

From: Jacqui Hunt <jacqui.abbeyphysic@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 14:44  
To: Louise Bareham <louise.bareham@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk>  
Subject: Re: Age Friendly Working Group

Hello Louise,

Age Friendly Faversham

Hope all is fine and dandy with you. Thought I would send a quick update (hardcopy audit paperwork to follow). Our two volunteers have great experience in navigating accessibility around the town. One used to work for a care company, where residents would be brought into town. The other one cared for a disabled husband before he passed.

In summary, all main roads in the town were covered by our lovely volunteers (Abbey Street to Market Place, Preston Street to East St to the post office)

Early feedback

**Benches:** Volunteers have advised that essential benches in the town, including those along Abbey Place, Abbey Street, Preston Street, and outside Superdrug, have been removed. Why? This proves difficult (barrier) for those who cannot walk for long distances and need to stop. Without more benches, it would be a barrier to those coming into the town - they could become isolated in their homes.

**Dropcurbs:** Volunteers advised that more would be needed as navigating your way around town with a walker or mobility scooter in the roads/streets above. Some of the roads are narrow, plus some are on a slope (eg. Middle Row). Some of the cafes are spilling out onto the street, limiting the space for those not able to go around them on the road pavement - perhaps more consideration for walkers and mobility scooters as cobbled roads make those using walkers feel unsteady. Maybe a system similar to bike lanes could be a viable and safe option. Also a map of the dropcurbs would be useful.

The town would benefit from more disabled parking eg, closer to the FMP surgery as currently there the limited disabled parking on the other side (nr WC's). Lots of shops/cafes and pubs are accessible - some are not ie. narrow entrances or

difficult steps  
(eg. The Swan Cafe).

Other considerations that came up were:

Audio Pelican or Puffin crossings: These use sound, lights, and a push button to help pedestrians cross the road safely. Blind or elderly people would benefit from the countdown type system so that they know how long they have to cross the road. Some are rushing across - this could lead to tripping and falling over. Areas most in need would be at The Post Office junction, Tesco/Court Street, and at the Train station.

Disabled parking spaces: There is a large emphasis on electric vehicle charging (EV) points. The main Central Car Park (swimming pool) would benefit from more disabled bays nearer the Faversham Medical Practice//Paydens entrance. Newton Place Surgery discourages vehicles from parking at the practice, so maybe more disabled parking in Newton Road or nearby car parks might ease the discomfort and time to get to appointments on time or collect prescriptions.

Tesco seems to have the balance right in disabled parking, parents with children bays, and EV charging points.

I hope the above is a useful start to making Faversham Age-Friendly compliant. I will drop the hardcopy forms off on Friday when I am working in the garden.

Regards

Jacqui

On Thu, Oct 2, 2025 at 8:00?AM Louise Bareham  
<louise.bareham@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk> wrote:  
Hello Jacqui

I wondered whether you would be able to initiate some volunteers to undertake a dropped kerb and bench audit on the primary walking routes into the town centre. Specifically the east to west and north to south routes being promoted by the town council.

I've attached a proposal paper and form for completion and would be happy to receive your thoughts and have a catch up to discuss further.

Many thanks  
Louise

Louise Bareham, BA (Hons)  
Fellow SLCC  
Town Clerk

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