

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

16th September 2024 7:30pm
The Guildhall

Cllr Coniam (Chair)	Present	Cllr Perkin	Apology
Cllr Rowlands	Present	Cllr Jones	Present
Cllr Cook	Present	Cllr Golding	Present
Cllr Newman	Present		

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

Public Questions

A member of the public raised concerns about the Lower Road play area. He had carried out litter picks with his grandchildren and recently had discovered a zombie knife under a bush. It was agreed that increased lobbying of SBC, KCC, and central Government was required on the subject of youth funding cuts.

A presentation was carried out by Laurie McMahon and Gill Wagstaff of Faversham Healthy Futures – slides attached.

100. Apologies for Absence

An apology was received from Cllr Perkin.

101. Declarations of Interest

None.

102. Minutes and Matters Arising

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Cook and on being put to the meeting, it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Community Committee dated 15th July 2024 subject to an amendment to include Cllrs Golding and Newman as present at the meeting.**

103. Community Lottery

The Operator Report was noted.

Cllr Cook queried whether the same picture of a slow decline in ticket sales reflected the wider picture. It was agreed that this would be queried with the lottery operator.

104. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The Town Clerk gave an update on ED&I matters.

- An exhibition for Black History Month would be held from the second week of October.
- A calendar of awareness days had been shared for lighting up the Town Hall.

It was agreed that Councillors would consider the appropriate means of marking awareness days to discuss at the next meeting.

105. Discover Faversham / Tourism Strategy

It was noted that footfall counts had been carried out and a report would be ready for the next meeting.

The Town Clerk reported on the Destination Marketing Group. Regular meetings were being held bi-monthly and grant applications had been submitted to Swale BC. Monthly Visit Faversham newsletters were being sent out and an additional 4000 people had signed up to receive them following a campaign in conjunction with South Eastern Railway.

Additionally, Community News had made an approach to see if the Town Council would work with them on a new Town Guide.

Following the success of the Faversham Community Networking Group Z fold leaflet, the idea of creating a Z fold leaflet for local independent businesses was discussed.

The Town Clerk reported on discussions with the company who installed the town centre CCTV system for Swale BC, to see if there was a cost-effective way of installing town centre Wi-fi.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to move forward with the new Town Guide work with Community News and to contact local businesses to see if they would be interested in a Z Fold Leaflet.***

106. Youth Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Cook and on being put to the meeting, it was ***RESOLVED to open the Youth Grant application period from 17th until 30th September 2024.***

107. Events

Councillors expressed their appreciation and thanks to Claire Elliott (Events Officer) for the excellent work she has done on events to date.

The costs of holding the planned events for 2025 were discussed and it was agreed the Committee would need to put the case for increased funding at the Budget Workshop.

108. Library of Things

An update was provided by the Chair.

109. Christmas Jumper Appeal

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Jones, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to agree a Christmas Jumper Donation Month throughout November.***

110. Budget 2025-2026

It was agreed that Councillors would consider what projects they wanted the Committee to run and make suggestions at the next meeting.

111. Matters for Report

Open Faversham

It was agreed that Harold Goodwin would attend a future meeting to discuss the Open Faversham event.

The meeting closed at 21:10



What are the health and care needs of the people of Faversham and surrounding villages and how best can they be met?

A community research and planning project supported by:





Meeting with Faversham Town Council Community Committee (16/09/24)

presentation by Gill Wagstaff and Laurie McMahon

We'll cover:

- *Beginnings*
- *The 2023 Exhibition and Survey*
- *The 2024 Faversham 'Live Talk' Event*
- *What local people said...*
- *Next steps for FHF*
- *Working in partnership with our PCN and HCP*

the prompts...

- Demise of CCGs and ‘centralisation’ of commissioning at ICS/ICB level
- Creation then dissolution of Faversham’s PCN
- Impact of extensive house building in and around the town
- Concern about planning joined-up health and care services for communities like ours – and weakness of a ‘pathway mindset’
- Encouraged by declared strategies of K&M ICB around partnership working, integration of services, engagement with communities, co-design of services etc.

our purpose...

- Quantifying the future health and care needs of the people of Faversham and surrounding villages
- Encouraging the community to think about their health and care services and learning of their concerns and aspirations
- Supporting commissioners and providers in community co-design
- Creating a clear evidence-based, citizen-voice guide for planners and policy makers as they consider the future development of our health and care services.



the original team

from Faversham...

Gill Wagstaff, Laurie McMahon,
Graham Elvy, Jacqui Dabnor, Andrew Holden,
Carole Jackson, Alison Reynolds,
Hannah Perkin

advisors from University of Kent...

Dr Melanie Rees-Roberts, Steve Childs,
Dr Rebecca Cassidy, Dr Ambrose Gillick,
Dr Sarah Holtham, Dr Amanda Bates,



The 2023 Exhibition/Survey...

The questions posed in the survey were:

- *What gets in the way of citizens health?*
- *What services are important to citizens?*
- *What would help citizens become healthier?*

When the researchers analysed the responses they found that they fell into **four cross-cutting themes:**

- *Creating a healthy life...*
- *Health issues and long term conditions...*
- *Good **local** resources and services...*
- *Preventing ill health...*



The 2024 Faversham Society 'Live Talk' ...

The Event

- We were invited by the Faversham Society to run one of four 'live talk' events for the town.
- This was held in July and was attended by over 50 local people
- The design involved 6 facilitated discussion groups lasting about an hour preceded with short presentations on the survey results and current health and care issues.
- Our facilitator team were:
 - Claire Martin
 - Sarah Harvey
 - Graham Elvy
 - Rachel Stead
 - Jacqui Dabnor
 - Matthew Hatchwell



The 2024 Faversham Society 'Live Talk' ...

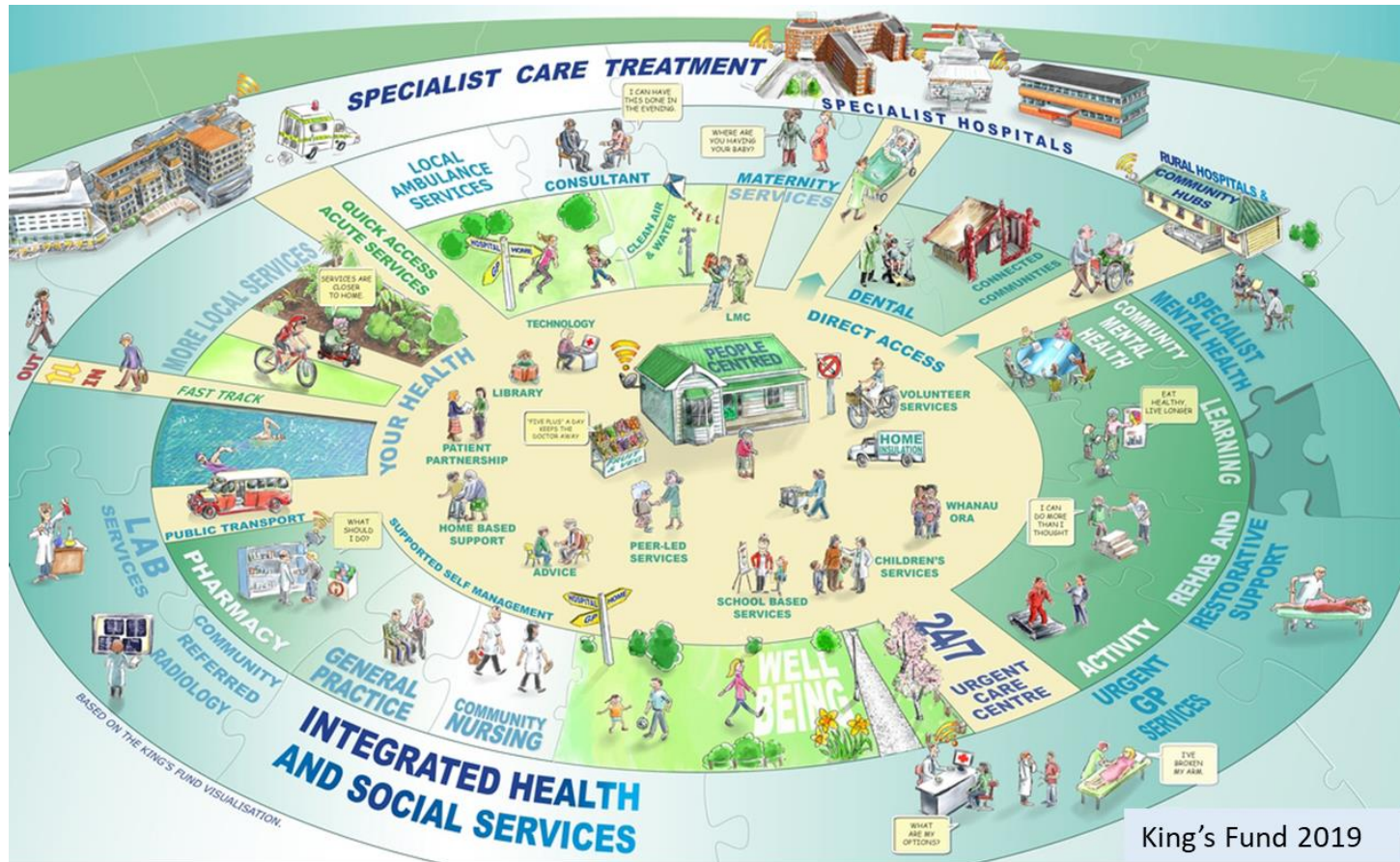
Comments, concerns, issues and advice...

- Improving access, quality and efficiency by decentralising and localising services and...
- Integrating and managing services locally
- Securing the right human and physical resources to do that
- Associated concern that the current local buildings/facilities not being utilised to best effect
- Rebalancing provision of care to include more home/social support/ health promotion/etc.
- Stronger focus on preventing illness - rather than just treating it.
- Better (local) mental health and NHS dentistry services urgently required
- More emphasis needed on supporting young people –
- Tackling the immediate problem of obesity – especially in school-age children
- Concern that NHS not reassuring public about the impact of any new housing developments on services
- Concern too that L.A. planning process does not emphasise creating healthy environments – open spaces/cycling/walking/air quality/water treatment etc. Does the NHS have any influence?
- Particular concern about how S106 was to be used in planning health and care facilities/services



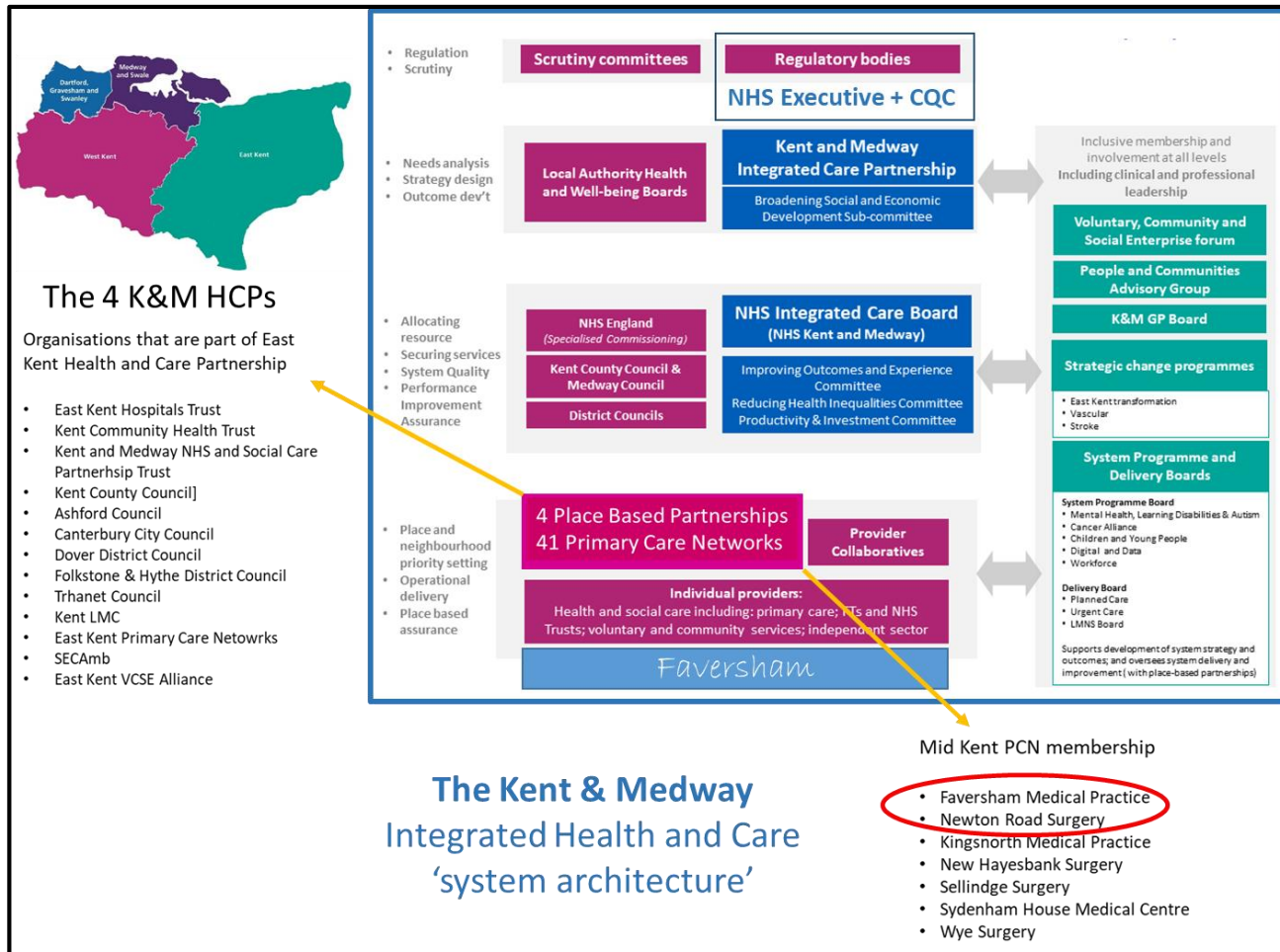
The 2024 Faversham Society 'Live Talk' ...

The applauded this.....



The 2024 Faversham Society 'Live Talk' ...

but worried about this....



The next steps for the FHF Project?

- maintain relationship with CHSS, University of Kent
- maintain support of K&M ICB,
- work in direct partnership with EK HCP and MK PCN to:
 - ✓ assess future health and care needs then
 - ✓ recruit, train and develop 'Citizen Experts'...
...using eminent researchers and practitioners
 - ✓ involve and engage more local people.
 - ✓ establish close working relationship with commissioners and providers to...
 - ✓ co-produce a *Faversham Health and Care Plan* and then..
 - ✓ use it!



some messages about making it happen...

- This is about *involving* the community – not just ‘engaging’ or ‘listening’ or ‘communicating’ or ‘informing’...
- Localised *co-design* vital if a community is going to *own* the inevitable changes to their health and services
- If not owned, then expect ‘placardists’ and aggressive social media over even minor changes – making implementation much tougher
- *Faversham Healthy Futures* will help us learn how best to do this.

and also...

- Traditional management thinking not enough – too many interests (professional/institutional/civic/political/personal) involved – just devolving responsibilities is not enough.
- Progress will only made through ‘active negotiation’ between key interests. Committees won’t work - you need a process!
- *Faversham Healthy Futures* will help us learn how best to do this too!





Gill Wagstaff and Laurie McMahon

fhf@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk