Proposal to Public Spaces Committee

NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers' Day – 5th July 2021

Background

This year the NHS's birthday on 5th July will mark the NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers' Day. To mark the occasion and in thanks, the Mayor of Faversham intends to present a special bench to the Town.

Proposal

It is proposed that the Mayor purchases a commemorative NHS bench from Mayoral Expenses unused between 2019 and 2021 for the sum of £1,150 plus installation at approximately £600.

The suggested location is in Bank Street opposite the Cottage Hospital and Doctors' Surgery. The land is registered to McKay (M&Co) and is currently maintained by Swale Borough Council. We have initiated correspondence with McKay to request permission to upgrade the area with the potential for it to become a COVID-19 memorial area.



Required Works

The area in question is L-shaped and already has a bench in the short section. There are two overhanging trees which require maintenance as they are causing an obstruction. The paving slabs around them have lifted due to the roots and have become trip hazards. The barriers could be painted in black, to be more in keeping with the Town's colour and the area would benefit from a planter.



Recommendation

The Public Spaces Committee recommends the purchase of the commemorative bench and supports the area in Bank Street being upgraded.

Louise Bareham Town Clerk 19th March 2021