

MAYOR'S UPDATE

This is my 12th and sadly my last letter to you all. Three years as Mayor sometimes feels as if it has passed in a moment, but one thing that stands out above all throughout all of that time, is my wish to say a "HUGE THANK YOU" to everyone in Faversham.

Time after time I have been overwhelmed by the welcome I have received as your Mayor. I have been astonished with the time, commitment and expertise that so many of you give to the whole of our Community to make it a better place to live in. It has been a humbling experience and I thank, with all my heart the volunteers in Faversham – the leaders, all our local experts and the front line workers who do so much.

We have such a great town with such a great group of Town Councillors, each bringing their own ideas and skills so that together they are a single team, and I thank all of them for their voluntary work as your Council. Together, the Town and the Town Council have made some real improvements to Faversham as a place to live - 20's Plenty for safer walking and cycling for people, improvements in biodiversity round the Town for a better environment and a more attractive Town, our local Faversham Neighbourhood Plan to influence developments locally, support for lots of local groups and individuals, the Town Lottery and many more.

Of course there is more to achieve - the development of 12 Market Place as our Town Hall; housing the Doddington Library; the relocation of the Visitor Information Centre; the Magna Carta and our Charters exhibition; an exhibition space for Community use; a workable town centre pedestrianisation scheme is in sight; better walking and cycling options for active travel are developing, and for the longer term future we



Cllr Alison Reynolds, Mayor of Faversham, presenting Lesley Seager with a Mayoral Certificate for her work pictured at Cooksditch Stream

must find a balance between ensuring local people can afford a local home while we protect our wider environment.

I have been fortunate to visit all of our junior and senior schools and I have been impressed by both teachers and pupils and the high standards that are being achieved. Memorable events have been rowing the most recently built skiffs "Avocet" and "Findlay MacDonald" down the Creek and coming back up on the steam tugboat "Barking", which was built here in Faversham and launched from our shipyard; unveiling the NHS and Frontline workers bench outside the Bank Street Health Centre and the 2019 Hop Festival which I do hope will return this year. Also seeing some recent progress on securing our new swing bridge.

We have everything in Faversham - museums, a wide cultural offer, natural history, a beautiful built and natural environment, hotels, historic country gardens and houses, B&Bs, restaurants, cafes, independent shops and businesses, and I look forward to continuing to work to bring more visitors to our beautiful town.

Finally, I wish to extend my warm thanks to the Council Staff and Deputy Mayor, Cllr Trevor Martin, for their positive support and advice. What a wonderful privilege it has been to be your Mayor.

Cllr Alison Reynolds, Mayor of Faversham

LOTTERY CELEBRATES ITS FIRST BIRTHDAY



It's almost a year since the Town Council launched the Faversham Community Lottery and the weekend of 2 April we are going to be celebrating the first anniversary with a special prize draw for good causes and a big promotion at the Town Hall in the Market Place.



Launching the Lottery was a bold step forward for the Town Council as we started to come out of the pandemic this time last year. We are all really excited about how well it has gone over the last 12 months with 55 local good causes signed up, with over £40k raised for those good causes and our first £25,000 winner within three months of the lottery going live.

With funding for charities and community groups set to remain tight over the next few years, the Faversham & District Community Lottery can play a big role in ensuring we have the vibrant and well supported voluntary sector that Faversham needs - for as little as £1 a week, you can be a part of that.

Cllr Julian Saunders

**It is quick and easy to sign up, to start playing visit:
www.favershamdistrictlottery.co.uk**

Mayor of Faversham's Afternoon Tea



To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the Mayor of Faversham will be hosting a Celebratory Afternoon tea in the Guildhall on Sunday 5th June at 2.30pm.

Faversham Gunpowder WI have kindly agreed to lay on the tea, and to attend this special event, you will need a Platinum Ticket.

For a chance to win a Platinum Ticket please send your name, your guest's name, email and address to the Deputy Town Clerk, at The Town Hall, 12 Market Place, Faversham, ME13 7AE - or via email to Adrienne.Begent@fareshamtowncouncil.gov.uk by 30th April.

All names will be entered into a draw and 25 tickets (each admitting two people) will be drawn randomly. Don't hesitate to enter for a chance to attend this special event.



Cllrs Hannah Perkin and Chris Williams were invited to speak by the Pesticide Free Action Network's 'pesticide free Kent' event last month



Pesticide free Faversham



where representatives from other Councils in the county, where volunteer groups, charities and members of the public were invited to discuss what is next in their campaigns to reduce and eliminate pesticide use in their communities.

Hannah and Chris spoke about Faversham Town Council's ambition for Faversham to become a pesticide free town and outlined what action would need to be taken for this to be achieved. This includes getting to know the picture of who is using what chemicals where and for what, reaching out to residents in Faversham and increasing public awareness of the damage that pesticides can cause to the environment and wildlife, and looking at a phased approach to becoming completely pesticide free.

Faversham is officially recognised as working towards becoming pesticide free and the Climate and Biodiversity committee will continue to prioritise chemical reduction as one of its key aims. If you would like to be involved in upcoming events and initiatives please do get in touch.

Cllr Hannah Perkin

PUBLIC SPACES UPDATE



Cllr Eddie Thomas & Facilities Apprentice, Joseph Hannah, enjoying a break on one of the newly refurbished Serpentine benches

The Town Council's Public Spaces Working Group continues to work with partners to improve the public spaces around Faversham.

Benches

Most have now been refurbished, not only within the town centre but on Watling Street, the A2, The Brents, South Road and along the Westbrook working with the Friends of the Westbrook.

More recently a bench has been installed on the London Road for passengers of the new X4 service to Faversham town centre and Canterbury.

Cycle Racks

We followed up on requests for cycle racks in the town with the most recent requests being for the Market Place and for some town centre secure cycle storage. New racks have gone in to the side of the Guildhall, and we successfully applied for a grant from Swale Borough council to trial secure cycle storage in Central and Institute Road car parks. These should be in place soon.

Planters

Working with the Climate and Biodiversity Group, four planters have been located, outside the railway station, on Forbes Road, Stone Street and The Market Place. The group also identified that the trees and raised beds in Queens Hall car park were in a poor state and gained funding support from SBC for much needed improvements. Planting is due to happen in the spring.

Dropped Kerbs

Following requests from wheel chair users extra dropped kerbs are due to be installed within the town centre and some of these are to provide better access to the recently added disabled bays in the Partridge Lane car park.

Water Bottle Refilling Stations

We lobbied Swale Borough Council for a water bottle refill station to be installed both in Central Car Park by the cycle racks and on the Recreation ground by the Outdoor Gym. This links to the Town Councils aim to reduce the use of single use plastic.

Faversham's Coat of Arms Signs

These four signs are currently undergoing refurbishment and should be back in place later this year. Faversham is the only town in the United Kingdom permitted to use the Royal Arms of England, unchanged, as its own Coat of Arms. These four heraldic signs are a welcome to all visitors to our historic town of Faversham.

Cllr Eddie Thomas

LCWIP UPDATE

Faversham's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) was signed off by Town Councillors in February.

The Plan includes over fifty proposals for making it easier for pedestrians to cross local streets and for slowing traffic so bike users can get around more safely. It has been put together using the feedback the public gave us through the community engagement website Commonplace, when the 20mph scheme launched.

Faversham is only the second town in Kent to have its own town level LCWIP and we are hoping that it will put us near the front of the queue when it comes to funding from central government, Kent County Council and Swale Borough Council.

The plan is designed to be updated regularly and during the next six months we will be asking the public for their views on how it can be improved as well as developing proposals for making it easier to walk and cycle into the town from neighbouring villages.

Julian Saunders

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Faversham Town Council marked Holocaust Memorial Day (27 Jan) with an exhibition in the Town Hall that was open for three days.

The exhibition included 24 panels of information about the horror of the Holocaust as well as subsequent acts of genocide across the world. Video material brought the stories to life. We showed 30 minutes of footage which includes the powerful, personal recollections of survivors of the Holocaust and more recent atrocities. All of the words and pictures were supplied by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, an international charity.

Among the information panel was the '10 stages of genocide' which set out the pattern of events, in examples across the world, that lead to genocide. As the Trust puts it, 'genocide never just happens'. It starts with division of 'them' and 'us', discrimination and dehumanisation. Persecution, extermination and denial come later. Many visitors commented on what a reminder this is to guard against intolerance or hatred that we encounter sometimes in our society even today.

Thank you to every who attended the exhibition, which received several hundred visitors. As well as Faversham residents, people came from Whitstable, Canterbury, Dartford, among other places to see it, helped by mention on the ITV local news.

A great many of us have a connection through our families to the Holocaust or the terrible events of the 1930s and 1940s. Local people who came to the exhibition took the opportunity to share with councillors their or their relatives' experiences of those dark days.

I must thank the Town Council's Apprentice Abi Rainbow-Williams who gave me essential help to create the exhibition and fellow Town Councillors who manned the exhibition over the three days. You can see the 30 minutes of footage of our exhibition online on our You Tube channel at the following link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xi5mr3LycY>. For more information visit the HMD Trust's website www.hmd.org.uk.

Cllr Antony Hook



Cllr Antony Hook and the Mayor of Faversham, Cllr Alison Reynolds, at the Town Council's Holocaust Memorial Exhibition

FAVERSHAM LEADING THE WAY WITH LIVING BUS SHELTERS!

Faversham Town Council have been working hard on improving biodiversity in Faversham and proactively working with other organisations and the community to find new projects to benefit both wildlife and people's lives.

The Climate and Biodiversity Working Group allocated funding to replace two bus shelters in the town centre with new ones to include a living roof. These shelters have been widely used in mainland Europe and is a beneficial way of increasing opportunities for biodiversity, help tackle poor air quality and improve the amenity value of our community.

The two locations, The Mall and Stone Street, are both on busy roads, where bus use is higher. There are plans to look at turning other bus shelters in the town into ones with living roofs in the future. The plants are drought tolerant species which have nectar rich flowers for pollinators. They are low maintenance requiring very little watering and weeding, throughout the year, making it really cost effective.

Green or living roofs on top of structures such as bus shelters, allow us to find ways to help nature and aid biodiversity to flourish in areas that would be difficult to otherwise do. It is increasingly clear that urban areas have a very important part of conservation of species, and Faversham has shown that we can not only can this be achieved but also, we can lead the way. Faversham Town Council have put the Climate and Biodiversity emergency as a priority since 2019 and continue to work to improve both our natural world but people's lives too.

Cllr Chris Williams



Cllr Chris Williams at Faversham's first Living Bus Shelter

ST. GEORGE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

23RD OF APRIL 2022, 10AM UNTIL 3PM

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Your once in a life time chance for an extraordinary encounter with a Goblin Queen and her huge, ancient Dragon!

HALF AN HOUR SHOWS WILL TAKE PLACE AT 11AM, 1PM AND 2:30PM
in and around Market Place, starting from the Town Hall

MAGIC AL WILL BE IN THE MARKET PLACE ALL DAY FROM 10AM - 3PM

HE WILL ALSO BE PERFORMING A MAGIC SHOW AT 12PM AND THE SPECIAL GIANT SLINKY SHOW AT 1:45PM!

FREE FACE PAINTING ALL DAY FROM 10AM UNTIL 3PM INSIDE 12 MARKET PLACE

FAVERSHAM'S CARNIVAL COURT WILL BE HANDING OUT FREE ST GEORGE'S FLAGS THROUGHOUT THE DAY!

Funding provided by **Swale Borough Council**
Organised by **FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

FAVERSHAM Festival of Transport

14th-15th May 2022

The Best Weekend in Town in May

Celebrating transport throughout the ages, a packed weekend of transport related activities

- Saturday is all about **FREE** vintage bus rides around the town with commercial vehicles on display
- Sunday is the main car show **FREE** entry for visitors
- Steam section at Standard Quay
- **NEW FOR 2022** - Electric Vehicle Event taking place around St. Mary of Charity Church on **BOTH** days

FURTHER INFORMATION & EVENT UPDATES VISIT
www.favershamfestivaloftransport.org

Faversham Charters & Magna Carta Exhibition

OFFICIAL OPENING
Saturday 28th of May

The Mayor of Faversham will officially open the Faversham Charters and Magna Carta Exhibition, inside 12 Market Place, at 10am!

And you will be able to meet and greet King Henry VIII throughout the day!

Proms

Friday 3rd of June 2022
From 5:30pm

In the Market Place

A full programme of entertainment will be taking place from 5:30pm.

The Faversham Gunpowder WI will be serving hot drinks, cakes and Pimm's throughout the evening.

The Railway Swing Band will be performing from 7:30pm.

There will be street entertainment in the Market Place on Saturday the 4th and Sunday the 5th of June to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
FAVERSHAM GUNPOWDER WI
The Firecrackers
Swale Borough Council

60 YEARS OF TWINNING

Faversham Town Twinning Association [FTTA] will be celebrating the sixty years since the signing of the charter between Hazebrouck in Northern France and Faversham during this year.



Over the years the twinned towns have enjoyed numerous get togethers and to mark the 60th Anniversary we are planning events in our respective towns. In particular, an exhibition about the history of the town twinning will take place in the Town Hall at 12 Market Place in the week beginning Monday 18 July. More publicity will be available nearer the time, but please put this event in your calendar.

If you have memories of being part of past Town Twinning events which you are happy to share these or if you can lend any souvenirs or photographs for the exhibition please contact Clarissa Hanna (Clarissa.hanna@hotmail.com) the Chair of the FTTA who is working on the development of the exhibition with a small group of residents with memories of the original town twinning ceremonies. Alternatively contact the Deputy Town Clerk - driennebegent@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk.

The FTTA remains a thriving community association and welcomes new members who want to get involved in developing links between our two towns. In particular we are working hard to forge new relationships between local schools and businesses and their French counterparts. We also organise a range of events that allow residents to enjoy and learn more about French culture and society.

For more information about events or membership check out the FTTA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/favershamtowntwinning/> or email us on favershamtowntwinning@gmail.com.

Cllr Trevor Martin and Cllr Julian Saunders, members of the FTTA Committee

FTC Calendar of Meetings

Monday 4th April	6pm	Planning Sub-Committee
Monday 4th April	7pm	Town Council Meeting
Wednesday 6th April	9am	LCWIP
Thursday 7th April	7pm	20's Plenty Working Group
Monday 11th April	7pm	Climate & Biodiversity Working Group
Tuesday 19th April	7pm	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Tuesday 19th April	6pm	Planning Sub-Committee
Monday 25th April	7.30pm	Policy & Resources
Monday 9th May	7pm	Mayor Making
Tuesday 10th May	7pm	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Monday 16th May	7pm	Annual Town Council Meeting
Monday 17th May	6pm	Planning Sub-Committee
Tuesday 26th May	7pm	Annual Town Meeting
Thursday 27th May	9.30am	Public Spaces Working Group
Wednesday 2nd June	9am	LCWIP
Thursday 3rd June	7pm	20's Plenty Working Group
Monday 7th June	6pm	Planning Sub-Committee
Monday 7th June	7pm	Town Council Meeting
Monday 14th June	7pm	Climate & Biodiversity Working Group
Monday 21st June	6pm	Planning Sub-Committee
Monday 21st June	7pm	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Monday 28th June	7.30pm	Policy & Resources
Monday 5th July	6pm	Planning Sub-Committee
Monday 5th July	7pm	Town Council Meeting
Wednesday 7th July	9am	LCWIP
Monday 12th July	7pm	Climate & Biodiversity Working Group
Monday 19th July	6pm	Planning Sub-Committee
Monday 19th July	7pm	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Thursday 22nd July	9.30am	Public Spaces Working Group
Monday 26th July	7pm	Policy & Resources

Please check details of all meetings and how to attend on the Town Council website at www.favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings



Faversham Town Council Offices
Town Hall, 12 Market Place
Faversham, Kent ME13 7AE



T: 01795 503286
www.favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Your Town Councillors & their Contact Details

Cllr Antony Hook**

(Abbey Ward)

E: Antony.Hook@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Hannah Perkin*

(Abbey Ward)

E: Hannah.Perkin@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Chris Williams

(Abbey Ward)

E: Chris.Williams@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Josh Rowlands

(Abbey Ward)

E: Josh.Rowlands@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Mayor of Faversham

Cllr Alison Reynolds BEM

(Priory Ward)

E: Alison.Reynolds@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Mike Henderson*

(Priory Ward)

E: Mike.Henderson@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Kris Barker

(St Ann's Ward)

E: Kris.Barker@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Carole Jackson*

(St Ann's Ward)

E: Carole.Jackson@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Trevor Martin

(St Ann's Ward)

E: Trevor.Martin@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Julian Saunders*

(St Ann's Ward)

E: Julian.Saunders@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr John Irwin

(Watling Ward)

E: John.Irwin@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Ben J Martin*

(Watling Ward)

E: Ben.J.Martin@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Eddie Thomas*

(Watling Ward)

E: Eddie.Thomas@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Chris Cavanagh

(Watling Ward)

E: Chris.Cavanagh@

favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

* Swale Borough Councillor

** Kent County Councillor

Faversham Town Council - Staff List

Louise Bareham
Adrienne Begent
Claire Windridge
Emma Powell
Adam Andrews
Abi Rainbow
Joseph Hannah

Town Clerk
Deputy Town Clerk
Visitor & Events Development Officer
Finance Assistant
Facilities Manager
Business Admin Apprentice
Facilities Apprentice

louise.bareham@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk
adrienne.begent@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk
claire.windridge@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk
emma.powell@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk
adam.andrews@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk
abi.rainbow@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk
joseph.hannah@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

The entrance to Faversham Town Council offices is in Back Lane, please ring the call button to be admitted. Town Council opening hours are Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm.