

MINUTES OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

1st September 2025, 7:30pm

The Guildhall

Cllr Eyre	Present	Cllr Gibson	Present from MI255
Cllr T Martin	Present	Cllr Rowlands	Present
Cllr C Martin	Present	Cllr Saunders	Present
Cllr Crayford	Present		

In attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

247. Apologies for Absence

An apology was received from Cllr Gibson, who attended the meeting from Minute Item 255 onwards.

248. Declarations of Interest

Cllr C Martin DNPI Minute Item 256 Grant Applications as Chair of Bensteds Charity.

Cllr R Crayford DNPI Minute Item 256 Grant Applications as Trustee of West Faversham CA

Cllr A Eyre DNPI Minute Item 256 Grant Applications as Trustee of Bensteds Charity

249. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting dated 7th July 2025.**

250. Monthly Reports

The Monthly Reports were received and noted.

251. Financial Services Compensation Scheme

The report titled *FSCS Eligibility and Investment Risk Management* was received and noted.

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Eyre, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the recommendations contained within the report:**

- 1) Amend its Investment Policy to state explicitly that FSCS does not apply.**
- 2) Diversify deposits across multiple institutions.**
- 3) Explore government-backed and PSDF investment options to minimise risk.**

4) Undertake regular monitoring and reporting in line with CIPFA best practice.

252. Assertion 10 – AGAR – 2025/26

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to**

- 1) Note the requirements of Assertion 10 – Digital and Data Compliance.**
- 2) Agrees to conduct an annual data audit and provide annual data protection and cyber security training for staff and Councillors.**
- 3) Notes the regular review of policies including FTC’s Data Protection Policy, Publication Scheme, and Accessibility Statement.**
- 4) Confirms that FTC will ensure full compliance with the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.**

253. Oare Gunpowder Works

The report on Oare Gunpowder Works was received and noted.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Crayford, to discuss with Swale BC carrying out a Feasibility Study and await the results before deciding whether to take on Oare Gunpowder Works.

2 FOR/3 AGAINST/1 ABST.

Cllr Saunders’ motion therefore fell.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the recommendations contained in the report:**

- 1. FTC formally accepts the transfer of the lease from SBC.**
- 2. Commission design and feasibility work using the £60,000 SBC fund.**
- 3. Liaise with the Friends of Oare Gunpowder Works in designing an operational plan.**
- 4. Implement a phased operational plan (2025–2027), starting with pilot catering and venue hire.**
- 5. Seek external grant funding for capital and revenue support.**
- 6. Develop strong community partnerships to ensure long-term sustainability.**

3 FOR/2 AGAINST/1 ABST.

254. Recording of Members’ Attendance

The report titled *Councillor Attendance Records – Scope of Recording and Publication* was received and noted.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to continue recording Full Council attendance and to continue the existing practice for other meetings.**

Cllr Gibson joined the meeting at 20.17

255. Strategic Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr Saunders, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Strategic Working Group dated 19th July 2025 and to accept the recommendation to seek a depot for the facilities team.***

256. Grant Applications

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to remove Hannah Croft and Sarah Hickman due to not meeting the application criteria.***

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to assess the applications from the highest score in descending order.***

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Saunders and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to make the following grants***

Alexander Centre CIC	2,441.56
Animate Arts Co CIC	1,291.00
Arden Theatre	960.18
Autism Apprentice	4,143.00
Cinque Port Rowing	3,000.00
Faversham Assistance Centre (FACE)	1,291.00
Faversham Musical Theatre	1,000.00
Faversham Umbrella/FCNG	1,291.00
GEM72	5,000.00
Millfield Allotment Association	3,000.00
Queen's Royal Regiment Association	1,291.00
West Faversham Community Association	1,291.00
	25,999.74

257. Matters for Report

Community Grant scoring process

258. Private Session

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr T Martin, 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.***

259. War Memorial

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr C Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to be supportive of taking on the assets at the War Memorial and to bring a detailed paper to the next meeting.***

The meeting closed at 9:51pm