

Notes from the Faversham Future Forum dated 26th September 2019

Present: Geoff Wade (GW), Sue Akhurst (SA), Cllr Claire Belsom(CCB), Claire Boraston (CB), Janice Ely (JE), Roger Ely (RE), Harold Goodwin (HG), Debbie Lawther (DL), Findlay Macdonald (FM), Cllr Ben J Martin (BJM), Linda Morrison (LM), Robert Morrison (RM), Maria Newman (MN), Chris Oswald-Jones (COJ), Cllr Hannah Perkin (HP) Amanda Russell (AR), James Somerville-Meikle (JSM), Tim Stonor (TS), Janet Turner (JT), Helen Whately (HW), Chris Wright (CW)

In attendance: Miss Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** A Gould, J Irwin, L McMahon, J Reeves, J Saunders, E Thomas, and C Williams

2. Notes from the previous meeting (8th August 2019)

Finlay Macdonald asked for it to be noted that the wording of Note 13 (Any Other Business) was incorrect, but he did not wish the wording to be amended,

The notes from 8th August were accepted.

3. Items for AOB

Area Committees.

4. Neighbourhood Plan

4.1.The Town Council is holding a feasibility workshop on Saturday 2nd November.

4.2.It is important that the work from this group is fed into the process

4.3.Future agendas for the Forum need to reflect the process and consider what is happening in neighbouring parishes.

4.4.Swale Borough Council is considering housing supply over the borough and junction 5.

4.5.Newton Road Surgery is already under immense pressure. They do not have the facilities for new houses without an extension.

4.6.The CCG needs to engage with planners at Swale Borough Council.

5. Community Land Trust/Swale Rural Lands Project

5.1.CB confirmed that a Special General Meeting had taken place on 25th September and the Faversham Community Land Trust was now officially incorporated as a community business society.

5.2.A meeting of directors would take place in October.

5.3.The trust is keen to increase its membership.

6. Future Health and Community Care Need

6.1. First official meeting of Primary Care Network linking Newton Road and Bank Street has taken place.

- 6.2. Every Primary Care Networks will be required to map need, the raw data will be very useful. The mapping will also be relevant for other agenda items including 20's plenty and transport.
- 6.3. A Health and Welfare Officer has been appointed at Swale Borough Council with the remit of health projects in Swale. The officer will be instructed to liaise with the Canterbury and Medway CCG's
- 6.4. An Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) will be formed working over a larger area.

ACTION: LM, HG and GW to attend next meeting of Primary Care Network in October.

7. Traffic and Transport

- 7.1. The Faversham Society has published a Pollution Assessment Project Draft Report.
- 7.2. Helen Whately informed the meeting that she had approached Swale Borough Council concerning increasing electric car infrastructure in Faversham and received a negative response from the Leader.
- 7.3. AR updated the forum on the 20's plenty. For the scheme to be implemented the Town Council needs to commission Phil Jones to undertake the next phase of work.
- 7.4. Kent County Council has designed a scheme for a surface crossing outside Abbey School. This has been requested by the school but with the completion and occupation of Perry Court this will become a significant route into town. The next stage is for a safety audit of the scheme to be completed. The bridge would remain in place.
- 7.5. EKR has received the planning permission it sought with conditions attached. One of the conditions is a limit to lorry movements. Kent County Council will only accept their own counts so there is a need for automatic counters to be fitted on the access road which is partially owned by Bretts.

ACTION: CW to forward draft report to AB for circulation to FFF members.

ACTION: HW to share the letter from leader of Swale Borough Council with Forum Members and ask Cllr T Valentine for an update.

ACTION: HW to put forward a suggestion from the community to Kent County Council asking Bretts to give permission for counters to be installed on the road.

8. Sewerage Treatment Capacity

- 8.1. The Environment Agency (EA) have confirmed that the current plan for sewerage works does not have capacity for additional dwellings.
- 8.2. The EA have no effective mechanisms in place for managing pollution
- 8.3. Abbey Fields residents are still trying to get the road fixed in order for it to be adopted by Kent County Council, when fixed it is likely that lorry movements to the sewage works will increase.

ACTION: HW to write to Southeast Water asking for an update on future provision and informing them that there is local concern that there doesn't appear to be a plan for additional capacity when the likelihood of new houses is so high.

ACTION: HP to ask Town Clerk to arrange for Southeast Water to attend a Town Council meeting again

ACTION: HW to lobby how water companies are monitored

9. Creek

9.1. The fishing boat mooring at Town Quay for the Food Festival had gone aground, and the skipper estimates the mud is 4ft higher than last year.

9.2. Faversham Creek Navigation has licence for maintenance dredging not capital dredging. A long term dredging plan for the creek is needed.

9.3. Samples from creek were taken as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process but for various reasons this may need to be done again. Need confirmation from the EA that it is safe to dredge.

10. Heritage Hub

10.1. There is still enthusiasm for the Heritage Hub and the group had recently met. The future use of 12 Market Place needs to be resolved before the project can move forward. The projection and interactive schemes need to be ready for when the issue of 12 Market Place is resolved.

11. Cleve Hill

11.1. HW informed the meeting that now she is a minister she can't request an adjournment debate. She assured the meeting that Zac Goldsmith was sympathetic. She was concentrating in getting DEFRA onside, highlighting the issues of birds, flooding and the unique eco system on the marshes. She has written to Tony Juniper (Chair of Natural England).

11.2. There was still a need to raise public awareness locally. The Faversham Society had run several events to do so. There will be a campaign in November.

11.3. Presently waiting for the DCO, the conditions attached to it will be important.

ACTION: HW to ask colleagues for cross party adjournment debate.

12. Any Other Business

12.1. It was noted that Swale Borough Council was undertaking a consultation on Area Committees. It was considered crazy not to support.

ACTION: AB to forward the link to the survey to Forum Members and complete on behalf of the Forum.

13.0 Date of next meeting

13.1 The next meeting of the FFF will be held on Thursday 14th November.
