

**Minutes of the Meeting of Annual Finance Meeting of Faversham Town Council**  
**20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 7pm**  
**The Guildhall, Faversham**

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

**In Attendance:**

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)  
 Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)  
 Cllr Perkin (Virtual – non-voting)

**347. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies with reasons were received from Cllrs Jones, C Martin and Perkin.

**348. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

None.

**349. Draft Budget**

Cllr Gibson thanked staff for the draft budget. Cllr Gibson proposed, seconded by Cllr T Martin to accept the budget with a 12% increase.

Cllr Rowlands called for a recorded vote on all motions.

Cllr Saunders proposed an amendment to reduce the Community Events budget by £3,000 and move to Youth SLA, seconded by Cllr Crayford.

|                       |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Cllr Rowlands (Chair) | Abst    | Cllr Golding  | For     |
| Cllr Coniam           | Abst    | Cllr B Martin | Against |
| Cllr Cook             | Against | Cllr T Martin | Against |
| Cllr Crayford         | For     | Cllr Newman   | Abst    |
| Cllr Eyre             | Against | Cllr Saunders | For     |
| Cllr Gibson           | Against |               |         |

3 FOR, 5 AGAINST, 3 ABST

The amendment fell

19.25 Cllr Newman joined the meeting.

Cllr Saunders proposed an amendment to increase grants by £10,000 from general reserves, ring fenced for projects tackling ASB and low level crime, responding to feedback in residents' survey. Cllr Crayford seconded the amendment.

|                       |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Cllr Rowlands (Chair) | Abst    | Cllr Golding  | For     |
| Cllr Coniam           | Against | Cllr B Martin | Against |
| Cllr Cook             | Against | Cllr T Martin | Against |
| Cllr Crayford         | For     | Cllr Newman   | Against |
| Cllr Eyre             | Against | Cllr Saunders | For     |
| Cllr Gibson           | Against |               |         |

3 FOR, 7 AGAINST, 1 ABST

The amendment fell

Cllr Saunders proposed an amendment to include a budget line for pedestrianisation and parking working group and draw £5,000 from general reserves. Cllr Crayford seconded the motion.

|                       |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Cllr Rowlands (Chair) | Abst    | Cllr Golding  | For     |
| Cllr Coniam           | Against | Cllr B Martin | Against |
| Cllr Cook             | Against | Cllr T Martin | Against |
| Cllr Crayford         | For     | Cllr Newman   | Against |
| Cllr Eyre             | Against | Cllr Saunders | For     |
| Cllr Gibson           | Against |               |         |

3 FOR 7 AGAINST 1 ABST

The amendment fell

**The meeting adjourned for a comfort break from 20:20 to 20:30**

Cllr Saunders proposed that facilities apprentice position be deferred as noted in the Town Clerk's report. Cllr Crayford seconded the amendment.

|                       |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Cllr Rowlands (Chair) | Abst    | Cllr Golding  | For     |
| Cllr Coniam           | Against | Cllr B Martin | Against |
| Cllr Cook             | Abst    | Cllr T Martin | Against |
| Cllr Crayford         | For     | Cllr Newman   | Against |
| Cllr Eyre             | Against | Cllr Saunders | For     |
| Cllr Gibson           | Against |               |         |

3 FOR 6 AGAINST 2 ABST

Cllr Gibson proposed the amendment rather than virement of £9,000 from EMR to grants, to split the amount with £5,000 to Events and £4,000 moved to Crime and ASB Reduction. The amendment was seconded by Cllr B Martin.

|                       |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Cllr Rowlands (Chair) | Abst    | Cllr Golding  | Against |
| Cllr Coniam           | Abst    | Cllr B Martin | For     |
| Cllr Cook             | For     | Cllr T Martin | For     |
| Cllr Crayford         | Against | Cllr Newman   | Against |
| Cllr Eyre             | For     | Cllr Saunders | Against |
| Cllr Gibson           | For     |               |         |

5 FOR 4 AGAINST 2 ABST

Cllr Rowlands proposed, seconded by Cllr Cook and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the budget with a 12% increase as amended**

|                       |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Cllr Rowlands (Chair) | Abst    | Cllr Golding  | Against |
| Cllr Coniam           | For     | Cllr B Martin | For     |
| Cllr Cook             | For     | Cllr T Martin | For     |
| Cllr Crayford         | Against | Cllr Newman   | For     |
| Cllr Eyre             | For     | Cllr Saunders | Against |
| Cllr Gibson           | For     |               |         |

7 FOR 3 AGAINST 1 ABST

The motion passed.

### 350. Earmarked Reserves

Cllr Crayford proposed, Cllr Gibson seconded and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that unspent 2024-2025 budgets be recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee for virement to Earmarked Reserves.**

### 351. Precept

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson proposed, seconded by Cllr Eyre and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to agree the Precept request of £755,000.**

|                       |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Cllr Rowlands (Chair) | Abst    | Cllr Golding  | Against |
| Cllr Coniam           | For     | Cllr B Martin | For     |
| Cllr Cook             | For     | Cllr T Martin | For     |
| Cllr Crayford         | Against | Cllr Newman   | For     |
| Cllr Eyre             | For     | Cllr Saunders | Against |

|             |     |  |  |  |
|-------------|-----|--|--|--|
| Cllr Gibson | For |  |  |  |
|-------------|-----|--|--|--|

7 FOR 3 AGAINST 1 ABST

**352. Private Session**

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands seconded by Cllr B J Martin, 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.***

**353. Salaries**

It was proposed Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Gibson and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Salaries Budget***

The meeting concluded at 21.20