

THE MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL held at the Guildhall, Faversham, on Monday 10th February 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
Cllr H Perkin	Cllr T Martin	Cllr A Hook

In attendance: Louise Bareham, Town Clerk

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

The Mayor Cllr A Reynolds announced the resignation of Ms Blair and Ms Belsom. Cllrs Barker, Perkin and Jackson all thanked Ms Blair and Ms Belsom for their work on the council.

159. APOLIGIES FOR ABSENCE

No absences were received, and all councillors were in attendance.

160. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Saunders declares a non-pecuniary interest on Item 12 and discloses that the Cllr is now a presenter on Radio Faversham.

Cllr T Martin declares a non-pecuniary interest on Item 12.

161. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS TO REPORT

Cllr Thomas wanted to provide an update on the underpass, and Cllr Thomas reported being in touch with Network Rail.

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, 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 13th January 2020 and 20th January 2020.***

162. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The MAYOR, Cllr Reynolds reported on recent events attended and discussed new blog to be put on Faversham Town Council about future events attended.

163. PUBLIC SPACES COMMITTEE

Cllr Thomas wished to highlight the work of the Facilities Manager and the work undertaken to clean up graffiti. It was proposed that we could look at borrowing Swale Borough Council's jet-wash, instead of purchasing its own.

It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Williams and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Public Spaces Committee.***

164. 20'S PLENTY COMMITTEE

Cllr Thomas thanked the work of the Members of the public who sit on the committee. It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Saunders and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the 20's Plenty Committee.**

165. CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY COMMITTEE

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that applicants of the Faversham Town Council Community Grant provide a sustainability plan and answer environmental mitigation questions as part of the application procedure.**

Cllr Perkin put the recommendation that all food served by Faversham Town Council at events is 100% vegan to the Council.

Cllr Knights proposed an amendment, seconded by the Mayor, Cllr Reynolds, to make it a 50/50 option instead. The amendment was put to the Council, **5 voted for the amendment, 6 against and 1 abstention and the amendment failed.**

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Williams and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that all food served by Faversham Town Council at events is 100% vegan. The motion passed with 7 votes for it, 2 against and 3 abstentions.**

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Perkin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Committee.**

166. POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

It was proposed by Cllr B J Martin, seconded by Cllr Barker and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee.**

167. STAFFING COMMITTEE

It was proposed by Cllr Irwin, seconded by Cllr Jackson and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to co-opt Cllr Irwin as a Member on the Staffing Committee.**

168. FAVERSHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Irwin, Chair of the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, provided an update. No minutes had yet been circulated.

It was proposed by Cllr Irwin, seconded by Barker and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve the motion to enter into an agreement with Urban Vision.**

169. PUBLIC HIGHWAYS AND DEVELOPMENT SITES

Cllr Thomas spoke of writing to Swale Planning Enforcement to ensure public highways stay safe and clear of mud and debris from the numerous housing development sites.

An amendment was proposed by Cllr B J Martin, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council writes to Swale Planning Enforcement and Kent County Council to ask what action has been taken, and will be taken, to ensure that the many housing developments across Faversham adhere to the planning conditions attached to their approval. Particularly in regard to their responsibility to ensure that mud and debris from their sites are not transferred to the public highway.***

170. TOWN TWINNING

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Jackson and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that following the UK's recent departure from the European Union, the Town Council wishes to re-confirm the town's commitment to its twinning with Hazebrouck in northern France, a relationship which has existed for over fifty years. It notes the warm hospitality Hazebrouck councillors and residents always show towards visitors from Faversham and it hopes to continue working with the Faversham Town Twinning Association to promote friendship and understanding between the people of the two towns.***

171. NEWSLETTER

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Perkin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to approve the Spring Newsletter with a few amendments to be made.***

172. ST MARY'S VE75 FLOWER FESTIVAL

The Mayor, Cllr Reynolds, spoke of the invitation by St Mary of Charity's Church invitation to provide a floral arrangement or sponsor a display for the VE75 Flower Festival.

An amendment was proposed by Cllr B J Martin, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that two arrangements would be provided; one by the Council and one by the Mayor, at a maximum cost of £500.*** It was also noted by Cllr Hook, that these flowers should try to be sourced locally.

173. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

It was proposed by Cllr Barker, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to agree the receipts and approve the payments.***

The meeting closed at 8:55pm.

ANNEX

Mr MacDonald questioned the quotes received by the Public Spaces Committee for Forbes Road repairs to the footpath and asked why the Town Council were paying, as it should be KCC's responsibility.

Cllr Thomas had asked KCC to undertake the work, but as it was not a safety issue it was not considered to be a priority. However, Cllr Thomas felt as a gateway to the town the Town Council should take responsibility.

Mr MacDonald felt he was 'paying twice'. He further went on to admit he had posted the flyers regarding the Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Barker said the Deputy Mayor had left due to pressure of work and thought it was a terrible act to mock her in public.

Mr Taylor raised issued of the foul sewage at the Love Lane development and how it may affect properties in Cyprus Road.

Cllr Perkin confirmed that Abbey Ward Members were meeting with him the following day but there was little SBC appeared to be able to do. She hoped that Cllr Hook would be able to do something at county level.

Cllr B J Martin confirmed that houses in Love Lane were already being occupied and two sewage areas had already blocked and Southern Water were carrying out investigative works. He confirmed that Southern Water had a legal obligation to provide sufficient capacity, the Environment Agency were involved but had no powers to force the work.