Minutes of Faversham Town Council's Creek Working Group held hybrid on Wednesday 3rd April 2024

Present:

Cllr P Cook (Chair), Cllr R Crayford, County Cllr A Hook, Cllr T Martin, Cllr R Newman, Cllr J Rowlands, Mr N Mengham and Mr A Thorne

In attendance: Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk

1.	Apologies	
	Apologies were received from Cllr A Eyre.	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	Mr N Mengham and Mr A Thorne, agenda item 6 (Front Brents Jetty) DNPI	
3.	Minutes of 7 th February 2024	
	It was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 th February had been approved at Full Council on 11 th March.	
4.	Matters Arising	
	Minute 7. (Evidence Base) – The appeal for historic photographs of the creek had been made. The next steps were discussed. Cllr Cook will visit the office to look at the photographs and discuss with the Faversham Society.	
	It was proposed by Cllr P Cook seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was RESOLVED to recommend that the Town Council considers evidence form historic photographs that it attains and uses them to assess the amount of silt that has accumulated to make forward projections as a basis for future proceedings with Peel Ports concerning navigation of the creek.	
	ACTION: Photographs to be taken with the tide out.	NM
5.	Belvedere Road and Provender Road Moorings	
	The DTC reported that the boat Windlass that had been the subject of probate had now been removed from Faversham Creek and the outstanding invoices settled.	
	The DTC reported that the licence drafted by Tassells Solicitors which	

had been approved at Town Council on 11th March had been sent to the FCMC. They had asked for the Title Deed reference to be added. Tassels are producing the final document for signing by both parties. 6. Front Brents Jetty It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was RECOMMENDED that the Cinque Port Rowing CIC be offered space to store four skiffs on the Front Brents Jetty at no charge for another year. It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was RECOMMENDED that the Cinque Port Rowing CIC be offered space to moor two sailing boats on the Front Brents Jetty at no charge for a year. The boats are Simon Seafire (18ft Frolic) Dandelion (19ft Squib) 7. The Bridge Three Recommendations from the meeting on 7th February remain outstanding. 1) It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr P Cook and on being put to the meeting it was RESOLVED to recommend that the Mayor of Faversham writes to Peel Ports requesting that they fulfil their obligations and fix the sluices. The Mayor is in the process of drafting the letter. PC asks that details on silt build up is included. 2) It was proposed by Cllr T Martin seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was RESOLVED to recommend that the Town Council investigates the costs of a Judicial Review. AH to assist the process by providing details of potential companies and assisting in drafting the tender document 3) It was proposed by Cllr T Martin seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was RESOLVED to recommend that the remaining hours with Breakthrough Communications are used to make press/social media releases after members of the CWG have met with Helen ΑT Whatley MP on Friday 23rd February. The minutes of the CWG meeting on February 7th had been approved by Town Council on 11th March. By this time the press release following the meeting on 23rd February had already been sent from the MPs Office and been shared by the Creek Trust and political parties. Breakthrough considered it to late to issue a press release. It was proposed by Cllr A Hook seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was RECOMMENDED that the Deputy

Town Clerk liaises with Breakthough Communications for a press AB release on the six month anniversary of the deposit of the petition. **ACTION:** Breakthrough to be asked if a visual stunt would be beneficial. It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was RECOMMENDED that the Mayor writes to Helen Whatley MP, DfT and KCC asking when arbitration will commence. It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was RECOMMENDED that the Mayor of writes to DfT asking them to explain their reasoning for the decision regarding ownership of the bridge. It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was RECOMMENDED that a FOI request is submitted to DfT asking for details of all payments in either direction between PP and DfT. It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was RECOMMENDED that a FOI request is submitted to DfT asking them to explain their reasoning ΑT for their decision regarding ownership of the bridge. **ACTION:** Dick Hollness to be asked for any information on the Hydraulic Study recently undertaken on the creek for Admiratly Charts.