

Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council
11th December 2023, 7pm
The Guildhall, Faversham

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

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

140. Apologies for Absence

An apology with reason was received from Cllr Golding.

141. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

142. Minutes of the Town Council

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, 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 13th November 2023.***

Under Minute Item 130 Cllr Perkin advised that due to time restraints the Black History Month booklet had not yet been formatted for printing. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would carry out the formatting.

143. Mayor's Announcements

Cllr T Martin reported on recent events attended including:

- Hosting Mayors and Mayoresses at the Police Museum and Charters Exhibition.
- Nepalese Night in Medway
- Christmas Lights Switch On/Night Food Market
- Faversham Umbrella Christmas Fair
- Levelling Up Visit to Faversham
- Visit to the Wonderworks (Hornby Hobbies, Margate)

- Meeting with Helen Whately MP regarding Faversham Creek
- Swale Friends of the Earth Green Market in The Guildhall
- Advent Service at St Mary's of Charity Church
- Faversham Carnival Club Musical Evening at the Alexander Centre
- Cinque Ports Joint Standing Committee
- Friends of the Cottage Hospital event
- Local Funeral Directors' Memorial Service

144. Discover Faversham Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Discover Faversham Working Group meeting dated 30th October 2023.***

145. Faversham Community Transport Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr BJ Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Faversham Community Transport Working Group dated 8th November and 22nd November 2023.***

It was noted that a grant application had been made to the Queenborough Fishery Trust to fund the acquisition of the ticket machine.

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr BJ Martin, it was ***RESOLVED that D1 training for R Gibbs was arranged with National Driving Centre unless training could be found more locally.***

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr BJ Martin, it was ***RESOLVED to accept the branding/livery design for the minibus.***

It was agreed that the route would be circulated to Councillors.

146. Community Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Community Committee dated 20th November 2023.***

Cllr Saunders expressed concern regarding the measurement of performance for the youth contract with Vibe. Cllr Rowlands agreed to circulate the tender document.

Cllr Crayford referred to the minutes and stated that he wished it to be recorded that the member of the public was a young man who had asked a question about

the Perry Court land. The Committee had responded, and he expressed his thanks.

Designs for the 50th anniversary of the Town Council badges were circulated. It was proposed by Cllr Crayford, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the Town Clerk would circulate the final design for approval.**

147. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Cllr Perkin provided an update of the informal meeting of 27th November 2023. The meeting was inquorate so there were no minutes to be presented.

148. Policy and Resources Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Saunders, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 4th December 2023.**

Cllr Saunders commented that he felt there were items within the meeting that would have benefitted from greater discussion and debate.

149. Environment Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Coniam, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Environment Committee dated 6th December 2023.**

It was noted that the recommendation to include £10,000 towards work at Stonebridge Pond would be discussed at the budget workshop meeting. There was a general discussion over the responsibility of organisations such as KCC and Southern Water towards the work on siltation and flooding.

150. Receipts and Payments

Cllr BJ Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to agree receipts and payments for December 2023.**

151. Private Session

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED 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 confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that new job titles and descriptions be approved and the Staff Training Budget be increased sufficiently to allow the Town Clerk to undertake the MA in Public Leadership by the SLCC/DMU and for other members of staff to undertake any required training.***

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Staffing Committee dated 4th December 2023.***

APPENDIX ONE – Questions from Members of the Public

In relation to the query raised regarding the responsibility for maintenance of a public footpath running along St Mary of Chairty Church and Abbey Place, Cllr Perkin advised the footpath had been cleared and she had taken photographs and sent those to SBC and KCC to query responsibility. Cllr Perkin advised she would contact Mr Taylor when she received a response.

Cllr T Martin welcomed PC Tancock. Cllr Coniam referred to an email she had received from a resident at Davington Fields regarding antisocial behaviour including motorbikes riding on paths and break ins and theft from cars. These had been reported to the Police. PC Tancock advised it had not been reported.

Cllr Perkin raised the issue of dangerous parking in Preston Street in the evening meaning that emergency vehicles would not be able to get through. PC Tancock agreed to look at what could be done to educate members of the public to park more responsibly.