

MINUTES OF Active Travel Committee
02 April 2026, 7:30pm
The Guildhall

Cllr C Gibson (Chair)	Present	Cllr Perkin	Present
Cllr Saunders (Deputy Chair)	Present	Cllr A Hook (KCC)	Apology
Cllr Coniam	Apology	Michelle Anderson (SBC)	Absent
Cllr Cook	Present	Chris Oswald-Jones	Present
Cllr B Martin	Apology	Tim Stonor	Apology
Cllr T Martin	Present	Adrian Oliver (KCC)	Apology

In attendance:

Rob Gibbs (Office Manager)

259 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Coniam, Cllr B Martin, Cllr Hook, Tim Stonor, and Adrian Oliver (KCC). It was noted that Tim Stonor was online, however due to poor sound quality, he left the meeting.

260 Declarations of Interest

None.

261 Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

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 Active Travel Committee dated 5th March 2026.***

262 Project Updates

Highway Improvement Plan

The discussion began with an update on the Highway Improvement Plan (HIP). It was noted that there had been a meeting with KCC in February, where it was suggested to integrate all items from the LCWIP into the HIP. Adrian Berendt had reconciled the two documents, revealing that only seven out of 113 items from the LCWIP appeared in the HIP. A meeting with Jennie Watson from KCC was scheduled for the following week to discuss further revisions.

Action: Meeting arranged with Jennie Watson to discuss the HIP.

20mph Compliance

The Committee discussed the placement of additional 20mph roundels, which would be funded by the Town Council. This would be discussed at the forthcoming meeting with Jennie Watson. The consultation on Athelstan Road and Cambridge Road had resulted in a report by Adrian Berendt, with the next step being to set up workshops with interested residents. Councillor T Martin raised concerns about the visibility of road markings post-roadworks, and it was agreed to ensure KCC contractors restored these appropriately.

Action: Set up workshops with residents on Athelstan Road and Cambridge Road.

Action: Raise with KCC about the reinstatement of 20mph Roundels post-roadworks.

East-West Walking Route

Chris identified three areas with water accumulation issues. Cllr Saunders had raised these with the Project Manager, who had contacted the contractor, The contractor was asked to price localised re-profiling. The Committee agreed to communicate their stance that these issues were not pre-existing and required resolution. The meeting also highlighted the need for a strategic approach to design and prioritisation of interventions, particularly crossings on the A2.

Participants discussed the importance of creating walking routes that are well-marked and promoted within the community. The conversation highlighted the need for better information about the routes, including maps and signage, to encourage more people to use them. There was a suggestion to involve local schools and community groups in promoting these routes.

North-South Walking Route

Cllr Saunders advised KCC wanted to move forward with FTC on the North-South Walking Route and it was suggested that a Working Group could be set up.

The committee discussed the priorities for the North-South Walking Route, with a focus on North Lane and the A2. There was a consensus that this should be the priority, given its importance for connectivity and safety. The Committee agreed to formalise their position on the development priorities to present a consensus in future discussions with KCC. This would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Similar to the East-West Walking Route, the discussion focused on the need for better signage and promotion of walking routes.

Action: Formalise the Committee's position on the development priorities for the North-South Walking Route to present to KCC. Agenda item for next meeting.

263 Faversham LCWIP

Cllr Perkin advised she would provide details of dropped kerbs to Cllr Saunders.

Cllr Saunders referred to problem parking at the bottom of Lower Lane where East-West Walking Route interventions had been installed. This was effectively making it a single lane where the raised tables were. Cllr Saunders proposed adding Double Yellow Lines at those stretches.

Cllr T Martin referred to vans being parked on the extended pavements at Love Lane making visibility difficult. It was established that Double Yellow Lines were planned and Chris Oswald-Jones suggested SBC's Parking Enforcement team could be asked to check the area.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to add DYL to the raised table area at the bottom of Lower Road to the LCWIP.***

Action: Cllr Perkin to provide details of dropped kerbs to Cllr Saunders.

Action: Add Lower Road intervention to the LCWIP

264 Faversham Hopper Community Bus Service

Rob Gibbs reported he had attended Oare Parish Council on 16th March to provide a report and to receive feedback, most of which was positive, however it had been queried whether a Saturday service could be introduced.

A poll of the volunteer drivers had shown there was sufficient cover for a limited Saturday morning service.

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Perkin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to introduce a limited Saturday service on the FH2 route.***

Additionally, the committee considered an offer from KCC to transfer a minibus (a 2015 Fiat Ducato) to the Town Council. The committee discussed the financial implications, including insurance and maintenance costs, and agreed to recommend accepting the bus to the Full Town Council, subject to a detailed report.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RECOMMENDED to accept the donation of a minibus subject to a full report to the Full Town Council.***

Action: Introduce a limited Saturday service on the FH2 route.

Action: Recommend accepting the minibus offer from KCC to the Full Town Council, subject to a detailed report.

265 Active Travel Month

The draft Active Travel Month leaflet was received and noted.

It was noted that Volunteer Bat Walk Leader training was taking place on 8th April prior to any bat walks being organised. It was noted that there was a QR code which linked to the FTC website that would be kept updated as more activities were added.

266 Flood Lane

Cllr Saunders provided an overview of meetings with Graeme Tuff (SBC) and Daniel Cannon-Skeet (KCC) regarding possible improvements to Flood Lane.

Swale Borough Council (SBC) owns the green space and a small off-road section between the Home Bargains (HB) entrance and the residents' garage. The section of road beyond the telegraph pole, marked by a "roadway" sign, is currently unregistered. SBC indicated that any attempt by a local body (e.g., a town or parish council) to register this land would be unlikely to face opposition. Kent County Council (KCC) is responsible for the adopted highway up to near the telegraph pole, with the end of the tarmac clearly marking the limit of their responsibility.

Proposed technical interventions included raising the road level to encourage water to drain toward the stream. Lowering the adjacent grassed area to improve runoff pathways. Considering alternative drainage strategies due to constraints imposed by stream levels. A possible "back in and out" turning arrangement near the entrance is considered viable. SBC has indicated openness to providing land to facilitate such a turning point.

It was suggested holding informal consultations with residents whose properties backed onto the area affected.

Action: Prepare informal consultations with residents to gather feedback on the maintenance of Flood Lane.

267 Matters for Report

- Wayfinding on walking and cycling routes.
- Priority interventions for the North-South Walking Route.

Action: Matters for Report items to be added to the next meeting agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.58pm