**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

16th June 2025 7:30pm

The Guildhall

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cllr Coniam (Chair) | Present | Cllr Perkin | Present |
| Cllr Rowlands | Present | Cllr Crayford | Present |
| Cllr C Martin | Apology | Cllr Golding | Present |
| Cllr Newman | Present | Cllr Gibson | Substitution |

**In Attendance:**

Louise Bareham -Town Clerk

**Public Questions**

See Appendix One

**176.** **Election of the Chair**

Cllr Coniam was nominated by Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Golding. Cllr Coniam was duly elected Chair.

**177. Election of the Vice Chair**

 Cllr Crayford was nominated by Cllr Golding and seconded by Cllr Crayford.

 **2 FOR**

 Cllr Rowlands was nominated by Cllr Perkin and seconded by Cllr Gibson.

 **4 FOR/1 ABST.**

 Cllr Rowlands was duly elected Vice Chair.

**178. Apologies for Absence**

An Apology was received from Cllr C Martin who was substituted by Cllr Gibson.

**179.** **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Crayford DNPI as a Trustee of West Faversham Community Centre (Minute Items 182, 184 and 187).

**180.** **Minutes and Matters Arising**

It was proposed by Cllr Newman, seconded by Cllr Perkin, and on being put to the meeting, it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Community Committee dated 28th April 2025.***

 **6 FOR/1 ABST.**

**181. Terms of Reference**

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to update item 11 to read:***

***“To liaise and support others in the provision and promotion of sports and physical activities and SBC’s Empowering You in Swale Strategy and SBC’s Pitch Strategy”.***

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Perkin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the updated Terms of Reference.***

**182. Community Lottery**

The Operator Report for June 2025 was received and noted.

It was noted that despite the introduction of the Swale Community Lottery, Faversham & District Community Lottery’s ticket sales had increased.

**183.** **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

Cllr Perkin commented it was good to see the Town Council continuing to fly the Pride flag from the Town Hall.

**184. Youth Working Group**

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that the Youth Working Group’s membership would consist of Cllr Rowlands, Cllr Coniam, and Cllr Golding.***

 It was agreed that Cllr C Martin should be consulted to see if she wished to be included.

**185. Events**The latest report on events was received. The Town Clerk confirmed that the date of the Pirate Festival was Sunday 13th July 2025.

Councillors expressed their gratitude to Claire Elliott (Events Officer) for her work on Faversham in the 40s, which had proven to be a very enjoyable event for the town.

The effects of the introduction of Martyn’s Law on town events were discussed. Cllr Crayford requested a report on Martyn’s Law and its implications for public events.

 It was proposed by Cllr Crayford, seconded by Cllr Golding, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to move the Christmas Food Market to Preston Street to aid crowd management.***

**186. Town Council Awards**

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was RESOLVED for the Town Clerk to produce a report including guidance for a Town Council Awards Scheme to recognise the work, often voluntary, of people in the town.

**187. Community Centre – North Preston**

Cllr Crayford summarised his paper detailing a proposal to develop a Community Centre on the North Preston estate. He felt it was important to learn from work that had been undertaken in previous years.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to set up a Working Group consisting of Cllr Crayford, Cllr C Martin, Cllr Eyre, Cllr Cook, and the Chair of the North Preston Residents’ Association.***

**188. Crime and Antisocial Behaviour**

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Newman, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to invite a representative from Swale Borough Council to find out more about the CCTV offering.***

It was agreed that Police crime reporting data and fly tipping incident data could be used to see where the hotspots were for a potential CCTV camera.

**189. Matters for Report**

* Cllr Perkin suggested an Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion events calendar, which she would prepare.
* North Preston Community Centre project
* CCTV

The meeting closed at 21.25

**Appendix One**

A member of the public queried what action had taken place regarding the situation with the derelict garages on the North Preston estate.

Cllr Perkin advised the buildings were on private land owned by Southern Housing and Cllr Eyre and herself had been in contact with Southern Housing for several months.