

Making Our Own Neighbourhood Plan

Two Public Events to Improve Swanley
Everyone Is Welcome:
**Businesses, Residents and
Community Groups**

If you come along you can:
Find out about what a
Neighbourhood Plan can do to
make building development meet the
needs of the parish.
Share your ideas, your worries and your
commitment to improving Swanley.



Event Details

Come along when it is convenient
to you to the **Alexandra Suite**
You can either drop in and have your say
or stay for the whole event.
**22nd March from 2.00pm to 3.30pm
or 6.30pm to 8.00pm**

More details are available online at
www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk
about what a neighbourhood Plan is,
why Swanley Town Council is
preparing one and how you can make
sure your views are included.



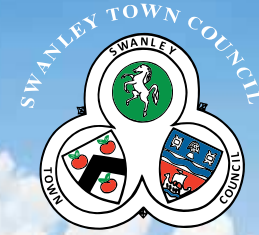
Please use the QR Code above
to visit our website and find out more
information including downloading
this leaflet as a PDF File

Our Address:
**The Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road,
Swanley, Kent BR8 7BU**

Telephone: **01322 665 855**
Fax: **01322 613000**

You can also Email us:
towncouncil@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Open Hours:
Mon to Thurs: **9:00am - 5:30pm**
Friday: **9:00am - 5:00pm**
Saturday and Sunday: **Closed**



Swanley Town Council is seeking to create a Neighbourhood Plan

**MAKE SURE YOU HAVE
YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE
OF SWANLEY**

Find out more, visit
The Alexandra Suite
22nd March 2018
from **2.00pm to 3.30pm**
or **6.30pm to 8.00pm**

Get Involved and have your say

Why is Swanley Town Council involved in developing a Neighbourhood Plan?

Only certain kinds of organisations can be – in the legal jargon – a “Qualifying Body” to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. Town/Parish Councils are one such qualifying organisation.

People in Swanley have been concerned about development of land and buildings in the parish and the amount of influence they have on the granting of planning permission by Sevenoaks District Council.

Developing a Neighbourhood Plan means that what is in it has legal weight and Sevenoaks Council must take its proposals and policies on board when it makes decision about planning applications in Swanley.

Why does Swanley Town Council care about what I think?

All Neighbourhood Plans must be based on what local people think – in fact before it can have any legal weight it must be subject to a referendum on all the people in a Neighbourhood Area, so finding out what people think is essential. But making sure it is based on local knowledge will also ensure it is a good neighbourhood plan that it will be difficult for developers to challenge or ignore and ensure that development does not have a negative impact upon local residents and businesses after development takes place.

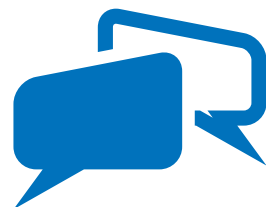
Bringing people together to share their ideas and suggestions about what should go in the Neighbourhood Plan in an organised way is the beginning of the process.

Doing this means that a Neighbourhood Plan for Swanley provides the maximum benefits from development of land and buildings for local people.

What a Neighbourhood Plan CAN DO for Swanley

Provided there is evidence to support its policies and proposals it can plan for the future by:

- Allocating sites for development of most kinds.
- Influencing the way land and buildings can be developed (types of uses, what they are built from, and their layout).
- Protect places and buildings that we think are important.
- Suggest improvements to public and green spaces, infrastructure (provision of land and buildings for roads, schools, health facilities).
- Require green measures as part of developments of land and buildings to preserve or generate energy, save water, reduce air pollution.



What a Neighbourhood Plan CANNOT DO for Swanley

Planning legislation does not allow a Neighbourhood Plan to:

- Influence the amount of dog poo and litter.
- Improve services such as social care, refuse collections, grass cutting, street light maintenance.
- Increase the number and timing of trains and buses.
- It cannot force development of land and building to happen – that depends on land owners and developers.
- It cannot set speeding limits.
- It cannot control development of land and buildings that do not need planning permission (some uses of building can be transferred to others without planning permission).

What can I do?

That depends on you, but you can:

- Come along to the events we are planning about the Neighbourhood plan to share your ideas and views about the development of land and buildings in the parish.
- Keep well informed by subscribing to an e mail list to get updates.
- Join a Steering Group to oversee and carry out the whole process of writing the Neighbourhood Plan, gathering evidence to support what is in it and ensuring that it is supported by local people and organisations.