

AT A MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN HERITAGE, BUILDINGS AND CREEK COMMITTEE held in the Guildhall, on Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Present: Cllr P Cook (Chair), Cllr A Eyre, Cllr B J Martin, Cllr T Martin, Cllr R Newman, Cllr J Rowlands, County Cllr A Hook, Ms P Dickenson

In attendance: Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

117. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr K Golding, Mr H Goodwin and Mr A Thorne

118. CO-OPTION

It was proposed by Cllr R Newman, seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that Mr H Goodwin and Mr A Thorne be co-opted onto the Heritage, Buildings and Creek Committee.***

119. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr B J Martin – DPI Agenda Item 6 (The Old Pumphouse) and DPI Agenda Item 9 (Town Quay).

Cllr T Martin – DPI Agenda Item 6 (The Old Pumphouse) and DPI Agenda Item 9 (Town Quay)

120. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July were noted. The minutes had previously been approved at Town Council on 14th July.

121. ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING

Members received Actions and Matters Arising – HBCC

122. THE OLD PUMPHOUSE

Members received the Condition Report (Paper 1) from Daniel Martin undertaken in July 2025.

It was noted that a Schedule of Works would be needed before any works commenced.

It was proposed by Cllr P Cook, seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED accept the quote from Bridgers Law (£2350 plus VAT and Disbursements) to draft a commercial lease.***

The Town Council would draft the Heads of Terms in advance of the commercial lease as advised by Bridgers Law.

123. OLD GATE ROAD

Members received the correspondence from Swale Borough Council regarding ownership of the Old Gate which remanded inconclusive.

It was proposed by Cllr P Cook, seconded by Cllr R Newman and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to report the structure is at risk to Historic England.***

124. THE GUILDHALL

Daniel Martin has been engaged as project manger for the refurbishment of the Guildhall. He is presently working on scheduling the work. The Chair and Officers have met with a wood specialist to discuss the arcade.

125. TOWN QUAY AND THE OLD TOWN WAREHOUSE

Members received the written report from the Chair who also elaborated during the meeting.

Cllr J Rowlands proposed the following motion:

That the Town Council goes out to tender for a structural survey of the Old Town Warehouse, to enable the committee to prepare a schedule of works. The survey should be completed before a Listed Building Consent application is submitted for the removal of the ground floor partitions.

The proposal was not seconded.

ACTION: Quote for structural engineer to inspect areas prior to wood repairs to be requested (AB)

126. FAVERSHAM CREEK SILTATION

It was considered that an annual programme of dredging should be in place with other landowners contributing financially. This would need to be negotiated with the Creek Navigation Company.

The present permission for dredging is restricted to jet dredging, it was considered that alternative methods including plough dredging, when the mud removed is put back into the environment should be considered.

Consideration should be given to ensuring that Swale Borough Council and Peel Ports sluice Stonebridge Pond and the creek respectively.

127. CREEK TIDY

Members received the paper on Creek Clean up which was considered a good initiative. Further consideration should be given to the details of the proposal.

ACTION: Environment Agency Reporting tool to be investigated PD

ACTION: Waste Carrier Licence to be investigated PD

ACTION: Article in Town Council Newsletter PD

128. 2026 – 27 BUDGET

Members considered the budget for 2026-27 and the following items for inclusion were considered.

The Guildhall

Town Quay and the Old Town Warehouse

Faversham Creek

Oare County Park (Environment Committee?)

Charter and Magna Carta Exhibition

Railway Sheds

Alternative income streams should also be considered (replica flags and other merchandise).

129. Great Explosion Grave at Love Lane Cemetery

Concerns were expressed about the condition of the Great Explosion Grave at Love Lane Cemetery.

It was proposed by Cllr B J M, seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to raise these concerns with Swale Borough Council***

130. CHARTERS EXHIBITION

Members received the paper from the Charters Officers on initiatives to preserve the documents.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr J Rowlands and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED agree the expenditure of £781.74.***

The annual commitment of £482.34 was noted.

131. ITEMS FOR REPORT

No items were suggested

132. PRIVATE SESSION

It was proposed by Cllr P Cook, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admissions 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.***

133. FAVERSHAM CREEK

The correspondence from Simon Bell (17/09/25) was received.

ACTION: Simon Bell to be asked for advice on what the Town Council should do next. AB

The Meeting ended at 21.28