosen that encourages bees. STC are indebted to its many volunteers who participate in helping to make Sevenoaks in Bloom a success.

STC in its horticultural processes will minimise the use of fungicides and pesticides and create a Biodiversity Policy. Sustainable planting will also be used.

5.6 Sustainable boundaries

STC is aware of the considerable environmental benefits to creating sustainable boundaries to properties e.g., hedging compared to fencing. STC will review its following policies for Planning Committee recommendations (it should be noted that STC does not make the final decision relating to planning applications, this is with Sevenoaks District Council, the Planning Authority):

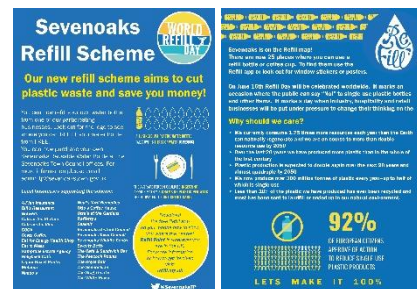
- Sustainable boundaries e.g., hedging
- Porous front drives
- Trees – planting 2 for each 1 removed
- Signs – not internally illuminated – light pollution and energy.

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- 1m boundary distance
- 5.7 Streetlighting to LED provision
STC owns and maintains some of the streetlighting in Sevenoaks and has been putting in place a plan of conversion to LED.
- Where floodlights are provided on STC land it will be planned to move to LED and decrease light pollution.
- Christmas Lights will also be planned to move to LED.
- 5.8 Acquisition of Land
Very rarely, but occasionally land does come up for sale in Sevenoaks. STC will consider putting in place process and ‘in principle’ resolution to enable STC to obtain additional land if it could be used for community benefit e.g., additional woodland or community orchard.
- 5.9. Draft Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan
Objective 4: to recognise the significant contribution that trees and hedgerows make to the town’s character and biodiversity.
Objective 5: to protect, improve and enhance access to existing publicly accessible open spaces and create new publicly accessible open spaces and green infrastructure.
- 5.10 Sevenoaks Town Council’s Biodiversity Policy
STC has a Biodiversity Policy which can be viewed at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk or upon request and will be reviewed against best practice at regular intervals.

6 Theme 4 - Consumption

- 6.1 Promote Refill Scheme
STC will continue to promote the Refill Scheme encouraging people to use refillable bottles rather than plastic; install as many drinking water facilities as possible and encourage businesses to provide free drinking water.



STC will continue to lobby for drinking fountains to be provided at Railway Stations.

- 6.2. Sevenoaks Plastic Free Pledge
In response to the global problem of plastic pollution, Sevenoaks Town Council and Sevenoaks Youth Council have committed to phasing out single-use plastic across all its facilities. This also means it strongly encourages groups and



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organisations to find alternatives to single use plastic when using Town Council venues.

We recognise that crowded events such as fetes, parties etc real glasses can provide a safety hazard. In these circumstances STC encourages the use of sturdy plastic cups that can be cleaned and reused and ultimately can be recycled.

Where single use items are unavoidable, we encourage the public to provide genuine compostable alternatives, and take responsibility for their proper disposal.

STC will continue to campaign and support campaigns for reducing litter and encouraging more recycling.

STC will raise awareness of these matters to all users of its facilities.

STC would be participating in a recycling scheme for the banners for them to be used as flooring for horse stables, dumbbells, traffic cones, punch bags etc. It was also noted that they could be used on allotments to suppress weeds.

6.3. Installation of drinking fountains

Drinking water refill facilities have been installed at the new Bat & Ball Centre and Bat & Ball Station Café.

External drinking water refill facilities will be installed at The Vine Gardens and Greatness Recreation Ground during 2021 / 2022.

6.4. Enabling community initiatives for sustainable living e.g., Toy Library, Community Orchards, Community Cycle Workshops, Repair Café, promotion of alternative resources e.g., nappies.

STC will – where possible – support and develop community initiatives for sustainable living. STC will work with partners including KCC, SDC and Abacus to progress this provision.

6.5. Zero Waste Shop – research viability and support provision in Sevenoaks

STC would support the provision of a Scrapbox* facility, working to reduce waste. It was noted that a building and volunteers would be needed. STC to work with KCC, SDC and Abacus to try and progress a project.

Good example in Norwich: - The aim of Scrapbox is to educate people about the re-use of clean, safe Commercial and Industrial 'waste' as re-usable resources. Scrapbox collects from businesses waste materials such as 'overs', reject goods, ends of ranges etc. which would otherwise be thrown away and makes them available for art, craft, drama, technology and even recycling lessons. The project helps to delay resources being sent to landfill or incineration, which takes time and energy.

Organisations and individuals then pay affordable amounts for the resources they purchase for their projects. Particularly useful to groups who provide art, crafting, music, drama, and technology activities for communities such as schools, nurseries, care homes, crafting groups for the elderly and vulnerable plus community artists etc.

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6.6. Food Waste

Sevenoaks currently operates a Foodsafe scheme where supermarkets and other businesses offer surplus, close to sell by date to voluntary organisations. STC will support this where possible.

6.7. Supporting Businesses

Via the Town Team which includes membership from Sevenoaks District Council, Chamber of Commerce, local stakeholders, and businesses there is an appetite to coordinate and support local businesses in progressing likeminded climate change initiatives. This could include commercial waste services, recycling, green electricity, carbon offsets. Sevenoaks doesn't currently have a BID (Business Improvement District), however there is much that can be learned from BIDs in other locations on such projects.

7. Theme 5 – Information & Access to Information

7.1 Signpost residents to existing schemes e.g., compost provision, energy audits

Bearing in mind that *“Household consumption is responsible for more than 60% of global greenhouse gas emissions.” (Gale, 2020, The Sustainable(ish) Living Guide).* STC will research how to signpost residents to existing schemes, including subsidised compost bins. STC is aware that there is considerable information available from many sources and that sometimes public want this filtered and diluted to enable them to consider their own personal practical measures to make a difference to the climate change agenda.

7.2 Facilitate a Reduce, Reuse & Recycle programme of informal education events – sewing / mending; repairs; plant based home cooking; gardening

STC could facilitate a programme of informal education events – sewing / mending; repairs; home cooking; gardening etc, with the aim of Reduce, Reuse & Recycle.

It is understood that a voluntary organisation will be operating a monthly Repair Café in St Luke's Church, STC has offered support with this.

7.3. Information to enable residents to make practical and changes

STC will aim to increase communication to the public about the practical local initiatives it was already undertaking and its plans for the future and to take a local leadership role, providing information about simple measures that can be taken in helping the local community to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle to help the planet.

STC's overall aim was to put in place affordable and practical initiatives with long term green benefits for the local community and to encourage residents to pursue individually. Little steps together = big changes to the planet.

STC will clearly identify its Green Initiatives and plans on its website and on social media however is also aware that not all its residents have easy access to or able to

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use ‘smart phones’, ‘apps’ and the ‘wider internet’ and will bear in mind methods of communication to avoid where possible ‘digital exclusion’.

7.4. Liaison

STC will liaise with other statutory authorities, voluntary organisations, churches etc to avoid duplication of resources.

8. Implementation

8.1. Produce Green Community Investment Plan and publicise widely

STC to create a ‘Green’ Community Investment Plan setting out aims and objectives – to be an appendix to the current 2019 – 2023 Community Investment Plan.

The ‘Green’ Community Investment Plan to be heavily promoted providing information about STC aims and objectives and encouraging stakeholders, partner organisations, resident associations, community and voluntary groups, schools, and residents to work with STC on these and other initiatives they may have.

8.2. Create STC Green Grant Fund for voluntary organisations

STC to create Grant Fund (similar to Community Resilience Fund) to be able to provide grant funding for Green Initiatives e.g., planting trees.

8.3. Recruitment of Kickstart employee (government funded) to work on projects identified within the Green Community Investment Plan

STC to recruit additional resource / 6 month Kickstart employee (government funded) for administration relating to progressing projects identified within the Green Community Investment Plan aims and objectives.

8.4. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) referendum if successful move to NDP Action Plan

The Sevenoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is currently at draft stage in preparation for a referendum. Following a hoped for successful referendum an Action and Implementation Plan would be the next step.

8.5. Review STC Planning Committee Recommendations policy

STC is aware of the considerable environmental benefits to creating sustainable boundaries to properties e.g., hedging compared to fencing. STC will review its following policies for Planning Committee recommendations (it should be noted that STC does not make the final decision relating to planning applications, this is with Sevenoaks District Council, the Planning Authority):

- Sustainable boundaries e.g., hedging
- Porous front drives
- Trees – planting 2 for each 1 removed
- Signs – not internally illuminated – light pollution and energy.
- 1m boundary distance

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8.6 Agree procedure for appropriate Land Acquisition

STC will consider putting in place process and 'in principle' resolution to enable STC to obtain additional land if it could be used for community benefit e.g., additional woodland or community orchard.

8.7. Involve the next generation

The Youth in a Changing Climate Report 2021 from Groundwork indicates the following key findings:

- Young people do not need convincing about the threat posed by climate change; almost all young people feel that tackling climate change is important to them personally.
- Most young people want to be involved in climate action and feel that knowing more about local environmental activity would help them to do so.
- Young people are less confident in their knowledge about climate change; most feel that they do not learn enough about climate change in school, with documentaries and social media more likely to be their primary source of knowledge.
- The pandemic created a greater opportunity for some young people to explore nature and learn about climate change independently and by connecting with groups online, but also made it more difficult for some other young people to engage because of worries about work and health.

STC will continue to work with Sevenoaks Youth Council, local schools, local youth groups to encourage involvement in local community environment and climate change initiatives.

8.8. Priorities

STC has agreed that in addition to Sevenoaks Town Council's current Priorities as Resolved by Council and actions which were currently in progress the following would be Recommended to Council to be considered as Priorities. Those items marked with an asterisk are subject to verifying with Sevenoaks District Council its progress on the topics to avoid a duplicate of use of resources.

1. Seek quotes for a Pedestrian Audit*
2. Continue to support and encourage progress with the SDC Cycling Strategy Including audit of cycle parking, including appropriate for electric bikes*
3. Progress with development of Car Club*
4. Continue with Tree Planting
5. Progress with providing information to residents and businesses*

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6. Create the School's Green Liaison Group

9. Where does the money come from?

Wherever possible Sevenoaks Town Council aims to provide community facilities at the lowest cost possible to reduce the burden on the tax payer. At the same time providing the facilities that the community wants and needs. This is often achieved by volunteers assisting in this for which the Town Council continues to remain grateful.

There are some facilities which are not commercially viable including maintenance of public open spaces and play areas, these do not generate income as they are free for public use.

Sevenoaks Town Council has a policy that wherever possible external funding should be sought initially for Capital Projects. External funding could be from grants, sponsorship, and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The Sevenoaks Town Council has a good track record for obtaining external funding for projects.

Where does the £1,858,154, 2021 – 2022 Sevenoaks Town Council budget come from?

Annual Precept £1,239,898	Income from Services £557,482	Earmarked Reserves £60,774
67%	30%	3%
Of the budget comes from the domestic ratepayer's precept (council tax). The Town Council does not receive any portion of business rates or government grants.	Of the budget comes from fees and services such as community halls, sports pitches, markets, cemetery, and cafes.	Of the budget will be from Town Council's Earmarked Reserves. £41,075* supports Bat & Ball Station project during initial years of opening, and £39,700* funds the No 8 bus, offset by an increase of (£20,000) revenue reserves. External grant funds*

10. How can I make a comment or become involved?

Sevenoaks Town Council are inviting comments on the initial Green Community Investment Plan up to 30th January 2022, these will then be reviewed. Comments can be forwarded to the Town Clerk, Sevenoaks Town Council, Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3QG. Alternatively emailed to townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

The Town Council and its Committees meet most weeks, and each meeting has a time allotted for the public to address Councillors. A schedule of meetings can be obtained from

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the website at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk or by contacting the Town Council on 01732 459953 or emailing council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

The Town Council will work with community, voluntary groups including Resident Associations and businesses which would like to make a contribution towards Greening Sevenoaks.

Sevenoaks Town Council wherever possible will include public participation in its projects and currently there are opportunities for the public to be involved via the following – please contact the offices if these are of interest to you:

- Friends Groups – Cemetery, Parks & Open Spaces, Bat & Ball Station
- Bat & Ball Centre / Bat & Ball Station User Group
- Sevenoaks Youth Council (11-18 Age)
- Sevenoaks in Bloom
- Give it a Grow campaign – using and learning gardening skills
- Sevenoaks Town Team
- Repair Café proposal – volunteers would be needed with sewing, woodwork etc repair skills

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Appendix
Sevenoaks Town Council Community Investment Plan 2019 – 2023
Further information

In 2014 Sevenoaks Town Council (STC) set out its first ambitious £4m Community Investment Plan to restore and improve community facilities. Building on the success of that Community Investment Plan the 2019 second document continued with the original 2014 plan and set out additional priorities for the next four years which increased investment to £6.5m+, for further details see appendix.

The STC 2021 Green Community Investment Plan moves away from primarily investing in community facilities and towards investing in the local environment and making Sevenoaks greener.

STC remains mindful of the financial resources required to maintain current community facilities and meet the ambitions of its Community Investment Plan and also to be adaptable for future opportunities which benefit residents of the town.

The Community Investment Plan enables public and partner organisations to be aware and comment on the STC’s long term plans. The Community Investment Plan and related strategies has also assisted STC in being successful in obtaining external funding for its capital projects.

It should be noted that capital projects are in addition to STC’s provision and maintenance of community facilities, for a full list of these community facilities please see www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk. The capital projects are normally delivered ‘in house’ by professional staff supported by appropriate paid professionals e.g., architects, and quantity surveyors. The STC staff carry out these roles in addition to their ‘day job’ which is maintaining and administering community facilities. This creates real value for money but does mean the availability of all resources need to be considered when implementing ambitious plans.

Ref	Project	Funds Invested	Funded by	Status
1	Replacement of Raleys Gym – investment into new facilities at Sencio Leisure Centre	£95,000	Sale of Raleys	Completed
2	Replacement of Indoor Cricket School – funds provided to Sevenoaks District Council in s.106 agreement	£150,000	Sale of Raleys	Funds moved to SDC as part of s.106 agreement
3	Café on the Vine – restored historic building and brought back into useful community use.	£150,000	ICET grant and STC reserves.	Completed
4	New Play Area near the Town Centre – Buckhurst Play Area	£100,000	Sale of Raleys CETB grant	Completed

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5	Greatness Recreation Ground – new public toilet, fencing, additional benches and play equipment.	£50,000	CIL ICET grant	Completed
6	Multi Use Games Area (to replace tennis courts at Community Centre) awaiting construction of new centre	£100,000	Sale of Raleys	Completed
7	'Free' recreational facilities – additional play equipment at Kippington Meadow	£4,000	Kent County Council Cllr Crabtree Member grant.	Completed
8	Sports Strategy The Sports Strategy involving 40 local sports clubs has been completed and is an appendix to the Neighborhood Development Plan. 3G Football Pitch installed at Greatness 3G Rugby Pitch at Knole Paddock 3G Hockey Pitch at Hollybush (contribution)	 £450,000 £500,000 £50,000	Sale of Raleys Sevenoaks Mayor's Fund	 Completed Planning Permission refused. Completed
9	Neighbourhood Development Plan Completed to draft stage awaiting Local Plan development. Masterplan for Northern Sevenoaks developed and supported by approximate 70% of local community. Provides plan for regeneration and investment in the area. No. 8 Bus – orbital bus route connecting residential areas to town centre. Winner of UK Community Bus 2018.	£100,000 £150,000	STC Budget KCC s.106 (Sainsbury development) and community transport fund.	Development Stage
10	Stag Community Arts Centre (STC has a 25-year lease) Capital investment including air handling system	£150,000	Sale of Raleys	Completed
11	Bat & Ball Centre Refurbishment and extension of old building	£2,750,000 (Core cost)	Sale of Raleys £1.2m CIL Public Works Loan Board	Completed
	Total capital investment into community facilities	£4,649,000		

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Projects not included in 2014 original Community Investment Plan

Ref	Project	Funds Invested	Funded by	Status
13	Bat & Ball Station building refurbishment (25-year peppercorn lease)	£1,452,000	Heritage Lottery Fund CIL Railway Heritage Trust STC Budget	Completed
	New Access Ramp to Platform 1	£60,000	CIL	completed
	Cycle racks at station entrance.	£29,000	CIL	completed
	Cycle racks on community centre land adjacent to ramp.	£45,000	CIL	completed
	New Pedestrian Access to Otford Road	£35,000	CIL	awaiting KCC permission
	Additional capital investment into community facilities	£1,621,000		

2019 Community Investment Plan

14	Sevenoaks Business Hub	£265,400	STC Budget	Completed
15	Development of Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership	£3,000 p.a.	STC Budget	Completed

	2014 Capital Investment Plan into community facilities	£4,649,000		
	Additional total Capital Investment Plan into community facilities	£1,621,000		
	2019 Capital Investment Plan into community facilities	£268,400		
	Total Community Investment	£6,538,400		

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Events Accepted/Attended – 2021/2022

Mayor: Councillor Dr Marilyn Canet

Day & Time	Date	Organisation & Event/Venue	Attending
Wed 1.30	12 May	Visit to Trinity School – Creation Care ‘Growing Hope’ Garden	Mayor & Cllr Michaelides
Fri 6.00	14 May	Les Amis de Sevenoaks and the Friends of Pontoise – Zoom Meeting	Mayor
Mon 2.15	24 May	War Graves Week – Lay crosses at Greatness Cemetery	Mayor & Cllr Granville Baxter
Sun 2.30	30 May	Joint Open Day at Sevenoaks Bowls Club	Mayor
Sun 7.45	30 May	Concert Major to Minor live at the Stag	Mayor & Jill Webster
Sat 10.00	5 June	Vegan Market in Buckhurst Lane Car Park	Mayor
Tues 4.00	8 June	Opening of the Business Hub	Mayor
Thurs 2.00	10 June	Visit to Lady Boswell’s Primary School	Mayor
Thurs 4.15	10 June	Celebrate Steph Harrison’s achievement of walking 100 miles for Breast Cancer Now	Mayor
Thurs 5.45	10 June	Kent Armed Forces Briefing – Zoom meeting	Mayor
Sat 10.30	12 June	St Nicholas Church – Churches Count on Nature	Mayor
Mon 13.25	14 June	Visit to St Thomas’s Catholic Primary School to inform the children about the role of Mayor and the work of the Town Council	Mayor
Wed 10.00	16 June	Visit to Sevenoaks Primary School to see the Forest School, wildlife pond and allotment areas	Mayor
Thurs 1.00	17 June	Meeting with the Directors of Sevenoaks Bowls Club	Mayor
Fri 9.00	18 June	Visit to Sevenoaks School to see Y 11 Geography presentations	Mayor
Tues 11.50	22 June	Grand Opening of The Fish Shop	Mayor & Cllr Michaelides
Thurs 6.00	24 June	Disability at Work Zoom meeting	Deputy Mayor
Sun 10.00	27 June	Mayor of Dartford’s Civic Service	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Wed 5.00	30 June	Age UK Retirement Reception for Gillian Shepherd-Coates	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Sat 5.45	3 July	Chance to Dance performance at the Stag Theatre	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Sat 7.30	3 July	Sevenoaks Music Club – Concert at Walthamstow Hall	Cllr. Simon Raikes & Mrs Christine Raikes
Mon 11.00	5 July	NHS Social Care & Frontline Workers’ Day – Raise the Flag on the Vine	Deputy Mayor
Mon 2.00	12 July	Opening of the ‘Bee Hotel’ at the Pound	Mayor
Thurs 9.30	15 July	Meet and Greet Judges – Sevenoaks in Bloom	Mayor

Day & Time	Date	Organisation & Event/Venue	Attending
Sat 3.00	17 July	Chairman of Sevenoaks D C – Civic Service at St Luke’s Church, Eardley Road	Mayor, Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Sat 7.30	17 July	The Lydian Orchestra Concert at St Peter & St Paul Church, Tonbridge	Mayor & Mr & Mrs Ken Clarke
Thurs 7.30	22 July	Mayor of Dartford – Evening at Eifes Turkish Restaurant	Mayor & Guest
Sun 9.00	25 July	Official Opening of the Bat and Ball Centre	Mayor
Wed 10.30	28 July	Mayor of Maidstone’s Scenic Cruise	Mayor & Guest
Thurs 12.30	29 July	Unveiling of the National Railway Heritage Awards Plaque	Mayor
Thurs 1.30	29 July	Chairman SDC – From Commune to Consummate at St Julians lu8b	Mayor & Guest
Sun s.00	1 Aug	Mayor of Ashford – Civic Service	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Wed 12.00	4 Aug	Tour of Wildernesse House and Lunch in Pavilion Restaurant	Mayor
Sat 7.00	7 Aug	Mayor of Bexley – Charity Appeal Launch BBQ	Mayor & Guest
Thurs 7.00	12 Aug	Mayor of Dartford – Come and Meet the Mayor	Mayor & Guest
Fri 11.00	13 Aug	Peppercorn Rent Ceremony	Mayor
Tues 11.00	17 Aug	Free Family Fun Day at Greatness Recreation Ground	Mayor
Wed 2.00	18 Aug	Lady Mayoress of Canterbury – Afternoon Tea at Tower House	Mayor & Guest
Fri 3.00	20 Aug	Mayor Sandwich – Garden Party	Mayor & Guest
Thurs 12.00	26 Aug	Boxing 4 Parkinson’s & Dementia Road Show at the Vine Gardens	Mayor
Thurs 2.00	26 Aug	Greatness Recreation Ground – Alice in Wonderland	Mayor
Fri 6.00	27 Aug	Mayor of Swanley – 1812 Night	Mayor & Guest
Sun 2.00	29 Aug	Chairman of Tandridge District Council – Reception, Tea with Music	Mayor & Guest
Mon 3.00	30 Aug	Live on the Vine – West End Stars- Magical Musicals	Mayor
Fri 10.00	3 Sept	Merchant Navy Day – Flag Raising ceremony at the Vine Flagpole	Mayor
Fri 12.00	3 Sept	Non Visible Disability Initiative at Rochester Cathedral	Mayor
Sun 12.00	5 Sept	Mayor of Tenterden – Civic Service	Deputy Mayor & Cllr. Richard Parry
Sat 6.00	11 Sept	Annual General Meeting of Sevenoaks District scout Council	Mayor
Wed 2.30	15 Sept	Tea Dance at the Bat and Ball Centre	Mayor
Tues 10.00	21 Sept	Wildernesse Golf Club – Present Awards	Mayor
Wed 9.45	22 Sept	Sevenoaks Business Show at the Bat and Ball Centre	Mayor
Sat 2.30	25 Sept	Open the Sevenoaks Literary Festival at the Kippington Centre	Mayor
Sat 3.45	25 Sept	Celebrate the completion of the new building and the work of Jean Sowten BEM over the last 30 years	Mayor
Mon 10.00	27 Sept	Opening of the Bug Hotel at the Bat and Ball Centre with children from the Sevenoaks Day Nursery	Mayor

Day & Time	Date	Organisation & Event/Venue	Attending
Wed 7.30	29 Sept	Sevenoaks Counselling – Annual Open Meeting	Mayor
Thur 10.30	30 Sept	Visit to Rockdale and tour of their garden	Mayor
Sat 2.00	2 Oct	Alumnae Reunion	Mayor
Thur 11.00	7 Oct	Sevenoaks District Seniors Action Forum – Silver Day Celebrations	Mayor
Thur 12.30	7 Oct	Chairman SDC – Visit to Eagle Heights	Deputy Mayor & Councillor Richard Parry
Fri 11.00	8 Oct	Justice Service for the County of Kent at Rochester Cathedral	Mayor & Linda Larter
Fri 5.00	8 Oct	Greatness Recreation Ground Consultation	Mayor
Tues 7.30	12 Oct	Presentation for Sevenoaks Soroptimists at Rockdale	Mayor
Wed 1.30	13 Oct	Chairman SDC – Visit to Coblands Garden Centre	Mayor & Mrs Gail Clark
Fri 6.30	15 Oct	Penny Wood Tours In Bloom Awards at the Bat and Ball Centre	Mayor
Sun 4.00	17 Oct	Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra – Concert at the Stag Theatre	Mayor
Wed 10.00	20 Oct	Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting via Zoom	Mayor
Thur 12.00	21 Oct	Join the Soroptimists at the Vine for the dedication of their tree planted for their Centenary year	Mayor
Thur 7.00	21 Oct	Join the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells at the Simla Cuisine restaurant, Paddock Wood.	Mayor
Fri 10.15	22 Oct	Mayor of Ashford – visit to the Big Cat Sanctuary	Mayor & Guest
Sat 10.00	30 Oct	Placing of Poppies on the Vine Railings in commemoration of the end of WW! In 2018	Mayor
Sat 6.30	30 Oct	Kentish Opera performance of The Pirates of Penzance at the Stag Theatre	Mayor
Sun 1.00	31 Oct	Judging the Halloween Fancy Dress Competition at The Vine	Mayor
Sun 8.00	31 Oct	Elaine Delmar concert at Walthamstow Hall School	Mayor
Wed 2.00	3 Nov	M S Society social gathering in the John London Hall at the Bat & Ball Centre	Mayor
Wed 6.00	3 Nov	Welcome the newly Elected Youth Councillors to their first meeting	Mayor
Thurs 7.00	4 Nov	SDC Chairman’s convivial evening at the Bricklayers Arms, Chipstead.	Mayor & guest
Sat 5.30	6 Nov	Sevenoaks Round Table Fireworks - Lead the procession from the High Street to the Venue	Mayor
Wed 7.30	10 Nov	Sevenoaks Society - Annual General Meeting via Zoom	Mayor
Thur 10.50	11 Nov	Armistice Day – Lay Crosses on the War Graves at Greatness Cemetery	Mayor
Sat 10.30	13 Nov	Vegan Market in the Vine Gardens	Mayor
Sun 10.30	14 Nov	Remembrance Day Service and Parade at the Vine War Memorial	Mayor

Day & Time	Date	Organisation & Event/Venue	Attending
Sun 2.00	14 Nov	Remembrance Day Service and Parade at the War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Swanley.	Mayor
Thur 7.00	18 Nov	Mayor of Gravesham – Charity Chinese Meal	Mayor & Guest
Fri 7.00	19 Nov	Mayor of Tonbridge & Malling - Quiz Night	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Parry
Sat 7.00	20 Nov	Lions Club of Sevenoaks – Dinner at Wildernesse Golf Club	Mayor & Guest
Mon 4.00	22 Nov	Dorothy Parrott Trustees Meeting in the Chamber	Mayor & Deputy Mayor
Mon 7.00	22 Nov	Town Council Meeting	Mayor
Tues 2.00	23 Nov	Mayor of Maidstone – Guided Tour of The Maidstone Distillery and Gin Tasting	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Wed 1.15	24 Nov	Unveiling of Hope, the Lego Suffragette at the Stag	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Wed 2.00	24 Nov	Mayor of Faversham – Visit to the newly opened Kent Police Museum and afternoon tea	Mayor & Guest
Wed 7.00	24 Nov	Mayor of Tunbridge Wells – Another Munch and Mingle at the Black Horse in Pembury.	Mayor & Guest
Fri 6.00	26 Nov	Christmas Lights Switch-on	Mayor & Cllrs
Sat 7.30	27 Nov	Sevenoaks Philharmonic Choir - Concert at St Nicholas Church	Mayor
Wed 11.00	1 Dec	National Tree Week Plant/Dedicate 5th Oak Tree in a group on Sevenoaks Common close to Letter Box Lane	Mayor
Sun 12.30	5 Dec	Mayor of Tenterden – Christmas Lunch at the Montalbano restaurant Tenterden	Mayor & Guest
Mon 7.00	6 Dec	Town Council Christmas Meeting	Mayor
Tues 1.00	7 Dec	Call in and say a few words to the Staff at their Christmas gathering	Mayor
Thur 9.30	9 Dec	Open Day at West Heath School	Mayor
Sun 12.00	12 Dec	Sevenoaks Hockey Club – President's Cocktail Party	Mayor
Sun 6.00	12 Dec	Mencap – Carols, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies Evening	Mayor
Mon 10.00	13 Dec	Judging Best Dressed Window with Chamber of Commerce	Mayor
Wed 7.00	15 Dec	Westerham Sea Cadets – Awards Evening at Westerham Hall	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Sat 7.30	18 Dec	Lydian Orchestra – Christmas Concert in the Pamoja Hall	Mayor & Guest
Mon 12.30	20 Dec	Alms Houses - Lunch at Sevenoaks School Cancelled	Mayor

Day & Time	Date	Organisation & Event/Venue	Attending
Tue 10.00	21 Dec	Presenting prizes for Best Dressed Window	Mayor
Friday 11.15 pm	24 Dec	Christmas Eve Midnight Service at St Nicholas Church	Mayor
Wed 6.00	12 Jan	Open Photographic Exhibition at the Kaleidoscope Gallery	Mayor
Thurs 7.00	13 Jan	Mayor of Bromley – Charity Appeal Dinner	Mayor & Guest
Sat 12.00	15 Jan	Meet the Artist Oliver Barrett who will be talking about his new sculpture at Blighs	Mayor
Sun 12.00	16 Jan	Sevenoaks Quakers – Talk on Community & Environment	Mayor
Tues 6.45	18 Jan	Mayor of Tonbridge – Starters & Puds	Mayor & Jill Webster
Sun 4.45	23 Jan	Chance to Dance performance at the Stag Theatre	Mayor & Deputy Mayor
Tues 5.15	25 Jan	Mayor of Bexley – Charity Greyhound Evening	Deputy Mayor & Cllr Richard Parry
Wed 11.00	26 Jan	New Building Opening Ceremony – Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys	Mayor
Fri 7.00	28 Jan	The Chairman of the Shrievalty Association & The Sheriff of Canterbury - Annual Shrievalty Dinner	Mayor
Tues 6.30	1 Feb	Sevenoaks Pharmacy – Thank you reception for volunteers who helped during the pandemic	Mayor & Cllr Clayton
Thur 11.00	3 Feb	Rockdale Care Home – Planting an Amelanchier Tree donated by a resident for the Adopt a Tree Campaign	Mayor
Fri 10.00	4 Feb	Visit to Chartwell to meet Japanese Ambassador , plant a cherry tree, tour of the house followed by lunch	Mayor
Mon 2.00	7 Feb	Visit to Solefields School – Plant a tree and meet with the ECO committee	Mayor
Tue 4.00	8 Feb	Meeting in the Town Council Chamber to discuss the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee	Mayor
Thus 12.00	10 Feb	Mayor of Medway – Visit to Copper Rivet Distillery	Mayor & Guest
Fri 9.30	11 Feb	Zoom Meeting with Ed Grobel and pupils at St John’s Primary School	Mayor
Sun 11.00	13 Feb	Sevenoaks Powerchair Football Match at the Sennoke Centre at Sevenoaks School	Mayor

Day & Time	Date	Organisation & Event/Venue	Attending
Tues 7.15	15 Feb	Mayor of Bexley – Chinese New Year Evening	Mayor & Cllr Michaelides
Wed 2.00	16 Feb	Sevenoaks Family Fun Day at the Vine Gardens	Mayor
Thurs 6.00	17 Feb	My Mind’s Eye Photography Exhibition at the Kaleidoscope Gallery	Mayor
Sat 5.30	19 Feb	Kent International Piano Courses at Tonbridge School.	Mayor
Thurs 1.00	24 Feb	Visit Sevenoaks School to discuss and observe students’ ways to strengthen their partnership with the local community	Mayor
Fri 7.00	25 Feb	Mayor of Dartford – Race Night	Mayor
Sun 1.00	27 Feb	Pancake Race at the Vine Gardens	Mayor



2021 – 2022

The Mayor of Sevenoaks Councillor Dr Merilyn Canet Provisional Dates for Mayoral Events

May/June 2021 26 th June Armed Forces Day	July 2021 5 th July NHS & Frontline Workers Day	August 2021
September 2021 3 rd September Merchant Navy Day 14 th September Bowls Match	October 2021	November 2021 11 th November Armistice Day 14 th November Remembrance Day Tree Planting
December 2021	January 2022 Staff Fundraising Lunch	February 2022
March 2022 14 th March Commonwealth Day 26 th March Quiz Night	April 2022 20 th April Tour of Knole House	May 2022 4 th May Luncheon at Chevening