

Statement – Bexhill Town Centre Steering Group – 3rd February 2016

Members of the steering group received a presentation from East Sussex County Council Infrastructure team on the final phases of highway improvements along Marina at Sackville roundabout. The highway improvements will look to improve pedestrian flow and connectivity between the town centre and the seafront.

Subject to Lead Member approval at ESCC it is hoped that works will start later this year and be completed before Christmas.

Each of the four project teams had met since the first steering group meeting and reported on progress:

Branding and Vitality:

- Jobs and Apprenticeship fair being held at the DLWP on 29th April, linking with Bexhill Creative Café event
- Looking at a programme of support for summer events in Bexhill

Built Environment, Traffic Management and Public Realm:

- Town centre traffic management and accessibility study and proposals – awaiting the results of these studies
- Bexhill East proposed cycle route network and Bexhill A269/B2181 movement and access improvements – awaiting the findings of these studies

Investment and Development:

- Hoping to open discussions with key private sector stakeholders within the town centre
- Investigation of clustering of creative businesses
- Project to develop incubator space within the town centre

Housing

- Stock condition survey and housing needs survey to be updated

The group received an update from Bexhill Coastal Community Team (CCT) on the recently finalised Economic Plan submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The plan is available on the Bexhill Town Team website (link to www.bexhilltownteam.org.uk/news/2/79/economic-plans/)

A requirement of the Economic Plan was the completion of a Character Assessment of the Town Centre, the first draft of this is available on the Town Teams website (www.bexhilltownteam.org.uk/news/2/71/bexhill-forward/)

The total remaining budget within the s.106 funds allocated for Bexhill Town Centre improvements is approx. £56,000. Further project proposals were invited for consideration by the Steering Group through the project teams.

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