

THE MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL held at The Guildhall, Faversham, on Monday 13 January 2020, 7pm

Present:

The Mayor Cllr A Reynolds	Cllr K Barker	Cllr C Williams
Cllr E Thomas	Cllr D Knights	Cllr B J Martin
Cllr C Jackson	Cllr J Saunders	Cllr J Irwin

In attendance: Louise Bareham, Town Clerk

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

142. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Blair due to work commitments. It was proposed by Cllr Barker, seconded by Cllr Knights, and, on being put to the meeting, it was **RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllrs Belsom, T Martin, Hook, Perkin, Blair**

143. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None

144. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS TO REPORT

It was proposed by Cllr B J Martin, seconded by Cllr Jackson and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council held on 9th December 2019.**

145. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor, Cllr Reynolds reported on events attended.

146. HERITAGE COMMITTEE

The Swale Borough Council Heritage Strategy consultation was noted and Ward Members were asked for comments to be sent to the Town Clerk. Cllr Thomas proposed the amendment of *the* MP to *our* MP, seconded by Cllr Irwin. It was proposed by Cllr Irwin, seconded by Cllr Knights and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Heritage Committee**

147. FORBES ROAD

Cllr B J Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Thomas and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council notes with great concern the poor safety record of the Forbes Road Zebra Crossing. This council shares the concerns of local residents, and notes that another Road Traffic Incident occurred on the crossing in December, resulting in the hospitalisation of a pedestrian.**

This council is also aware of an incident on the same crossing on January 11th 2014 which resulted in the death of a local resident.

This council believes that pedestrian safety should be a priority for the local highways authority, and that pedestrians should be able to use crossings without fearing for their safety.

Faversham Town Council will write to Nikola Floodgate, Kent County Council's Schemes Planning and Delivery Manager and to the KCC cabinet Member for Highways to highlight the need for urgent safety improvement action.

148. PRESTON STREET

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Barker and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the Public Spaces Committee review speeding and parking issues in Preston Street and the town centre generally.**

149. FAVERSHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Irwin, Chair of the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, provided an update.

150. KCC 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTATION

The Strategic Plan Consultation was noted.

151. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

It was proposed by Cllr Barker, seconded by Cllr Knights and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to agree the payments**

It was Resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items

of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be transacted.

152. KALC COMMUNITY AWARD

It was proposed by Cllr Barker, seconded by Cllr Reynolds and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED agree the winner of the KALC Community Award and 2 Mayoral Certificates to be announced at the Annual Town Meeting on 23 March 2020***

153. STAFFING - TOIL POLICY

It was proposed by Cllr B J Martin, seconded by Cllr Knights and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to adopt the Time of in Lieu Policy (TOIL)***

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

ANNEX

A presentation was given by Jude Sach and Alan Thorne of the St Ayles Skiffs a community boat building project taking place in the Purifier Building.

Mr C Oswald Jones questioned the area of the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan area.

Cllr Irwin confirmed that as Faversham was the qualifying body, it did not have jurisdiction in other areas, there may be a possibility either joint plans; cooperating with neighbouring areas; sharing ideas. He confirmed that Members had already met with neighbouring parish councils.

Cllr Barker apologized for any confusion regarding public access to the Steering Group meeting and noted a miscommunication, noting that initial debates were sensitive and it was reasonable for them to be closed. However, full transparency will be observed as the group will be reporting direct to the Town Council.

Mr P Flower complimented the Council on its Youth Café and asked whether the young people would be interested in bellringing, as St Mary's Church were looking for more ringers.

Cllr Irwin suggested Mr Flower consider having an information stand the Youth Information Day on Saturday 8th February.

Mr P Flower noted the Heritage Harbour Group had a presentation from the bridge contractors, who had raised the issue that they did not know who to speak to. He raised concerns about the dredging required in the Creek and the issues around Peel Ports' responsibilities. He raised further concerns regarding the lack of cycle ramps to the underpass at the railway and asked whether Network Rail could be persuaded to install ramps.

Cllr Saunders confirmed the Council's intention to have more shared paths, without designated lines as it was not the current practice.

Cllr B J Martin had already contacted Network Rail regarding ramps who would not give permission because under conservation law they would require planning

permission, they had also noted that they were not safe and the steps were not wide enough.

Mr MacDonald asked the Council to police the absence of Councillors and said the Deputy Mayor should be stripped of the title, as she was not representing the town. He further noted that Cllr Hook was in the top 60 of 751 MEPs, but he was not the top councillor that evening. He asked the Council to do something,;stop accepting apologies and to summon the Deputy Mayor to explain her absence.

Cllr B J Martin noted that Cllr Hook was looking forward to resuming his duties.