

Seal Parish Council Parish Plan – 2024/2025

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.

SEAL PARISH COUNCIL PARISH PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	Progress made and Ideas for Action	Target Date	Group Responsible	Funding Possibilities
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.				
To press for wider traffic issues to be taken into account when considering planning applications from neighbouring Councils including the Borough Green Bypass. To include provision for cycling and walking.		Ongoing	KCC, SDC, Tonbridge and Malling BC	KCC
In 2019 KCC introduced Highway Improvement Plans to identify priorities for road safety measures in Parishes	The Parish Council will submit an annual HIP.	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 owns its own equipment and volunteers are moving it around the Parish and carrying out Speed Watch.	Groups of volunteers exist in Stone Street and Underriver to cover the Parish and identify roads to be targeted. A group in Seal is being setup.	Active ongoing	Parish Council	N/A
Speed Interactive Display (SID) - the PC owns a mobile interactive speed sign that can be used in all three wards in six locations.	Additional Site on A25 west bound on Seal Hill	Ongoing	Parish Council and Kent County Council	N/A
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.	We are discussing with Tarmac the proposals included in the traffic priority proposed in the outline planning permission. This remains a priority for the PC and is included in HIP	Ongoing	Parish Council and KCC highways	KCC Highways/Parish Council, Network Rail, Tarmac, CIL
Sevenoaks Urban Area Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure (LCWIP)	Informal session held in Seal as Route 6 is planned to pass through the Greatness Quarry and a spur linking additionally linking Seal, Kemsing and Otford.		SDC. PC	SDC, Tarmac
Traffic coming over the railway bridge from Kemsing	The speed after the reduction to 40mph approaching the bridge has resulted in the average speed increasing. Vehicle data is shared with KCC and the Police.	Ongoing	KCC Highways/Police	KCC Highways
Church Road mirror in stone street and cyclist sign carters hill are included	Included in HIP. KCC do not support our request at the moment.	2024/2025	PC, KCC Highways	KCC, Parish Council?
Extend 30mph speed limit from Blackhall Lane through Godden Green past Sevenoaks Prep School.	Included in HIP. Speed strips to monitor flows to be installed and reviewed.	Ongoing	Parish Council & KCC Highways	KCC Highways

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>

SEAL PARISH COUNCIL PARISH PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	Progress made and Ideas for Action	Target Date	Group Responsible	Funding Possibilities
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.	The PC has setup a working group to review PROWs and Public Commons. We work closely with the Greensand Commons project. We are contributing to the role of a Wildlife Project Manager to help manage the Greensands Common.	ongoing	KCC PROW, SDC and PC	KCC PROW, PC
Co-ordinators set up for local litter-picking groups.	All Wards have nominated representatives	Ongoing	Parish Council	N/A

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

SEAL PARISH COUNCIL PARISH PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	Progress made and Ideas for Action	Target Date	Group Responsible	Funding Possibilities
Village Design Statements update as necessary to ensure control over new development and to protect retail/commercial premises. We have a neighbourhood plan adopted in Seal.	All three Wards have adopted Village Design Statement.		Villages with the support of Parish Council.	N/A
Affordable Housing	Foxbury Farm delivered. Mills construction has started for 13 homes.	Ongoing	English Rural, WKHA and SDC	SDC & Housing Associations
Monitor Sevenoaks Quarry extension to ensure compliance and limit damage to Seal residents.	The PC raises local problems at the regular meetings with the Tarmac Quarry Steering Group. The PC raise concerns on Childsbridge Lane Railway bridge/access/traffic/ car parking and recreational use of the site	Ongoing	PC	N/A
The Sevenoaks Local Plan	The PC made substantial responses to the plan. It seeks stronger policy for the proper development of the Tarmac Quarry, provisions of services, and protection of the Green Belt around Seal.	Ongoing	SDC	N/A
The Tonbridge and Malling Local Plan	The PC made a substantial response to the consultations about the increased traffic in Seal from 3,000 new dwellings at Borough	Ongoing	TMBC, PC	N/A

	Green. The PC will additionally comment as necessary.			
The Parish Council supports and encourages improvement to the wider environment and amenities in the Parish				
SEAL PARISH COUNCIL PARISH PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	Progress made and Ideas for Action	Target Date	Group Responsible	Funding Possibilities
Monitor and support local bus services.	Parish Council responds to KCC consultations on public transport.	Ongoing	Parish Council	N/A
Encourage a regular police surgery and publicise appropriately. Ensure regular presence of police.	2 PC's appointed in 2023	Ongoing	Kent Police	Kent Police
Seal Library	Support and monitor the use of the library. The Library is registered as a Community Asset.	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 2028	HLF Greensands Commons Project	HLF Greensand Commons Project
Seal War Memorial Pavilion and Recreation Ground.	To ensure it is well kept and generates an income and environmentally friendly.	Ongoing	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 where possible.	Ongoing	Parish Council, Cricket Club and Football Club	Club and Local Fundraising needed.
Bitchet Green car parking	Create a community car park		PC, Knole Estate	PC
Godden Green ongoing pond improvements and maintenance	Parish Council to encourage local volunteers to take this on and for SDC to maintain the pond.	On going	Parish Council SDC, KCC Knole Estate	KCC/SDC /Parish Council
To identify Community Assets	Seal Library, The Five Bells, The Bucks Head and The White Rock. PC 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 e.g. Christmas lights, community activities, grants, etc	Ongoing	Parish Council with village associations	Parish Council/Groups and committees.
To increase areas for wildflowers within the parish	If sites are identified by Parishioners	Ongoing	Parish Council	Parish Council and other sources to be identified.