

## **Active Travel Committee 3 April 2025 Update on activity since last meeting**

### **Agenda Item 5 Current Projects**

East West Route: Clarification on whether Solomons Lane intervention will be funded as part of the East West Project and plans to fix various 'snags' on East West Project have been sought. As the project is nearing conclusion it would be timely for the committee to have an initial discussion on how the route can be promoted once completed.

The Chair, Vice Chair and Deputy Town Clerk met with Shepherd Neame managers to talk through the design proposal for a crossing and pedestrian improvements at North Lane/Partridge Lane. As part of discussion we agreed to go back to KCC and ask about the possibility of an informal crossing from staff car park to the Old Brewery Store as this is main route used staff. Shepherd Neame will look in more detail at any technical issues related to vehicle movements and the position of services.

Meeting with KCC re HIP, A2 London Road crossing and 20mph Compliance Fund scheduled.

### **Agenda Item 6 Influencing Private Developer Highways Plans**

Chair, Vice Chair, Adrian Berendt and Town Clerk met with Swale officers Emma Gibson and Michelle Anderson to emphasise the need for highways proposals to conform with the Neighbourhood Plan and respond to the LCWIP. Michelle is now commenting on major applications in line with Active Travel England guidance. Their general advice was that SBC Planning would defer to KCC Highways on Highways related issues.

Vice Chair and Town Clerk met with Sarah Jane Ellcock, Senior Development Planner Kent Highways to explain NP and LCWIP and gain more knowledge of how KCC manages the development of S278 and S106 agreements. This was a constructive meeting and Sarah agreed to set up a meeting of relevant officers to discuss Faversham issues in the coming weeks.

Chair, Vice Chair and Town Clerk met with Duchy of Cornwall staff to have an update on plans for active travel linkages between their proposed development and the town centre. Plans for making it easier to cross the A2 with additional crossing points, introducing a shared pathway along the A2, developing a clear route for cyclists to the back of the station, carrying out a feasibility study for improving the pedestrian bridge across the railway lines and introducing a cycle hire scheme were explained. Concerns raised by both the consultant used by the Town Council and Active Travel England about the shared arrangements along the A2 not meeting LTN 1/20 guidance and the limited plans for improving the obvious walking and cycling desire line for potential residents of both the Duchy and Love Lane sites were raised. The Committee may want to consider commenting further on these issues to the Duchy of Cornwall, SBC and Kent Highways.

### **Agenda Item 8 KCC Active Travel Consolidation Fund 2025/26**

A comprehensive proposal for fresh active travel funding prepared by the Vice Chair and Adrian Berendt and signed off by the Chair went into Michelle Anderson, the SBC Active Travel Officer for the deadline requested. Advice was taken from both KCC officers and Michelle on what to include. Our projects have gone into the Swale proposal in the order that we requested but obviously are alongside proposals from Sheppey and Sittingbourne. KCC Officers are now reviewing project proposals. We are assuming that no announcement on results will be made while we are in the KCC pre-election period. The projects proposed (in priority order) are:

### Physical Interventions

E	North Lane Partridge Lane (NS Route)	1
C	Solomons Lane (EW Route)	2
G	Bank Street Stone Street (NS Route)	3
D	Stone Street South Road (EW Route)	4
G	Mall Forbes Road (NS Route)	5
F	Briton Road Forbes Road (NS Route)	6=
F	Bramblehill Road (NS Route)	6=
B	A2 Ospringe 20mph extension	8

### Feasibility Studies and Outline Design

A	Dark Hill Bysing Wood Road	1
H	North South Walking Route	2
I	Court Street Market Place	3
J	South East Faversham	4

Estimated cost of physical interventions £848,000 feasibility and design work £248,000.