

**AT A MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL** held at The Guildhall, Faversham, on Monday 8 April 2019

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

Absent: N Green

In attendance: Louise Bareham, Town Clerk

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

**619. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**620. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**621. MINUTES**

It was proposed by the Mayor and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Meetings of Faversham Town Council held 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.***

**622. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Cosgrove extended the Council's thanks to the Mayor, Cllr Abram, for representing Faversham and attending events on behalf of the Town.

**623. PUBLIC REALM GROUP**

Cllr Wilcox noted the outbreak of graffiti which had taken place around the town, the night before the meeting and the need for the Town Council to have its own graffiti buster. No parking at the rear of 12 Market Place will become enforceable in September once the order has been confirmed. The taxi parking has already dealt with. The KCC Officer, Alan Blackburn, is aware of the state of the roads around Faversham but the lack of funds is delaying all the work being carried out. Cllr Martin asked if a list could be provided of the planned work. Cllr Hook noted at every JTB a performance dashboard was presented.

It was proposed by Cllr Wilcox, seconded by Cllr Belsom and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to loan St Nicholas Allotment site £10,000 from the PRG Earmarked Reserves in lieu of Section 106 funds becoming available.**

It was proposed by the Mayor and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Public Realm Group**

#### **624. 20'S PLENTY WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Hook noted PJA's report to produce specific proposals for traffic calming had been forwarded to KCC. He also advised KCC were revising their own framework as there was no written policy for 20mph. Cllr Simmons thanked Amanda Russell for leading the campaign on 20's Plenty for Faversham. He reiterated the professionalism of the technical note produced by PJA and confirmed that the working group would be consulting with public during the Transport Weekend in 12 Market Place

It was proposed by the Mayor and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED accept the Minutes of the 20's Plenty Working Group**

#### **625. AIR QUALITY**

Cllr Simmons highlighted the work carried out by SBC resulting in a clean air zone on the A2 being the most popular with residents. Once approved SBC would work with KCC on approaching developers for funding. Concerns were raised that this would see HGVs using the town centre to bypass the zone, so an HGV restriction area was proposed. Most of the local businesses used modern lorries and would not be affected by the proposals. Cllr Flower thought alternative routes should be considered such as Junction 5A and an Ospringe bypass. Cllrs Wilcox and Hook both expressed their support, considering it to be a step in the right direction. It was proposed by Cllr Simmons, seconded by Cllr Kay and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to agree the resolution "The Faversham Town Council welcomes the Swale Borough Council Air Quality Action Plan 2018-2022, and supports the strategic and local actions for the Air Quality Management Area in Ospringe Street. Faversham Town Council urges Swale Borough Council to create an HGV restriction area to work alongside the implementation of the Low Emission Zone on the A2 in Ospringe".**

**626. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

It was proposed by the Mayor and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to agree the payments***

## ANNEX

Laurence Young raised concerns, on behalf of local residents, regarding the increased volume of traffic using the Bysing Wood Road, Dark Hill, West Street route to and from the town centre; the increase in on-street parking by non-residents and the difficulty in crossing at the junction of Old Gate Road and Tanners Street, which is a direct route for many to Davington School.

Cllr Cosgrove agreed it was a vexing issue and suggested the issues were raised at the JTB. Cllr Hook had asked if a zebra crossing could be installed but the area did not meet the criteria; the suggestion instead being an island or widening the footpath. As KCC Member he was only allowed one project at a time, which was currently Whitstable Road. Cllr Kay supported the proposal that the issue be raised at JTB.

Findlay Macdonald thanked Cllrs Mulhern, Abram, Wilcox and Campbell for their work over the past four years.

Eddie Jaynes expressed concern regarding the rugby club on the Rec and the proposed increase to rent they were facing from SBC and the uncertainty over the running of the kiosk. He asked if FTC could help with the negotiations.

Cllr Cosgrove congratulated the rugby club on its success but suggested it may be premature to give a reply before being advised of all the information, and thought third representation could be considered. Cllr Simmons congratulated the club on its success for the season. He explained that SBC had received lottery funding to upgrade the Rec and he was determined to see the rugby club remain there. He suggested that the rugby club could run the kiosk concession. Cllr Kay noted the town council was very supportive of the rugby club.

Brian Pain noted that he could not make sense of Cllr Kay's statement and asked for further information on the two accountants and what financial argument was given to support the purchase of 12 Market Place.

Cllr Wade noted that the 2020 Town Action Plan included a point to build on the capacity of the town council, to operate more in the heart of the community and he couldn't remember working more closing than the town council did now. He thought it was heartening the number of people having a role in the new building.