

**Welcome**

**to the**

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Meeting**



**A report on the last four years**

**and**

**A look forward to the next  
four**



**In 2015/16, the newly elected Council asked you what you thought its priorities should be .....**

**You said.....**

**△ Traffic   △ Parking**

**△ Keep Westerham attractive: preserve its heritage**

**△ Support community activities**

**△ Reduce anti social behaviour and vandalism**

**△ Public transport**

**△ Affordable housing**



# So we have....



## Instituted Speedwatch – thank you to the volunteers!

## Opened the Darent overflow car park – thank you Westerham Town Partnership, SDC and Squerryes



# **Planned 75 additional parking spaces.**

Design completed, planning permission obtained , contractor chosen:

**18 in Hartley Road**

**12 in Madan Road**

**15 by extending Costells Meadow**

**30 at Crockham Hill Playing Field**

**Cost: £186,000**

**Funded by: WTC CIL money; WTC reserve**

**Balance of funding dependent  
on application for SDC CIL**



# So we have ..kept Westerham attractive



## Replaced bollards around The Green

Thank you County Councillor Nick  
Chard

## Organised Christmas Lights at a cost of £6,000 pa

With community contributions of £1800



## Increased hanging baskets & planting in the town

Cost:£8,000 pa, with community  
contributions of £5000

organised by  
Westerham Society



So we have ..

Transformed this



Into this

Cost: £46,000 funded  
from WTC & SDC CIL

At a time when many local councils  
were closing public toilets





# So we have .. supported community activities



**Built a new bridge from the Darent car park to King George's Field:**

- the old one had no foundations & was slowly sinking into the river.....
- the new one enables disabled access

**Cost: £ 24,000 funded from WTC reserves**

**Installed an outdoor gym on King George's Field.**

**Cost: £10,000** with contributions from:

Mooreenergy

Aqualisa

Bill Curtis

KCC Members' grant and WTC

**A real community effort – thank you!**





# So we have .. supported community activities

**Replaced the ageing playground at Crockham Hill. Cost £46,000:**

funded by :

KCC members grant

WTC grant; BIFFA grant; Nigel Press

Crockham Hill Playing Field Trust



**Provided a new footpath from New Road to Crockham Hill School, Church and Village Hall;**

'Safe to walk'

**Cost: £4,500** : funded by WTC reserves



# So we have .. supported community activities

....and we make grants and give support to :

- ❖ The Forget-me-not Cafe
- ❖ Friday Lunch Club
- ❖ Westerham Food Bank
- ❖ Family Fun Days
- ❖ Litter picks!
- ❖ Community events organised by other groups



# So we have ... begun to address anti-social behaviour and its causes

**Worked with our schools to introduce the next generation to the idea of democracy** (though we have found that they can teach us a thing or two...) See Churchill School's display.



**Funded a Youth Club for years 5&6 +** run professionally, at Churchill School

**Increased funding for a 'Youth Bus' for older young people**



And, sadly, **spent £7,000 of our CIL money on a mobile CCTV unit**



# Is that all??

...the day-to-day business of the Council also means

- ❖ we manage 3 allotment sites
- ❖ we look after Westerham's open green spaces
- ❖ we are consulted on around 100 planning applications each year
- ❖ we have completed Westerham's Design Statement (which will form part of SDC's new Local Plan)
- ❖ we own & manage many of the town's street lights **and have spent £19,000 on converting to LED lighting**
- ❖ we work with neighbouring councils and many other bodies



# Our time has also been occupied by major planning issues.....

## SDC's new Local Plan:

- ❖ significant consultation with our community, resulting in:
  - ❖ WTC opposing the inclusion of Which Way Westerham proposals in the draft Local Plan
  - ❖ WWW **NOT** included in draft Local Plan
  - ❖ Plan now awaiting Public Examination by Planning Inspector – possibly in the autumn
- ❖ WTC will support SDC at that Examination





# Our time has also been occupied by major planning issues.....

## Moorhouse Distribution Depot:

- ❖ third application refused by Tandridge District Council (7 March 2019)
- ❖ Next steps likely to be **either** an appeal **or** another application if the Moorhouse site is removed from the Green Belt as proposed in Tandridge's Local Plan
- ❖ WTC hopes to **speak to oppose** this proposal at the Public Examination expected **in mid September**

## Covers Farm Sandpit Restoration:

- ❖ Application with KCC: much additional information requested
- ❖ WTC has opposed the application:
  - ❖ Existing restoration plan still fit for purpose: stability of pit not an issue
  - ❖ Disruption of new application thus not justified.





The new Council will have challenging  
Issues to contend with

It will continue the pattern of Keeping You  
Informed, set by its predecessor

Your views and input on matters whether  
great or small are important

So please tell us!

KEEPING YOU  
**Informed**

