

HERITAGE WORKING GROUP MEETING
Thursday 24th February 2022, 8pm
MINUTES

Cllr T Martin	Cllr Reynolds	Cllr Irwin
H Goodwin	Cllr Henderson	Cllr Perkin

The meeting had been deferred from 23rd February, as it was inquorate.

1. Apologies

None

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the Heritage Working Group dated 19th January 2022 were proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Perkin.

4. Lease

A side a agreement will be drafted.

5. Visitor Information Centre

The VIC opens on Saturday 26th February.

6. Faversham Charters Exhibition

The official opening will be Saturday 28th May, with a private opening event on the evening of Thursday 26th May. The Clerk ran through plans for the opening event, which included Henry VIII.

Claire Windridge had put together a proposal for merchandise, including bags, tea towels and smaller items like pencils, erasers etc. The mark up used is as recommended by the Association of Independent Museums. Further information is commercially sensitive.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Henderson and on being put to the meeting it was ***RECOMMENDED that Faversham Charters merchandise totalling £2,000 is purchased***

7. Insurance

A list of requirements and recommendations had been received from the potential insurers (see Appendix A). Cllr T Martin requested that enquiries be made for costing for a lower insurance value and a long term agreement.

Cllr Henderson proposed, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RECOMMENDED that the expenditure for requirements in Appendix A be agreed.**

8. St George's Day Celebrations

Everything is in hand for St George's Day, all entertainment has been for the day.

9. Platinum Jubilee

The Town Clerk noted that volunteers from the Christmas Lights had agreed to put the bunting up in May. A cherry picker would need to be hired for the weekend at the cost of £380, which was agreed by Members and authorised by the Town Clerk.

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Henderson and on being put to the meeting it was **RECOMMENDED to purchase 2 x 1,000 pin badges for the Platinum Jubilee**

10. Matters for Report

Concerns were again raised regarding TS Hazard, Harold had contacted Swale drawing their attention to the missing tiles following the high winds. Swale have legal obligations to maintain a Grade II listed building. It was understood that Swale had now instigated repairs to the roof.

It was agreed Cllr Henderson would draft an open letter highlighting the Town Council's concerns.

It was proposed by Cllr Henderson, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RECOMMENDED that an open letter be sent to Larissa Reed and Emma Wiggins highlighting the Town Council's concerns regarding T S Hazard (Appendix B)**

Appendix A

Insurance Requirements and Recommendations for

Faversham Charters Exhibition

Requirements	
Fire alarm to be linked to existing alarm system and ARC	Quote awaited
Wheelie bin to be relocated to avoid arson	Wheelie bin is locked
Existing secure side entrance to be further secured by the installation of a roller shutter.	Quote £1,950 plus VAT
Existing intruder alarm to be security grade 3	Quote £1,755 plus VAT for Charters Room only, an additional £2,555 if the whole building is required.
Internal door between ground floor and gallery physically locked	Lock already available
Front entrance doors to have minimum 5 lock system	Quotes circa £10k – confirmation awaited regarding locking system
Recommendations	
New display cases fitted with intumescent seals	Confirmation awaited
Review and update disaster plans including grab lists	In hand
Consider potential ram raid to Market Place frontage and place raised planter to help reduce risk	After discussion, it was agreed that the rear of the property was more of a risk and a bollard should be considered
Further CCTV signage	We have signage already
Issuing invigilators with 2 way radios as well as a system of panic devices	Quote for panic buttons £275 plus VAT
Make sure the roof drainage system covering the flat roof are regularly inspected	In hand

Letter to Larissa Read and Emma Wiggins Swale Borough Council re T S Hazard

Dear.....,

TS Hazard is a building vital to the history of Faversham. Built in 1475 it has stood on the bank of Faversham Creek for 550 years and been part of the commercial life of the Town ever since.

Faversham Town Council asks that Swale Borough Council takes active responsibility for the serious and immediate “at risk” situation of the building. TS Hazard came into the ownership of Swale Borough Council in 1974, almost 50 years ago and was for many years in active use by the local Sea Cadets. In recent years they have been forced to leave entirely due to the seriously poor condition of the building.

Swale Borough Council as the planning authority has a clear responsibility for the condition of this 2* listed building as it has for all listed buildings at risk. More to the point it is directly responsible as owner for the building and its condition. As the Town Council understands the crucial and urgent problem right now is the roof. This is badly damaged, leaking and in danger of collapse if a further storm occurs, or indeed with any bad weather. In the only slightly longer term the timber frame and walls are in poor order and the frequent flooding is certain to be damaging the foundations.

Faversham Town Council formally requests Swale Borough Council:

1. Immediately to have a thorough survey of TS Hazard conducted by a surveyor with expertise in timber framed ancient buildings to ascertain what work is required so that the building is no longer in any way at risk. Thereafter promptly to do all necessary works identified.
2. To consult meaningfully and quickly with local organisations in Faversham, including, but not restricted to the Town Council and the Faversham Society, with a clear objective of finding a secure and financially viable future for TS Hazard. It is clear that in the last 20 years there has been little or no maintenance carried out on the building.

This issue has gone on for too long. It must be solved and the responsibility clearly lies in the hands of Swale Borough Council. We therefore look forward to discussing your plans as a matter of urgency and reaching an agreed and speedy solution.

Yours sincerely

Louise Barham

Town Clerk