

Keep Faversham Buzzing – Community gardening projects.

The climate and biodiversity crisis calls for a radical rethink about how we live our lives. Conversations about plastic straws aren't going to crack it. To see response at the required scale we need to mobilise government, business, the media, and the public to all step up to play their part.

Preserving, enhancing, and creating spaces in our community that improve mental and physical wellbeing and help improve the biodiversity of Faversham, is vital. There are some amazing community gardening projects established in the town, which we are so proud to have, but we can do more. There are many areas that need radical change, to tackle the climate and biodiversity emergency.

Keep Faversham Buzzing, encapsulates the desire to preserve what we have for the benefit of pollinators and other insects but also to create more, working with the community as we go. Faversham was awarded 'Neighbourhood with the best Buzz' last year from The Bumblebee Conservation Trust and Kent Wildlife Trust, and this amazing achievement can be built on with community gardening around the town.

The following locations have been identified by residents as places to create new projects in the town.

1. Queen's Hall Car Park

A resident would like to create a working party to see the beds in Queen's Hall Car Park planted with shrubs, trees and other plants beneficial to wildlife.



2. Whitstable Road/Millfield road planters

The two white planters on the entrance to the Millfield estate have been neglected for some time. There are volunteers who would like to revitalise these planters.



3. Hatch/ Fielding street beds

There are two small beds on the boundary of both Hatch Street and Fielding Street. One of them has some planting already, however could be added to and the other is empty of planting.



4. Millfield Rec – Community orchard

Several Millfield residents have requested that a community orchard would be a good addition to the area with space.

5. West Street (next to Upstairs Downstairs Antiques)



6. South Road:

The current coordinator for the South Road beds is moving away, and I would like to propose that the Town Council take on the coordination of these in conjunction with Faversham in Bloom. These 2 planted spaces are particularly important for the community and biodiversity. There is a volunteer database of about 30 people with regards to these.



7. Napelton Road



8. Station road

These 2 beds on Station road, near the junction with Newton Road are in need of some work and volunteers have been interested in doing something here.



All the above are projects have been identified by residents or those interested in community gardening. This list isn't an exhaustive account of what can be done in the town, as more can be added when locations are identified or volunteers approach to form a working party.

This project being under the umbrella of 'Keep Faversham Buzzing' helps combine the work of the council on trying to increase greater biodiversity in the town, work towards becoming Pesticide Free and working through the Climate Annual Action Plan.