

**MEETING OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held at The Guildhall, Faversham, on Wednesday 16 May 2018

**Present:** The Mayor Cllr Abram, Cllrs Wade, Walker, Wilcox, Cosgrove, Kay, Campbell

In attendance

Louise Bareham, FTC Town Clerk – Secretary

**87. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Belsom

**88. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

**89. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

The previous minutes were approved.

**90. Standing Orders**

The new model standing orders were noted and the following were considered: length of time allowed to speak on motions; in the event of a disruptive meeting then the public should leave, not the councillors; the standing orders should refer to mayor and not chairman.

**Action: Town Clerk to draft**

**91. Financial Regulations**

It was noted that the regulations should include electronic payments.

**Action: Town Clerk to draft**

**92. Guildhall Quinquennial Report**

It was agreed that fire safety was most important, while the other items could be done over time. The Town Caretaker was working through the document and requesting quotations for the works.

**Action: Town Caretaker to provide an action report**

**93. People & Places Report**

It was agreed that the Business Officer should consider specific actions for business support and any items for the next budget.

**Action: Business Officer to provide an action report**

**94. Looking Ahead**

A discussion took place on the Looking Ahead document. It was agreed that there was an infrastructure problem on the A251. The Duchy had held an informative workshop, decisions need to be made how developments connect across the A2 to be part of the town. There is also land to the north of the A2 which could join up with Love Lane development for cohesion. Questions were raised if any new development crossed the boundary of Swale and Canterbury and whether the M2 would be increased to 3 lanes. It was noted that Swale was running out of

commercial land. There is also a need to understand individual developers and the implication of Faversham doubling in size. Where would employment be, what is the payback for the town? How to make a contribution to community building in employment. Garden cities had now been removed from the planning policy.

Cllr Wilcox noted that we would not get the infrastructure with piecemeal development. Cllr Cosgrove felt the Town Council should not have a position but keep a close eye on progress. However, Cllr Wade felt the concept would not be successful without community pull and that the Duchy was different to other developers, more inclusive and that the Town Council needed to make a positive response as the list of previously rejected sites would resurface. Cllr Kay agreed there was a need to see everything on offer. Cllr Cosgrove suggested a series of tutorials.

Cllr Wade will be taking over the Faversham Future Forum to build on community links, but expectations needed to be managed.

#### **95. Strategic Plan**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

#### **96. Quality Council**

Quality Council application was noted.

**Action: Town Clerk to take forward**

#### **97. Date of Next Meeting**

18<sup>th</sup> July