

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

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

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

125. Apologies for Absence

An apology with reason was received from Cllr Newman.

126. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr BJ Martin DPI Minute Item 134 Consultation on Swale Borough Council's Draft Street Trading Policy.

127. Minutes of the Town Council

Under Minute Item 114 it was noted that Cllr C Martin was present but was recorded as an apology.

Subject to the amendment noted, Cllr T Martin proposed, 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 18th October 2023.***

128. Mayor's Announcements

Cllr T Martin recorded his attendance at a Choral Society Concert, which the Deputy Mayor of Swale also attended. The "Howl-o-ween" event had taken place on 28th October, and Cllr T Martin expressed his thanks to the local businesses who had sponsored the prizes given out on the day. On the same day, the Skiff launch on the Creek had taken place. The Mayor's Quiz took place on 4th November and raised £587.00 for the Mayor's Charities, Faversham Pools, and Faversham Umbrella. Cllr T Martin thanked participants for their support. The FTTA AGM had also been attended. The Remembrance Parade had taken place on 12th November, and Cllr T Martin thanked the Town Council staff and members

of the public who attended. Cllr T Martin had been interviewed by BBC Radio Kent and following this, with members of the Creek Working Group he had travelled to London to hand in a petition to the DFT regarding the Creek Bridge.

129. Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group

Cllr Rowlands reported a mental health talk by Alex Richardson, of Keep Talking Services, was being held in The Guildhall on 29th November.

Cllr Perkin reported on the Black History Month talk entitled “Art as a Weapon – Some Pan-Africanist Examples” by Tayo Aluko, held in The Guildhall on 29th October and had been well attended.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Perkin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group dated 16th October 2023.***

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that this Council agrees the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group is disbanded and instead the work programme of that group sits as a standing item on the agenda of the Community Committee and any members of the working group, not already on said Committee, be immediately co-opted.***

130. Black History Month Booklet

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that this Council approves and prints the booklet entitled “2000 Year History of Black People in Faversham and East Kent” with funding set aside from the ED&I budget.***

131. HWRC Working Group

Cllr Rowlands expressed his thanks to Councillors, and former Councillors Thomas and Williams for their efforts on the Working Group.

It was agreed the Working Group will meet if there are further threats to the future of the Faversham HWRC within the civic year.

Cllr T Martin thanked members of the public who attended demonstrations at County Hall.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Crayford, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the HWRC Working Group dated 26th October 2023.***

132. Creek Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr P Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to approve the amended mooring agreements.**

Following a matter raised by Cllr Cook regarding Front Brents and possible funding received from the Sports Council in 1989 and possible caveats included, it was agreed the Town Clerk would investigate.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Creek Working Group dated 1st November 2023.**

133. Policy and Resources Committee

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 Policy and Resources Committee dated 6th November 2023.**

134. Consultation on Swale Borough Council's Draft Street Trading Policy

Cllr BJ Martin left the meeting for this item.

Cllr Perkin expressed her concern about accessibility for people with additional needs. It was agreed to include this in the Town Council's response to the Consultation.

135. Kent Active Travel Plan

Cllr BJ Martin returned to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Golding, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that the Town Council delegates responsibility for responding to the KCWIP to the Active Travel Committee.**

136. Christmas Support

Cllr Perkin proposed the motion "The Town Council resolves to work with the Community Networking Group to put together resources for social media, posters and fliers for businesses, signposting people to appropriate support services during this period and agrees to vire £1,500 from the EMR Special Projects to assist."

It was proposed by Cllr Crayford, to amend the motion, Cllr Perkin accepted the amended motion, which became the substantive motion.

“The Town Council resolves to work with the Community Networking Group to support services during this period and agrees to vire £1,500 from the EMR Special Projects to assist.”

10 FOR / 1 AGAINST

137. Receipts and Payments

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

138. Private Session

Cllr T Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Coniam, 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.***

139. Creek Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the revised support proposal from Breakthrough Communications of 30 hours.***

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that delegated power is given to Faversham Town Council Officers in consultation with the Mayor to sign the letter to Department for Transport being drafted by Kent County Council.***

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to reject the recommendation to form a litigation working group and that an extraordinary meeting be called, should it become necessary.***

The meeting ended at 8.55pm

APPENDIX ONE – Questions from Members of the Public

Mr Taylor raised concern about the public footpath running along St Mary of Charity Church and Abbey Place. The surface dressing was breaking up with potholes and due to the season, was covered in leaves, making it particularly dangerous to use. KCC

Highways had advised they did not own the footpath. The footpath was also very poorly lit. Cllr Perkin agreed to take this issue up with KCC and SBC.

Mr Taylor raised concern about flooding at Staple Street, Boughton. Cllr T Martin advised the issue was outside of FTC's boundary.