

**PARKS REPORT
RLA – 26 JUNE 2025****Broomfield:**

Fence repairs at Neptune Park have been completed.

The cricket square has been top dressed.

Slabs on the footpath have been taken up and re-set.

The cricket season began w/e 3 May 2025.

Reparation works to football pitches have begun.

Weed Management took place on 19 May 2025.

Tree branches cleared.

Basketball court has been re-lined.

Eagles Road:

Fence repairs undertaken.

Heritage Park:

ASB damage has occurred to the trees planted by NWKCP.

The handrail at the entrance to the park has been painted.

The steps at Child Crescent are being raised and levelled to reduce any trip hazard.

The trees that were vandalized have been tidied up and debris cleared.

The plastic dog bin by the steps at Childs Crescent has been replaced with a metal one.

The damaged fence at the pond has been repaired.

Alleyway at Childs Crescent has been cut back and cleared.

Knockhall:

Wet pour repairs have been undertaken under the swings.

A damaged swing seat has been replaced.

Weed Management was undertaken on 19 May 2025.

Manor Park:

The wet pour areas damaged by ASB have been repaired.

A damaged swing seat has been replaced.

Ivy and shrubs have been cleared away from both sides of the perimeter wall and from tombs within the churchyard.

Repairs have been made to the multi-play unit in the play area.

Swanscombe Park:

The bowls green has been top dressed.

Wet pour repairs in the play area have been completed.

The tennis courts re-opened on 5 April 2025.

The wildflower meadow has been topped up with seeds.

The large conifer hedge at the bowls green has been cut back. **When this was undertaken it was identified that the hedge was diseased (*Pestalotiopsis* - necrotrophic plant pathogen that infects several fruit crops, conifers, ornamental crops and beverage crops) and would die off, which means that Members will need to consider how they wish to proceed with this area.**

The bowls season began on 3 May 2025.

The memorial and flower beds in the Community Garden and Picnic Area have all been replanted.

Temporary tarmac repairs have been undertaken to the footpath.

One of the containers has had repairs to its roof.

Saxon Court:

The play equipment has been re-painted.

Valley View:

Equipment / Staffing:

The tractor has been serviced, including hydraulics.

The trainee groundsman/gardener has begun their 18-month NVQ2 course at Hadlow University.

A leak in the ladies toilets has been repaired.

Miscellaneous:

Fence repairs have been undertaken at Madden Close and at the Grove Car Park.

The fence line at Keary Road Allotments has been cleared.

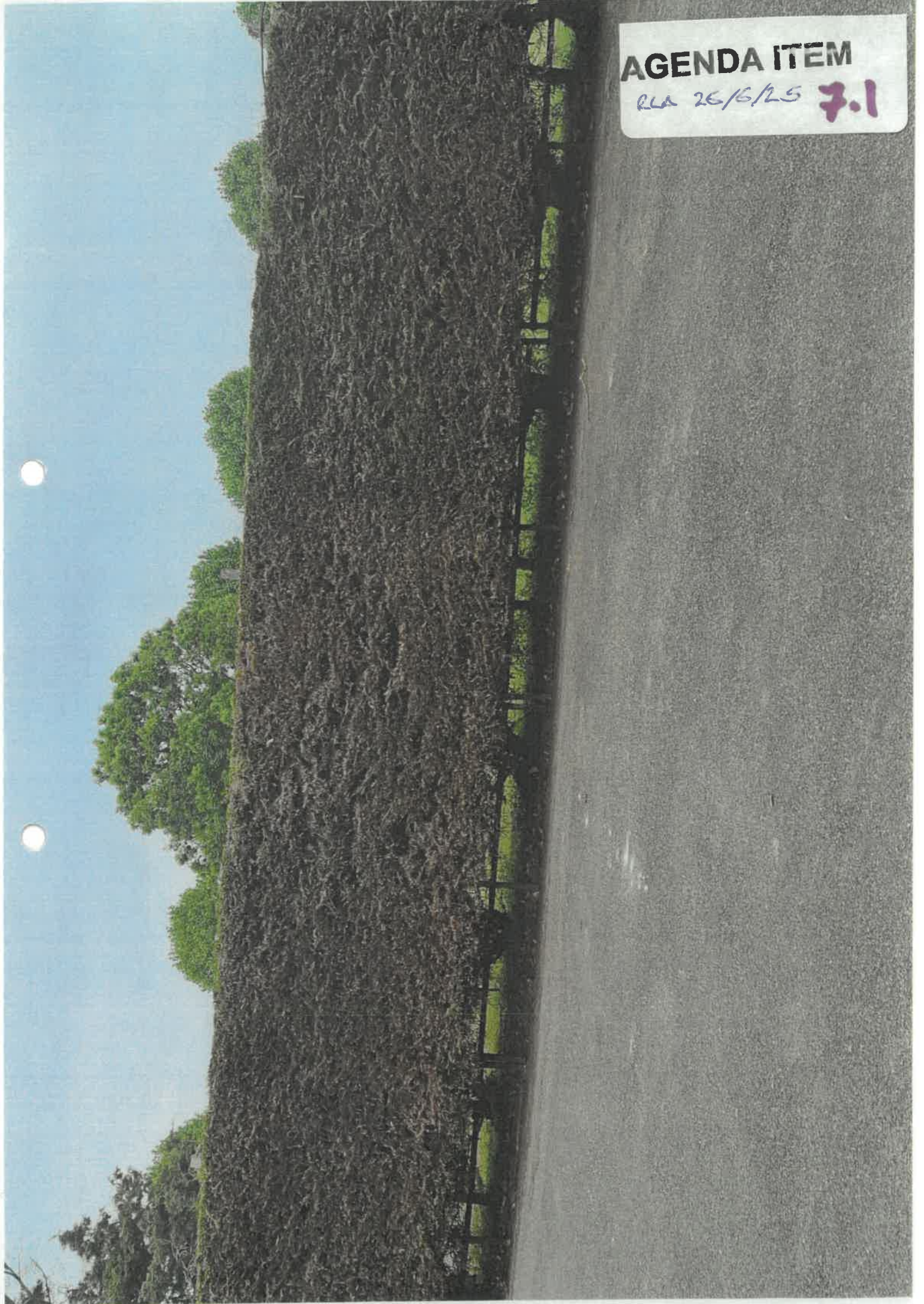
Recommended:

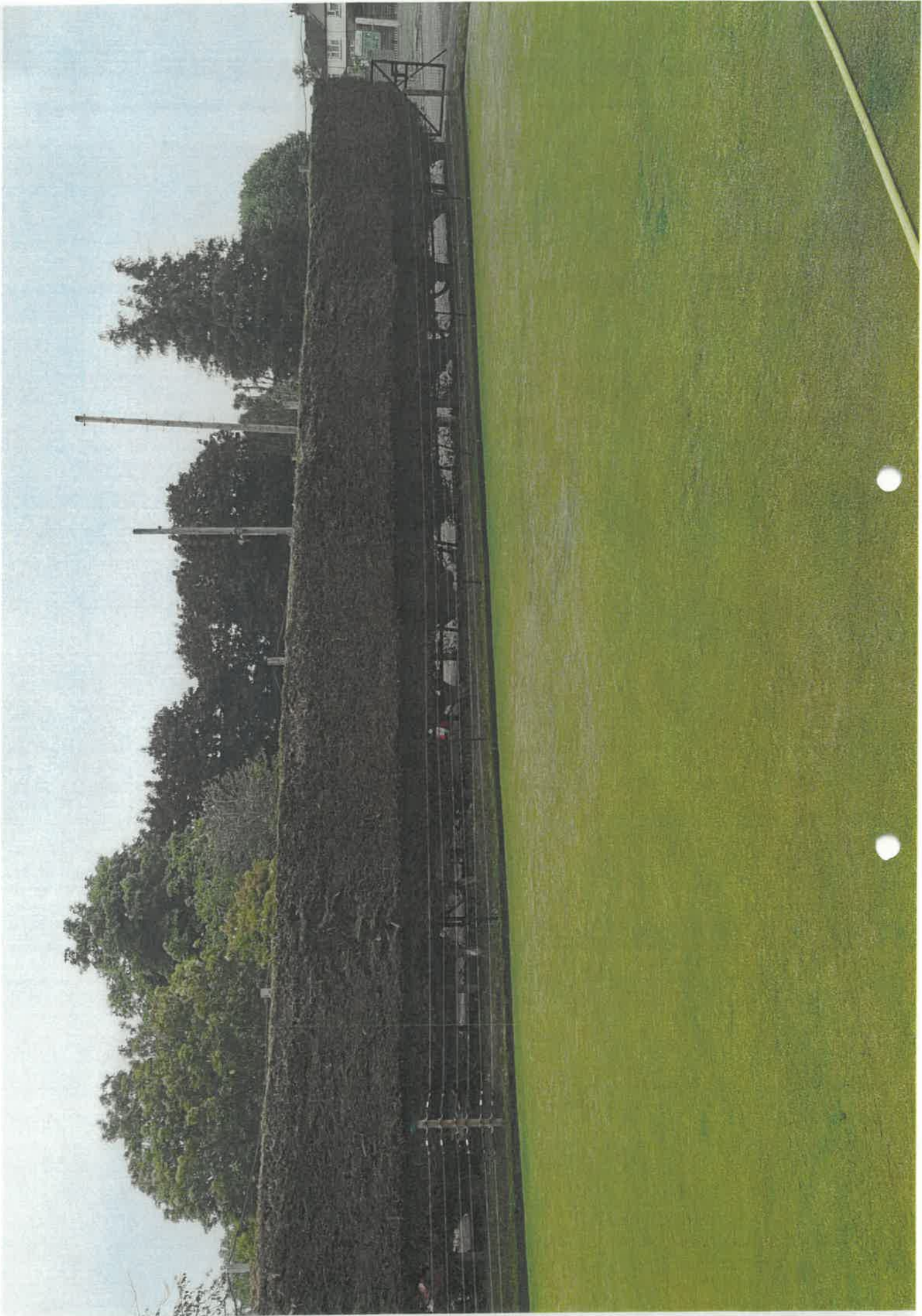
1. That the item be noted.
2. That a decision is made regarding the large conifer hedge at the Bowls Green.

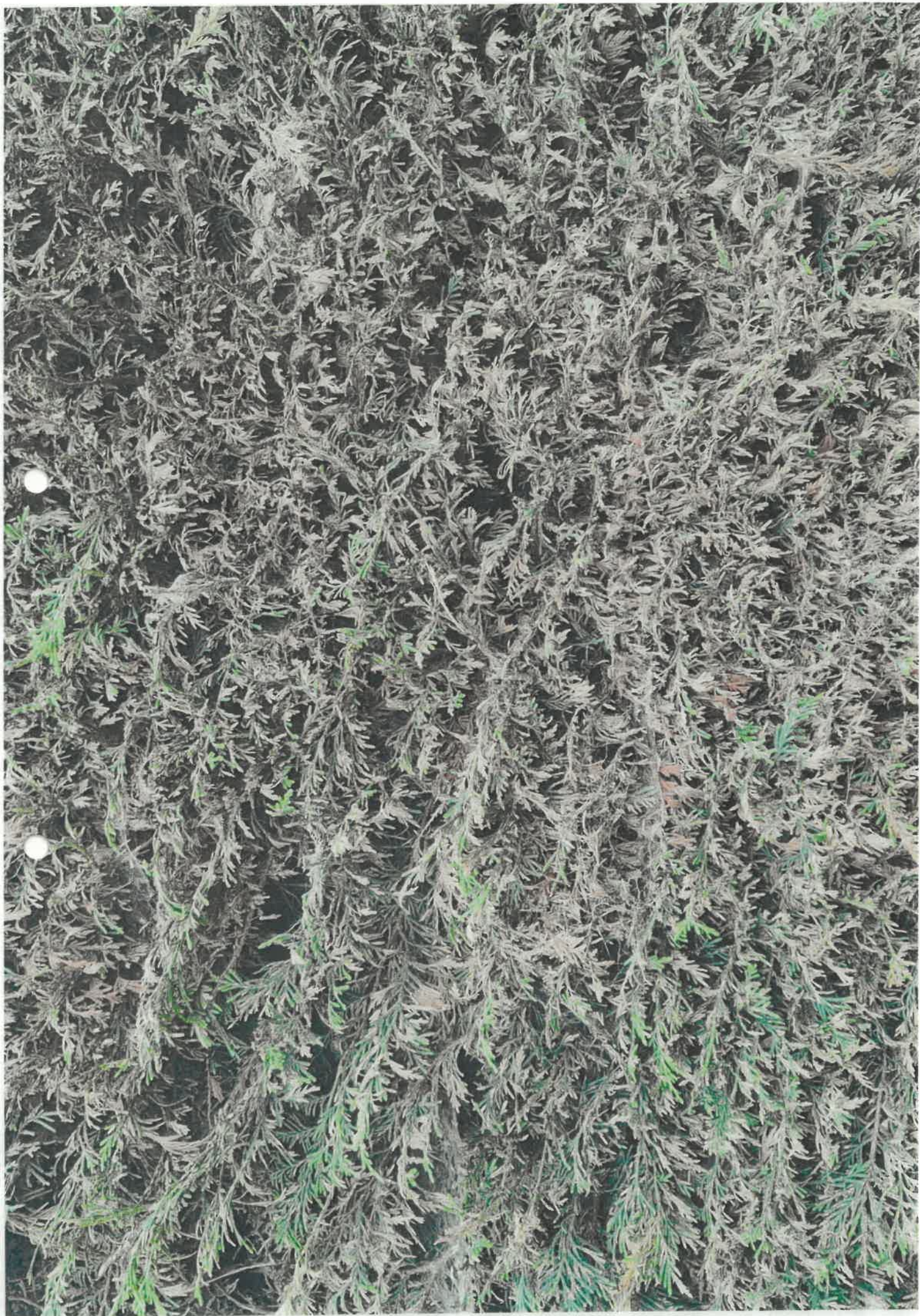
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AGENDA ITEM

RLA 26/6/25 **7.1**







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Butta Singh Head of Legal Services

14 MAY 2025
AGENDA ITEM
RLA

7.2

Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town
Council
Council Offices
The Grove, Swanscombe
Kent
DA10 0GA

Please ask for: Jennifer Miller
E-mail: jennifer.muller@dartford.gov.uk
DX: 142726 DARTFORD 7
Your Ref:

Our Ref: BS/ACV/002

Date: 12 / 05 / 2025

Dear Owner

RE: Assets of Community Value – Accepted Nomination Listing for The Old Fire Station Building Church Road, Swanscombe, Kent DA10 0HF

I am writing to notify you that the Council has accepted a nomination 'to list' the following asset and it be included on its List of Assets of Community Value:

Asset Name:	The Old Fire Station Building
Address:	Church Road, Swanscombe, Kent
Postcode:	DA10 0HF

The reasons for accepting the application are outlined below:

Validity of application

A valid application was received on 25th July 2024, with regards to the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 ('the Act') relating to an Asset of Community Value ('ACV').

The owner was notified on 7th August 2024 and 15th November 2024, with an opportunity to provide representations. Several evidence and representations were received from the owner, as such a determination was made based on the nomination and evidence received from Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council.

Assessment under Section 88(2) of the Act

- (a) there is a time in the recent past when an actual use of the building or other land that was not an ancillary use furthered the social wellbeing or interests of the local community, and***
- (b) it is realistic to think that there is a time in the next five years when there could be non-ancillary use of the building or other land that would further (whether or not in the same way as before) the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community.***

In evaluating the application, the council has implemented the two-stage test to ensure a comprehensive and conclusive evaluation of the proposal.

With regards to the qualifying criteria, the Council has taken the following matters into account, when accepting the nomination:

Community café – Ground Floor and Community Hub – First floor+

- The type of activities that take place and their frequency.
- The number of people attending each activity (over the past 6-12 months).
- Statements from participants.
- Photographic images of events taking place.
- Further information in relation to the utilisation of the private space.
- Further information in relation to the refill station.
- Photographic images of the former library and display, if they are available.

Customers/Users – it is clear from the evidence provided and the additional emails received from Customers/Users that the community café and hub is a vital part of the community to help and facilitate various meetings and activities. The evidence provided demonstrates to me that residents were the regular users of the premises for the following activities:

- Helping Hands, a mental health Group is held weekly on a Monday Morning
- Warm Hub is Held weekly on a Tuesday providing a warm space, refreshments, a fun quiz and a warm lunch
- A cross-stitch Club uses the space weekly on Wednesday evenings.
- Homework Heroes, twice weekly, attended to children
- Kent Adult Education uses the space as and when required to provide free courses for people who are unemployed or low-income and are attended by residents
- Swanscombe S.E.N. families use the space throughout the year to hold committee meetings and to hold small events for the S.E.N. children like silent Santa and the Halloween trail.

Additionally, the following events or activities are undertaken:

- Dartford Borough Council Consultations - As and when undertaken
- Police local engagement meetings - As and when required
- Police Community Liaison Officer surgeries - As and when undertaken
- Citizens Advice Video Kiosk - Daily
- Defibrillator Location - Daily
- We Are Beams Open Sessions - As and when undertaken
- Smart Advice for Everyone (SAfE) Advice Service - Previously every Wednesday
- Chatter & Natter Table - Daily
- Community Afternoon Teas - As and when required
- Community Book Swap Daily Swanscombe Jolabokaflodid - Annually
- Citizens Advice Bureau Sessions - Previously every Wednesday
- Community Christmas Lunch - Annually
- Free internet access - Daily
- Royal British Legion poppy collection point (fundraising) - Annually
- National Refill Scheme location - Daily
- NHS Big Tea (fundraising) - Annually
- Macmillan Coffee Morning (fundraising) - Annually
- Community Café Daily Dartford Borough Council Healthy Walk starting/finishing point - Weekly
- Public Toilet – Daily

The Youth Centre provides an essential safe space where young people from all walks of life can come together, access support, and engage in opportunities that might otherwise, be out of reach. This is particularly important for those who are not in school, are struggling with difficult home lives or feel isolated.

The Youth Centre provides an incredible range of activities and programs designed to support and nurture young people. These include:

- Makaton lessons to promote inclusivity and communication.
- Sign language classes for better understanding and accessibility.
- Fun classes in British values, instilling respect, responsibility, and a sense of citizenship.
- Citizen challenges that encourage young people to contribute positively to the community.
- Mental health training and programs to help young people understand and manage their emotions.
- Multicultural festivities that celebrate diversity and foster inclusivity.
- Cooking and sewing classes, equipping young people with valuable life skills.
- Health and wellbeing workshops, focusing on both physical and mental health.
- Arts and crafts, which allow creativity and self-expression.
- Fitness activities, including football, multi-sports, and walks to promote physical activity.
- Music lessons, nurturing talent and interest in the arts.
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards, providing opportunities for achievement and personal growth.
- Allotments and environmental education, teaching young people about growing food and sustainability.

The premises have been used in community funding and fundraising for charities including the Royal British Legion poppy collection point, NHS Big Tea and various events for Macmillan Coffee Morning. From the emails received by residents, the premises are clearly a community venue that has established a bond and trust with the local community and is seen as a safe place to reach out and bring the local community together.

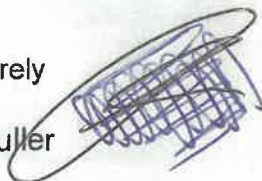
As such, in my assessment, the nomination passes the threshold to be listed having regard to the collective, combined and aggregate grounds set out above. In making this decision the activities and how the venue is operated is central to my view that the premises are seen by many as a unique and different type of focal point and meeting place providing a diverse communal offering for all age ranges, than may otherwise have been available, which clearly came across in the strength of feeling for supporting this application for these premises to be listed as an Asset of Community Value.

Therefore, in line with the legislation the decision is to list The Old Fire Station Building an Asset of Community Value, which will be recorded on the Council's published list.

Pursuant to Section 92 of the Act the Owner of the premises will be given the opportunity to request a review of this decision within 8 weeks from the date this decision is given.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Muller
Solicitor



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AGENDA ITEM

RLA 26/6/25

7.3

From: Adam French <Adam.French@crestnicholson.com>
Sent: 19 May 2025 13:50
To: Martin Harding
Cc: Graham Blew; Cllr Johnston
Subject: RE: Reply: Update: Ingress Park Community Centre

Hi Martin,

Thanks for the below.

We are targeting to commence the new car park starting end of June / July 2025 for a period of 9 weeks. During these works we also aim to complete the internal electric snagging items within the community centre. Therefore I believe we would be trying to handover the area Autumn / Winter 2025.

Adam French
Technical Director & Deputy Managing Director – Eastern

Crest Nicholson Eastern, Academy Place, 1-9 Brook Street, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5NQ
www.crestnicholson.com

Extract of 13 March 2025 RLA Minutes.

439/24-25. INGRESS PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE – UPDATE.

Further to the previous update, minute 226/24-25, the Planning Manager Eastern, Crest Nicholson along with the Senior Planner, Dartford Borough Council, had met with officers via Teams on the 5 March 2025.

Members considered the notes from that meeting.

Recommended: That the update, and current position, be noted.

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(This Policy was reviewed by the full Council at its AGM held on 15 May 2024, minute 20/24-25)

APPLICATION FOR A MEMORIAL.

AGENDA ITEM 7.4
RLA 26/6/25

Applicants MUST read the Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council policy on memorials prior to making an application.

Please complete the form and return by post to Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council, Council Offices, The Grove, Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 0GA

Applicants Name: SVETLANA KONSTANINOVA MACKAY

Applicants telephone number: ~~01473 800000~~

Applicants email address: Svetla.kons@~~swanscombekent.gov.uk~~

Applicants home address: SWANSCOMBE DA10 0LP
DEIDRE CHAPMAN HOUSE
CRYLANDS LANE ~~SWANSCOMBE~~

Have you read our Memorial Policy : YES

Applicants signature:



Date of application: 24-04-2025

REQUESTED MEMORIAL TYPE: Bench without plaque / Bench with plaque / Tree

DETAILS OF MEMORIAL (e.g. plaque inscription):

Please give details below.

IN LOVELY MEMORY OF
OUR WILLIAM ALLAN MACKIE (SCOTLAND)
WHO LIVED AND LOVED SWANSCOMBE
AND THE PEOPLE HERE! FROM HIS WIFE
AND FRIENDS!

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MEMORIAL POLICY.

(This Policy was reviewed by the full Council at its AGM held on 15 May 2024, minute 20/24-25)

Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council recognises the wish for memorials and will consider a memorial on land owned or managed by them. The Town Council will consider requests for memorials on an individual basis and retains the absolute right to refuse or limit the number of memorials.

OBJECTIVES:

This policy has been produced with the following guiding principles:

- To be respectful and sympathetic to those seeking to install a memorial;
- To establish responsibility for the maintenance, repair and replacement of memorials;
- To ensure that memorials are not out of place in the area in which they are situated;
- The content of this policy may be revised/amended as necessary at the absolute discretion of the Town Council.

GENERAL:

- All applications for memorials must be made using the Memorial Application form;
- All memorials must be paid for by the applicant prior to purchase and installation by the Town Council. Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council will inform the applicant of the price/cost on receipt of a completed application form;
- Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council will attempt to accommodate the wishes of the applications but it may limit the number of memorials in a particular area;
- Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council accepts no responsibility if a memorial is damaged, vandalised or stolen;
- Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council reserves the right to remove memorials at any time;
- Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council will only permit memorials to individuals who have lived in Swanscombe and Greenhithe and whose families' have given written consent (to be supplied by the applicant) or, in exceptional circumstances, a historic event. Applications for pets/animals will NOT be considered;
- Memorials will be limited to benches and trees. No additional mementos (vases, statues, flowers, wreaths, balloons or other ornamentation etc.), shall be permitted on or around the memorial. These will be removed without reference to the original applicant.

MEMORIAL POLICY.

(This Policy was reviewed by the full Council at its AGM held on 15 May 2024, minute 20/24-25)

MEMORIAL BENCHES:

- Benches must be of the type specified by Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council in order to be co-ordinated with any other benches already situated in the intended location or to fulfil health and safety or access requirements;
- Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council will be responsible for all installation works;
- Memorial plaques fitted to benches will be supplied and fitted by Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council;
- A maximum of two memorial plaques per bench will be allowed;
- The inscription on the plaque must be agreed/approved with Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council (Town Clerk) and there will be a limit to the number of words (*a person's name, a suitable statement, single line and inoffensive text, text to run horizontally along the plaques widest point, dates if desired*);
- Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council will maintain the bench within its maintenance programme and budget;
- The total cost of installation of a memorial bench will be dependent on the type of bench allowed and the fittings required. Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council will purchase the bench, all materials and supply labour for installation and will be reimbursed by the applicant.

MEMORIAL TREES:

- Memorial plaques will NOT be permitted on or near trees. Existing plaques will remain;
- Trees will be chosen by Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council in discussion with the applicant to fit the planting scheme for the area. The applicant will be notified of the tree species to be planted;
- The planting of trees may not be possible in some areas;
- Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council will charge for the tree, stake, guard and planting labour. The tree will be maintained by Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council in line with its maintenance programme and budget.
- The applicant is to be responsible for the first 12 months maintenance of a memorial tree