

Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council
8th April 2024, 7pm
The Guildhall, Faversham

Cllr T Martin (Chair)	Present	Cllr Golding	Present
Cllr Rowlands	Present	Cllr Jones	Apology
Cllr Coniam	Apology	Cllr B Martin	Present
Cllr Cook	Present	Cllr C Martin	Present
Cllr Crayford	Present	Cllr Newman	Present
Cllr Eyre	Apology	Cllr Perkin	Present
Cllr Gibson	Present	Cllr Saunders	Present

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

199. Apologies for Absence

Apologies with reasons were received from Cllrs Coniam, Eyre, and Jones.

200. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

201. Minutes of the Town Council

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Town Council meeting dated 11th March 2024.***

202. Mayor's Announcements

Cllr T Martin took this opportunity to thank all the supporters of the Mayor's Ball.

Cllr T Martin reported that he had attended many events this month;

- Kiln Court
- Cookstitch-opening of hairdressers
- Margate Mayors Ball
- Broadstairs Civic Services
- Physic Garden (Mens Shed)- very successful, broadcasted on the local news. Thanks, given to Cllr Rowlands for attending.
- Arden Theatre
- Cinque Ports-Kent Archives
- Dover Transport Museum

- Mayor received letter from Haz

203. Community Transport Working Group

Cllr C Martin gave an update. A lot has happened since the meeting, the bus went live on 3rd April 2024 (9 passengers), 4th April 2024 (5 passengers), 5th April 2024 (7 passengers and 1 wheelchair). There has been additional training with Sheppey Matters for wheelchair access on the bus. Timetable may need updating. Another meeting at the end of the month, where we can see the ticket machine data. Two more volunteer drivers have joined, taking the total volunteers up to ten.

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr Saunders, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Community Transport Working Group dated 12th March 2024.**

204. Environment Committee

Cllr Perkin went through the minutes. Bat meeting is Friday 13th April 2024. Offensive graffiti has been removed. Faversham Open Homes going ahead on the 11th May 2024. Cllr Crayford suggested to put extra planter on the corner of Hatch Street and Beckett Street and this is being investigated.

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Environment Committee dated 13th March 2024.**

205. Policy and Resources Committee

Cllr Rowlands gave an update. It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 2nd April 2024.**

206. Creek Working Group

Cllr Cook gave an update.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the following recommendations;**

- **that the Cinque Port Rowing CIC be offered space to store four skiffs on the Front Brents Jetty at no charge for another year.**
- **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.**

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to recommend that the Deputy Town Clerk liaises with Breakthrough Communications for a press release on the six month anniversary of the deposit of the petition.**

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Newman, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the following recommendations;**

- ***That the Mayor writes to Helen Whatley MP, DfT and KCC asking when arbitration will commence.***
- ***That the Mayor writes to DfT asking them to explain their reasoning for the decision regarding ownership of the bridge.***

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the following recommendations;**

- ***That a FOI request is submitted to DfT asking for details of all payments in either direction between PP and DfT.***
- ***That a FOI request is submitted to DfT asking them to explain their reasoning for their decision regarding ownership of the bridge.***

ABST 1

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Creek Working Group dated 3rd April 2024, as amended.**

207. Annual Insurance

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr B Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve the insurance cover for 2024/2025 which is the final year of the LTG.**

ABST 1

208. Heritage Harbour Group

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to appoint Cllr T Martin as the representative for the Heritage Harbour Group.**

209. Queen Matilda Place

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve the quotation from SBC (for works for the new street plate- supply and delivery of 2 No. Street Nameplates £572/ Installation of 2 No. Wall Mounted Street Nameplates £300), but look for an alternative source of funding from appropriate charities, SBC grants and any other potential sources. Only use TC funding if needed.**

ABST 1

210. Flagpole

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve the emergency works to the**

flagpole in the Guildhall at the cost of £1825.00.

ABST 2

211. Receipts and Payments

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to agree receipts and payments for April 2024.**

Town Clerk asked the council to agree the process for transferring monies to the new CCLA bank account. It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve an online transfer from Lloyds to CCLA and write a cheque from NatWest to Lloyds to replenish the funds.**

The meeting concluded at 21.30

APPENDIX ONE-Public Questions

PC Hancock gave an update. High amounts of burglaries in the area, 5th March pub, 8th March retail, 27th March West St, 30th March retail. Also reports of car theft and a number of vehicle crimes. It was advised to not leave any valuable items on display and make sure cars are fitted with tamperproof security. Antisocial behaviors have also been reported. There is a police surgery being held on the 19th April 11am-1pm.

Question One- A question was raised on the duchy planning development in the area and their concerns regarding this. Cllr Perkin said we could write and ask the developer to put on another exhibition. May be useful to put on our newsletter/ social media a guidance on how to respond to planning applications. Cllr T Martin suggested we ask them to supply a hard copy for people who don't have access to the internet. The member of public also informed the council that Boughton have pollution in their water supply, damaged by farmers. South East Water are working with the famers to address this.

Question Two- Kiln Court. Concerns were raised as to why elected members didn't support a consultation process, regarding the change of planning use of Kiln Court being used as a centre for unaccompanied children. Member of public feels it will have a detrimental effect on neighbouring residents. Cllr Crayford explained that KCC have not consulted with FTC or SBC, and that the Town Council was not made aware until the same time as the public, so didn't have the opportunity to comment. We have no say on government spending. Cllr B Martin explained that the building not being in use will attract low level crime, having it in

use will stop this. With the centre being used as a base for separated children, it will have 24/7 security, they will receive lessons and be allowed out. Decisions are made by the high courts. As a representative I have to use my best judgement and agree information should be shared wider in respect of this situation.

Question Three- Concerns regarding the underpass/subway Preston Street and the amount of graffiti and feeling unsafe. Suggested that surveillance cameras should be installed to stop ASB. Cllr Rowlands responded on this subject and informed that as a representative of the project, he is working with Network Railway to get it all cleaned. Cllr Crayford agreed cameras would be a good idea. Cllr B Martin has requested a deep clean every 2 months, and it has not been done. Member of public also implied that signage needs to be clearer for car park and entrance.

Question Four- C Oswald-Jones mentioned the sound quality wasn't very good when entering the meeting via zoom. He also asked if the members could speak more slowly and that male voices are coming across distorted. Cllr Gibson supported more women councillors and agreed councillors should look at their dictation. Cllr Crayford suggested a different system may make it more accessible.