

AT A MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL held at The Guildhall, Faversham, on Monday 9 July 2018

Present: The Mayor, T Abram, Deputy Mayor, M Cosgrove, Cllrs B Mulhern, E J Wilcox, A J Walker, D Simmons, N Kay, S Campbell, G Wade, C Belsom, N Green, A Hook

In attendance: Adrienne Begent, Deputy Town Clerk

Questions from Members of the public are recorded as an annex to the minutes.

469. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Martin due to work commitments, and Cllr Flower on holiday. It was proposed by the Mayor, Cllr Abram, and, on being put to the meeting, it was:

RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllrs Martin and Flower

470. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Wilcox	Minute 473	DNPI
-------------	------------	------

471. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings of Faversham Town Council held 11th June were approved by Members and signed by the Mayor as a correct record. Cllr B Mulhern praised the WFCC for their excellent Pride event.

472. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's announcements were noted.

473. COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

It was confirmed that Faversham in Bloom were now in possession of the Permit to Cultivate and that the flower beds outside Faversham Veterinary Clinic and Tassells Solicitors in South Road would be planted in the winter.

It was proposed by Cllr Belsom, seconded by Cllr Abram and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council pays 50% of the cost subject to the Faversham Society paying the 50%***

It was proposed by Cllr Belsom, seconded by Cllr Mulhern and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Community Services Committee.**

474. HERITAGE COMMITTEE

The meeting discussed the hard work involved in submitting the HLF bid.

It was proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Abram and being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council acknowledges grateful thanks for the contributions everyone made to bid including Harold Goodwin, John Owen, Lyn Newton and Marion Goodhew.**

The possibility of displaying the War Memorial Gate at 12 Market Place was discussed. It was proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Simmons and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to explore the possibility of the gate being displayed at 12 Market Place.**

It was proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Wade and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Heritage Committee.**

475. WW1 Working Group

The minutes of the WW1 Working Group were received.

The meeting noted that a Commemorative Magazine was being produced by Christine and Steve Rayner which had the Councils support.

476. 20's PLENTY WORKING GROUP

The minutes of the 20's plenty working group were received.

The meeting concurred that it was imperative that this group had a clear strategy for the future in place by the end of the year.

477. CLEVEHILL SOLAR PARK

Mr Michael Wilcox, Chair of Graveney Rural Environment Action Team (GREAT) had given an informative presentation to the Council at the start of the meeting. He had carefully summarised the main objections that GREAT had to the proposed Solar Park.

It was proposed by Cllr Cosgrove, seconded by Cllr Walker and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the Mayor should be given delegated power to draft the Councils response to the Phase 2 community consultation.**

478. HIGHWAYS ENGLAND – OPERATION STACK LISTENING EXERCISE

The meeting discussed Highways England’s Operation Stack Listening Exercise and considered that Operation Stack was a UK wide problem not Kent specific. Further, four comments were noted for submission:

- 1) The Highways England model should be for traffic flows throughout England and not limited to traffic movement in Kent.
- 2) Sites identified should be the most suitable for Kent.
- 3) A good policy would be to restrict unauthorised lorries stopping in laybys, and provide facilities at additional designated sites.
- 4) Highways England should investigate the possibility of developing alternative ports for example Sheerness and Ramsgate to take some pressure of Dover and the surrounding infrastructure.

479. WEIGHT RESTRICTION REQUEST TO JTB

Cllr Kay proposed the motion The Town Council deplores the increasing frequency of HGVs throughout the Town’s road network. It is proposed that we write to The Swale Joint Transport Board requesting restrictions by lorries over 7.5tons along the town roads except for access. It also calls on The JTB to set up a weighbridge and inspection operation at the junction of the Oare Road and Western link to ensure that any heavy, overloaded or unsafe HGVs can be monitored before they travel through the town or along The A2 through Ospringe

Cllr Hook thanked Cllrs Kay and Cosgrove for proposing and seconding the motion. He expressed thanks to Mr C Oswald-Jones and all the volunteers that had worked tirelessly on lorry watch. He commented that the proposed weight restriction in Faversham would make the town safer for both pedestrians and cyclists.

Cllr Wilcox expressed his full support for the motion. He raised the concern that diverted traffic would use other roads in the network and possibly the motion should be for all roads.

Cllr Simmons voiced his support of the motion and suggested amending *The JTB to set up a weighbridge to The Relevant Authority set up...* This amendment was approved by Cllr Kay and Cosgrove.

Cllr Kay concluded that the proposed weight restriction would be beneficial to the historic buildings in Faversham and Ospringe.

It was proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Cosgrove and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the motion The Town Council deplores the increasing frequency of HGVs throughout the Town's road network. It is proposed that we write to The Swale Joint Transport Board requesting restrictions by lorries over 7.5tons along the town roads except for access. It also calls on The relevant authority to set up a weighbridge and inspection operation at the junction of the Oare Road and Western link to ensure that any heavy, overloaded or unsafe HGVs can be monitored before they travel through the town or along The A2 through Ospringe**

The vote was unanimous.

480. PLASTIC FREE FAVERSHAM

Cllr Kay proposed the motion The Town Council supports Plastic Free Faversham and congratulates them on their successful litter pick. The Council passes a resolution to support Plastic Free Coastlines, committing to plastic free alternatives and supporting plastic free initiatives within the town.

Cllr Simmons commented that the real problem was single use plastics but it was correct that the motion should be broad and cover all plastic usage. Education on the correct disposal of plastics is important as is finding alternative materials for packaging etc.

Cllr Wade endorsed the motion and commented that the Swimming Pool would also be considering its plastic use.

Cllr Mulhern supported plastic reduction in Faversham but considered it would be difficult to implement policy during the Carnival and Hop Festival.

Cllr Hook proposed that the Town Council should look at reducing its plastic usage in the office. In turn it should ask all events in the Town and recipients of grants to consider their usage and policies.

It was proposed by Cllr Kay, seconded by Cllr Simmons and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the motion The Town Council supports Plastic Free Faversham and congratulates them on their successful litter pick. The Council passes a resolution to**

support Plastic Free Coastlines, committing to plastic free alternatives and supporting plastic free initiatives within the town.

The vote was unanimous.

481. 20's PLENTY WORKING GROUP

Members considered membership of the 20's Plenty Working Group.

It was proposed by Cllr Hook, seconded by Cllr Wade that Cllr Belsom should be a substitute member of the group.

The vote was unanimous.

482. FIRST QUARTER EXPENDITURE AGAINST BUDGET REPORT

Members received the First Quarter Budget Report.

It was proposed by Cllr Wade, seconded by Cllr Mulhern that the report should be accepted.

The vote was unanimous.

ANNEX

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Resident 1: Highlighted concerns of lorries using West Street. The street should not be compared to Ospringe Street which is an A road. At its narrowest point West Street is only 3.5m wide and the lorries are 2m. There are 20 Listed buildings on West Street which are being damaged, as well as dangers to pedestrians and cyclists.

Resident 2: The news has recently covered the death of a child from air pollution. Ospringe Street air quality is in breach of European guidelines. Will the Town Council start taking air pollution seriously and start pressurising for the Ospringe by pass?

Resident 3: The proposed Solar Farm at Cleve Hill would be detrimental to the Town of Faversham. The increased risk of flooding for the town if the development proceeds has not been fully investigated in the flood risk plan.