

# Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

<b>Board Meeting Part</b>	<b>One</b>
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<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>18 November 2020</b>	<b>Paper Number:</b>	<b>EDC 020/111</b>
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<b>Title of paper</b>	<b>Ebbsfleet Living</b>
<b>Presented by</b>	<b>Kevin McGeough; Head of Strategy and Placemaking</b>
<b>Sub-committee</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>

<b>Purpose of Paper and Executive Summary</b>	
To update EDC Board on progress and activities related to community building in Ebbsfleet Garden City during October / November 2020	
<b>EDC business plan and KPIs</b>	Matters covered will impact on some or all the priorities within the business plan and associated KPIs
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Delegation</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Financial impact</b>	Activities funded by EDC are from within existing approved budgets
<b>Legal impact</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Stakeholder impact</b>	Paper records community activities and events across the Ebbsfleet Garden City, including those delivered directly or funded by EDC
<b>Sponsor impact</b>	Supports EDC delivery of our Garden City objectives

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## 1. Introduction

1.1. This paper sets out community building activity across the Ebbsfleet Garden City area over the October / November 2020 period.

1.2. This paper will distinguish as far as is possible activities and events which have been:

- Delivered by EDC directly
- Delivered by the community, or local stakeholders themselves with or without EDC Funding
- Delivered by EDC partners or through a partnership with EDC for the benefit of local with EDC or third-party funding

## 2. Community building during the Coronavirus crisis

2.1 Community building activity during October / November remains restricted as EDC and the Ebbsfleet Garden City communities have been complying with directives and guidance from Government, MHCLG and Public Health England in response to the current Coronavirus pandemic.

2.2 The current lockdown across England imposed between 5<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December has restricted planning for any community events or in-person activities over that period.

2.3 Despite ever changing guidelines and restrictions, EDC have been engaging with local groups, including gymnastics, yoga, Pilates and other groups who are reopening their activities in line with Government guidance beyond 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Where groups need assistance to sustain their activities EDC may support through our Community Investment and Creative Ideas funds.

2.4 In the past month EDC has engaged with residents and community champions in the Garden City to explore whether activities can be delivered around the Christmas and New year period. However, we are taking realistic and cautious approach in line with continually changing restrictions.

2.5 The next meeting of the Ebbsfleet Garden City Community Board will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

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- 2.6 EDC has launched a fresh call for local resident interest to join the Ebbsfleet Garden City Community Board, in order to ensure we provide a wide and varied perspective for local people. The closing date for applications is the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The application pack and further information can be found here <https://ebbsfleetdc.org.uk/communityboard/>
- 2.7 Flyers promoting the Community Board opportunity have been distributed to all homes in the Garden City. A social media campaign is also underway to encourage new members to apply.



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## 3. Community Activity during October / November 2020

### 3.1 Activity delivered directly by EDC

#### 3.1.1 Community Notice Boards

As part of an emerging strategy developed by the Ebbsfleet Garden City Community Board to improve communications with and between local residents, EDC, and other community organisations, a series of Community Notice Boards have been designed and installed across the Garden City. The Community Notice Boards are the first stage in a series of proposals which will tackle media opportunities across a range of mediums including high and low technology approaches, to ensure everyone can get an insight to what is happening in the Garden City. Community Board members and other community champions will become the custodians of the key to the notice boards locally.



Community Board members Penny Marsh, Mark Cawthorne and Chair, Jeremy Kite, launch the Community Notice Board at Castle Hill.

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### 3.2 Directly delivered community and stakeholder activity.

3.2.1 Residents and local stakeholders in and around Ebbsfleet Garden City continue to show great resilience and community spirit in the face of the Coronavirus pandemic. Local businesses, community groups and individuals, have been developing ideas and innovations to try and maintain quality of life in the Garden City – responding to the changing government restrictions around gatherings and social distancing. EDC continue to work with local groups to promote activities through our 'What's On' poster on local social media, and now through the Community Notice Board.

As noted on the 'What's On' poster for the past month (below) there have been a number of community groups operating activities and classes across the area. With a new period of lockdown now in force across England unfortunately a lot of this activity will cease once again however we do know that a number of local groups are taking their activities back online and are continuing to adapt to a changing context. EDC will continue to work with all of these groups to support through our Community Investment Fund.

What's on in  
**EBBSFLEET  
GARDEN CITY**

Head to Northfleet Big Local's base at Northfleet Central to pick a pumpkin to carve!  
28th October, 3.30-4.30pm, Rose Street, Northfleet DA11 9EQ

Get active with Primal Roots, 'Stick it to the Gym' workout sessions  
Tuesdays, 10-11am at the Enchanted Garden, Off Church Path, St Botolph's Church, Northfleet DA11 9EU 

Zumba hybrid classes at the Eastgate Centre- contact Val on 07541 754140  
Mondays at 6.15pm and Thursdays at 9.30am, 141 Springhead Parkway, Northfleet DA11 8AD 

Join YGM Dance Academy street dance classes at the Eastgate Centre  
Email [info@ygm danceacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@ygm danceacademy.co.uk)  
Web [ygm danceacademy.co.uk](http://ygm danceacademy.co.uk)

Looking to upskill, retrain, start a new venture? get advice and support for free here- search for South East Local Economic Partnership, Digital Skills Partnership, or head to [southeastlep.com/our-delivery/skills/digital-skills-partnership/free-online-learning/](http://southeastlep.com/our-delivery/skills/digital-skills-partnership/free-online-learning/)

 SOUTH EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

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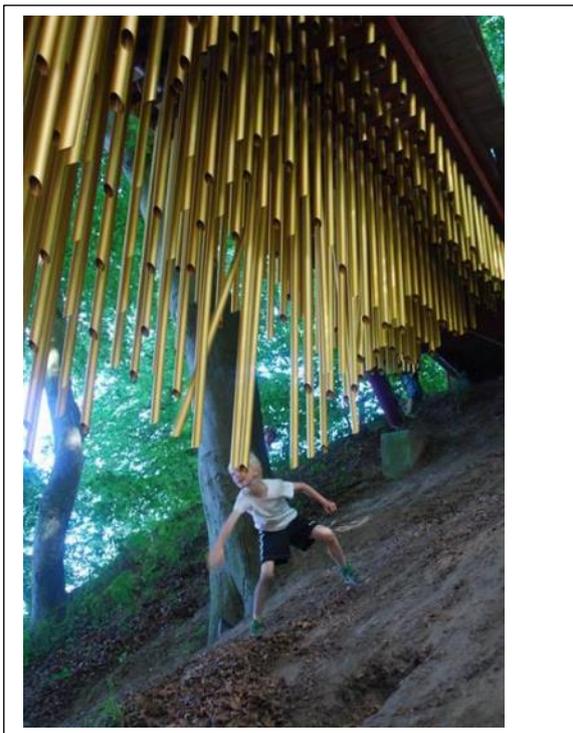
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3.2.2 EDC has met with Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council to give an update on progress being made in the Garden City with a particular focus on our ambitions for health and wellbeing. Mary Rouse, EDC Health and Wellbeing Project Manager presented the vision for a world class health and wellbeing centre in Ebbsfleet, as part of the Health Education and Innovation Quarter. Town Councillors asked questions about the delivery of new Garden City Homes, connectivity between new and existing communities and were pleased to hear of the progress being made

### 3.2.3 Public Art in Ebbsfleet Garden City

New public artworks are being planned across the Garden City as part of developer's proposals for individual sites. EDC have been supporting Redrow Homes and Keepmoat Homes to engage with local residents to help shape the designs. Artists have been selected for Ebbsfleet Green and Cable Wharf respectively.

Sculptor Liz Middleton is now engaging with local residents and stakeholders for Ebbsfleet Green and NEON studio are engaging with local Northfleet residents and groups for a piece within the former Rosherville Gardens site. Each are seeking involvement to help shape their ideas and designs and to leave artworks which reflect local people, and local history.

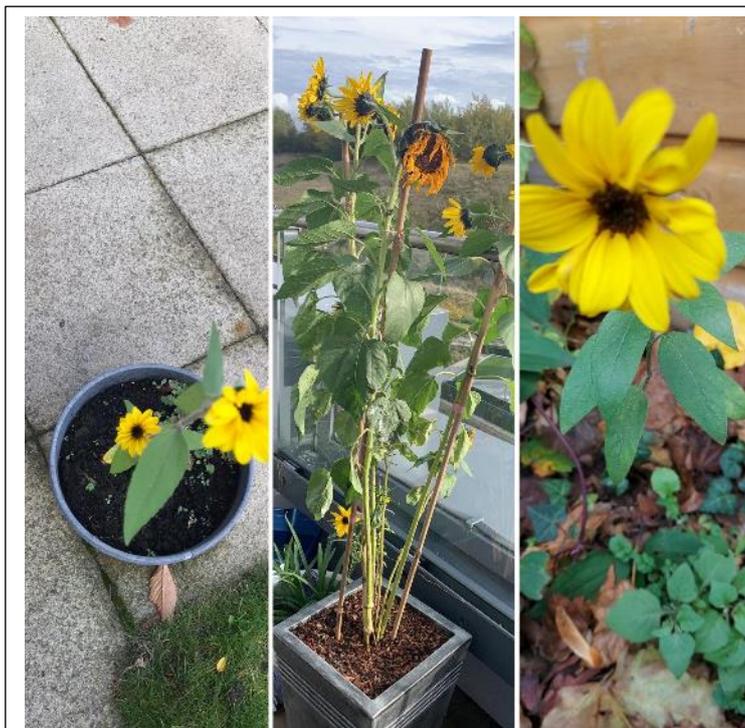
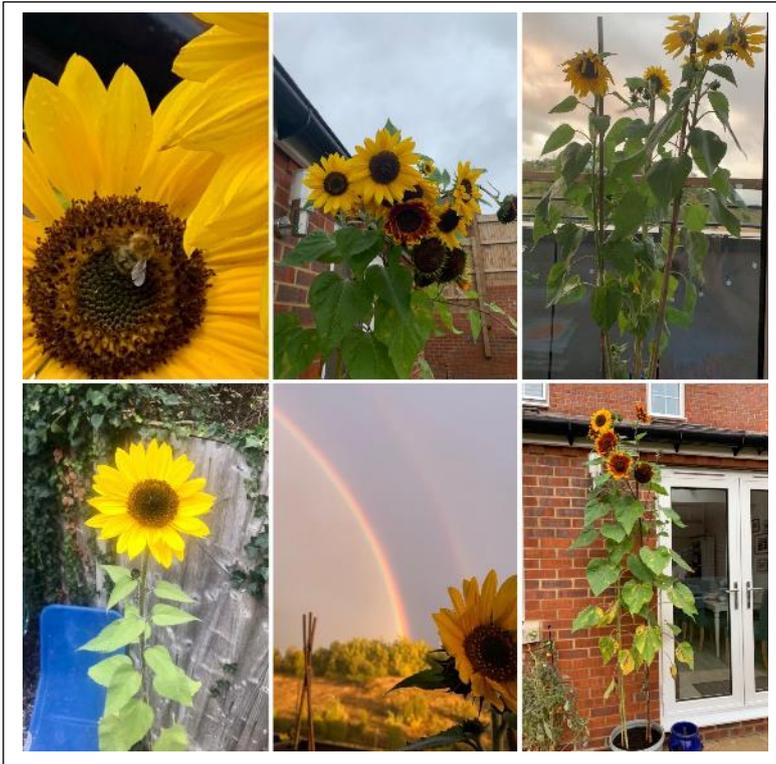


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3.2.4 Residents of Castle Hill and surrounding neighbourhoods have been keeping busy over the past months by competing with each other through a community growing competition. The competition has kept residents active over the lockdown period, with some very commendable outputs – the tallest sunflower reaching over 2 metres in height



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3.2.5 The Ebbsfleet Sunday Active group hosted a socially distanced harvest festival in Castle Hill which included an outdoor collection for the food cellar in Swanscombe. The group received a very positive response from generous local residents which enabled them to make a sizable donation to the food cellar.



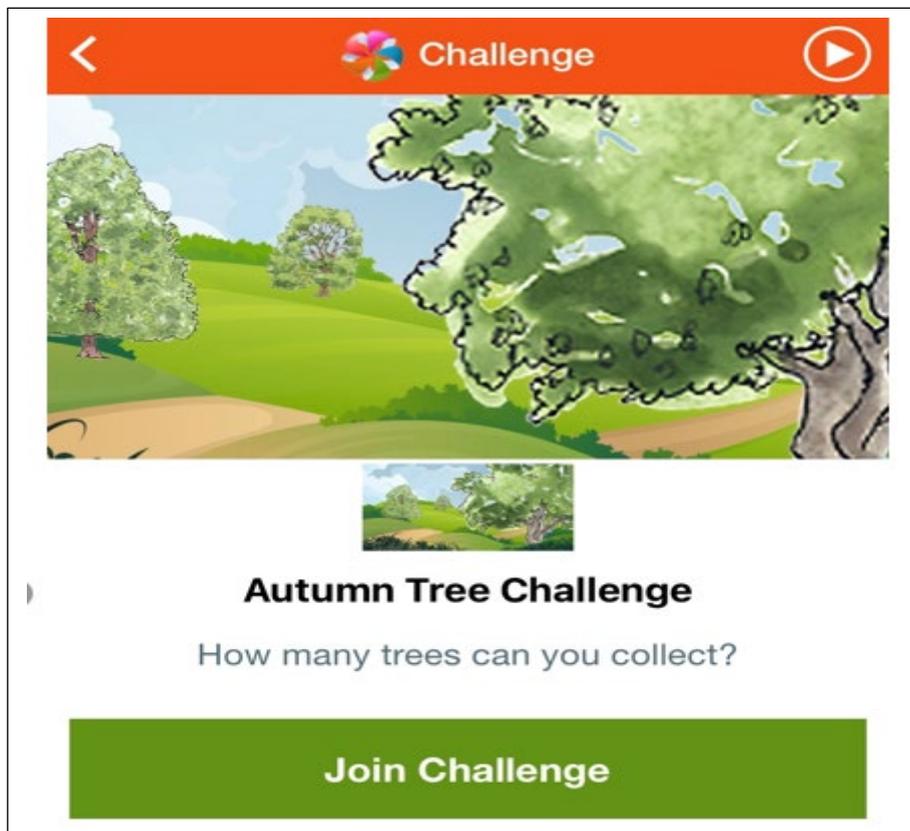
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## 3.3 Community and partnership activity with part funding from EDC

3.3.1 BetterPoints continues to excite and engage its 1500 users in the Get Active in Ebbsfleet programme. Better Points have teamed up with Forestry England to celebrate the importance of trees in their Autumn Challenge. Residents are being encouraged to help clean up the air by getting more active and swapping the car for walking or cycling whenever possible. In return, they can collect some interesting facts about trees along their journey as well as special medals and be entered into weekly prize draw to win BetterPoints. The challenge is currently running from 9<sup>th</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020, and is attracting significant interest from Ebbsfleet residents as a welcome escape from Lockdown restriction



## 4. Looking to the Future

4.1 Community Investment fund bids are now being developed with the local Girl Guides, church leaders and residents wanting to operate yoga classes both virtually and in local community centres.