

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

18th November 2024 7:30pm
The Guildhall

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

In Attendance:

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)
Claire Elliott (Events Officer) (Minute Item 125)
Harold Goodwin (Minute Item 125)
Kevin Swinney (Minute Item 125)
Cllr Crayford (via Zoom)

Public Questions

None.

122. Apologies for Absence

An apology was received from Cllr Golding. Cllr Saunders was substituting for Cllr Golding.

123. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Rowlands DPNI Minute Item 129

124. Minutes and Matters Arising

Cllr Saunders referred to minute item 121. He felt the wording should be amended to read:

“Due to recent developments, such as those at Flood Lane, Cllr Saunders suggested the Committee contacts Swale BC to look into extending the Public Spaces Protection Order”

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 21st October 2024 subject to the amendment under Minute Item 121.**

125. Open Faversham

Harold Goodwin and Kevin Swinney discussed their work with Open Faversham. They were looking for the Town Council through its Events Officer to help in partnership with them with the organisation and promotion of Open Faversham.

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to set up an exploratory meeting with the Town Clerk, Events Officer, Harold Goodwin and Kevin Sweeney of Open Faversham. Following the meeting, a report is to be made to the Committee regarding staffing and cost implications.**

126. Community Lottery

The Community Lottery Operator Report was noted.

Cllr Saunders felt it would be useful to have statistics on a month-by-month basis in order to see the overall trend of lottery ticket sales.

127. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Cllr Perkin provided an update on the work for Faversham to become a Town of Sanctuary, it was hoped she would have the draft submission available for the next meeting. Cllr Perkin referred to training undertaken in 2021 for the Council to become Dementia Friendly. New training would be available in January in order for this to be renewed. Cllr Perkin suggested this item be added to the January 2025 Agenda. It was suggested that businesses within the town, particularly those in hospitality, be encouraged to enroll their staff on the training.

128. Defibrillator

A report detailing current Defibrillators within the town was noted.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to work to improve the available defibrillator provision and develop a short action plan to achieve this.***

Cllrs Saunders, Rowlands, and Perkin agreed to work on this project.

129. Antisocial Behaviour Concerns

A general discussion on antisocial behaviour concerns within the town took place.

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

- 1) Write to Swale BC to request a review of the boundaries of the current Public Spaces Protection Order and detailing recent issues of antisocial behaviour within the town.***
- 2) Send a copy of the Town Council's Crime Report to Swale BC***
- 3) Include concern that Safer Streets funding was received for Sittingbourne and Sheerness, but Faversham received none.***

130. Youth Partnership Group

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Perkins, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council establishes a Youth Partnership Group, similar to the Faversham Community Networking Group, to address the significant loss of youth services and funding in the area. With cuts to local services disproportionately affecting younger residents, this group would serve as a dedicated platform for collaboration between the Council, local***

organisations, schools, and youth representatives, enabling them to identify gaps, advocate for resources, and develop solutions tailored to the community's needs. The Youth Partnership Group should meet quarterly to discuss pressing issues, prioritise initiatives, and present actionable recommendations to the Council.

5 FOR/2 ABST.

131. Matters for Report
Homeless in Faversham

Cllr Rowlands referred to the growing issue of visible and non-visible homelessness within the town and felt it would be useful for the Committee to have a discussion on the topic.

White Ribbon Day

It was noted that White Ribbon Day was on 25th November and Cllr Perkin asked it featured on the Town Council's social media.

Dementia Friendly

Cllr Perkin referred to the earlier discussion under Minute Item 127 and asked that Dementia Friendly status be added to the next Agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.