

Business Plan and Vision

No.	Project	Sub-Projects	Timescale
1	Items outstanding from Previous Business Plan		
1a	Undertake a range of improvements and upgrades to Brightling Road Recreation Ground	<u>Continue with improvements and enhancements.</u> Planning permission in progress and data collection re pump track, concrete skate park, climbing wall, accessible park, car park and associated access, solar lighting, CCTV, and power	Short to medium term (ongoing)
1b	Continue to partner with Wealden on Cuckoo trail enhancements Completed	New signage to be installed in Feb outside of council offices which direct to cuckoo trail, SDNP Council toilets and offices	Short to medium term (ongoing)
1c	Improve signage to the Cuckoo trail and liaise with other authorities to achieve this Completed	In partnership with WDC signage as above	Short to medium term (ongoing)
1d	Financial feasibility of temporary structure in car park to provide accessible chambers and library	Work being carried out on feasibility of different location. Agreed, some legal matters to be considered.	Short to medium term (ongoing)
1e	To continue to partner with Cuckmere buses and promote services that provide an easy access to the South Downs National Park from Polegate. Ideally services to South Downs National Park, Friston, Seven Sisters Country Park and Jevington.	Continue to advertise services that provide these facilities to residents and tourists. Supporting through New Years Day Service and grants when applied for.	Short to Long term (ongoing)
1f	Establish a 'Friends of Brightling Road Leisure Ground' group	Continue and development further partnerships with local groups interested in the environment with a view to setting up a friends of group.	Short to Long term (ongoing)
1g	Continue to develop partnerships between Southern Railways to		Short to Long term (ongoing)

	encourage and promote visitors to the town		
1h	Promote Polegate as a 'Gateway' to the South Downs National Park	<u>Continue</u> joint initiatives with Southern Railways and the South Downs National Park Authority Cuckmere Buses and other agencies.	Short to Long term (ongoing)
1i	Drainage of field	<u>Continue</u> with the Football Foundation initiative and AFC Langney in a field friendly drainage system. (not full drainage) Testing now needs to be carried out on the ground.	Short term – assessment Medium term – funding and implementation Long Term – maintenance
1j	Brightling Road Leisure Ground - Contact the local business community for prospective sponsors and grant funders	<u>Continue</u> to attract further sponsorship and grant funding	Medium and long term
1k	Brightling Road Leisure Ground – enhanced bench provision	<u>Continuation of improvements once complete.</u> Install additional benches around the area. Awaiting installation with contractors and more locations being prepared.	Medium to long term
2	Environment and Appearance of the town		
2a	Improve signage to the Cuckoo trail	Partnership with WDC almost complete	Short term
2b	<u>Continue</u> to liaise with other authorities to ensure that the Town Council can carry out certain services without issues. i.e. litter, weeds, cleaning signs, white gates etc	Encourage volunteer groups and individuals. <u>Continue</u> to Liaise with Wealden District Council waste department, street scene. Continue to liaise with East Sussex Highways. PTC already provide additional verge cutting; enhanced litter picking alongside volunteer groups and events. Encourage reporting of appearance issues and resolve where possible.	Short to medium term
2c	Further litter awareness campaigns Completed		Short to medium term

2d	Increase access to the town and its facilities including parks for those with decreased mobility and/or special needs	Continue with current initiatives and implement new ideas where possible taking this into consideration. Prep for requests to highways underway	Short medium and long term
2e	Continue support for wildlife areas	Continue Supporting Friends of Jubilee Nature Reserve	Short to long term (ongoing)
3	Tourism for the town		
3a	Promote Polegate as a destination		Short term
3b	Provision of a range of events in the town with the Council's role as facilitator	Summer festival now run by PCF; Xmas event now run by PCF. New public and civic events, annual events being developed.	Short to medium term
3c	Provide additional funding for more events in the town	As events are created budgeting the previous year in readiness. £2000-5000? Some additional funding allocated, however mindful of austerity and the current economic climate.	Medium term
3d	Create walking festival in summer	Design to promote an appreciation of the local area and environment to local residents, promote community activities and general health of the local population. Liaise with other organisations to achieve these goals. Currently sharing Health walks info on social media whilst Communities group discuss the format and intention of the event.	Medium term
	Promote World Book Day in Polegate during March through fun activities such as hunt the book in local retailers, augmented reality tours and other ideas.	Aim to increase the support for a library. Work in partnership with schools and other authorities to achieve this.	Medium term

		Looking at new event in 2026. Will be discussed at Communities and Tourism committee.	
4	Brightling Road Leisure Ground Recreation Ground		
4a	Pathway from outdoor gym to new accessible roadway	Planning permission in place. Quotes in Funding required.	Short term PP Medium term path due to funding.
4b	Sponsorship scheme	Some completed and underway. Continue and add to. Refreshing sponsors for the flowers at present. Litter sponsorship from 2 partnerships.	Short to medium term
4c	Funding for further events on the land	Budget 2025/26 set in Autumn Winter 2024/25. Some enhancements only due to austerity.	Medium term
4d	Tennis court (new)	Grant / S106 / CIL funded. Awaiting planning permission and funding. Looking at grants presently.	Medium to Long Term
5	Climate Change		
5a	Educate residents and promote how to mitigate climate change and promote an environmentally sustainable approach	Continue and enhance social media and website posts. Hold events where appropriate. Theme for annual town assembly 2025 is climate change.	Short to medium term
5b	Assess the town council's carbon footprint and carry out improvements where possible	In progress.	Medium term
5d	Investigate solar lighting and other schemes to reduce the impact of street lighting. NB the town council provides lighting for amenity and footways and is NOT required to light the roads.	Solar lighting is planned for Brightling Road Leisure Ground and is part of the planning permission being sought at present. Funding in Place.	Medium to long term
6	Wellbeing of residents		
6a	Promote the general health of the town and residents to support the NHS	NB other initiatives encourage health and wellbeing for our residents.	Medium to long term

		Partnership with Wealden District Council our parks sessions for residents for free. Sharing on social media of health and wellbeing subjects and initiatives. On going.	
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