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## SEA INVASION: 70 YEARS SINCE GREAT FLOOD

SEE PAGES 13-16

# £20M blow to regeneration bid

### Ambitious plans now in doubt

The council's multi-million pound project to create a "new heart" for Gravesend town centre has been dealt a major blow.

The future of plans for St George's Square are in doubt after the team behind the regeneration missed out on £20 million from the government's Levelling Up fund.

The proposals included a new civic centre, theatre, leisure space and homes.

It was the second time a bid had been put in for cash from the fund, having "missed out by the narrowest of margins" in the first round.

A dejected council leader Cllr John Burden (Lab) said: "I am at a loss to understand the government's thinking here."

"Especially when I look at the other areas of Kent that have been successful and the fact that for both funding rounds Gravesend was identified as a priority one area for Levelling Up and yet here we are with nothing to show for it."

Businesses also expressed disappointment. The Panic Room owner Alex Souter said: "It would have been nice to have seen the government believing in our town and having faith we can deliver something great for its residents."

Gravesend's Conservative MP Adam Holloway refused to comment.

■ Full story - see page 5



An artist's impression of what might have been built had the Gravesend bid been successful

## INSIDE



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Path remains shut due to dumped tyres

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Super surgery plan delayed

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Fleet's league run-in hots up

SPORT



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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### GRAVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### PUBLICITY FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND RELATED MATTERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the following applications made to the Borough Council which require statutory publicity. Members of the public may inspect copies of the applications, the plans, and other documents submitted with them at the Civic Centre.

Members of the public may also view and comment on this application using Public Access on the Council's website. Log on to <http://plan.gravesham.gov.uk/online-applications/> and enter the application number and click on search.

#### DEVELOPMENT OR WORKS AFFECTING A LISTED BUILDING

**20221341 - Ashley Down Nursing Home, 29 Clarence Place, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1LD** - Application for Listed Building Consent in respect of the proposed remedial works to existing damaged roof

#### DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

**20221070 - Land South Of, Melliker Lane, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent** - Retrospective application for erection of security fence and gate

**20230011 - Tangle Trees, Wrotham Road, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent, DA13 0QA** - Erection of a first floor rear extension

**20230009 - 2F The Avenue, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0NA** - Erection of a dormer extension in the rear roof slope, raising the roof and conversion of the roof space to habitable rooms

**20230039 - Abbey Farm, Church Street, Higham, Rochester, Kent, ME3 7LS** - Erection of a two storey side extension

#### DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY

**20230029 - Land Adjoining Wildacre, Camer Road, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent** - Change of use from horse field to dog exercise and training field

Anyone wishing to make representations about this application should do so by writing to me at Civic Centre by **17 February 2022** quoting the application number.

**Wendy Lane** (BSc Hons, MSc, MA, MRTPI), Assistant Director (Planning)  
Civic Centre Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1AU

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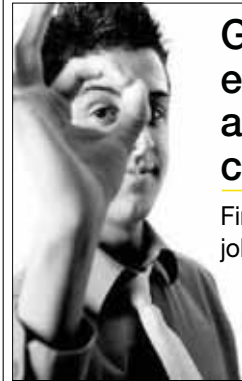
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# Red mist is a no-no

## Timekeeping riles Kutrieb

### ON-FIELD DISCIPLINE IS

### VITAL FOR FLEET BOSS

By Matthew Panting

**Ebbsfleet manager Dennis Kutrieb will remind his team to keep a cool head as the battle for league points heats up.**

The Fleet moved three points clear at the top of National League South on Tuesday night with a comfortable 3-1 win at Dulwich.

The hosts finished the game with 10 men after Sanchez Ming saw red for kicking out at Dominic Poleon off the ball. Kutrieb was pleased his team maintained their discipline in response.

"You can see a few teams are struggling in our league just because of their discipline," noted Kutrieb.

"We are not. We're very disciplined, I think we're second-best in the league with cards and that's a key point.

"You need to be focused, don't get distracted and let the referee deal with it. Fortunately, on Tuesday night they dealt with it very well. That's not always the case and you can feel a bit different on the pitch.

"But you need to be focused and don't get distracted with any stupid decisions or yellow cards. So far, so good, we've been good this season and we need to make sure it stays positive."

Kutrieb and his opposite number Paul Barnes were both booked by referee Stephen Parkinson, who got all the big decisions correct.

But the Fleet boss explained those cautions were more for the benches reacting to the flashpoint which occurred right in front of the away dugout.

"The referee said he had to book me as both benches were going at each other a little bit and I have to sort it out," said Kutrieb.

"I couldn't sort it out as I was

taking care of Dom, I got the booking like the other manager as well. It was just because we're responsible for our benches and he was not happy how they reacted.

"I just wanted to make sure Dom did nothing stupid. It was a clear red, a nasty kick, so well done to the referee. He had a really good game, he booked someone for a nasty foul early on in the game and it's not often in this league that referees book someone before half-time.

"The linesman saw the kick. Dom should do better but he only pushed his opponent so it's not a red card, it's a yellow. I would say it was a really good decision from both the referee and the linesman."

The result and performance were a far cry from Ebbsfleet's last trip to Dulwich, which ended in a 5-2 defeat last season.

While the contrast underlined how far the Fleet have come under Kutrieb's tutelage, he was quick to point out that Dulwich are a different outfit from last term.

"Last season the team for them was different as well," said Kutrieb. "We have to be honest and we don't get carried away comparing the result from last season to this season.

"They had a very good team last season, just one example is Darren McQueen scored for them last season and then scored for us this time.

"It was a much more mature performance from us this season. Last season we gave it away cheaply, conceding stupid goals early in the second half.

"This time it was much better, especially after the third goal and red card it was game over.

"If I have to moan about something then we have to score more goals once it goes to 3-1 and 10 men, but I understand the boys have to play again on



**Dartford and Gravesham's Jacob Da Costa hits his stride in the intermediate boys' race in the Kent Schools Cross-Country Championships at Central Park on Saturday.**  
Report and more pictures, page 27 Picture: Simon Hildrew (62046570)

Saturday so that's fine as we wanted to keep the ball."

Ebbsfleet have won their last four league games in a row and host relegation-threatened Concord at Stonebridge Road this Saturday.

The Fleet boss added: "We

had nine wins in a row at the beginning of the season and everyone was saying how good we were.

"We got battered twice on Boxing Day and New Year's Day and everything was bad, [people said] we needed to change

everything and get new players. "Now four wins is fine but we know exactly what we need and what we want. The next three points are up for grabs on Saturday and we need to make sure we're as sharp as we were on Tuesday."

Dennis Kutrieb admitted he was "fuming" after Ebbsfleet arrived late for their midweek game at Dulwich.

The Fleet didn't make it to the ground until 7.40pm, with the kick-off delayed 20 minutes in total, after the team coach was stuck in traffic.

The players didn't need to walk to the ground in the end but they got changed on the team coach to save time.

"The players were all right, they were not bothered, but for me it was a headache," said Kutrieb.

"I'm a perfectionist anyway but if we're not here on time you start to watch the clock, every two minutes. I was fuming, to be honest, but it is what it is and the boys adapted very well.

"We needed to make sure the other cars could clear up the street, we couldn't pass and were stuck in traffic - it was not moving forward or backwards so everyone had to get out and try to organise something so we could get through.

"We needed to get ready with the kit as we didn't have much time to warm-up. We were sitting around anyway so we got changed on the bus, then when we got to the ground they put their boots on and went out for the warm-up."

The Fleet also had traffic encounters on the journey to Hungerford earlier this season.

"I apologise for getting here late, it's the second time this season and it shouldn't happen," Kutrieb said.

"We need to be better prepared so I'm not happy about it.

"We will sort it out. The most important thing was to get the three points, now we can recover and go again."

Kutrieb also confirmed the club are closing in on a deal for a new signing. The unnamed midfielder will be the first fresh face in the squad since the start of the season.

With Craig Tanner and Kieran Monlouis both out injured, Kutrieb is keen to get an extra body on board.

"There might be someone," said Kutrieb. "There are a few negotiations going on but I can't say anything more."

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