



Westgate on Sea Town Council 2021: Action Plan

Following the adoption of the Forward Plan by the Town Council in early 2020 it is now best practice and timely to form an action plan for the forthcoming financial and Town Council year from April 2021 to April 2022.

The Town Action Plan is drafted by the Town Council and will then be used to consult with the residents and the community to seek what the priorities should be and where the resources and funds should be focussed.

There will be recommendations identified from the Forward Plan formed from various themes and issues that seek to support and meet the needs of the local community, in particular the residents.

PRIORITY	CURRENT ACTIONS TO MARCH 2021	PLANNED ACTIONS FOR PERIOD APRIL 2021-22
Neighbourhood Plan (NP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft NP nearly completed. Consultation to commence in second half of year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation to commence in second half of year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft NP Reg 14 Consultation commenced, deadline for comment 19.11.2021 at 5pm
Planning – proposed developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council opposes plans to build two thousand houses on agricultural land, planning decision expected soon. • Letter sent to local MP Sir Roger Gale MP to lobby for change of law on building on agricultural land, copies sent to Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government, Secretary of State for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Prime Minister. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Council to help shape planning proposal for the proposed 2,000 houses, future phases, if permission granted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Town Council responded to Outline Planning Application through TDC • Town Council to pursue S106 agreement for renovation of the community centre. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Report sent to TDC Planning Officer and shared with developers.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Council to work in collaboration with Birchington PC and engage with other action groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Town Council supported ideas by action group eg. Craft Fair on Westgate Day and attended meetings – worked in collaboration with BPC and TAC
Highway Improvement Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collated short list for HIPs and £1,000 earmarked in budget for traffic surveys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with the community/residents on the shortlist for HIPs; budget to be considered for next year included in any Precept requests. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data and report from KCC shared at November Full Council • Liaise with KCC on any proposed HIP to seek accurate estimate of timescales. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Traffic surveys undertaken and budget utilised to gain data for consideration for HIPs projects – results shared.
Partnership working & Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with community groups/organisations to deliver events and projects, such as Pancake Races, Remembrance Parade, Paint the Town Poppy Red, Westgate Against Rubbish, Speedwatch, food donations and Westgate in Bloom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events planned for this year include:- Train Station Birthday, Annual Town Meeting and Westgate Day, also working in collaboration on the Food and Drink Festival, Scarecrow Festival and Remembrance Sunday. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Train Station Birthday marked in April and July; Annual Town Meeting held virtually; Westgate Day marked with three activities; Scarecrow Festival and Food and Drink Festival supported with stewards and advice. • To seek new partnership opportunities in the private sector; build on those

		<p>achieved so far, for example Southeast Rail and Stagecoach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some meetings taken place to explore potential partnerships e.g., SE Rail and LEFA Enterprises • Organise various consultation opportunities across different mediums with the local community this year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consultations taken place this year so far in Town Council magazine, online and face to face for various subjects including:- Draft NP, Events, Bins and Capital Projects
Defibrillators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the funding of the two new defibrillators and one donated; the four newly acquired outside heated cabinets have now arrived and are ready for installation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise the installation of the four outdoor heated cabinets whilst seeking to host CPR/Defibrillator training sessions for the community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All five cabinets now installed and regular maintenance checks undertaken – emailed the Thanet Community First Responder co-ordinator to get some free defib/cpr training sessions organised again for the community.
Collaboration with other authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaising with TDC and KCC to support services provided by both authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To expand co-operation with town and parish councils in the area in relation to training, plant management, etc <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improved on relationships and working closely with BPC, RTC, TDC and occasionally KCC. Regular input on parish calls facilitated by TDC.
Shop canopy repairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researched approach and explored funding opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate collaboration approach and secure funding

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Research undertaken and surveyor report obtained and estimates of costs – could be taken forward by Westgate Business Forum
Facilities for Young People & Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquired the War Memorial Recreation Ground under a Community Asset Transfer from Thanet District Council. • Researched funding opportunities for the War Memorial Recreation Ground to secure renovation of the site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the formation of a Youth Council for Westgate on Sea. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initial research undertaken and Full Report being prepared for December Full Council • Seek funding and volunteers for Pavilion improvement works. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Met with SE Steel and engaged Westgate Lovelies as volunteers • Engage with young people in the community to seek opinions and feedback on the facilities at the recreation ground and how they can be improved for future generations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This to be part of Youth Council objectives and further opportunity once football matches commence
Business Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Forum launched virtually in 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to promote the Business Forum and support the local traders in the bounce back of the local economy whilst encouraging employment opportunities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supported Totally Locally and Fiver Fest events and provided meeting space for face-to-face Business Forum; support for local businesses and promotion
Environmentally Sustainable Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling initiative continues at the Town Council office. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Environment Policy for the Town Council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Research underway for draft Environment Policy, scheduled to

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westgate in Bloom and tree planting scheme continued throughout lockdowns in 2020. • Allotment garden rules now permit more allotment plots to be let to those in the local community; enabling residents to grow their own produce. • Recycled/refurbished furniture/hardware purchased where possible as part of Town Council procurement strategy. 	<p>be shared at December Full Council meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider Climate Change Emergency and how the Town Council can support the community in reducing carbon footprints and reaching local carbon reduction targets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trialling electric vehicle for Ops Team ○ Continue with Terracycle recycling scheme and expanded in the community ○ Established wildflower meadow areas in the community ○ Planting bulbs and trees ○ Establishing Westgate in Bloom initiative ○ Using utilities provider for Town Council buildings who provide 100% renewable electricity
<p>Promotion of Town and Heritage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the Westgate Heritage Centre to promote unique history of the Town. • Community events used to raise the profile of the Town. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark the 150th anniversary on 12th April 2021 for the Westgate Train Station. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Event organised and delivered despite Covid restrictions. • Promote the Westgate Day town anniversary including values on 18th July 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hoisted Town Flag and conducted short service at flagpole on Sea Road ○ An article was published in the summer TC magazine, date advertised on the TC website • Work with Thanet District Council during the summer months to promote the bays

		<p>and other attractions that Westgate has to offer visitors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shared local maps with visitors provided by TDC ○ Promoted PSPO and disseminated information shared by Tourism Team at TDC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purchase new Christmas lighting for the Town and manage the installation and maintenance for the future. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lighting purchased early 2021 and the first phase completed with seventeen lamp columns installed with lighting braids. ○ The second phase to be completed in November 2021 to include static lighting on shop fronts and canopies.
<p>Improve the standards and progress the recognition for the Town Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formulated and adopted various policies, plans and procedures to establish firm foundation for the Town Council. ● Good governance and best practice now accomplished as routine habits at the Town Council. ● Local Council Award Scheme adopted by Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Work towards the Foundation Level in the Local Council Award Scheme for 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Application submitted to NALC for triage and assessment, results announced on 21.01.22.