



Street Maintenance Policy

The condition of local roads, footpaths and open spaces affects the whole community and contributes to the quality of the local environment. The Parish Council has a Highways Projects budget for improvements that cannot be funded by Maidstone Borough Council or Kent County Council.

When projects are put forward the following need to be considered:

- The scope of the project
- Why it is needed (eg: practical or aesthetic reasons)
- If the land/vegetation is highway or private.
- The cost of any work
- Ongoing maintenance costs
- Evidence of resident need

The Environment Committee will consider requests for projects and has identified the following criteria/requirements that need to be considered before a decision is made.

1. Is the issue on Highway property (verges/footways) and have reasonable attempts been made to get the Highway Authority to do the work?
2. Encroaching vegetation from private property. The Highway Authority can send a letter requiring the work be done and this can be arranged via the Highway Inspector. Alternatively, the parish council will send its own letter.
3. Footways, especially if on a school, cycle or access to public facilities route are considered a priority by the Environment Committee. Salt bins are now only supplied if the County Councillor pays for them.
4. Vision splays are a Health & Safety issue if they are overgrown and should be cut as and when required. This is the same as vegetation around speed signs and highway directional signs. KCC now works to a safety critical policy¹ which often means work requested is refused.
5. Who will benefit from the project.

There is a limited budget for work and where possible problem areas will be given priority. The Environment Committee can consider work for aesthetic reasons, but these should not take priority over work needed for practical reasons.

Adopted March 2025

¹ KCC has never, despite requests supplied the safety critical criteria