

MINUTES OF THE ACTIVE TRAVEL COMMITTEE

3rd July 2025, 7.30pm

The Guildhall

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

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)
Adrian Berendt (via Zoom)
Adrian Oliver (KCC) (via Zoom)

180. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs BJ Martin, Perkin, and Hook.

181. Declarations of Interest

None.

182. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Active Travel Committee meeting dated 5th June 2025.**

4 FOR/1 ABST.

183. West Street

Cllr Gibson referred to the discussion under Public Questions (see Appendix One) and the letter circulated to members.

Chris Oswald-Jones referred to a discussion with KCC Highways where he had been informed that funding had been allocated to repair the carriageway in West Street. The successive roadworks over the years had resulted in an uneven surface.

Cllr Saunders referred to the addition of West Street to the Highways Improvement Plan and referred to the voluntary Speedwatch scheme to help with the enforcement of the 20mph zone.

Tim Stonor referred to interventions that could be introduced such as road narrowing and signage

Cllr Cook suggested if problems persisted after carriageway repairs, then the speed limit could be looked at again.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to add measures to slow traffic in West Street to the Highways Improvement Plan.***

184. Project and Funding Update

Cllr Saunders summarised the report included with the meeting papers.

It was agreed to proceed with the public exhibition on the North South Route, scheduled for mid-October and to include Solomons Lane.

Michelle Anderson provided an update on work she was undertaking on a Swale LCWIP, which would include the Faversham LCWIP within it.

185. Active Travel Submissions Major Planning Applications

Cllr T Martin referred to the recent reduction in bus services and the Duchy application did not address this issue.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED for Adrian Berendt to set up a meeting with the Duchy of Cornwall to discuss the Committee's proposals.***

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the final submissions with the additions discussed.***

186. Potential Interventions to be added to HIP and LCWIP

The following interventions were discussed:

- West Street, as already agreed under Minute Item 183.
- St Nicholas Road by the Wallers Road junction – interventions to reduce speed.
- Dark Hill/West Street/Curtis Way – pedestrians having difficulty crossing and problems with speeding traffic coming down Dark Hill.
- Oare Road/Lakeside Avenue – putting in pedestrian controls at the traffic lights.

Cllr T Martin suggested adding a speed reduction for the A2 between Quarry Cottage and Love Lane, which was currently 50mph but in his view should be 30mph. Graveney and Goodnestone Parish Council and Boughton under Blean Parish Council could be asked to add this to their HIPs.

Michelle Anderson left the meeting.

187. Additional Disabled Parking Bays

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to support the conversion of some of the limited waiting/permit holder bays outside the Shepherd Neame offices in Court Street to provide up to 3 disabled person's parking bays subject to seeing fuller details.***

188. Faversham Hopper Community Bus Service

The report from the Community Bus Officer was received.

It was noted the new timetable had been submitted to KCC and Chris Oswald-Jones reiterated the renaming of Kiln Court to Acacia Court, and this needed to be reflected in the timetable.

189. Active Travel Month

The Town Clerk summarised the report for the Active Travel Month. A survey was being circulated to participants for feedback on numbers of attendees. It was proposed for the Active Travel Day in 2026 to be on 31st May 2026 but to look to rebrand the event.

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to hold the rebranded 2026 Active Travel Day on 31st May 2026 at The Abbey School in collaboration with the Rotary Club.***

190. Bike Hangars

The Bike Hangars Report was received.

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Cook and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to proceed with a grant application through the Swale Community Infrastructure Grant process and to allocate £2000 from the Active Travel budget towards this.***

191. Matters for Report

- Faversham Hopper Community Bus Service
- Discussion on improvements to public transport – buses and trains and whether a public transport users' group should be established.

The meeting closed at 9:35pm.

APPENDIX 1

Two members of the public raised their concerns regarding the traffic using West Street. The speed and weight of the traffic was causing structural issues with their property. The traffic was hitting the raised tables at speed. KCC had responded to their written concerns by carrying out a safety audit but felt no action was required

and suggesting consulting FTC. It was agreed this would be discussed under the Agenda item (Minute Item 183).