

Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council
13th March 2023, 7pm
The Guildhall, Faversham

Present:

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|-----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Cllr T Martin | Cllr Reynolds | Cllr Barker | Cllr C Cavangh |
| Cllr B J Martin | Cllr Henderson | Cllr Jackson | Cllr Saunders |
| Cllr Rowlands | Cllr Hook | | |

In Attendance:

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

Questions from members of the Public

None.

704. Apologies for Absence

Apologies with reasons were received from Cllrs Irwin, Perkin, Thomas and Williams. On being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the apologies from Cllrs Irwin, Perkin , Thomas and Williams.**

705. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr B J Martin DNPI Minute Item 712 Crisis in Leisure
Cllr M Henderson DNPI Minute Item 712 Crisis in Leisure

706. Minutes of the Town Council

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Reynolds, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Town Council meetings dated 13th February 2023.**

Cllr Barker asked for an update on the challenge to the 2021/2022 AGAR, the DTC responded that the Town Clerk had been responding to the query earlier in the day, but had no further details to share.

The DTC reported that Faversham Umbrella Centre had successfully applied for funding for a new kitchen. The Town Council would be asked for its third party funding payment of £4,844.90 to FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd in the next seven days. It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve this payment.**

10 VOTES FOR

707. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor's Announcements were noted.

708. Policy and Resources Committee

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Henderson, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting dated 20th February 2023.**

709. Heritage and Buildings Work

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Henderson, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the work for the front doors (12 Market Place) to be replaced went ahead on the basis that checks were made on the structural integrity of the building prior to work commencing.**

10 VOTES FOR

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Hook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Heritage and Building Working Group meeting dated 21st February 2023.**

710. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Cllr K Barker proposed, seconded by Cllr Jackson, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting dated 27th February 2023.**

711. Creek Working Group

Cllr Hook proposed, seconded by Cllr Barker, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the Cinque Port Rowing CIC be offered space to store three skiffs on the Front Brents Jetty at no charge for a year. The required davits would be paid for by Cinque Port Rowing.**

10 VOTES FOR

Cllr Hook proposed, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Creek Working Group meeting dated 1st March 2023.**

712. Crisis in Leisure

Cllr B J Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Reynolds, and being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the Mayor of Faversham writes on behalf of Faversham Town Council to the Prime Minister, copying in the Mid Kent MP urging swift action on the following points:**

1. **Reclassify pools and leisure centres as an energy and trade intensive industry in the Energy Bills Discount Scheme so they can access the higher level of energy price discount.**
2. **Set out what tangible support it will provide to the wider sector – including gyms and sports facilities – to help navigate the energy crisis across 2023 so that service restrictions and facility closures be minimised.**
3. **Set out a ‘plan for growth’ for the sector be aligning the proposed new Sports Strategy with the Spring Budget to unlock the potential of the sector to support.**

713. Honorary Freeman of Faversham

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Jackson and on being put to the meeting, it was **RESOLVED that Mr Ted Wilcox should become an Honorary Freeman of Faversham for his outstanding contribution, and eminent service, to the Town Council during his term of office.**

10 VOTES FOR

714. Receipts and Payments

Cllr BJ Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Barker, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve payments for March 2023.**

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve the Faversham and District Community Lottery payments**

715. Private Session

To Resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be transacted.

716. Staff Handbook

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the staff handbook should be approved subject to amendments.**

717. Honorary Freeman

Cllr A Reynolds left the meeting.

Two names had been suggested at the meeting of 13th February. The Town Clerk had contacted both people and one had accepted. (see minute 713). The

second had not responded. It was agreed to carry the second nomination over to the April meeting, to allow the person time to respond.

A further name was agreed and the Town Clerk will contact the individual to see if they are happy to be put forward at a public meeting.
One member abstained from the discussion.

The meeting ended at **20.30**

DRAFT