

Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council
14th October 2024, 7pm
The Guildhall, Faversham

Cllr Rowlands (Chair)	Present	Cllr Golding	Present
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	Apology
Cllr Eyre	Present	Cllr Perkin	Present
Cllr Gibson	Present	Cllr Saunders	Present

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

294. Apologies for Absence

An Apology with reason was received from Cllr Newman.

295. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Crayford DNPI Minute Item 299 Community Committee

296. Faversham Town Council

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Coniam, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Town Council meeting dated 9th September 2024.***

297. Mayor's Announcements

Cllr Rowlands provided a summary of the events he had attended including:

- Sound of the Musicals event
- Faversham Carnival – Cllr Rowlands extended his thanks to Cllr Perkin for use of her scooter and to the staff for their work. The Town Council was well received, and it was hoped the Town Council would participate again in future years.
- Café Guild
- Faversham Town FC
- Medieval Fair

298. Heritage, Buildings and Creek Committee

Subject to an amendment under minute item 31 which should read Mr A Thorne rather than Cllr A Thorne, 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 Heritage, Buildings and Creek Committee dated 4th September 2024.**

299. Community Committee

Cllr Crayford queried progress on the Library of Things. Cllr Coniam advised work was ongoing in conjunction with the Salvation Army.

In reply to a query from Cllr Crayford, Cllr Rowlands confirmed the Youth Grants Scheme was open to existing and new youth providers. In response to a query from Cllr Saunders, Cllr Rowlands advised the criteria had been expanded to include providers from all parts of the town covering a wider range of activities. The criteria were set out in the Youth Grants Policy.

It was proposed by Cllr Coniam, seconded by Cllr Golding, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Community Committee dated 16th September 2024.**

300. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Cllr Perkin provided an update on the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum.

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to:**

- 1) Engage Company B to print 200 copies of the NHP Booklets**
- 2) That Officers should have delegated power to spend up to £2000 to spend on referendum costs.**

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group dated 23rd September 2024.**

301. Policy and Resources Committee

The Town Clerk reported that Minute Item 152 Printer/Photocopier Contract would need to come back to Town Council under a private session.

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee dated 30th September 2024.**

302. Active Travel Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr BJ Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Active Travel Committee dated 5th September 2024.**

Cllr C Martin reported the LCWIP and HIP documents were to be amended and presented to the November Town Council meeting for ratifying.

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Active Travel Committee dated 3rd October 2024.**

303. Town Centre Parking

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Saunders, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to write to Swale Borough Council to ask them to urgently work together with us and local businesses to address the parking situation in the town centre. The Town Council agrees to ask Swale Borough Council to arrange a meeting with local businesses to discuss town centre parking issues and their views on fixing them and the Town Council agrees to establish a Working Group to present its views on town centre parking to Swale Borough Council to gain a greater understanding of Swale's plans for pedestrianisation. This Working Group is to include the Chair and Vice Chair of the Active Travel Committee and the two Borough Councillors for Abbey Ward with the KCC member for Faversham to be invited to these meetings.**

304. Civility and Respect Pledge

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to renew Faversham Town Council's recognition of the Civility and Respect Pledge.**

305. Autumn Newsletter

It was agreed to change the Cllr Rowlands' article on the front page to refer to the Neighbourhood Plan section at the back of the Newsletter.

It was proposed by Cllr BJ Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the draft Autumn 2024 Newsletter subject to the front page being altered as above.**

306. Receipts and Payments

It was proposed by Cllr BJ Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to agree receipts and payments for October 2024.**

The meeting concluded at 8.15pm

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public advised the recycling bins at Gange Mews had not been emptied during the period May-July and then only intermittently since. There were only 8 recycling bins for 15 apartments. This had caused concern that it might attract vermin, and the residents would incur the costs of resolving this. Cllr Perkin agreed to discuss the matter with the complex's management.

Councillors' plans to promote the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum
Councillors' intentions to vote

Cllr Rowlands advised the Town Council would take a neutral position but that did not prevent individual Councillors having a particular stance on the NHP.

Cllr Crayford advised the Labour Group would be campaigning for a Yes vote and was developing a flyer.

Cllrs Saunders and Cllr Golding advised they would support the NHP.

Cllr Perkin would be voting in favour of the NHP, and flyers would be distributed in Abbey Ward. In addition to social media, the Town Council's Newsletter had four pages dedicated to the NHP.

Cllr Cook advised he would be voting in favour of the NHP and was working with the Save Ham Farm Group who were also supportive.

Cllr T Martin would be supporting the NHP and would be participating in the public consultation events.