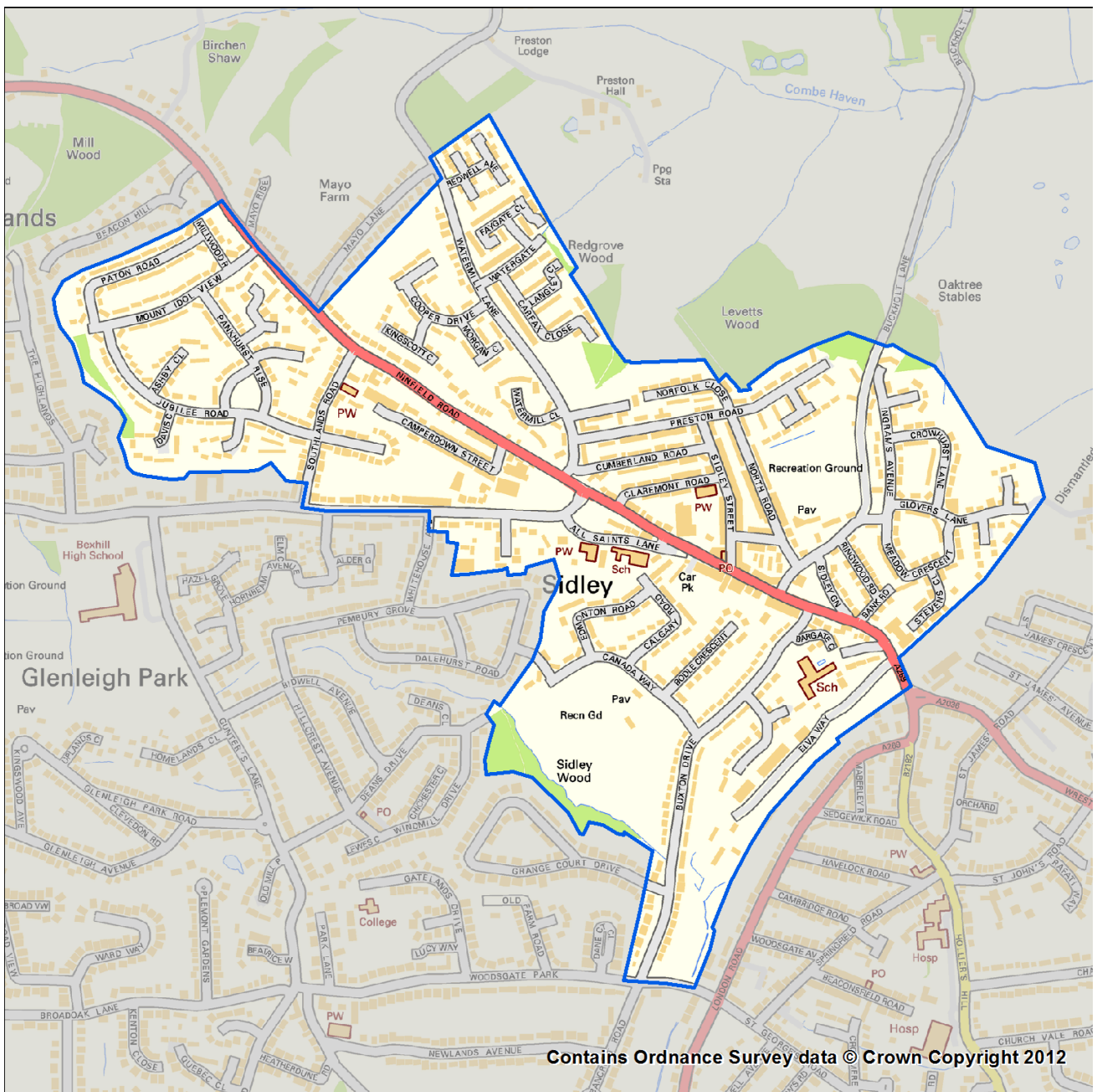




# HEART OF SIDLEY

Local Trust | Big Local



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## What is Heart of Sidley?

Heart of Sidley is a community-led partnership, led entirely by local residents, in partnership with local people, stakeholders and organisations.

Our partnership was endorsed in 2014 and since then we've been working to deliver on annual plans to improve the designated area shown on the map on the previous page. All our work must help residents within that area.

We work with Amicus Horizon and Rother Voluntary Action as key partners who employ our workers and manage our finances.

## What is Big Local?

150 local areas across England are receiving £1 million over ten years—to be used by residents for the best impact for their areas. Big Local brings together all the local talent, ambitions, skills and energy from individuals and organisations who want to make their area a better place to live. Big Local aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- Communities will be **better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them**
- People will have **increased skills and confidence** so that they can continue to identify and respond to local needs in the future
- The community will **make a difference** to the needs it prioritises
- People will feel that their area is an even **better place to live**

### Our Vision Is That:

In 10 years' time, Sidley will be a place where people will want to be **actively** involved in a community that they are proud to **belong** to and that has a **commitment** to its future. **Act, Belong, Commit.**

### Our Themes:

#### Communications

Developing good communications so that residents can get information on local activities/facilities and how and where to access them.

#### Investment & Enterprise

Ensuring that the people of Sidley have a platform to showcase their abilities by investing in our potential and creating new opportunities

#### Environment, Image & Community Pride

Improving the physical environment to promote a more positive image of Sidley and encourage people to come to Sidley to use our shops, business's and facilities thereby creating pride in our community.

#### Community Support & Activities

Provide a range of activities which will inspire people to participate, take ownership and forge a strong community spirit

#### Community Facilities

Supporting community facilities to cater for the needs of all ages, the vulnerable, disabled, and isolated.

## What has it done so far?

In its first two years, Heart of Sidley has undertaken a wide range of activity and laid the groundwork for future years. A summary of the story so far...

<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
Website & Social Media	We've established a website & Facebook page with 6,000 connections.
Bexhill FM	We sponsored this local radio station as a way to get our message out.
Noticeboards	Installed two noticeboards to keep people up to date.
<b>INVESTMENT &amp; ENTERPRISE</b>	
Social Enterprise	We commissioned Amicus Horizon's Dragon's Den project which helped 5 individuals get the skills to start their own businesses.
Skills & Employment	We work with local providers to get people the skills they need and get into work.
Financial Inclusion	We work with local providers to get people the skills they need to better manage their finances.
Promote Local Businesses	HoS is establishing a Traders Team, empowered with their own budget to improve Sidley & its local economy
CHARTT	Sidley has been a partner in the this large, multi-agency EU bid to improve skills & employment.
<b>ENVIRONMENT, IMAGE &amp; COMMUNITY PRIDE</b>	
High Street Tubs & Baskets	We've installed 10 flower tubs & hanging baskets to brighten up the high street.
Xmas High Street Lights	Sidley had its first Xmas lights in 2016, thanks to HoS & local traders.
Sidley In Bloom	HoS participates in this local competition annually and have won prizes for Ninfield Road entries.
Clean Up Days	We've held 15 resident clean up days, getting people out there to make Sidley cleaner & nicer.
Events	HoS has held 12 events & day trips for local people.
<b>COMMUNITY PROJECTS</b>	
Young Peoples Project	HoS has commissioned 2 sessions per week for the last 2 years to build young people's skills & aspirations.
Community Lunch	We've provided hot lunches for our older community, every week since October 2015.
Small Grants Fund	HoS has invested nearly £15,000 in local projects & services since January 2016
Community Hub	We've undertaken a feasibility study and have worked closely with RDC and other key stakeholders to try and develop this.
Sporting Facilities	We're working with Bexhill Burners to improve the local BMX track. HoS have been working with RDC to look at options for other sporting/outside areas, and ways to bring sports back into the heart of Sidley.

## What's next?

Heart of Sidley has a new two year plan beginning in April 2017.

<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
Website & Social Media	Keep both up to date
Welcome Pack	Produce a welcome pack for new residents, showing local services & sites, and update annually.
Noticeboards	Maintain our noticeboards with up-to-date information
<b>INVESTMENT &amp; ENTERPRISE</b>	
Social Enterprise	Help residents establish their own businesses and get training to help future aspirations.
Skills & Employment	Work with local providers to get people the skills they need and get into work.
Financial Inclusion	Work with local providers to get people the skills they need to better manage their finances.
Promote Local Businesses	HoS is establishing a Traders Team, empowered with their own budget to improve Sidley & its local economy
CHARTT	Large, multi-agency EU bid to bring significant resources to Sidley. Bid is progressing
<b>ENVIRONMENT, IMAGE &amp; COMMUNITY PRIDE</b>	
Village Signs	Install 'Welcome to Sidley' signs at both ends of the village; one in 2017 & one in 2018.
High Street Tubs & Baskets	Maintain the planters HoS installed.
Xmas High Street Lights	The Traders Team will be taking this forward in 2017.
Sidley In Bloom	HoS continues to organise this local competition.
Clean Up Days	HoS will work with the Scouts or other local group to continue these.
Events	HoS will hold a summer funday, 2 days out, an Xmas event, and promote Sidley Carnival.
<b>COMMUNITY PROJECTS</b>	
Young Peoples Project	HoS has commissioned Digit and Community Link to provide weekly activities.
Community Lunch	Weekly hot lunch & social club for our older community, now held at the New Inn.
Disability Access Research	Research to identify needed access improvements. We are looking for an external organisation to commission to undertake this.
Small Grants Fund	HoS aims to invest £25,000 annually in local initiatives and projects.
Community Hub	We are looking for an appropriate site to create a flagship, sustainable community centre for Sidley.
Sporting Facilities	We're working with Bexhill Burners to improve the local BMX track and help with match funding grant applications.

