

**Highlights in this issue:**

- Faversham awarded £1m funding
- Open Faversham returns
- Bloomin' marvellous Faversham
- Barons at the Coronation
- Your newly elected Councillors
- 2023 Honorary Freemen



FAVERSHAMTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

# Closure of Faversham waste recycling site

**The Faversham Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in Salters Lane is under threat of closure.**

This will force local residents to travel to Sittingbourne, Canterbury or other HWRCs, costing us all time and money. It will create more traffic through Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and could lead to more fly-tipping. It will also mean jobs in Faversham, belonging to people who work at the HWRC, will be lost.

Kent County Council will be consulting with the public from Tuesday 18th July 2023. It is vital that your voice is heard. Faversham Town Council is campaigning against its closure, you can keep up to date with our campaign and find details of the consultation, as soon as it opens, here:

<https://bit.ly/favtipcampaign>



*Cllrs Crayford, Cook and Williams at Faversham Waste Recycling Site*



**KCC public consultation starts Tuesday 18th July . . .  
TAKE PART AND HAVE YOUR SAY TO SAVE OUR TIP!**

# Faversham awarded almost £1 million Government funding to encourage safer walking

*CLRs Julian Saunders and Eddie Thomas*

**Kent County Council has successfully bid to improve the cross-town walking route running from the east to the west of Faversham.**

The £995,000 scheme, called the Faversham Cross Town Path, will include new crossings and junction improvements to create a more pedestrian and cycle friendly environment. It will be paid for by the Government's Active Travel England fund.



The improvements will work alongside Faversham Town Council's 20mph area and will be among the first new changes to encourage drivers to watch their speed. The successful bid is built on details in Faversham's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). Working together Faversham Town Council, Swale Borough Council and KCC agreed the scheme aimed at encouraging walking would best fit the criteria for this round of Government funding.

KCC's Cabinet Member Highways and Transport, David Brazier said: "We are delighted to have worked with Faversham Town Council and Swale Borough Council on securing this. The aim of this local project is to encourage walking as a regular form of transport in the town and to make it safer for people to make that choice. We will now continue to work with the local community as we continue to listen to the views of local people."

Faversham Town Council's Active Travel Committee chair, Cllr Eddie Thomas said: "I'm very excited that we've just received confirmation from Active Travel England that Faversham has been awarded funding to make walking into town from both east and west much safer. This is great news for our town, and a product of the commitment and teamwork of local councillors, community members and staff at Faversham, Swale and Kent councils. The Faversham Cross Town Path is another step towards making Faversham a 'walking and cycling town'. Building on the foundation of the town wide 20mph limit, this scheme will create a legible, distinct and safe walking route across the town."



*Cllr Julian Saunders, Chair of The Cross-Authority Working Group, and Cllr Eddie Thomas, Chair of Faversham Town Council's Active Travel Committee, in Gatefield Lane*

Chair of the cross-authority working group, Councillor Julian Saunders said: "The Faversham Cross Town Path is included within the adopted Faversham Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and many residents already use the route. With the improvements planned we aim to encourage greater use by making it safer and more pedestrian friendly."

Some meetings are available to watch live via Zoom. Please check our website for the links and the most up-to-date meeting calendar.

[www.favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING CALENDAR

MEETING	TIME	DATE
Policy & Resources Committee	7.30pm	Monday 3rd July
Active Travel Committee	7.30pm	Thursday 6th July
Planning Committee	6pm	Monday 10th July
Town Council	7pm	Monday 10th July
Environment Committee	7.30pm	Wednesday 12th July
Planning Committee	6pm	Monday 24th July
Neighbourhood Planning Steering Committee	7.30pm	Monday 24th July
Planning Committee	6pm	Monday 14th August
Town Council	7pm	Monday 14th August
Policy & Resources Committee	7.30pm	Monday 4th September
Planning Committee	6pm	Monday 11th September
Town Council	7pm	Monday 11th September
Community Committee	7.30pm	Monday 18th September
Planning Committee	6pm	Monday 25th September
Neighbourhood Planning Steering Committee	7.30pm	Monday 25th September
Policy & Resources Committee	7.30pm	Monday 2nd October
Planning Committee	6pm	Monday 9th October
Town Council	7pm	Monday 9th October
Environment Committee	7.30pm	Wednesday 11th October
Active Travel Committee	7.30pm	Thursday 5th October
Planning Committee	6pm	Monday 23rd October
Neighbourhood Planning Steering Committee	7.30pm	Monday 23rd October

# Looking forward to the return of 'Open Faversham' from 12th-20th August

The Faversham Society and the Friends of St Mary of Charity have joined together to showcase our Town's rich built, cultural and natural heritage in August.

Open Faversham will run from Saturday 12th to Sunday 20th August and during those nine days Faversham groups and individuals, who would like to celebrate and share any aspect of our heritage, past or present, are invited to join. It is the summer holidays and although some of us will be away, many will be having a 'staycation' and families will be home with children looking to be entertained. In August Faversham attracts



*TS Hazard in Conduit Street*

many tourists and day visitors and many of us have friends and relatives come to stay, so there will be plenty of activities for children and young people to enjoy.

On Tuesday 15th August Geoff Sandiford's group will be putting on "The Charmed Life of Arden" in St Mary of Charity. There will be a guided walks in town and along the Westbrook, a photographic exhibition, dressing up and activities for children, gunpowder and pirates and much more.

Our website at [www.openfaversham.info](http://www.openfaversham.info) will list the events and we shall be promoting the nine days widely in the town, across Swale and on Visit Kent. If you would like to organise an event or activity for inclusion in Open Faversham please email us at [info@openfaversham.info](mailto:info@openfaversham.info) for more information.

***We look forward to welcoming everyone back to 'Open Faversham' this August!***



# **Bloomin' Marvellous as Faversham is announced as a Britain in Bloom Finalist**

**The proud and ancient market town of Faversham has been confirmed as one of the ten finalists in the 'large town' category.**

In total, 44 finalists of the 2023 RHS Britain in Bloom UK Finals competition have been announced by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), as groups prepare to impress judges with their stunning sustainable displays and vie for the chance to win the UK's largest gardening competition.

The finalist, selected from across the UK will compete to be crowned the winner in one of ten categories and will also be looking to secure an RHS gold, silver gilt or bronze award. Category winners will then be put forward to be named RHS Britain in Bloom Overall Winner for 2023.

# Cinque Port Barons attend the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla

*Cllrs Trevor Martin*

## What an honour to attend as Baron of the Cinque Port of Faversham the Coronation of King Charles III.

Inside the Abbey Ushers gave us the Service Book and reminded us that no photographs should be taken until after the Service. We made our way to the North Choir Aisle, where there were TV monitors showing the Choir and Coronation Theatre as these were not visible from our seats.

Some of the TV presenters stopped to talk with us, Jay Blades and Ant and Dec were so thrilled to be there, it reminded me of just what a huge event we were part of. Our MP stopped to chat with the Barons too and seemed quite surprised to see us. During the service a number of those taking part had to squeeze past, including the Prime Minister, on his way to read the Epistle who was noticeably more tense than on his return.

The Music in the Abbey will be particularly engraved in my memory, as someone who has



*Cinque Port Barons at the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla*

worked in the entertainment industry and experienced some world class performers on stage, that is quite a feat. The historic significance of Faversham and the confederation of the Cinque Ports was really brought home to me as we made our way to the Abbey and stopped for a photo in front of the statue to Richard I, whose coronation the barons attended in 1189.

Though we were in the Abbey for five hours it seemed to pass so quickly.

## **Cllr Laura Coniam (Abbey Ward)**

[Laura.Coniam@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Coniam@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Laura moved to Faversham with her now husband in 2008, and loved the town so much that they decided to stay and raise a family here. Laura studied Philosophy at the University of Southampton before completing PGCE at Canterbury Christ Church. For ten years she was a teacher and head of department in a Medway grammar school but retrained as a forest school leader, alongside a role as a tutor with the Wildwood Trust. Outside of work, Laura enjoys spending time in with her family and friends, foraging, walking, crafting, and music. She is a trustee of Faversham Food Bank and is involved in community projects on and offline.



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## **Cllr Hannah Perkin (Abbey Ward)**

[Hannah.Perkin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.Perkin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Hannah was first elected to both Faversham Town Council and Swale Borough Council in May 2019 and was re-elected in 2023. She was born and raised in Devon and moved to Faversham over 10 years ago where she now lives with her husband and two school aged children. Hannah studied Classics and Archaeology at the University of Reading before pursuing a career in hospitality. Hannah now works full time as a regional assistant political development officer. In her spare time, Hannah is a Trustee of Faversham Foodbank, the Bensted Charities and Citizens Advice Swale, as well as supporting many local volunteer organisations.



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## **Cllr Chris Williams (Abbey Ward)**

[Chris.Williams@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Williams@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Chris was first elected in 2019 and has now been re-elected to both the Town Council and Swale Borough Council. He grew up in the Millfield area of Faversham and went to school at St Mary's primary and The Abbey School. Chris has always had a great interest in local issues and loves being part of the community, working with young people and is an active environmental campaigner. Chris went to the University of Greenwich studying Horticulture which has shaped his career since. Education, environmental issues and the supporting of local businesses has always been an integral part of his working life and business.



## Deputy Mayor of Faversham Cllr Josh Rowlands (Abbey Ward)

[Josh.Rowlands@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Josh.Rowlands@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Josh Rowlands moved to Faversham in 2013 and quickly found himself at the heart of the community working in different hospitality venues. Josh is a strong advocate for men's mental health and the hospitality sector, during his time on the council HE has driven forward the youth outreach project and will continue to do so over the coming years. His passion for youth representation comes from his time as president of Canterbury College SU and also his time in the National Union of Students NEC. In his free time Josh enjoys sports and is an ardent Newcastle United football fan.



## Cllr Alex Eyre (Priory Ward)

[Alex.Eyre@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Alex.Eyre@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Alex, originally from South Yorkshire, relocated to London in the late eighties where she studied Business and Finance with Printing and Publishing at the London College of Communication. With nearly thirty years of experience in the financial services industry, she has primarily focussed on compliance and regulatory positions. Her international adventures include Teaching English as a Foreign Language in Barcelona in the late nineties and, later, living in Bangkok when her husband worked for an International school. Alex settled in Faversham in 2015. When she has any free time, she enjoys foreign travel, visiting art galleries and museums, hiking, keeping fit, and cooking.



## Cllr Peter Cook (Priory Ward)

[Peter.Cook@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Cook@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Peter moved to Faversham in 1963 attending Queen Elizabeth's. He then left to study architecture in London, returning in 1972 and becoming a founder member of Faversham Liberal Party. He then worked as a planning officer at Thurrock and Thanet Councils before returning to Faversham in 1978 to set up a firm of Chartered Architects and Chartered civil and structural consulting engineers. He is now working to set up self build projects and affordable housing schemes. He is a keen skier, has climbed to over 13,000 feet in the Alps, cycles - he has done an Etape de Tour, run 3 marathons, competed on the track at athletics, both indoor and out, and still works out daily. He is keen to promote the character and history of Faversham to stimulate tourism and economic growth.





## **Cllr Julian Saunders** (St Ann's Ward)

[Julian.Saunders@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Julian.Saunders@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Julian Saunders was elected in 2019 and was Environment Committee Chair at Swale Borough Council, before stepping down in 2023. He took the lead in developing the Faversham Community Lottery, chaired the working group that developed the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and was heavily involved in the campaign to make the 20mph scheme permanent. Away from the Council he is on the committees of Faversham Town Twinning Association, FavershamFootpaths Group and Vice Chair of Bensteds Charity. Julian also presents a fortnightly jazz show on Faversham Community Radio. Before he moved to Faversham Julian worked in local government for thirty years, mainly in the development and management of employment and advice projects.



## **Cllr Kieran Golding** (St Ann's Ward)

[Kieran.Golding@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.Golding@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Kieran Golding is a father to two grown-up daughters and grandad to a four-year old grandson, and has lived in Kent all his life - Dover, Hythe, and now Faversham. Kieran's career has seen him work in the public and private sectors; he is currently working as a Trade Union professional for the Communication Workers Union. He is also a trained therapeutic counsellor. Active in the Faversham community, Kieran volunteers at Faversham Foodbank. He is a member of several local organisations, including Faversham Society which supports the recognition of the town's history, and Faversham Community Land Trust, established in response to the lack of affordable housing in the town.



## **Cllr Robert Newman** (St Ann's Ward)

[Robert.Newman@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Robert.Newman@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Robert Newman, over the last year, has been working with the Ukrainian community. He is retired and disabled, two years ago he had a stroke while standing outside Faversham Cottage Hospital. He has had a variety of jobs from cleaning toilets for Croydon Council to working as a policy advisor in ministerial offices. He is passionate about Faversham and the community here. His multitude of hobbies include reading Science Fiction and membership of the Faversham Pirates. His cat, Oak, has more Facebook followers than he does.



## **Cllr Rob Crayford (St Ann's Ward)**

[Rob.Crayford@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Rob.Crayford@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Rob became a Councillor as he is passionate about local people shaping their own community. He has a particular interest in social justice and ensuring the same opportunities exist for all. During his career he has led transformation and change projects for both private and public sector organisations and hopes his commercial experience can help ensure critical services and amenities can be protected. Rob grew up in social housing and was given many opportunities while witnessing other families suffer from numerous social injustices and lack of opportunities. He strongly believes everyone has the right to an affordable, safe home and that many families still face too many barriers for opportunities.



## **Mayor of Faversham**

### **Cllr Trevor Martin (Watling Ward)**

[Trevor.Martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Trevor.Martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Trevor has lived in Faversham since he was six weeks old and attended Faversham District Schools and Queen Elizabeth's School. A keen Scout in his youth he gained The Queen's Scout Award. Trevor married Brenda in 1986 they have 5 children all of whom still live in Kent. He has been a School Governor since 1993 in town latterly as Chair of Governors at the Abbey School. He serves as trustee of Faversham Municipal Charities and Chair of Trustees for Faversham District Scouts. As Deputy Mayor in 2021 and for last year as Mayor he chairs the Town Council Staffing Committee. Trevor now works as a Civil Servant for DWP.



## **Cllr Ben J Martin (Watling Ward)**

[Ben.J.Martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Ben.J.Martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Ben was first elected to both Faversham Town Council and Swale Borough Council in May 2019 and was re-elected in 2023. He was born and raised in social housing in Faversham and attended Ethelbert Road School, St Mary of Charity Junior School, and the Abbey School in Faversham prior to attending college and university in Canterbury. Ben currently works in social housing. Ben is dyslexic and has long campaigned for schools to be given adequate resources to diagnose and support dyslexic students to achieve their full potential. Ben has been involved in many local organisations including Faversham Cricket Club, Faversham Pools, and Bensted's Charity.



## **Cllr Claire Martin (Watling Ward)**

[Trevor.Martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Trevor.Martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Claire is Faversham born and bred, she attended Davington Primary School, Lady Capel School and the Abbey School. She is married with 4 grown up children, all of whom were also educated in the town. Claire works locally and has previously been a Town Councillor. In her spare time she is a Trustee of the Bensted Charities and Faversham Community Land Trust, which she has stepped down from chairing due to her commitments at Swale Borough Council. She is also a member of the Faversham Society.



## **Cllr Eddie Thomas (Watling Ward)**

[Eddie.Thomas@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Eddie.Thomas@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Eddie was first elected to the Town Council in May 2019. He started working in Faversham in 1988 as assistant store manager at the Safeway supermarket and he subsequently moved to Faversham in 1993. His career in retail management lasted for 20 years when he took redundancy and started to work for himself as a driving instructor. Eddie remains passionate about road safety and sharing his knowledge and experience as a driving instructor. In his councillor role as chair of FTCs Active Travel committee he believes that sharing knowledge of the new highway code rule "The Hierarchy of Road Users" is the key to further improving the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.



# Freedom of the Town

**Mrs Alison Reynolds BEM, Dr Ted Wilcox and Mr Geoff Wade were made Honorary Freemen of Faversham at this year's Annual Mayor Making. The Freedom Scrolls were presented by the Mayor of Faversham, Cllr Trevor Martin.**

Alison served as Mayor for three years, during the most difficult times seen in Faversham this century, 2019-2022. She continues to be active in the town as Chair of the Friends of the Cottage Hospital and a trustee of the Municipal Charities and West Faversham Community Centre.

Ted served as Mayor of Faversham in 2008 and 2009 and is a past Swale Borough Council member. Ted remains very engaged in the town, being trustee on a number of local charities including Queenborough Fishery Trust, Municipal Charities, Age UK Faversham and Sittingbourne. He is also an active member of Faversham in Bloom and Faversham Rotary.

Geoff led on the Faversham Future Forum, campaigning for a town wide neighbourhood plan, which is now nearing the final stage. He is also a trustee on the Municipal Charities.



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The entrance to Faversham Town Council offices is via the Visitor Information Centre between the hours of 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday.



## Faversham Town Council Staff

Louise Bareham	Town Clerk
Adrienne Begent	Deputy Town Clerk
Rob Gibbs	Assistant to the Town Clerk
Fiona Palmer	Finance Clerk (Maternity Cover)
Martin Goodhew	Visit Faversham Co-ordinator
Stacey Woolf	Facilities Manager
Joseph Hannah	Facilities Apprentice

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