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Subject: Garden Communities - Borough Green Gardens

Dear All,

You may have seen today's announcement on Garden Communities from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, which includes Borough Green being given Garden Community status. There is also an allocation of £150,000 for this financial year to work on developing proposals that meet the aims of the Garden Communities programme, and enhances the resilience of the TMBC team to ensure high quality planning of the proposed scheme. Our officers will also have access to expert advice from Homes England as part of the allocation.

You may remember that Cabinet signed off the bid to MHCLG for Garden Communities funding in October 2018.

Whilst I'm fully aware of some of the concerns you have about the scheme, I hope you would agree that anything that enables us to improve the quality and appropriateness of design should be welcomed. We will be considering how to involve the Borough Green community in work on Garden Communities.

If you have any detailed questions on the allocation, please contact Eleanor Hoyle in the first instance.

Regards,

Nicolas

Nicolas Heslop
Leader, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council