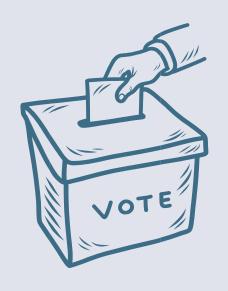
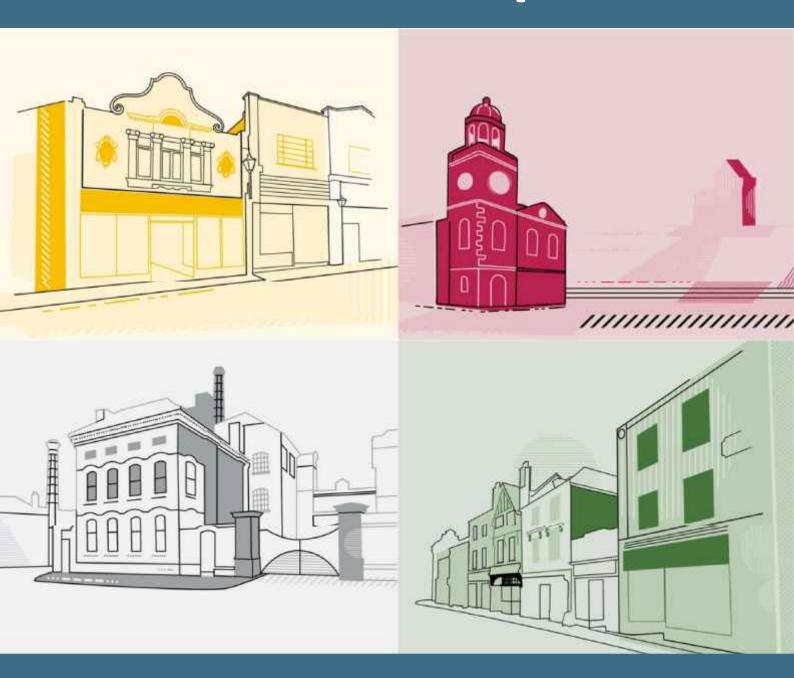
Have your say on the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan

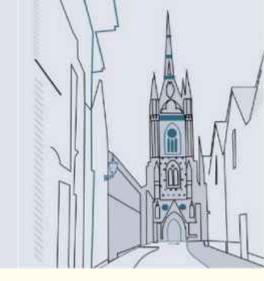


Referendum special



November 21st 7am - 10pm

Faversham Neighbourhood Plan Referendum



Why develop a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood Plans give local communities the direct power to plan the areas they live in by:

- Developing a shared vision for the development of their community
- Setting planning policies for the development and use of land
- Supporting planning permission for specified developments in a Neighbourhood area

Background to the Neighbourhood Plan

In May 2019 the Faversham Future Forum (a non-political group of local people interested in maintaining the character of our town) requested that that Faversham Town Council lead and co-ordinate the preparation a Neighbourhood Plan.

Since then, the Town Council, through Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (consisting of both councillors and volunteer residents) has worked to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the whole of Faversham.

Development of the Neighbourhood Plan

Development of the Neighbourhood Plan has involved extensive community consultation, engaging as wide a cross section of people of live and work in our town as possible, through multiple public exhibitions, a household survey, business surveys and surveys seeking young people's views.



The resultant plan has undergone two formal (legal) consultations: one undertaken by Faversham Town Council, a six-week Regulation 14 consultation prior to submission to Swale Borough Council; and, one by Swale Borough Council, a six-week Regulation 16 consultation prior to submission to an Independent Examiner. All comments received at Regulation 14 were carefully considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Where deemed relevant the Neighbourhood plan was revised.

How sites were appraised

1. The first step involves a site appraisal by AECOM, a professional planning consultancy

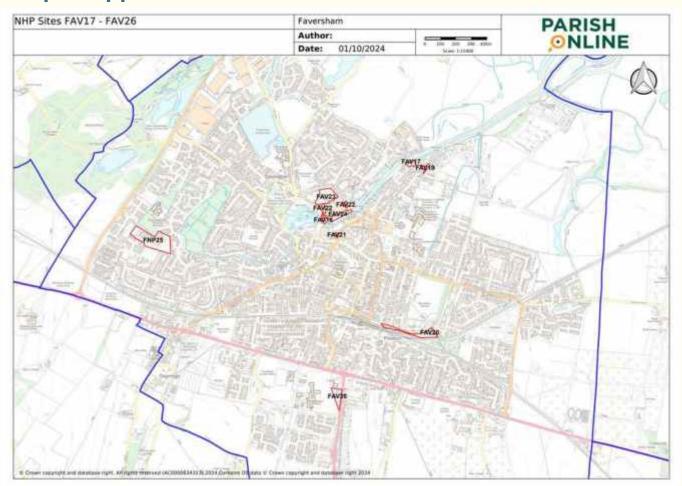
AECOM was commissioned to undertake an independent site appraisal for the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan on behalf of Faversham Town Council (FTC). This support was provided at no cost to the Town Council as part of the national Neighbourhood Planning Technical Support Programme led by Locality.

The AECOM site appraisal assessed sites to understand if they were available and suitable for allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) under local and national planning policy.

2. From the shortlist of suitable sites FTC then applied site selection criteria to select preferred sites for potential allocation.

These site selection criteria used by FTC in their determination were subject to a consultation. Finally, the selected sites were subject to a formal 3-week consultation.

Map of approved sites



FAV17: Former Coach Works Depot, Abbey Street (Page 97)

FAV18: Ordnance Wharf, Brent Road (Page 100)

FAV 19: Fentiman's Yard, New Creek Road (Page 104)

FAV 20: The Railway Yard, Station Road (Page 107)

FAV 21: Former White Horse Car Park Site, North Lane (Page 110) FAV 22: BMM Weston Ltd (parcel 1b and 1c) Land at Brent Road (Page 112)

FAV 23: BMM Weston Ltd (parcel 2) land at Brent Road (Page 116)

FAV 24: BMM Weston Ltd (parcel 3) land at Brent Road (Page 118)

FAV 25: Kiln Court and Osbourne Court (Page 121)

FAV 26: Land at Beaumont Davey Close, Ashford Road (Page 123)

Besides housing, what else is covered in the Neighbourhood Plan?



FAV1: Faversham Town Centre (Page 22) **FAV2:** Housing Development (Page 28)

FAV3: Residential Mix and Standards (Page 29)

FAV4: Mobility and Sustainable Transport (Page

35)

FAV5: Critical Road Junctions (Page 36)
FAV6: Public Rights of Way, National Trails,
Promoted Routes and Cycleways (Page 37)
FAV7: Natural Environment and Landscape

(Page 48)

FAV8: Flooding and Surface Water (Page 50)

The feedback from extensive public engagement throughout the process was analysed and there were a number of themes which came up time after time.

FAV9: Air Quality (Page 51)

FAV10: Sustainable Design and Character

(Page 55)

FAV11: Heritage (Page 61)

FAV12: Community Facilities (Page 66)
FAV13: Local Green Spaces (Page 70)
FAV14: Local Renewable Energy Schemes

(Page 81)

FAV15: Faversham Creek Policy Area (Page

86)

FAV16: Maritime Gateway Heritage

Regeneration Area (Page 89)

How can you find out more about the plan before the vote happens?

Monday 14th October - Thursday 21st November

Exhibition at The Town Hall, 12 Market Place

Thursday 17th October*

6-8pm, The Town Hall, 12 Market Place

Saturday 19th October*

10-12:30pm, Davington Church, Priory Road

Saturday 26th of October*

10-12:30pm, West Faversham Community Centre

Saturday 2nd of November*

10-12:30pm, Preston School Room, St. Catherine's

Church, Preston Lane

Saturday 9th of November*

10.00 - 12.30pm, The Community Room, The

Recreation Ground

Thursday 14th November*

6-8pm, The Town Hall, 12 Market Place

Saturday 16th November*

10-12.30pm, The Town Hall, 12 Market Place



*Members of the Steering Group Present

The Referendum

Everyone on the electoral register will be entitled to vote in the referendum. If more than 50% of those voting in the referendum vote 'yes', then the neighbourhood plan becomes part of the statutory development plan for the area.

FTC using public money can only produce factual material about the neighbourhood plan, not promote a yes vote.

Why not 'just say no" to new housing?

Faversham Neighbourhood Plan is pro-development. We recognise the need for new housing especially the acute need for affordable housing and 2 bedroom 'starter' homes within the existing built-up footprint of Faversham.

THE Neighbourhood Plan has no jurisdiction over the 'strategic sites' proposed by Swale Borough Council in the existing or emerging local plan and cannot legally be used as a 'tool' to oppose Swale Borough Council allocated development.

Faversham Neighbourhood Plan could choose to remain silent on the issue of housing development, leaving the job of allocating sites solely to the Local Plan and speculative developers but it this instance we would have NO SAY over housing in our town.

But, by making provision for the housing we need in sites supported by the community, the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan will protect the Town against future unplanned developments.

What role can the Neighbourhood Plan have in determining future planning applications?

If successful at referendum, our neighbourhood plan will come into force as part of the development plan for Faversham alongside the local plan. Swale Borough Council and planning inspectors considering planning applications or appeals, must make their decisions in accordance with the policies of the development plan (including the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan), unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The Faversham Neighbourhood Plan should be taken into consideration when all future planning applications are determined. Objections can be made where plans or proposed schemes do not meet the requirements of policy and supportive comments can be included where the scheme does comply with policy and helps to deliver the neighbourhood plan's aims.

How does a Neighbourhood Plan protect against unplanned development?

Planning law as determined by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' means that where there are no relevant development plans in place, the 'presumption' is to allow new development.

However, the same NPPF states that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with development plans, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Therefore, where a planning application conflicts with an up-to-date Neighbourhood Plan, permission should not usually be granted.

Having a Neighbourhood Plan in place protects us against the presumption in favour of speculative development and will prevent future unplanned development within the plan area.

Faversham Community Christmas Lights

Saturday 30th November

The live stage opens at 10am, finishing with our regulars
The Rock Choir at 3.15pm and Faversham Mission Brass at 4.30pm

Christmas Lights Switch On at 5pm







Facilities Hard at Work

The facilities team have been out and about the last few months improving areas around Faversham including renewing the bridge at Stonebridge duck feeding area; replacing the bench hit by a runaway car and installing some bat boxes.











2024 Events Recap & What's to Come in Faversham

As we approach the end of 2024, it's a perfect time to reflect on the fantastic events we've enjoyed throughout the year. Faversham has once again come alive with a mix of much-loved annual traditions and exciting new additions, showcasing the vibrant community spirit that makes our town so special.

A Year to Remember

Transport Festival: This annual favourite drew record crowds, with vintage vehicles, buses, steam engines, tractors and classic cars transforming the streets into a nostalgic showcase.

Midsummer Night's Feast: Celebrating the long days of summer and the enchanting new twist with the addition of a special performance of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream dance by Miss Sophie's Dance Academy. Local produce, live music from The Rose Gold Sting Trio, and a fantastic atmosphere brought the community together.

New Events, Big Success

2024 also saw the introduction of exciting new events that quickly became favourites:

D-Day 80: Commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day, this event offered a poignant and educational experience, honouring the bravery and sacrifices of those involved in the pivotal World War II operation. With thanks to everyone involved creating such a great atmosphere and for The Gunpowder WI for their wonderful efforts in setting up the Home and Country Tea Room in the Guildhall.

The Pirate Festival: Ahoy! Faversham embraced its inner pirate this summer with a day of swashbuckling fun. Families delighted in themed activities from lots of different organisations and local charities such as the Arden Theatre, Faversham Creek Trust, Faversham Sea Scouts and The Harmony Therapy Trust making it an unforgettable addition to the calendar. A special thanks to The Sheppey Pirates for their









great living history displays. Characters "Captain Jack Sparrow" and the wonderful mermaids from Event4Kent added to the atmosphere with their great interaction with adults and children. A huge thank you to everyone who was involved and for all the great stalls who dressed up and made such an effort for the theme.

Medieval & Tudor Faversham: Transporting visitors back in time, this new event allowed attendees to experience the rich history of our town. Re-enactments, market stalls, and historical displays brought the medieval and Tudor periods to life, offering a unique and immersive experience.

Annual Howl-o-ween Dog Parade: This has quickly become a well-loved annual events which sees the Market Place filled with the spookiest (and cutest!) parade in town, with our furry friends wearing their best Halloween costumes.

While we've had an incredible year so far, there's still much to look forward to.



Christmas Lights & Night Market: The holiday season is set to sparkle as the town lights up with festive cheer. The Night Market will feature a range of local crafts, food, and live music—perfect for getting into the Christmas spirit.

Looking Ahead to 2025

Next year is already shaping up to be even more exciting. With a full calendar of events planned, including some new events,

there's plenty to look forward to in 2025. Be sure to keep an eye out for the new What's On Guide 2025, arriving soon, for all the details.

Thank you to everyone who has attended and supported Faversham's events this year. We can't wait to see you at the remaining celebrations and beyond!







#60 Minute Litter Picks

Join the Town Ranger for Fridays #60MinuteLitterPicks and make a big difference in just a little time! In just one hour, you can help keep our beautiful town clean and welcoming. It's a great way to get outdoors, meet your neighbours, and do something positive for the community. Let's work together to keep Faversham looking its best—because a little effort can go a long way! Look out for the Town Council van at the locations below. All equipment provided, just wear sensible shoes and clothing to suit the weather.

Date	Time	Location/Meeting Point		
Friday 1 st November	10:30am	Reedland Crescent playing field		
Friday 8 th November	10:30am	Park Road		
Friday 15 th November	10:30am	Upper Brents		
Friday 22 nd November	10:30am	Arden Road		
Friday 29 th November	10:30am	Whiting Crescent		
Friday 6 th December	10:30am	Preston Park		
Friday 13 th December	10:30am	Broomfield Road		
Friday 10 th January	10:30am	Wildish Road		
Friday 17 th January	10:30am	Edward Vinson Drive		
Friday 24 th January	10:30 am	Upper Brents		
Friday 31 st January	10:30 am	Arden Road		
Friday 7 th February	10:30 am	Tettenhall Way		

For more information contact Joe at joseph.hannah@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk



Your Town Councillors

Cllr Josh Rowlands* **Abbey Ward** Cllr Laura Coniam **Abbey Ward** Cllr Hannah Perkin **Abbey Ward** Cllr Charles Gibson **Abbey Ward** Cllr Alex Eyre **Priory Ward** Cllr Peter Cook **Priory Ward** Cllr Rob Crayford St Ann's Ward St Ann's Ward Cllr Kieran Golding Cllr Robert Newman St Ann's Ward Cllr Julian Saunders St Ann's Ward Cllr Claire Martin** Watling Ward Cllr Becky Jones Watling Ward Cllr Ben J Martin Watling Ward Cllr Trevor Martin Watling Ward * Mayor of Faversham ** Deputy Mayor of Faversham

josh.rowlands@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk laura.coniam@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk hannah.perkin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk charles.gibson@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk alex.eyre@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk peter.cook@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk rob.crayford@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk kieran.golding@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk robert.newman@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk julian.saunders@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk claire.martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk becky.jones@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk ben.j.martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk trevor.martin@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

ALL COUNCILLORS CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH 01795 503286

Meetings Calendar	Start Time	Nov	Dec	Jan 2025	Feb
Full Council					
Town Council (2 nd Mon)	7pm	11	9	13	10
Planning Committee (2 nd and 4 th Mon)	6pm	11 25	9	13 27	10 24
Annual Finance Meeting	7pm			20	
Committees					
Active Travel Committee (1 st Thurs)	7.30pm	7		9	6
Community Committee (3 rd Mon)	7.30pm	18		27	17
Environment Committee (2 nd Wed)	7.30pm	12		8	12
Heritage, Buildings and Creek Committee (1st Wed)	7.30pm	6	4		5
Policy & Resources Committee (1 st Mon)	7.3opm	4	2		3
Neighbourhood Plan Steering group (4 th Mon)	7.30pm	25			

Town Council Offices

Favarsham Town Council Town Hall, 12 Market Place, Faversham, Kent ME13 7AE

Town Clerk: Louise Bareham

E: louise.bareham@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk T: 01795 503286 favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk



The entrance to Faversham Town Council offices is via the Visitor Information Centre between the hours of 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday.



Highlights in this issue:

- NHP Referendum Special
- 2024 Events Recap
- Christmas Lights Switch On
- **Your Councillors**
- Meetings Calendar
- Facilities Roundup
- #60 Minute Litter Picks



STOP PRESS . . . Faversham Neighbourhood Plan reaches

referendum

Cllr Josh Rowlands, Mayor of Faversham

The Faversham neighbourhood plan is the culmination of many years of hard work, from community volunteers, town council staff, and councillors; it's a plan that was designed by the community for the community.

The neighbourhood plan allows us to address specific local priorities around housing, transport, the preservation of Faversham's historic character, and precious green spaces. It promotes environmental sustainability by encouraging ecofriendly building practices and suports the future



of our local businesses and community spaces. Overall, the plan serves as a vital tool for shaping a vibrant, resilient future for Faversham, whilst protecting the town from speculative development.

It has been completely shaped by community involvement and the public engagement in creating it has been absolutely pivotal. Together we have created something which is really special is one of, if not the most detailed neighbourhood plans in existence. On November 21st you will have your chance to vote on whether we accept the plan or not. Please come and speak to us at one of our many events between now and then.

Flip this newsletter over to read more about the plan.

THE FOLLOWING POLLING STATIONS WILL BE USED FOR THE UPCOMING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM