

Minutes of the meeting of Faversham Town Council

Monday 13th April 2026, 7pm

The Guildhall

Present

Cllr Rowlands (Chair)	Present	Cllr Golding	Apology
Cllr C Martin	Present	Cllr Jones	Apology
Cllr Coniam	Apology	Cllr B Martin	Present
Cllr Cook	Apology	Cllr T Martin	Present
Cllr Crayford	Present	Cllr Newman	Present
Cllr Eyre	Apology	Cllr Perkin	Apology
Cllr Gibson	Present	Cllr Saunders	Present

In attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

575 Apologies

Apologies with reasons were received and accepted from Councillors Coniam, Cook, Eyre, Golding, Jones, and Perkin.

576 Declaration of Interests

None.

577 Town Council Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Faversham Town Council meeting dated 9th March 2026 subject to an amendment under Minute Item 567 to include the statement drafted regarding the withdrawal from the social media platform X.***

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Extraordinary Faversham Town Council meeting dated 30th March 2026.***

Decision: The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9th March 2026 were approved with an amendment under Minute Item 567.

Decision: The minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 30th March 2026 were approved.

578 Mayor's Announcements

Cllr Rowlands provided updates on various cultural events attended, including the Mayor's Ball. Cllr Rowlands expressed his thanks for the work

of the Deputy Town Clerk, Adrienne Begent, in organising the Ball and her wider support for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

In response to a query from Cllr Saunders, Cllr Rowlands provided an overview of the Town Council's participation in the bid for Town of Culture 2028 status. Thanks were expressed to Creek Creative for their extensive work on the bid.

579 Report from Community Police Officers

It was noted that no report had been received. The report would be circulated to Councillors once received.

580 Environment Committee

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting dated 11th March 2026.***

Decision: The minutes of the Environment Committee dated 11th March 2026 were approved.

581 Heritage Buildings and Creek Committee

Cllr T Martin proposed that the approved Public Works Loan be drawn down and invested, subject to confirmation that the figures are favourable. There was no seconded therefore the motion fell.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Newman, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Company D be appointed for RIBA stages 0 – 2 (£19,637.60 + VAT) concerning The Old Town Warehouse.***

2 ABST.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Newman, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Heritage, Buildings and Creek Committee dated 1st April 2026.***

Decision: Company D to be appointed for RIBA stages 0-2 for The Old Town Warehouse.

Decision: The minutes of the Heritage, Buildings and Creek Committee dated 1st April 2026 were approved.

582 Active Travel Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Active Travel Committee dated 2nd April 2026 subject to minor amendments under Minute Item 263 the DYLS at Love Lane are planned, not currently present as implied and under Minute Item 266 should read Home Bargains rather than Harbour board.***

Decision: The minutes of the Active Travel Committee dated 2nd April 2026 were approved.

583 Proposal for an Additional Community Bus

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to defer the report on the Proposal for an Additional Community Bus until an Extraordinary Meeting of the Active Travel Committee to be arranged for Thursday 7th May 2026.***

It was agreed that more detailed review of the finances involved including a breakdown of the costs for the hire of additional vehicles and the estimated value of the donated vehicle should be included in the revised report.

Decision: The report on the Proposal for an Additional Community Bus deferred until an Extraordinary Meeting of the Active Travel Committee on 7th May.

584 Community Governance Stage 2 Consultation

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Saunders, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to endorse all recommendations for the Faversham area and to write in support of forming parishes in unparished areas.***

1 ABST.

Decision: Endorse all recommendations for the Faversham area and the TC to write in support of forming parishes in unparished areas.

585 Honorary Freeman

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Crayford, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to nominate Mr Trevor Abram, Mr Michael Gates, and Mr David Simmons, as Honorary Freeman of Faversham.***

1 ABST.

Decision: Messrs Abram, Gates, and Simmons nominated as Honorary Freeman of Faversham.

586 Receipts and Payments

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Receipts and Payments for April 2026.***

1 ABST.

Decision: The receipts and payments for April 2026 were approved.

587 Private Session

Cllr Rowlands paid tribute to, and expressed thanks for, the work of Louise Bareham in the role of Town Clerk for over ten years.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the sensitive nature of the business to be transacted.***

Staffing Committee

588 The resignation of the current Town Clerk, Louise Bareham, taking effect on 15th May 2026, was noted.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Newman, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to make an offer of appointment for the vacancy.***

The meeting closed at INSERT PM