

Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council
12th February 2024, 7pm
The Guildhall, Faversham

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

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

167. Apologies for Absence

Apologies with reasons were received from Cllrs Cook, Eyre, Golding, and Perkin.

168. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

169. Minutes of the Town Council

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Town Council meeting dated 8th January 2024 subject to the minor amendment under Appendix One which should read “Queen Elizabeth Grammar School” and not “The Abbey School”.***

The approval of the Minutes of the Annual Finance Meeting dated 15th January 2024 was deferred until the following meeting.

170. Mayor’s Announcements

Cllr T Martin reported on recent events attended including:

- SBC Liaison Forum, 23rd January 2024
- Arden Theatre, 24th January 2024
- Carnival Court Stand Down, 26th January 2024
- Baptist Minister Ordination and Induction of Rachel Taylor, 27th January 2024
- Carnival Court Selection, 27th January 2024

- Canterbury City Council Civic Evensong, Canterbury Cathedral, 6th February 2024
- Pearls WI Talk at The Guildhall, 8th February 2024
- Faversham Umbrella Quiz Night at The Guildhall, 9th February 2024

Cllr T Martin referred to the FTC 50th Anniversary badges that will be available from 1st March 2024.

171. Mayor Elect 2024-2025

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Crayford, to nominate Cllr Crayford for appointment as Mayor Elect 2024-2025.

2 VOTES FOR/8 AGAINST

It was proposed by Cllr BJ Martin, seconded by Cllr T Martin, to nominate the current Deputy Mayor, Cllr Rowlands for appointment as Mayor Elect 2024-2025.

7 VOTES FOR/2 AGAINST/1 ABST.

Cllr Rowlands was therefore appointed as Mayor Elect 2024-2025.

172. Deputy Mayor Elect 2024-2025

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Crayford, to nominate Cllr C Martin for appointment as Mayor Elect 2024-2025.

9 VOTES FOR/1 ABST.

Cllr C Martin was therefore appointed as Deputy Mayor Elect 2024-2025.

173. Environment Committee

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Crayford, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Environment Committee dated 10th January 2024.***

174. Community Transport Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr B J Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Community Transport Working Group dated 10th January 2024.***

175. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

It was proposed by Cllr B J Martin, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group dated 22nd January 2024.***

176. Policy and Resources Committee

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr B J Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Town Clerk and Cllr Eyre and open the following accounts:**

CCLA	£50,000	Instant Access
NatWest	£65,000	35 Day Account
NatWest	£20,000	Current Account
Lloyds	£150,000	Current Account
Lloyds	£100,000	Instant Access
Unity Trust	£100,000	12 Month Account
Nationwide	£86,000	90 Day Account

The following Councillors to be signatories of the CCLA and Unity Trust accounts: T Martin, C Martin, Rowlands, Saunders and Eyre.

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

- a) **All committees to resume monthly meetings, with the proviso that Chairs/Vice Chairs can choose, if there are no items for decision, to cancel a meeting in liaison with the Town Clerk, at short notice.**
- b) **The Creek Working Group and Heritage and Buildings Working Group combine to form a committee with delegated powers and meet on a monthly basis. A separate working group is formed specific to T S Hazard building, that will report direct to the newly formed committee. To commence May 2024.**
- c) **The previous informal Strategy/Budget working group becomes a formal Strategy Working Group to work on the following: strategic plan; annual action plan; community engagement/residents' survey; medium term financial plan; loss of services; change strategy policy; devolution/localism; solutions when services are lost; Local Council Award Scheme. This group should meet regularly, in order to progress the work in a timely manner. It should report direct to the Policy and Resources Committee for recommendations to be made to Full Council. To keep the current membership until May 2024.**
- d) **The format of the HWRC Working Group should be replicated into a general campaign working group. This group should have delegated powers to meet at short notice and agree urgent items such as setting up of petitions, public meetings, and demonstrations, without having to wait until the formal agreement of Full Council. The working group should consider items when there is reasonable concern that services**

are at risk. It should not become a political instrument, working on rumours, but for the Town Council to work together for the benefit of residents. Membership agreed as follows Cllrs Gibson, Crayford and Jones plus a member from Priory Ward, to be agreed.

e) ***The draft meeting calendar for 2024/2025***

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 5th February 2024.***

177. Heritage and Buildings Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Street Name Report and recommendations.***

178. TS Hazard

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Newman and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Bailey for a reinstatement valuation.***

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Newman and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to approve the engagement of Mr Richard Murr of Tassells to act on the Council's behalf.***

179. Spring Newsletter 2024

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Crayford and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the draft newsletter subject to the amendments.***

180. Nominated Trustee

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to appoint Cllr C Martin as Trustee to FMC2010 and Municipal Charities of Faversham CIO***

181. Police and Crime Commissioner

Cllr Crayford proposed the following motion "In response to residents' valid concerns about increasing anti-social behaviour, I propose that the Town Council writes to Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner, to request additional police presence. Additionally, I propose inviting the commissioner to attend a future town council meeting. This would provide an opportunity for town councillors and residents to express their concerns and collaboratively work towards enhancing safety in Faversham." Cllr Rowlands proposed the amendment to add "To invite all prospective PCC candidates to a hustings in Faversham." The amendment was accepted by Cllr Crayford and became the substantive motion. The

amended motion was proposed by Cllr Crayford, seconded by Cllr Gibson and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to write to the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner requesting additional police presence, inviting him to a Town Council meeting and, prior to the 2025 election invite him, along with other candidates, to a hustings in Faversham.**

182. 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 February 2024.**

183. It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, 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 sensitive nature of the business to be transacted.**

184. Staffing Sub-Committee

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to adopt the NALC standard contract.**

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Staffing Sub-Committee dated 5th February 2024.**

APPENDIX ONE – Report from PC Tancock

PC Tancock of Kent Police delivered a report on recent activity.

- Monthly Surgery to be held at the Alexander Centre on 23rd February 10am-12pm.
- Speed checks have been carried out, including on 7th February when 6 reports were produced for excessive speed.
- Crime figures
- Anti-social behaviour in St Anns Ward

Cllr Saunders queried whether the results of the speed check could be shared with the Town Council and/or KCC to help identify if measures were required to slow down traffic. PC Tancock agreed to look into this.

APPENDIX TWO – Questions from Members of the Public

A member of the public referred to discussions at the previous meeting concerning bunds at the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (incorrectly minuted as The Abbey School) and the footpath between St Mary's Church and Abbey Place. Cllr Gibson agreed to look into the matters.

The meeting concluded at 20.50.