

Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council
9th September 2024, 7pm
The Guildhall, Faversham

Cllr Rowlands (Chair)	Present	Cllr Golding	Apology
Cllr C Martin	Present	Cllr Jones	Present
Cllr Coniam	Present	Cllr B Martin	Present
Cllr Cook	Present	Cllr T Martin	Present
Cllr Crayford	Present	Cllr Newman	Present
Cllr Eyre	Present	Cllr Perkin	Present from item 291
Cllr Gibson	Present	Cllr Saunders	Present

In Attendance:

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

285. Apologies for Absence

Apologies with reasons were received from Cllrs Golding and Perkin.

286. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

287. Faversham 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 12th August 2024.***

11 VOTES FOR/1 ABST.

288. Mayor's Announcements

Cllr Rowlands provided a summary of the events he had attended including the Hop Festival and he extended his thanks to the Hop Festival organisers, the Mayors who attended, and the Town Council staff who supported the event. Cllr Rowlands highlighted the Faversham in Bloom event he had attended with Cllr Crayford and encouraged other Councillors to attend when possible.

289. Policy and Resources Committee

Cllr Eyre gave an update.

It was proposed BY Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that each Committee considers their actions detailed on the Action Plan.***

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Saunders, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that Grant payments are made as follows:**

PROSPECTIVE RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	SCORE TOTAL	%	AWARD CALCULATION
				£
Arden Theatre	£5,000.00	96.00	64	-
Assembly Rooms	£500.00	120.00	80	500.00
Autism Apprentice	£3,315.00	106.00	71	3,099.50
BEAMS	£1,000.00	88.00	59	-
Cinque Port Rowing	£2,500.00	126.00	84	2,500.00
Citizens Advice Swale	£1,512.00	101.00	67	-
FACE	£5,000.00	96.00	64	-
Faversham Community Networking Group	£3,060.00	101.00	67	-
Faversham Pools	£4,988.00	114.00	76	4,988.00
Faversham Umbrella	£5,000.00	108.00	72	5,000.00
FAVWAT	£1,121.00	78.00	52	-
GEMS	£5,000.00	94.00	63	-
Harmony Therapy Trust	£5,000.00	52.00	35	-
HI Kent	£2,552.00	107.00	71	2,336.50
Mid Kent Mind	£3,985.00	97.00	65	-
Open Faversham	£3,000.00	123.00	82	3,000.00
Painters Forstal Community Centre	£3,193.00	48.00	32	-
Sateda	£4,576.00	122.00	81	4,576.00
Vibe	£5,000.00	104.00	69	-
WFCC	£5,000.00	75.00	50	-
	£ 70,302.00			£26,000.00

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting, **it was RESOLVED the following statement on Planning Applications be accepted:**

1. Note the advice of its planning consultant that:

- The responsibility for publicising the application rested with SBC as the planning authority rather than the Town Council as a consultee;
- The Town Council would have had to display all documentation available on the public portal to avoid the risk of having an apparent bias in favour or against the application

- *There would have been significant costs involved in making all of this information available for the public to view.*
2. *Agree that the Town Council should issue a statement explaining why it didn't run a public exhibition about the Duchy application based on the advice above.*
 3. *Recommend that:*
 - *The terms of reference for the Planning Committee are reviewed in order to give it clearer responsibility for this type of decision.*
 - *A planning protocol is developed laying out the general procedures the Planning Committee will adopt as a consultee on planning applications.*
 - *The annual review of committee terms of reference and scheme of delegation ensures that all policy and procedure decisions, which are a matter of significant public interest, can be taken by an appropriate committee of the council, with a clear public statement issued afterwards, if appropriate, explaining what the council's position is and what the reasons for it are.*

11 VOTES FOR/1 ABST.

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Crayford, and on being put to the meeting, it was **RESOLVED to accept Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 2nd September 2024.**

290. Robe Wearing Policy

A discussion was held on the Policy.

The following amendments were proposed:

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr BJ Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to amend under Section 3 Hats to:**

“For the purposes of this protocol any reference to the wearing of hats shall include the wearing of hats by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and Town Councillors, generally worn outdoors, but not indoors, unless otherwise agreed by the Mayor and Town Clerk.

It was proposed by Cllr Crayford, seconded by Cllr Eyre, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to amend under section 5 Guidelines to Wearing Robes to:**

“Proper Attire Underneath Robes: Appropriate attire is requested beneath robes. The Mayor, Councillors, and Town Clerk should ensure that their dress is smart attire for the occasion.”

7 VOTES FOR/2 AGAINST/3 ABST.

It was proposed by Cllr BJ Martin, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Robe Wearing Policy as amended.***

8 VOTES FOR/1 AGAINST/3 ABST.

Cllr Perkin joined the meeting at 7:36pm

291. Receipts and Payments

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to agree receipts and payments for September 2024.***

11 FOR/1 ABST.

292. Private Session

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 nature of the business to be transacted.***

293. Staffing Committee

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Trevor Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Staffing Committee dated 2nd September 2024.***

It was noted that Karen Sutton has started in the role of Community Transport Officer.

The meeting concluded at 7.43pm