

AT A MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN HERITAGE, BUILDINGS AND CREEK COMMITTEE held in the Guildhall, on Wednesday 4th March 2026

Present:

Cllr P Cook (Chair)	Present	Cllr A Eyre	Present
Cllr K Golding	Absent	Cllr B J Martin	Present
Cllr T Martin (Deputy Chair)	Present	Cllr R Newman	Present
Cllr J Rowlands	Present	Cllr A Hook (KCC)	Absent
Ms P Dickenson	Present	Mr H Goodwin	Present
Mr A Thorne	Present		

In attendance: Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)
Stacey Woolf (Facilities Manager)

175. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr K Golding

176. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

177. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th February were noted having been approved at Town Council on 9th February 2026.

178. ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING

The latest version of Actions and Matters arising was received.

179. TOWN QUAY AND BUILDINGS

Members received Paper 1 - Tender Documents for RIBA stages 0 – 2. It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr BJM Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting of the HBCC on 1st April.**

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED that public consultation on the future use of the Old Town Warehouse should run for 15 weeks (5th July to 16th September) with the building open for Open Faversham (16th to 19th September)**

Members received Paper 2 – Structural Survey (The Morton Partnership)

Members received Paper 3 – Condition Report (Daniel Martin)

180. THE OLD GATE – OLD GATE ROAD

Members received Paper 4 – Position Paper (Bridgers Law).

It was considered that the report gave a useful conclusion that the Old Gate Structure is now ownerless, no individual, company, or public body has any legal responsibility for the repair or maintenance of the structure. The Local Authority role is limited to intervening only if the structure becomes an immediate danger to the public, in which case it may act under its statutory powers to remove or mitigate the hazard. Outside of such safety-related intervention, no party holds responsibility for the Structure's condition.

Concerns were raised that if no one is responsible for maintenance this important historical asset may fall into decline.

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr BJ Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that both the Faversham Society and the registered owner of 12 Stephens Close should be informed of the situation and asked to consider claiming ownership and that the Position Paper should be shared with Swale Borough Council.***

181. MAGNA CARTA

Members received Paper 5 – LOAN OF MAGNA CARTA

It was considered that further information was needed by the committee for a decision to be made on loaning the document. Concerns were raised about loaning the document in the present global political situation.

Further details to be requested on:

- Length on loan (19. Term refers to agreement will be 5 years)
- List of proposed venues (including dates of exhibition)
- Details of insurance (value and whose jurisdiction)
- Security details
- Mode of Transport

It was noted that the if the Town Council agreed to proceed with loan of the Magna Carta the loan agreement should be considered by the Town Council Solicitors.

182. THE GUILDHALL

Members received the Report on Guildhall Colours – Paper 6.

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that colours matching the original colours, as detailed in the report, shall be used for all areas other than the lower walls/rustication and upper walls, which will be repainted in their present colour. The remaining items to which the original colours shall apply are the windows, tower door, clock face, and coat of arms.***

Cllr P Cook abstained.

Members received the quote for Installation of Access Control – Paper 7.

It was proposed by Cllr P Cook seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to defer decision pending more information. SBC to be asked if LBC is required.***

183. BLAST WALL

The Deputy Town Clerk informed members that the KCC department dealing with the matter had changed from Highways to Structures,

ACTION: Specification of the work to be requested in the next seven days (DTC).

184. ITEMS FOR REPORT

Rotation of Charters

185. 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.

186. CREEK BRIDGE

Members noted the letter from Simon Bell to Secretary of State for Transport (13th February 2026).

Simon Bell to be asked to proceed with Action 2 (Resolved 7th January 2026) ASAP if no response is received within the requested 14 days.

The meeting closed at 21.19