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Mrs Karen Ripley
Salehurst and Robertsbridge Parish Council
The Parish Office
Youth Centre
The Grove
George Hill
Robertsbridge

09/01/2023

Dear Karen

I am the community line development officer for the 1066 Hastings to Tonbridge Line for Southeast Communities Rail Partnership CIC. We are a non-profit organisation who are working to join communities up with their stations and railway and make them welcoming places to be. At Robertsbridge Station you already have some very attractive gardens and planters which have been created by Southeastern ticket office staff member Ross in his own time, local volunteers and members of the 'Incredible Edibles' group. Ross and the volunteers are again this year, hoping to put on and maintain a lovely floral display. They have asked me if I could put together and application for funding and I am happy to do this as the gardening team have shown so much dedication in caring for the station.

Involvement of the community and improving the appearance and cared for feeling of stations has been shown nationwide to reduce anti-social behaviour experienced at stations which I know can on occasion be an issue at Robertsbridge. Last year Ross got the help of the Friary Gardeners, part of the Parchment trust, a registered charity serving People with Autism who arranged the delivery of the plants and attended to do the planting.

I know that the council have in the past supported this project with a grant and I would be very grateful if the parish could consider supporting with a financial contribution of £200 towards the cost of the planting displays again this year.

Your support would greatly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Andy Pope
1066 Hastings to Tonbridge Line Development Officer
Southeast Communities Rail Partnership