

Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council

Monday 7 September 2020, 7pm

Present:

The Mayor, Cllr A Reynolds	Cllr A Hook
Deputy Mayor, Cllr T Martin	Cllr C Jackson
Cllr B J Martin	Cllr E Thomas
Cllr H Perkin	Cllr D Knights
Cllr Saunders	Cllr C Williams
Cllr K Barker	Cllr J Irwin

In attendance:

Louise Bareham – Town Clerk

262. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hooks, Saunders, and B J Martin. It was proposed by the Mayor, Cllr Reynolds, and, on being put to the meeting, it was **RESOLVED to accept the apologies of all Councillors.**

263. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None

264. **Previous Minutes and Matters to Report**

It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Thomas and on being put to the meeting. **RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Meeting dated 3 August 2020.**

265. **Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor noted how the community and councillors have been working hard on community projects such as 20's Plenty and The Neighbourhood Plan. The Mayor, Cllr Reynolds reported on the recent events and projects that she has attended.

266. **20's Plenty Committee**

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 20's Plenty Committee dated 3 September 2020.**

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 20's Plenty Committee dated 2 July 2020.**

267. **Climate and Biodiversity Committee**

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting, it was ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council adopt the draft Pesticide Free Town Action Plan, which will be reviewed regularly.***

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Deputy Mayor, Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Committee dated 13 July 2020***

268. **Public Spaces Committee**

It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Perkin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Public spaces Committee dated 23 July 2020***

269. **Policy and Finance Committee**

It was proposed by the Cllr Barker, seconded by Cllr Knight and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee dated 27 July 2020.***

270. **Faversham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

It was proposed by Cllr Barker, seconded by The Mayor, Cllr Reynolds and on being put to the meeting, it was ***RESOLVED for Faversham Town Councillors to accept the quotation from Breakthrough Communications for work on the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan.***

It was proposed by the Cllr Irwin, seconded by Cllr Barker and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group dated 20 July 2020.***

271. **Town Marketing Group**

It was proposed by Cllr Knights, seconded by Deputy Mayor T Martin and on being put to the meeting, it was ***RESOLVED to accept the recommendation that one way vinyl is placed on the windows at 12 Market Place, depicting imagines which will be finalised via email.***

Cllr Perkin suggested further signage should be added to the town gates, to inform potential delivery drivers about the nearest loading bay.

It was proposed by the Deputy May, Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Knights and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Town Marketing Group dated 19th August***

Cllr B J Martin joined the Meeting at 19.56

272. **Manston Airport**

It was proposed by Cllr Irwin, seconded by Deputy Mayor T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council will write an objection letter to Manston Airport Developer expressing the opposition regarding the design option of the Airport, which includes the holding pattern over Faversham.***

Cllr Hook joined the Meeting at 20.09

273. **A251/A2 Junction Consultation**

Cllr B J Martin expressed concern towards the A251/A2 Junction design for cyclist and pedestrians, due to the lack of infrastructure and footpath on the southern side of A2/Watling Street. It was also suggested that in principle Faversham Town Council should support improvement to this junction.

It was proposed by Cllr Irwin, seconded by Cllr Hook and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council should put forward a response indicating the inadequacies of the plans. It was noted that the lack of pedestrian crossings on the A2 should also be highlighted within the response and a site meeting be requested.***

Cllr Saunders joined the Meeting at 20.22

274 **Planning for the Future White Paper Consultation**

Cllr B J Martin noted that changes to the current planning system would result in the housing quota of 1048 per annum, increasing to 1480 per annum, which were not deliverable. He further noted that permission had been granted nationally to over one million units which had not been built that land was being banked by developers and that the proposal was to increase the size of small developments from 10 to 50, which would not be subject to Section 106 agreements. Cllr B J Martin in response, Faversham Town Council need to make it clear and state that changes resulting in changes to the standard method of calculation for growth were unacceptable. Cllr Irwin and Thomas agreed.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr B J Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council write to the MP to express concern about the White Paper, proposed housing numbers and how the developers would have little support among the local population.***

275 **The Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Draft Management Plan 2020**

It was expressed that the consultation was brought to the councillors' attention at a late point in time, which made it difficult for some councillors to comment on before the deadline.

It was suggested that sooner access to documentations would be preferable, as councillors could then have the time to digest the information. The consultation was noted.

276 **Autumn Newsletter**

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Williams and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the draft Winter 2020 Newsletter subject to minor amendments***

278 **Receipts and Payments**

It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Perkin ***RESOLVED to accept the payments and the Shand Fire Pump will be added to the Policy and Finance Agenda.***

Cllr Perkin expressed the Town Council's thanks to the Faversham Salvation Army, who have been running the community wardrobe over the summer holidays and supporting the local community.

Cllr B J Martin highlighted how important it is for members of the public to take part in the consultations, such as the 20's plenty and A2/A251 Junction.

ANNEX

At the full Town Council meeting of 11 May 2020 a question was raised from the public gallery regarding the section 106 money due to Faversham towards the cost of refurbishing the St Nicholas allotments. The response from Cllr. Hook was that the promised money had not been received and needed to be pursued.

I have listened to the audio recording of the Swale Borough Council meeting of 30 April 2020 and I quote the comments of Cllr. Simmons regarding the boundary fence:

(extract)

“You will see that the section 106 agreement should come in on the occupation of the 63rd dwelling. To the best of my knowledge, none of those dwellings are currently occupied. And so, through the agreement of officers, I managed to broker an agreement that the money be released earlier to allow fencing to go ahead.”

Assuming funds are still outstanding, my questions are then:

1. Following Cllr. Hook's comments on 11 May 2020, may I please have an update as to what has been done during the past four months to expedite release of this money?
2. It is my understanding that costs paid by Faversham in June 2019, in respect of the fence, were in the region of £20,000. How much are you hopeful of receiving from Swale?

Response

1. We have not pursued the funding from the S106 in the last four months. You may not be aware, as it was not clear to me, but SBC have not actually passed planning permission for the fencing as yet. They have asked us to undertake mitigation measures, before doing so. Adam has now emailed Graham Thomas on several occasions asking for a site meeting to discuss these possible mitigations, it would seem that SBC only has issue with the height of the fence which runs adjacent to the houses, but by cutting off the top of the fence the site is made insecure. It would be helpful for Graham to meet on site so he can see the height of the fence in relation to the Bovis site.
2. Adam is in regular in contact with the Bovis site manager and has seen their plans and the proposed footpaths do not go through the middle of the allotment site, but go either side.

Mr C Oswald Jones

I write as a registered Elector and Council Tax Contributor concerning the Town Council's St.Nicholas Allotment Site Security Fencing.

The Western stretch was damaged by the [former owner Linden Homes South East] development contractor during the sheet-piling earth retention works December 2019 through March 2020.

When will Bovis Homes, who amalgamated with Linden Homes South East, reinstate into a vertical attitude, the Town Council's high cost asset boundary security fence

Response

The Facilities Manager has this in hand