

MINUTES of the FORWARD PLANNING STEERING GROUP, held at Rickards Hall on Monday 31 October 2022, at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllrs J Aldridge, A Baker, S Compton, M Gemmell Smith, A Layland, N Lloyd, M McArthur, A Read, and B Todd (Chairman)

In attendance: Town Clerk; no members of the public and no members of the press.

1. TO APPOINT THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR FOR THE FORWARD PLANNING STEERING GROUP

Cllr Baker nominated Cllr Todd, seconded by Cllr Baker; Members unanimously,
Resolved: to elect Cllr Todd as Chairman of the Forward Planning Steering Group.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received, noted and accepted from Cllrs McGregor and Sumner.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS OR PREDETERMINATION

None.

4. TO RECEIVE, ADOPT AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FORWARD PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON [04 October 2021](#)

Resolved: that the minutes of the Forward Planning Steering Group Meeting held on 04 October 2021 be duly signed by the Chair of the meeting as a true and accurate record of the meeting; pages 9602—9604e.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR REPORT AND NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

5.1 To receive an update of the Forward Plan from last meeting

The updated Plan was received and noted.

6. TO CONSIDER FUTURE PROJECTS for the forward Plan

Members went through the current Plan reviewing each, noting projects completed, reviewing which were short-term (S), medium (M) or long-term (L) deliverability and/or aspirations. Cllr Todd and the Town Clerk would confirm the amended order of projects on the Plan before publishing. *Appendix to minutes.*

20:39 Cllr Compton left the meeting; 20:45 returned to meeting

6.1. To consider if the Council would like to include a Band Stand for Stangrove Park

Members noted that the Band Stand aspiration was already under ‘wish list’ and unanimously,

Resolved: to move the Band Stand project on to the Forward Plan under S/M term.

8:51 Cllr Todd gave his apologies and left the meeting after handing over to Cllr Baker Vice-Chair of the Council.

6.2. To consider if the Council would like to include a new skate park for Edenbridge

Cllr Baker gave a presentation on a concept for outsourcing fundraising and project management to provide exciting new facilities for Edenbridge, (first raised to Council 2021). Initially, the suggestion was considering this new approach with the view to

fund and create a design-and-build spray concrete skate park. These types of skate parks were low maintenance, quieter and provide wider Accessibility. An example of this approach was used by Swanley Town Council with its new skate Park facility. Members discussed, and

Resolved: to support investigating the viability of fundraising and project management outsourcing for leisure and sports facilities and how to best use this methodology.

6.3. To confirm changes to the Forward Plan and other additional future projects

Members noted the potential of acquiring a new small parcel of land which was currently in discussions. Should this proceed as expected, funding would be needed to make good and some landscaping. Members, unanimously,

Resolved: to make recommendation to the Finance Committee to allocate £5,000 in the draft budget 2023/24 for landscaping of new small area of land.

Since the completion of the new visual display equipment project in Rickards Hall, Members were asked to consider the need for providing speakers and PA facilities for the Hall. Members unanimously,

Resolved: to recommend to the Finance Committee to allocate a budget of £1,500 in the draft budget.

Members unanimously,

Resolved: the revised Plan and proposals (above 6.3) for the draft budget 2023/24.

7. TO MAKE RECOMMENDATION TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ANY ADDITIONAL INCREASES TO THE BUDGET, AND PRECEPT TO COVER ANY PROPOSALS FROM THE FORWARD PLAN UPATE

Members noted that the draft budget was yet to be prepared and presented to the Finance Committee's November meeting to consider in detail. This would then be presented to the full Council in December to consider, before formally endorsing at its January meeting. Members unanimously,

Resolved: recommendation to full Council to increase the Precept to fund new projects in the budget 2023/24.

8. TO CONSIDER ANY PRESS RELEASES

Meeting closed at 21:30

Updated following meeting 31 October 2022

Edenbridge Town Council - Forward Plan 2022

Key: **S** – short term (approx. 1-year); **M** (approx. 4-year term); **L** (4 years plus / or in long-term maintenance plan)

Report includes projects achieved, or about to be achieved in current Council term.

Last reviewed at the Forward Planning Steering Group (FPSG) meeting 4 October 2021.

	Council projects	Time Frame	Comments/updates	Completion / due date – comments from FPSG
1	Street Lighting replacement programme	S/M	Ongoing. As of Oct 22: 64, of 249, remaining to be replaced under currently programme. CIL/Council agreed 2 extra Westways	Ongoing
1.a	Street Lighting replacement programme	S/M	To investigate Solar lighting options for Replacement Programme inclusion	
2	Tourist Information Website ✓ and updated walks leaflets and App	S	CIL funding approved 02/19. Website completed and launched May 2021. Walks App project 2022	Walks App 2022/23 project
3	Computer systems – file storage (server needs replacing / or move to cloud base storage)	S	Council approved January 2022. Budgeted 2022/23. Project commencing Oct 22. Aim March 2023 live	Review Maintenance Plans & consider CIL applications to assist with funding
4	Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points (MYCP)	S	Council 11/19 asked parking Group to investigate. Application has been made to KCC (August 2021) for ETC car parks to be considered. CIL contribution confirmed. IN PROGRESS	KSTS/ ETC sites supported (MYCP). Nov 22 conf to KSTS given.
5	Edenbridge Dementia Friendly	S	Partnership working	ETC to facilitate Early investigations October 22, Council Oct 22 supported a collaborative initiative to help Edenbridge in becoming a dementia friendly

6	Council Website – Accessibility & design review	S/M	Content reviewed 2021/22. To reconsider design and layout (possible 2023 project)	
7	Investigate and consider reopening Market Yard car park entrance	S/M	Council agreed to consult resident 07/19. Council 09/20 asked for clearer costs to amend deeds. Details for changing access to be investigated further. FPSG 22 requested investigation to costs so could consider viability	
8	Waste Management/Environmental Policy – review	S/M	Council 03/20 agreed to investigate possibility of enrolling to achieve the ISO4001 accreditation 2022/23 investigate costs	
9	Band Stand for Stangrove Park	S/M	Band Stand – FPSG 22	
10	Defence Improvements	S/M	Defences improved around OS sites. Recreation Ground some defences increase consider. Anti-social Behaviour – investigate CCTV viability.	
11	Neighbourhood Plan	M	Draft consultation document published 10/17. Currently on hold awaiting draft local plan outcome. New Rg 18 cons LP Nov 22.	Council Oct 2022 agreed to remain on hold until new council
12	Friends of Edenbridge Parks	M	To consider the viability of establishing a charity trust and volunteer group (FPSG 22 leave on Plan)	
13	Playground Refurbishment programme (30-year maintenance plans)	M/L	ETC playgrounds: Marsh Green 2026 Stangrove 2033 <u>Last done:</u> Spitals 2019; Stangrove outdoor gym & MUGA wall 2020; Blossoms Skate additions 2022; Recreation Ground 2022.	
14	Recreation Ground – to create a walkway around the recreation ground/ running path around perimeter	M/L	Hardcore track (not for vehicles for walking). <i>To investigate costs and viability. Consider CIL. To present to OS Committee to consider viability/interest</i>	
15	Bus Shelter on Swan Lane	S/M?	Resident request for a bus shelter is currently being investigated with other agencies. Estimated cost £10k. CIL March 21. Landownership issues and Accessibility. Reported through OS Committee. KCC issues with location and viability re space.	In view of KCC response viability issues hence change in listing

	Projects supported by ETC and action by external bodies		Responsible Body	ETC support	
16	War Memorial – Relocation/Improvements	M/L	NHS Trust	Early stages - Liaising with other vested groups	Can't consider relocation until hospital closes
	From previous Forward Plan – aspirations for the town (supported by ETC and for action by external bodies)		Responsible Authority/Body	ETC Support	
17	Edenbridge Medical Facility	M/L	KCC / NHS	ETC – support. CIL Board (02/19) & Oct 21 awarded £100k x 2. ETC continue support. Delivery expected 2023	Building works started May 2022. Expect handover Oct 2023
18	Leather Market Improvements Preliminary confidential discussions with interested parties has/are taking place as part of a feasibility study	L	Landowner	ETC keen to continue pursuing viability 2022 ETC submitted to SDC under call for sites	
19	Spitals Cross Parking	L	KCC / WKHA / SDC	Noted ETC has investigated, but land is managed by WKH (and SDC) Need to liaise with KCC/WKH. improvements/compromise may be possible with redevelopment	SDC been looking and have been consulting with new planning application (Dec 2022)
20	Disabled access – Edenbridge Town Station	M/L	GTR	ETC would like to see GTR deliver on this	Possible funding 4Elms application
21	Disable access – Edenbridge Station	M/L	GTR	ETC would like to see GTR deliver on this	Possible funding 4Elms application
22	Leisure Centre Redevelopment/Improvements Explore possible development opportunities to improve the Leisure Centre. Proposals for All Weather Pitch and internal improvements. Preliminary confidential discussions with interested parties are taking place as part of a feasibility study	L	Sencio / SDC	To continue campaigning with SDC & look for potential ways of All Weather Pitch viability	

23	Secondary School / Free School	L	KCC	ETC – supported (draft Local Plan)	Four Elms Planning Application – school included in approved outline planning application
24	Individual Flood Defences		Environment Agency		
25	Riverside Improvements	M/L	Great Stonebridge Trust		
26	Understand and improve streetlighting	M/L	KCC Highways/ETC/Network Rail	ETC improved Westways	
27	New footpath – Care Home – MSAW	M/L	KCC Highways	HIP?	With the Care Home now open is evident a need for crossing – include on HIP