

Seal Parish Council Parish Plan – 2020/2021

The Parish Plan sets out our over-riding priorities to help ensure the Parish is an enjoyable and pleasant place to live. Although the Parish Council has few powers itself we are in a position to influence those who do have powers and to represent the views of parishioners in doing so. We do what we can to help to make things happen that will improve community life for residents. This plan is updated regularly.

Traffic and parking has become an increasingly fraught and difficult issue in the Parish. There have been a number of significant developments within the Parish and more being discussed immediately adjacent at north Sevenoaks and Borough Green.

| SEAL PARISH COUNCIL PARISH PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS | Progress made and Ideas for Action | Target Date | Group Responsible | Funding Possibilities |
|---|--|----------------|---|---|
| To press for wider traffic issues to be taken into account when considering planning applications from neighbouring Councils. To include provision for cycling and walking. | Responded to TMBC proposals for the Borough Green Garden Village and to the Sevenoaks Local Plan focussing on the wider traffic implications. Responded to consultation on Seal Conservation Area seeking recognition of impact of traffic | Ongoing | KCC, SDC, Tonbridge and Malling BC | KCC, The Parish Council to consider using its funds from CIL to support eligible projects. |
| In 2019 KCC introduced Highway Improvement Plans to identify priorities for road safety measures in Parishes | The Parish Council will submit its first HIP in Jan 2020. It will be updated annually. | Ongoing | Parish Council and KCC Highways | KCC Highways, The Parish Council could use its funds from CIL to support eligible projects. |
| Speed watch – the PC now owns its own equipment and volunteers are moving it around the Parish and carrying out Speed Watch. | To establish active groups of volunteers to cover the Parish and identify roads to be targeted. | Active ongoing | Parish Council | N/A |
| Speed Interactive sign– the PC now owns a mobile interactive speed sign that can be used in all three wards. | Volunteers to keep it active and ongoing | Ongoing | Parish Council and Kent County Council | Parish Council and Cllr. Roger Gough KCC Members Allowance. |
| Install a priority right of way over the Childsbridge Lane bridge to Kemsing to safeguard pedestrians and seek options to install a pedestrian path on the east side of the railway bridge. | Discussions with KCC not positive. This remains a priority for the PC Included in HIP | Ongoing | Parish Council and KCC highways | KCC Highways/Parish Council, Network Rail |
| Move the Seal boundary sign on Childsbridge Lane to the actual boundary and with it extend the 30mph zone to Childsbridge Farm Place and ask KCC to apply a 40mph limit to the remainder to the road into Kemsing, liaising with Kemsing PC and KCC | Included as part of the HIP | 2020 | Seal Parish Council, Kemsing Parish Council and Kent County Council | KCC |
| Install an interactive speed sign for traffic coming over the railway bridge from Kemsing | The mobile Speed Indicator Device (SID) will spend one week in six just south of the railway bridge on Childsbridge Lane from now onwards. | Ongoing | KCC Highways | KCC Highways/Parish Council |
| Extend 30mph speed limit from Blackhall Lane through Godden Green past Sevenoaks | Parish Council to discuss with KCC. | Ongoing | Parish Council & KCC Highways | KCC Highways |

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| Prep School. | Included in HIP | | | |
| Lorry Watch is keen to know of specific lorry issues. | KCC have been asked to consider this. | Ongoing | Parish Council and Kent Highways | KCC Highways |
| Residents in the centre of the village are asking for Permit Parking to be investigated | SDC have carried out a consultation with residents. SDC to follow up from consultation | 2020 | Parish Council, Sevenoaks District Council and Kent Highways | Sevenoaks District Council and Kent County Council |

The roads in the Parish are often in poor condition with potholes and damaged verges. Residents are able to report all highway issues direct to KCC 03000 41 81 81 <http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem> The Parish Council also lobbies on improvements to the PROW network and for cycle routes. Residents can report problems on PROW to 03000 41 7171 8am-8pm Mon-Friday. <http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of-way>

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|---|---|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| Overall, the PC will make representations whenever appropriate on improvements to benefit cyclists, walkers and horse riders and connectivity with the wider road and PROW network and to make improvements in routes to schools, village centres and services. | Work closely with the Greensand Commons project, SDC and KCC to identify improvements in access to the wider countryside. | 2020-2022 | SDC and KCC Highways | KCC Highways, Greensand Commons Project |
| Encourage a walking and cycling route going south from Seal Village through the Wildernesse Estate | Discuss with Wildernesse Estate. | 2020 | Wildernesse Estate | Parish Council/KCC |
| Widen the footpath from Childsbridge Lane to Ash Platt to take cyclists. | Parish Council to discuss with KCC. | 2020 | KCC Highways | KCC Highways |
| Find co-ordinators to set up local litter-picking groups. | Parish Council to pursue with residents. | Partially under way | Parish Council | Minimal |
| Crossings on the A25 at Seal Drive and at Pillar Box Lane | Parish Council to discuss with KCC | 2020 | KCC Highways | KCC highways |
| Encourage reporting of PROW problems direct to KCC | Contact details at the end of PC meeting minutes | Ongoing | KCC | Ongoing |

The Parish Council responds to all consultations on planning applications in the Parish, and wider policy documents.

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|--|---|--------------|---|----------------------------|
| Update the Village Design Statements to ensure control over new development and to protect retail/commercial premises. | The Stone Street VDS has been Adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance by SDC. The Wilderness DS has been withdrawn by the Residents Association in preference for a review of the Conservation Area Appraisal at a later date. | 2020 onwards | Villages with the support of Parish Council. Formal Adoption by SDC | Minimal |
| Pursue suitable site for an Affordable Housing scheme. | The PC supports in principle 2 sites for 'Rural Exception' | Ongoing | Parish Council, English Rural, | SDC & Housing Associations |

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| | affordable housing in Seal village. | | WKHA and SDC | |
| Monitor Sevenoaks Quarry extension to ensure compliance and limit damage to Seal residents. | The PC raises local problems at the regular meetings of two Liaison groups | Ongoing | | N/A |
| The Sevenoaks Local Plan | The PC made substantial responses to the consultations in 2019. It seeks stronger policy for the proper development of the Tarmac Quarry, provisions of services, and protection of the Green Belt around Seal. The Local Plan has been withdrawn from Examination on the advice of the Inspector | Ongoing | SDC | N/A |
| The Tonbridge and Malling Local Plan | The PC made a substantial response to the consultations in 2019 about the increased traffic in Seal from 3,000 new dwellings at Borough Green. | Ongoing | TMBC | N/A |

The Parish Council supports and encourages improvement to the wider environment and amenities in the Parish

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| Achieve an improved broadband serviced in the Parish | Parish Council let residents know of opportunities as they arise. Liaise with other rural SPCs to share experience and advice | There is an opportunity now to approach Gigaclear for the area north of the A25. | Residents in the area Broadband providers | Nil |
| Improved gas mains access in the Parish, Gas Mains to Stone Street | Parish Council let residents know of opportunities. Liaise with other rural SPCs to share experience and advice | Ongoing | Residents/Gas company | Gas company |
| Monitor/support local postal and 'bus services. | Parish Council has responded to KCC consultation on public transport and awaits outcome. | Ongoing | Parish Council | Nil |
| Reinstate a regular police surgery and publicise appropriately. Ensure regular presence of PC | 2 PCSOs appointed in 2019. | Ongoing | Parish Council & PCSO | Kent Police |
| Seal Library carry on supporting and monitoring the use of the library and possible mobile post office particularly now both Kemsing post offices have closed. | Discuss with library service and post office | On going | Parish Council | KCC support |
| Maintain Parish Council notice boards in good order. | Parish Council to initiate repairs and installation. | Ongoing | Parish Council | Parish Council |
| Active engagement with the Sevenoaks Greensand Commons Project | To support all community consultation and joint working. | To 2022 | HLF Greensands Commons Project | HLF Greensand Commons Project |
| Seal War Memorial Pavilion | To ensure it is well kept | Ongoing | Parish Council | Parish Council |

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| and Recreation Ground. | and generates an income. | | | |
| The car park to the Pavilion | To install bollards to prevent vehicular access onto the recreation ground and to ensure provision is made to facilitate a walking bus to Seal Primary School | Early 2020 | Parish Council | Parish Council |
| Bitchet Green Cricket ground | Discussions on a Trust Deed failed. No progress possible at the present time. Our intention is to achieve progress. | Ongoing | Parish Council, Cricket Club and Football Club | Club and Local Fundraising needed. |
| Godden Green ongoing pond improvements | Parish Council to encourage local volunteers to take this on. | On going | Parish Council SDC and KCC | KCC/SDC /Parish Council |
| To identify Community Assets | Parish Council to encourage villages to identify community assets | Ongoing | Parish Council with village associations | N/A |
| Local Community Initiatives | Parish Council will support community initiatives to benefit local residents eg Christmas lights, community activities etc | Ongoing | Parish Council with village associations | Parish Council/Groups and committees. |
| To increase areas for wildflowers within the parish | Engaged Kent Wildlife Trust to support and advise. Sites are being identified in consultation with local residents. | Ongoing | Parish Council | Parish Council and other sources to be identified. |