



Dover District Neighbourhood Forums Annual Report

➤ Introduction

The Dover District Neighbourhood Forums are pleased to present their annual report covering the period from 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008.

As part of the Localism agenda KCC & DDC agreed to work together with the Parish and Town Councils to improve contacts with, and response to, the public who use their services.

The initial 12-month programme was approved for a further 12 months, to be re-assessed in March 2009. The programme is a partnership between all 3 tiers of local government and gives local people greater power to influence their services through inputs to local groups of elected councillors in 5 Neighbourhood Forums:

- **Dover Town;**
- **Dover North** (consisting of Aylesham, Nonington, Eythorne, Sutton, Langdon, Great Mongeham, St Margarets at Cliffe, Ringwould and Kingsdown, Ripple, Northbourne and Tilmanstone);
- **Dover West** (consisting of Denton with Wootton, Lydden, Shepherdswell with Coldred, Whitfield, Temple Ewell, River, Hougham Without, Alkham and Capel-le-Ferne);
- **Deal and Walmer**
- **Sandwich** (consisting of Stourmouth, Preston, Ash, Wingham, Goodnestone, Eastry, Sandwich, Staple, Worth and Sholden)

The forums allow each council to make progress within a neighbourhood structure. It is inclusive and it takes responsibility for passing local needs and priorities to service providers and decision-makers in each council. The hope is for local residents to become better informed and in a position to influence all tiers of local government.

Key points arising from the meetings and action points included: -

- nearly all local Parish and Town Councils attended wherever possible
- Kent Association of Parish Councils (KAPC) have been fully supportive and have attended some meetings
- The discussions were interactive and very lively; informal chairmanship and style helped the process greatly;
- Action points and follow up letters to relevant agencies have been produced by all 5 forums.

- There has been evidence of excellent building of relationships and trust with the local community;
- The key challenge was to respond to the Community on outstanding issues and to sustain interest and activity in the longer term; it has been agreed that setting agenda topics for the full year will help the process along with measured targets, aims and objectives.

The Seven County Members (Councillors) and the respective areas they represent are:-

Deal	Terence Birkett
Deal	Dr Mike Eddy
Dover North	Eileen Rowbotham
Dover Town	Bill Newman
Dover Town	Gordon Cowan (replacing Keith Sansum in September 2007)
Dover West	Bryan Cope
Sandwich	Leyland Ridings

The seven voting DDC Members (Councillors) and the respective areas they represent are:-

Deal	Adrian Friend
Deal	Paul Le Chevalier
Dover North	Stephen Manion
Dover Town	Kevin Mills
Dover Town	Marion Munt
Dover West	Jennifer Record
Sandwich	Sue Chandler

The list of Members are shown in Appendix 1.

➤ Meetings

All of the Neighbourhood Forum meetings are open to the public. Dates and times of the meetings are advertised through Parish Councils, the Kent and Dover Council websites, displayed at the Library and on local notice boards. In addition there has been press publicity.

➤ Dover District Neighbourhood Forum Meetings 2007/8

Dover North

Date of Meeting	Venue	Main Topic/s	Attendees*
24 th April 2007	Northbourne Parish Hall	• Climate Change	34
24 th July 2007	St Margaret's Village Hall	• Health in Dover	32
20 th November 2007	St Peter's Church Hall, Aylesham	• Access to the Countryside and rural issues	23

Dover Town

Date of Meeting	Venue	Main Topic/s	Attendees*
25 th July 2007	Dover Town Council Chamber	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Future of Leisure Facilities	22
28 th November 2007	Dover Town Council Chamber	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Safety	34

Dover West

Date of Meeting	Venue	Main Topic/s	Attendees*
18 th June 2007	Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regeneration	14
6 th September 2007	Shepherdswell Village Hall (joint meeting with Sandwich)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Access to Health Services	40
3 rd December	The Ramada Hotel, Whitfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Renewable Fuel and Energy Choices	15

Deal

Date of Meeting	Venue	Main Topic/s	Attendees*
16 th April 2007	Deal Town Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Climate Change & Global Warming	24
16 th July 2007	The Deal Welfare Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Safety	27
15 th November	Castle Community College	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Young People's Services	29

Sandwich

Date of Meeting	Venue	Main Topic/s	Attendees*
23 rd May 2007	Wingham Village Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Highways and public transportation	19
6 th September 2007	Shepherdswell Village Hall (joint meeting with Dover West)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Access to Health Services	40
11 th December 2007	Ash Cartwright & Kelsey Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Services for Young People	15

* These figures are taken from the sign in sheets provided at the meeting and not a head count taken during the meeting.

➔ Small Community Capital Grants

KCC allocated £38,600 in its Capital Budget for 2007/08 to the Small Community Capital Projects Fund in Dover. Dover District Council added £45,000 to this figure giving £83,600 to be spent on small capital projects originating in local communities. Each forum was allocated a percentage of this which was determined by population numbers.

The job of the Neighbourhood Forums was to receive applications to the Fund, and to place these in a priority order. The list of projects then went forward to KCC's and DDC's Cabinet, for approval.

Applicants for projects were given guidance about how to submit their bid, and the criteria by which the Fund operates. Particular areas of priority for the fund were:

- Projects which enhance local community and voluntary organisations in the provision of services to the public.
- Projects which enhance KCC's Supporting Independence Programme
- Projects which improve the provision of public transport
- Projects which improve the provision of community safety

The Fund's main eligibility criteria included the following:

- Grants could only be given to organisations that are 'properly constituted'. This includes organisations such as district, parish and town councils, voluntary and community groups, churches, societies, charities, etc. The organisation must be able to demonstrate that it is properly constituted.
- Grants could only be provided to a maximum value of £5,000 to any one project.
- Grants could only be provided to projects that enhance local communities or the provision of services to the public of Kent.
- Grants could not be provided as replacement funding.
- The grant support was for the purchase or creation of capital assets. It is not to fund current or on-going running costs.

The voting Members from all three tiers of local government involved in the forums were guided in deciding the priority order they wish projects to go forward. There were no issues of prejudicial interest but in the end each forum allocated the following grants for the financial year 2007 / 2008.

District Wide				KCC Contribution	DDC Contribution
	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Project Name</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
	Skillnet	Music and Arts Project	£ 4,964	£ 2,292	£ 2,672
	Dover Rowing Club	Participation Opportunities	£ 2,250	£ 1,039	£ 1,211
	Dover & District Merchant Navy Memorial Fund	Plinth	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Ripple Down House	Rural Skills Centre Phase 2	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Total		£17,214	£ 7,948	£ 9,266
Dover West					
	Whitfield Parish Council	Village Sign	£ 750	£ 346	£ 404
	River Originals Tennis Club	Boundary Fencing	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Wootton Village Hall	PA & Sound System	£ 2,089	£ 965	£ 1,124
	Capel-le-Ferne Parish Council	Entry Gates to Village	£ 3,348	£ 1,546	£ 1,802
	Capel-le-Ferne Parish Council	Village Hall Refurbishment	£ 3,000	£ 1,385	£ 1,615
	Crabble Corn Mill	PA & Sound System	£ 3,390	£ 1,565	£ 1,825
	Total		£17,577	£ 8,116	£ 9,461

Dover North					
	St Peter's Church Hall	Disabled Toilets	£ 1,500	£ 693	£ 807
	Aylesham Youth Centre	CCTV	£ 4,700	£ 2,170	£ 2,530
	East Langdon Parish Hall	Modernisation Scheme	£ 1,702	£ 786	£ 916
	Nonington Parish Council	Storage Space	£ 1,000	£ 462	£ 538
	The Friends of St Martins Church	Church Gates	£ 750	£ 346	£ 404
	Betteshanger Social Club and Community Centre	New Internal Doors	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Betteshanger Social Club and Community Centre	New Kitchen	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Total		£19,652	£ 9,074	£10,578
Deal					
	Deal Town Council	Power Point Projector	£ 720	£ 332	£ 388
	Walmer Science College	Cycle Shelter	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Betteshanger Sports Club	New Tables & Chairs	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Betteshanger Colliery Welfare Cricket Club	Flicx Pitches	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Total		£15,720	£ 7,258	£ 8,462
Sandwich					
	Goodnestone Church	Interior Restoration Project	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Eastry Parish Council	Enhancement of Shop common area	£ 5,000	£ 2,309	£ 2,691
	Preston Parish Council	Notice Board	£ 700	£ 323	£ 377
	Betteshanger Social Club and Community Centre	New Chairs	£ 907	£ 419	£ 488
	Tilmanstone Parish Council	Playground Regeneration Project	£ 1,830	£ 845	£ 985
	Total		£13,437	£ 6,204	£ 7,233
	Total		£83,600	£38,600	£45,000
	Grand Total		£83,600		

New application forms for Small Community Capital grants are available from April 2008. The 5 Neighbourhood Forums will consider these in October 2008.

➤ Local Schemes Grants

This year saw the continuation of the County Council funding stream known as the Local Schemes Grant. Countywide the grant had £400,000 to allocate to revenue and minor capital projects. In Dover, the allocation amounted to £57,300 and a summary of successful projects are listed below.

The priorities and eligibility remained virtually the same as those for the small community capital projects grant, with the one notable exception of the maximum value of a grant awarded.

Individual KCC Members put forward recommended projects and a list of collective projects was presented to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Mr Nick Chard to make the decision.

Name of Applicant	Title of Project & summary if required	Amount Awarded
Dover District Carers' Support	Alzheimers and Dementia Training for Carers	£2,926
Ripple Down House	Pond Restoration	£5,650
Snowdown & Kent Coalfield Heritage Group	Feasibility Study	£3,000
St Peter's Church Hall	Toilets and Access for Disabled and Elderly Persons	£1,000
Aylesham Heritage Centre	Vertical Blinds	£253.75
Tilmanstone Parish Council	Playground Regeneration Project	£1,000
Betteshanger Social and Community Club	Cycling Equipment	£2,000
Dover & District Merchant Navy Memorial Fund	Plinth	£936.25
Alkham Parish Council	Football Pitch Lighting Project	£8,185
Sandwich Centre for the Retired	Advice and Advocacy Worker	£4,653
Ash United Reformed Church	Maintenance of Exterior & Decoration of Interior of Hall	£3,532
Dover Sea Cadets	Maintenance of Headquarters	£2,794
Cross-Links Dover	Community Development Project	£5,000
Marine Cadets, Deal	Minibus	£6,370
Deal Maritime & Local History Museum	Entrance & Front of Building	£10,000
Total		£57,300

➤ KCC Member Community Grants

Each KCC Member can recommend grants from their allowance of £10,000 to be spent on local community initiatives or projects. Expenditure for each Member has, as the year progressed, been reported to meetings of the fora. All the £70,000 available for grants has been spent. A summary for each Member is shown in Appendix two. Examples of projects supported are shown below:

Three Members supported a project from Ripple Down House Trust, a voluntary organisation based in Ringwould. They applied for funding to restore their pond. Ripple Down is one of the few remaining environmental education centres that provides a resource for community and educational groups to benefit from. They provide a practical and 'hands on' opportunity to learn environmental and rural skills with the pond providing an important tool for them to do this.

The Kent Refugee Action Network received funding towards their Multi Cultural Festival from two of the seven Members, which took place in June 07 which was also preceded by a series of workshops in Archers Court School.

All KCC Members supported a summer play scheme that Pegasus, a voluntary organisation arranged for the summer holidays. It was a 3 week play scheme for 65 children with disabilities and 70+ teenagers to assist in 1 to 1 provision. This provided respite to carers/parents and taught new skills to the local youth, shaping their future within the community.

➔ Conclusion

The Neighbourhood Forums continue to work for the people of the Dover District to do all they can to make the area a great place to live, work and visit. In the coming year it will be continuing to work in partnership with Kent County Council, Dover District Council, the Town and Parish Councils, the Primary Care Trust and local voluntary organisations to reach this aim.

Appendix 1

Kent County Council



Bryan Cope
Dover West
Conservative



Terence Birkett
Deal
Labour



Dr Mike Eddy
Deal
Labour



Gordon Cowan
Dover Town
Labour



Eileen Rowbotham
Dover North
Labour



Bill Newman
Dover Town
Labour



Leyland Ridings
Sandwich
Conservative



Dover District Council



Adrian Friend
Deal
Conservative



Paul Le Chevalier
Deal
Conservative



Stephen Manion
Dover North
Conservative



Kevin Mills
Dover Town
Labour



Marion Munt
Dover Town
Labour



Jennifer Record
Dover West
Conservative



Sue Chandler
Sandwich
Conservative



Dover Local Board Annual Report Appendix 2



➔ Terence Birkett

Projects	£
Deal Memorial Bandstand Trust – Free Marines Concert	500
Deal Writers – Anthology	100
Pegasus Playscheme – Summer Scheme	100
Sing for your Life – Silver Song Club	200
Snowdown & Kent Coalfield Heritage Group	500
North Deal Community Partnership – Growth & Consolidation	500
Dover District Merchant Navy Memorial Fund – Plinth	500
Bright Sparks Child Care Centre – Music Teacher	1000
Castle Community College – New Shutters	1000
Betteshanger Social Club – Chair Refurbishment	593
The Godric Centre – Replacement Windows	1000
St John's Catholic Church – Access Improvements	988
Deal Gymnastics Club – Tumbling Track	1000
Arthritis Care – Printing Machine	190
Kent Coal and Community – Fuelling Creativity	1829
	£10,000

➔ Bryan Cope

Temple Ewell – Fit4life	350
Whitfield Parish Council – Play Area Extension	2500
Pegasus Playscheme – Summer Scheme	250
Whitfield Action Group – Representation on LDF	600
Kent & Medway Walking Bus Group – St Sibertswold	300
Wootton Village Hall – Health and Safety Landscaping	3000
Temple Ewell Village Hall – Loop System	800
Folkestone Repeater Group – Digital Voice & Data	1500

Communication	
Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall – Maintenance of Building	700
	£10,000

➤ Dr Mike Eddy

Deal Writers – Anthology	400
Snowdown & Kent Coalfield Heritage Group	1000
Deal Memorial Bandstand Trust – Free Marines Concert	1,000
Pegasus Playscheme – Summer Scheme	250
Sing for your Life – Silver Song Club	200
Dover District Merchant Navy Memorial Fund – Plinth	500
One World Living – Environmental Workshops	1000
North Deal Community Partnership – Growth & Consolidation	500
Bright Sparks Child Care Centre – Music Teacher	1000
Castle Community College – New Shutters	1000
Dover Fencing Club – Children’s Fencing Project	900
Kids in the Country – The Vegetable Plot	1000
Kent Coal and Community – Fuelling Creativity	1250
	£10,000

➤ Bill Newman

Hellfire Corner Association – 1940’s Weekend	1000
NAS Dover & Deal – Use of Sensory Room	120
Kent Refugee Action Network – Multi Cultural Festival	750
Pegasus Playscheme – Summer Scheme	500
Dover District Merchant Navy Memorial Fund – Plinth	500
KCC – Kent Coastal Week	500
Ripple Down House – Pond Restoration	500
Wildest Dreams – Dazzling Dover	500
Buckland Residents Association – New Boiler	1000

Eythorne Rovers Football Club – Presentation Trophies	470
Dover Pageant Society – Centenary Celebrations	1000
Arthritis Care – Summer Trip	360
Dover Gymnastics Club – Vault Run	800
Archers Studio – Music Tech Club	1000
Dover Youth Theatre – “From Stage to Screen”	1000
	£10,000

➤ Leyland Ridings

Pegasus Playscheme – Summer Scheme	350
EKEBP Enterprise Kent – Tudor England	1000
Snowdown & Kent Coalfield Heritage Group	500
Dover District Merchant Navy Memorial Fund – Plinth	500
Ripple Down House – Pond Restoration	500
Wingham Parish Council – Footpath Lighting	2000
Woodnesborough Parish Council – New Church Roofing	3500
Dover Sea Cadet Corps – New Tables	320
Walmer Cricket Club – Improvement & Maintenance Project	1330
	£10,000

➤ Eileen Rowbotham

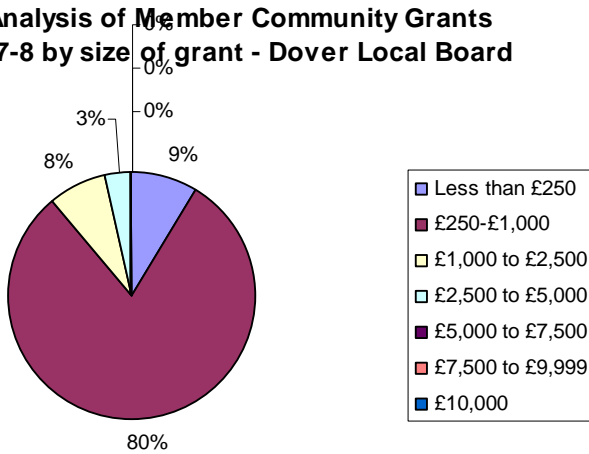
St Margaret’s Bay Trust – Paradise Revealed	800
Elvington & District Carnival Association – Elvington Carnival	800
Snowdown & Kent Coalfield Heritage Group	3000
Tilmanstone Colliery Welfare – Upkeep of Machinery	500
Pegasus Playscheme – Summer Scheme	200
Betteshanger C.W. Cricket Club – Junior Cricket Training Facilities	400
Tilmanstone Parish Council – Playground Regeneration	500
St Peter’s Church Hall – Hall Refurbishment	500

Langdon Parish Council – Wind Farm Awareness	500
Kent & Medway Walking Bus Group – Hornbeam Primary	150
Deal With It – Ban the Plastic Bag	1500
Tilmanstone Colliery Welfare – Goal Nets	300
Kent Coal and Community – Fuelling Creativity	850
	£10,000

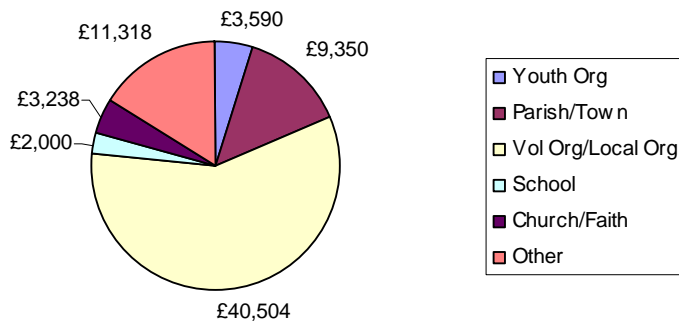
➡ Gordon Cowan

Hellfire Corner Association – 1940's Weekend	1000
Town & Pier Activities Club – Presentation Evening	700
Lydden Athletic Football Club – Football Equipment	1000
Kent Refugee Action Network – Multi Cultural Festival	750
Cross-Links – Buckland Community Newsletter	750
Wildest Dreams – Dazzling Dover	500
Buckland Residents Association – New Boiler	1000
Dover Watersports Centre – Safety Helmets	725
Priory Forum – Funday	750
Dover Sea Cadet Corps – New Tables	300
Priory Forum – Youth Activities Club	370
Dover 5 a side youth league – Presentation Evening	500
Triangles Community Centre – Football Kit	500
St Radigunds Group – Sit in Comfort	880
Archers Studio – Music Tech Club	275
	£10,000

**Analysis of Member Community Grants
2007-8 by size of grant - Dover Local Board**



Value of MCG Funded Projects by Recipient 2007-8 year - Dover Local Board



Value of MCG Funded Projects by type of activity 2007-8 year - Dover Local Board

