

## MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

26<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 7.30pm  
Faversham Umbrella Centre

### Present:

Cllr Williams  
Cllr Henderson

Cllr Reynolds  
Matthew Hatchwell

Martin Collins

### In Attendance:

Rob Gibbs (Assistant to the Town Clerk)

#### 022. Presentation on Pocket Parks by Evie Curd

Cllr Williams invited Evie Curd, a Year 13 student at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School to deliver a presentation on her school project, "Pocket Parks".

Evie presented her designs and possible locations were discussed including East Street, Crescent Road, Preston Street, Station Road, Newton Road, Court Street, Central Car Park, and Back Lane. It was suggested outside the Library or Station Road would be ideal locations to concentrate initial plans. It was suggested Evie be invited to future meetings as the project progressed.

It was proposed by Cllr Henderson, seconded by Cllr Williams and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to record the Environment Committee's support for the project.***

The full presentation can be found in Appendix 1.

#### 023. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Hook, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Perkin, Cllr Thomas, Ali Corbel and Grace Couch.

#### 024. Declarations of Interest

None

#### 025. Minutes and Matters Arising

Cllr Williams proposed, seconded by Martin Hatchwell and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Environment Committee dated 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022.***

#### 026. Development Updates

Stonebridge Pond – Matthew Hatchwell referred to the notes of the Stonebridge Pond meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Henderson and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to set up a Working Group involving relevant stakeholders.***

Biodiversity – It was agreed to defer discussions on the Biodiversity Leaflet until the next meeting.

Cllr Williams referred to the paper entitled “*Improving Air Quality and Biodiversity in Ospringle*”. The SBC car park had been identified as an area that could be improved with hedges and 2 trees and planters either side of Ospringle Street. SBC feedback had been positive and KCC would need to be consulted regarding placing a planter under the road sign on the opposite side of Ospringle Street. The planting could be a co-ordinated effort between the Facilities Manager, Facilities Apprentice and the community.

Cllr Williams referred to proposal to set aside £2500 towards the budget for these works. The Assistant to the Town Clerk referred to previously purchased planters and whether they could be used as part of this project. Cllr Williams advised they had been purchased under post-COVID funding for town centres and he would check to see if there were any restrictions on their placement.

It was proposed by Cllr Henderson, seconded by Cllr Williams and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to allocate £2500 to this project subject to permission from Swale Borough Council, Kent County Council, and detailed quotes to be presented at the next meeting of 9th November to agree purchases.***

Pesticide Free Town – It was agreed to defer discussions until the next meeting.

Community Gardening – Cllr Williams advised there would be further activities in November.

Nutrient Neutrality – Matthew Hatchwell referred to the response to the letter sent by the Town Council to the SBC Leader, Cllr Mike Baldock. It was agreed further work was needed to check the guidance contained before responding to the letter.

Water/Waste Water – Matthew Hatchwell reported on recent water quality testing at Standard Quay and Westbrook.

Martin Hatchwell advised it was important for Councillors to make constituents aware of the level of siltation at Stonebridge Pond. If enough public concern was raised this would help increase pressure to improve the situation. Articles would shortly be appearing in the local media. Cllr Henderson advised he would produce a letter for residents around the

Stonebridge Pond area and the matter could be raised in the Council Newsletter.

**027. Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2023-2028 Update**

The Air Quality Action Plan was noted.

**028. Faversham Lakes Country Park**

Cllr Henderson referred to the new country park being open at the Anderson development at Faversham Lakes.

Discussions were ongoing between Anderson, SBC and Kent Wildlife Trust regarding future responsibility for the maintenance at the country park. Cllr Henderson agreed to discuss the matter with SBC.

**029. Tree Giveway 2022**

Cllr Williams referred to the list of ordered trees provided by the Town Clerk:

50 x Maple Field  
50 x Birch Silver  
50 x Hornbeam  
50 x Hazel  
50 x Quickthorn (Hawthorn)  
50 x Crab apple Wild  
50 x Cherry Bird  
50 x Blackthorn  
50 x Beech Green  
50 x English Oak

Delivery was scheduled towards the end of November.

It was agreed to defer the proposal until the next meeting.

**030. Planters**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**031. Benches**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

**032. Allotment Report**

The Allotment Report was noted.

Cllr Williams expressed his thanks to Stacey Woolf, Facilities Manager, for providing the report.

**033. Items for Report**

None.

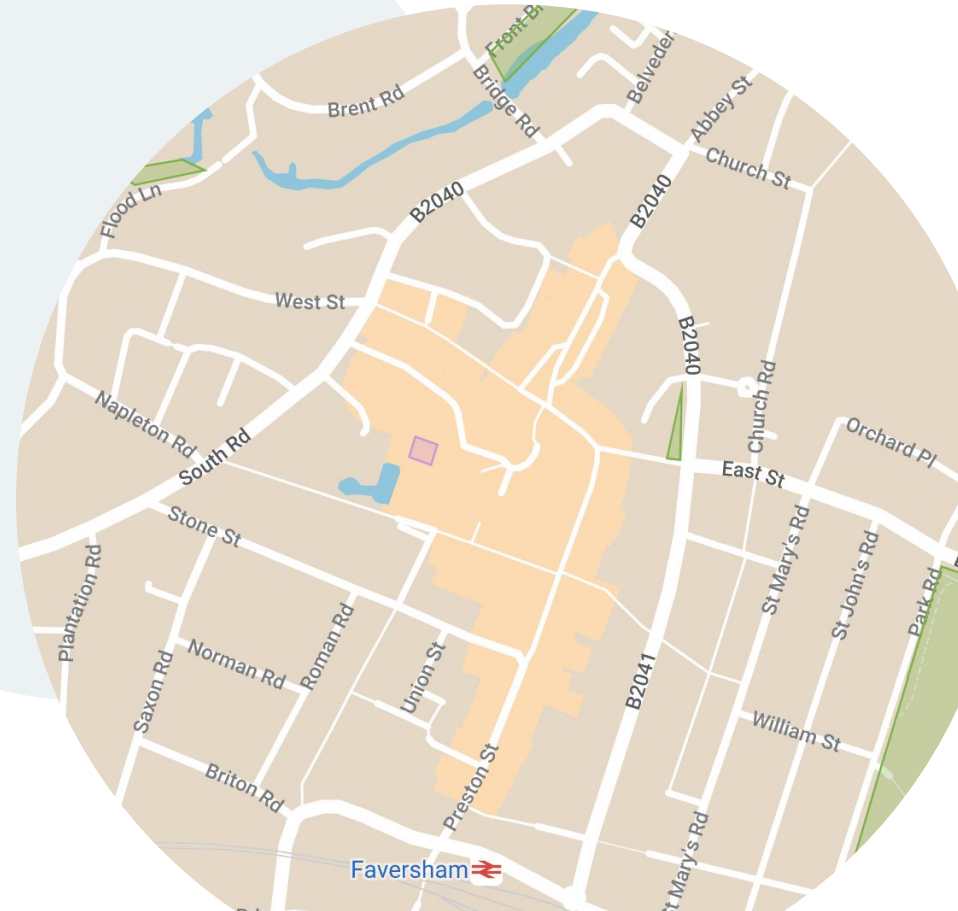
## **Appendix 1 Pocket Parks Presentation**



# Pocket Park Plan

**What is the problem?**

- Faversham High Street is a location of culture and community. It's a 'chilled artsy vibe' celebrated for its history and its traditional market town.
- However working in the centre of town - lack of green space
- Lots of people have said it's a valid problem





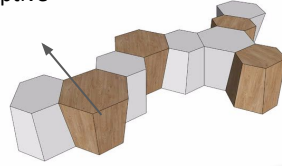


The site's primary function should be somewhere to sit, somewhere to eat surrounded by planters and to improve the biodiversity. A site that could act as a welcome, representing and respecting the towns medieval imagine. There is also the annual hop festival and literacy festival that could influence the design.

Upcycling



Adaptive



Bar



Plants



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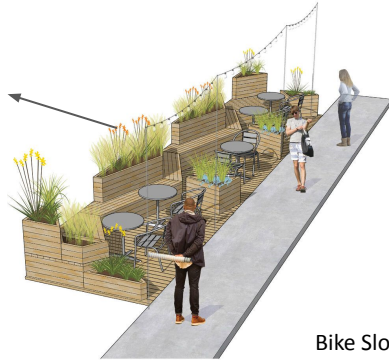
Bench with table



Simple



Tables



Bike Slots



Unusual design







Evelyn Cur  
Candidate 303  
Centre 6135



## Further research into:

- Planting
- Transportability
- Materials
- electric's ?
- Site research
- Design codes
- Risk assessment

### Further research

#### Plants

The area is a suntrap but also exposed to harsh winds and rain. Therefore I need to really think about the type of plants that could be put here.

Around Faversham the usual plants that can be spotted are common hanging basket plants, including petunias, ferns, grasses and fuchsias. Bright bold pastel flowers and richer greens.

It's recommended that for street furniture trees varieties such as small apple trees, flowering dogwood, birch and poplar.

Drainage must be considered which means having parts of the site at a gradient running towards existing drains. Located just either side of the site.

#### plants



#### drainage



#### Transportability

Parkcycle swarm is a portable pocket park constructed of light weight steel welded around a simple bicycle.

It's a nice design but fairly simple and I want my design to be as Permanent as possible,

Perhaps exploring the possibility of small wheels (see image) however can only take a maximum weight of 120kg (720 for 6 wheels spread) or 'flat pack' design. Most pocket parks are permanent installations because of security but I could have collapsible furniture so it can be interchanged seasonally.

- This bench at home can collapse up as shown, although it's broken because of the bolts being strong enough.

Photos of bench at home

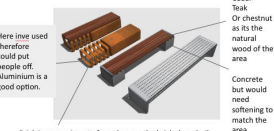


#### Materials

Faversham with its rich historical background is surrounded by old buildings and wooden frames. Therefore in my design I would like to include this wood with the intention of it helping me win the approval of locals.



Other materials that can be used:



Brick is very unique to Faversham as the bricks here built lots of London so some recognition to this would be nice

### Site research

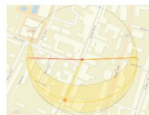
I went to my site to get some primary research on my parameters.



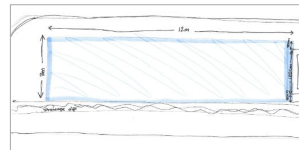
#### Sunpath

The sun is south facing. Here it comes from up the high street. In the photo you can see the path it travels against my site. (Site was confirmed through west analysis). I'll have to consider this with plant placement and direction of seating to avoid the winter sun.

The diagram is the sun in February. However it varies only slightly for the summer months and still comes from the same direction.



#### Top view of site



Although the site in proposing isn't in the heart of the town is in the corridor from the station that is in urgent need of a 'makeover' I could suggest implementing a welcome sign or making this pocket park a gateway into the town and a symbol of the town's morals.

The site is 3m x 12m but includes a few existing items including bike racks, bollards and benches.

#### Planters

These brick planters can be seen all over the town and strategies have been used to adapt them the adding seating onto them as a strategy or simply removing them. I'm going to try and keep it into my side.



I spoke to Hannah and Eddie and they said that all obstructions on my site could be removed. Evidence of it can be found on site. But I'm going to try and implement new bike racks into my designs.



Could be used to influence design ideas

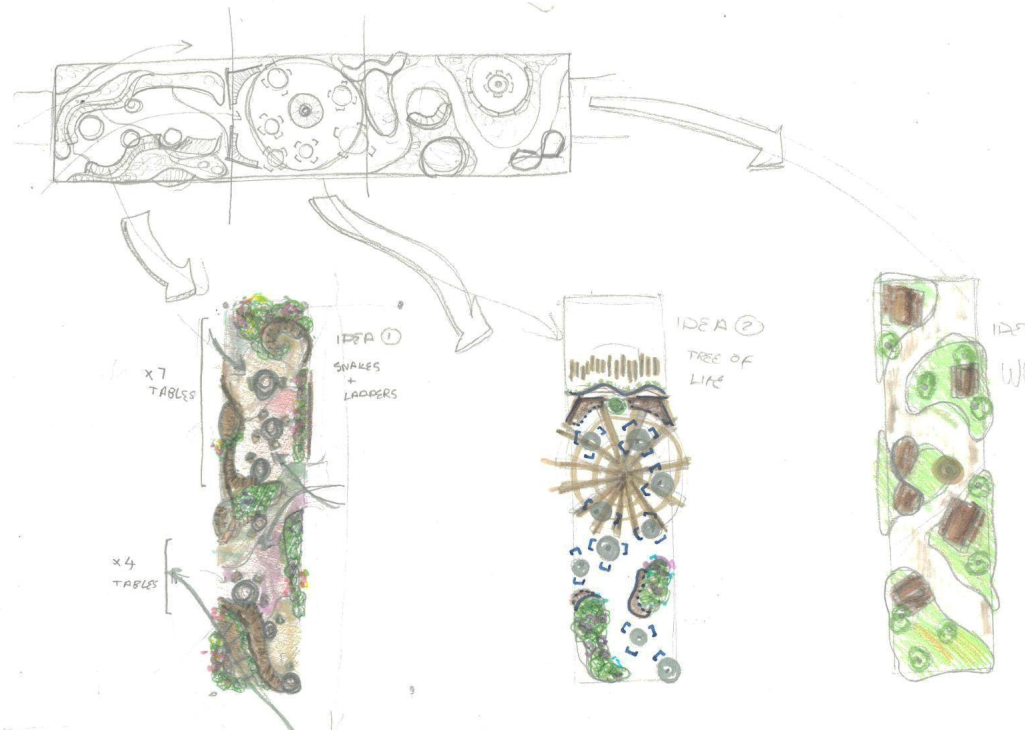
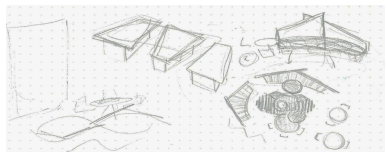
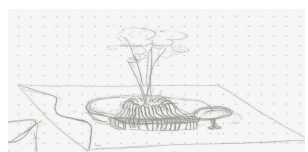
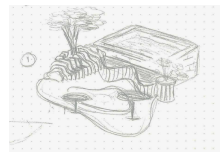
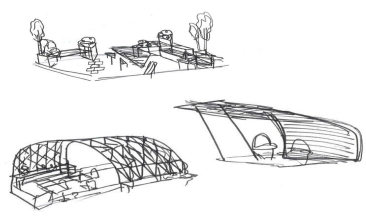
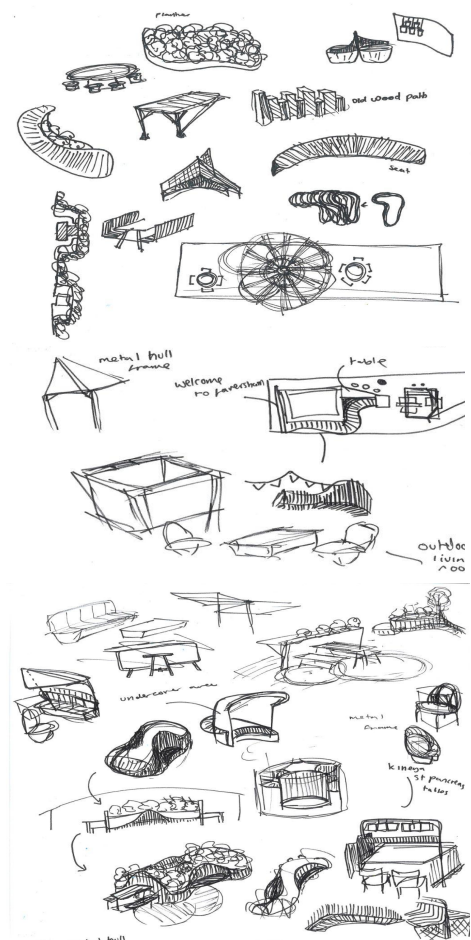


Evelyn Curd  
Candidate 3030  
Centre 61355



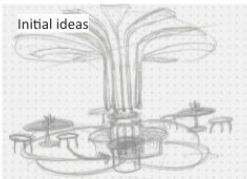


Initial design ideas and concepts



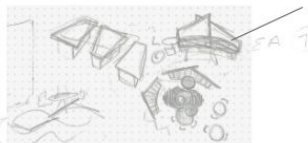


## Initial ideas

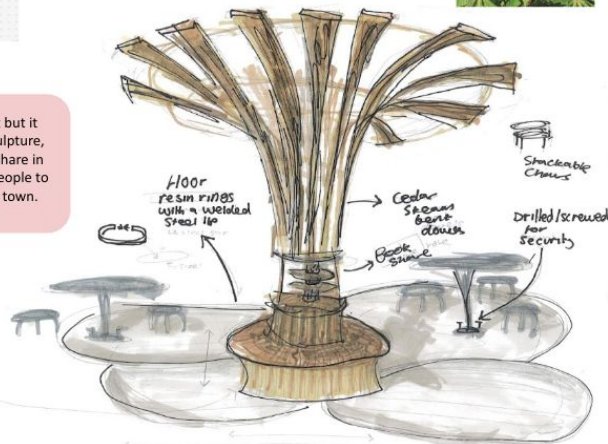


Boat seats could be incorporated into final design as they too honour the local heritage

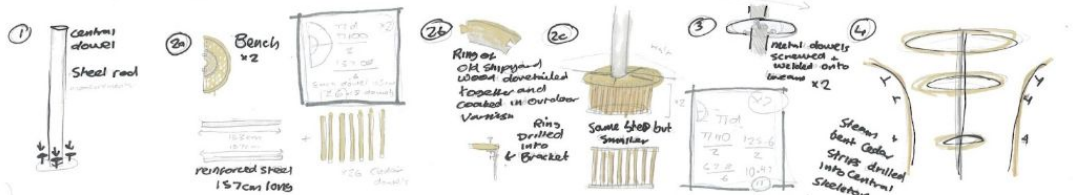
Inspiration that formed the tree design is the horse chestnuts that surround the town.



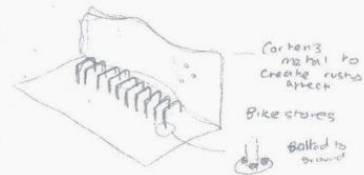
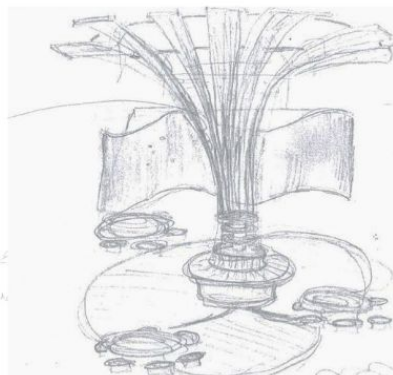
The central design is quite complex but it will be a landmark in the town, a sculpture, a feature. I've incorporated a book share in it for people to use and encourage people to visit the book shops dotted around town.



## Materials + manufacture



Two planters create a tunnel and protection to the seating area.



The wave divider is made from corten steel and is a tribute to the port that once dominated faversham, but it also provides protection to the bikes.



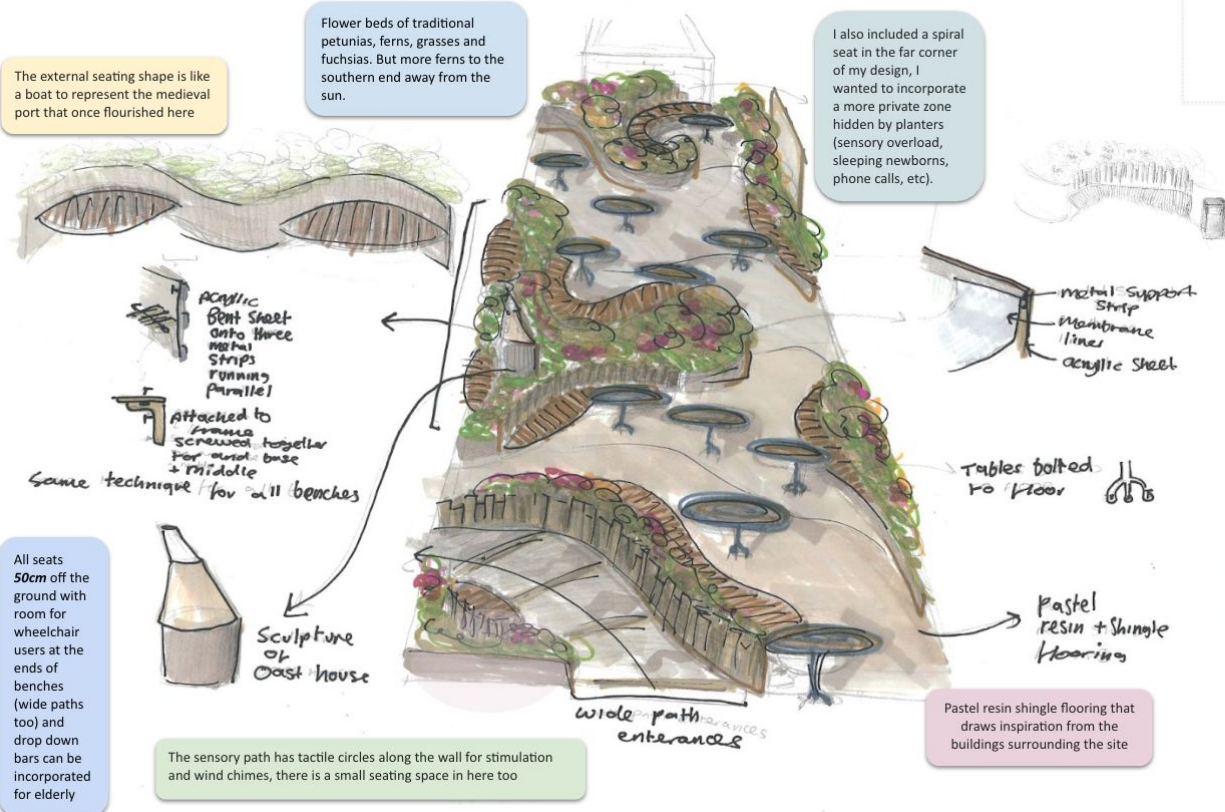
	Point	Achievable
1	Follows the town design code manual	No
2	Fit into the 3m x 12m site parameter	Yes
3	Seats 40 60cm, seat top of 30cm (+/-) 10cm	Yes
4	Tables??	yes
5	Is inclusive and wheelchair friendly	No can be made to
6	Meets health and safety standards	Risk assessment checked
7	Vandal proof	Needs a way to stop climbers
8	A Bin incorporated into site plan and a green bin	Easily able
9	bike racks included	yes
10	Easily maintainable	yes
11	Including plants native to the area	Yes in extended idea



## Inspiration + Cultural and Historical Influence

Faversham's name is derived from the old english... 'homestead of the smith', with the shipyard and port being the main attraction of the village. Within my design will incorporate old steel tool sculptures scattered amongst flowerbeds to symbolise smithery, with a central Sculpture of oast house to symbolise the downs and history of site. All the Wooden borders behind the benches are inspired by an upcycling project i've helped with and i think it will look really beautiful in this space, made from old shipyard wood to honour the history.

Additional features that contribute to the design are scattered around the design page.



Traditional navy (colour of Faversham) metal courtyard tables scattered throughout site



Inspired from design at home, used from upcycled shipping wood.

Point	Achievable
1 Follows the town design code manual	Yes
2 Fit into the 3m x 12m site parameter	Needs to be discussed
3 Seats 40-600m, seat top of 30cm (w/h) 20cm	yes
4 Tables??	Plenty
5 Is inclusive and wheelchair friendly	Wide path entrances
6 Meets health and safety standards	yes
7 Vandal proof	To an extent
8 A bin incorporated into site plan and a green bin	Easily achievable
9 bike racks included	no...
10 Easily maintainable	Yes but a lot of planting
11 Including plants native to the area	yes



