MINUTES OF THE ACTIVE TRAVEL COMMITTEE

4th November 2026 at 7:30pm

Faversham Town Hall

Present: Cllr B Martin (Chair), Cllr Cook, Cllr T Martin, Cllr Saunders, C Oswald-Jones, A Oliver (KCC)

Apologies: Cllr Gibson, Cllr Perkin, Cllr Rowlands, T Stonor, M Anderson (SBC), Cllr Hook (KCC)

In attendance: R Gibbs (Office Manager), A Berendt (online)

Public Questions:

Sarah-Jane Clarke discussed the issues she faced getting around town on her mobility scooter. She was supportive of more dropped kerbs but felt that more needed to be done to enforce parking contraventions such as parking across dropped kerbs. The cobbles in Court Street caused issues trying to cross the road. Pavements were poor, particularly around Preston Street, Stone Street, and Station Road. Shops needed to do more to make reasonable adjustments including temporary ramps, but she acknowledged that the nature of the buildings made things more difficult.

Cllr Cook advised that the Town Council could ask KCC to look into more measures to improve the situation around town.

Chris Oswald-Jones highlighted an example of good practice at Faversham Foodbank who used an angled ramp to improve accessibility. The issue of cars parking across the redbrick raised tables in the pedestrian area in Court Street was discussed. Chris Oswald-Jones referred to Section 86 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 which sets out how a PCN can be issued for parking across drop kerbs and raised platforms. The difficulty being that the Court Street raised table didn't feature tactile paving which was required for a PCN to be issued by Swale BC Civil Enforcement Officers.

Adrian Oliver suggested investigating work carried out by Deal Town Council regarding shops accessibility and suggested a track way as a possible solution for the Court Street/Market Place area. Adrian Oliver referred to A Boards and tables and chairs causing issues for those with disabilities trying to get around town and the need for stricter controls. The Chair advised of work carried out by SBC on future advertising controls in the town centre.

328. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Gibson, Cllr Perkin, Cllr Rowlands, Tim Stonor, Cllr Hook (KCC), and Michelle Anderson (SBC).

329. Declarations of Interest

None.

330. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Active Travel***

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Committee dated 7th October 2026 subject to an addition regarding the issue raised over Non-Councillor participation whilst online under Minute Item 324.

331. Bysing Wood and West Faversham Feasibility Study

Adrian Oliver reported that he was expecting an initial project start up meeting with PJA Associates to be convened in the next couple of weeks during the working day. The Chair and the Vice Chair both volunteered to attend alongside R Gibbs as did Councillor Cook. Reconvening the Feasibility Study Working Group which had last met in July was then discussed and it was agreed to add Cllr Cook to the Working Group (previous membership Cllrs B Martin, Saunders, Gibson, T Stonor with R Gibbs clerking) as the project area ran alongside Priory Ward.

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to reconvene the West Faversham Feasibility Study Working Group with delegated authority given to R Gibbs on project management decisions as the Officer working on the project.***

332. Project Updates

a) Dropped Kerbs

Adrian Oliver reported that survey work had been completed and the project was on track.

b) Raised Platform at Junction, Preston Street outside 38 Stone Street to the Alleyway through to Newton Place.

The current white markings were highlighted where a dropped kerb was due to be installed by the alley near Moonlight Café. The footpaths were widely used by patients moving between the Cottage Hospital and Newton Place Surgery. Chris Oswald-Jones stated the need for raised tables.

Adrian Oliver suggested this would only be able to be considered if it was added to the Highway Improvement Plan.

c) 20mph Compliance

The Chair referred to the 85th percentile speed data from key streets in Faversham which had been supplied by KCC to SBC's Eastern Councillors and Residents Forum. The data included Whitstable Road, St Mary's Road, St John's Road, Briton Road, Roman Road, Athelstan Road, Ospringe Road and North Lane.

It was agreed this data could be useful when looking at possible future measures for streets that were not included in the North/South Walking Route, but other factors should also be considered rather than this data in isolation.

333. Mobility and Safety Project

The emailed update from Cllr Perkin was received and noted.

334. Faversham Hopper Community Bus Service

The draft budget for 2027/28 was received and noted.

The Chair agreed to write to Newnham, Doddington, Lynsted, Teynham, and Oare Parish Councils to request grants for the year 2027/28. It was hoped they could increase their financial support in light of the increased costs the service had faced over the past year.

Adrian Oliver referred to the need to push for more Section 106 funding. It was confirmed that the Hopper had been included in the Committee's S106 wish list submitted to the Planning Committee.

The Chair discussed making funding applications to the Redrow SE Community Fund and others including Moat Housing, and West Kent Housing.

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that the Chair and the Office Manager would work together to make funding applications to the Redrow SE Community Fund and other appropriate funders*.**

The Office Manager reported on work he was undertaking to prepare a grant application to the KCC Community Transport Grant for a new vehicle.

Adrian Oliver suggested contacting Paul Chapman at South Eastern Coachworks for help with sourcing vehicles, maintenance, and branding.

335. Section 106 Funding – Ashford Road/Perry Court Bus Stops

The Office Manager reported that S106 funds for Ashford Road and Perry Court were being held by SBC. The funding in question was specifically for bus stop facilities.

It was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to propose a bus shelter on the Ashford Road where the current bus/coach stop by M2 J6 used by National Express/bus route 666, formal bus stops and shelters in Tettenhall Way by Aldi, and the Allotment Site, and a bus shelter on the A2/Love Lane Development*.**

336. Faversham LCWIP

Adrian Berendt provided an update on progress on updating of the LCWIP. He expected to provide a completed update for approval at the next meeting in January.

There were no further additions or revisions for the LCWIP.

337. Highway Improvement Plan

The Office Manager reported that he had contacted Jennie Watson at KCC to arrange a meeting. Aprille Hall now looked after the Swale area for KCC and had been away on sick leave. The Office Manager advised he would contact Aprille Hall to request her availability.

Drainage issues on the Ashford Road were discussed. Development work had changed the road gradients and led to water collection. There was no highway drainage along the road.

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to write to the KCC Officer responsible for Highway drainage and Cllr Gibson for SBC flooding data.***

Cllr Cook raised issues with Bridge Road and the road surface freezing in the winter due to lack of drainage. The FTC Facilities Team had assisted by salt spreading but this should be addressed by KCC.

338. Matters for Report

The Chair reported on a request from the Staffing Committee to cancel any meetings that were not strictly required. The next meeting of this Committee was noted as 6th January 2027, but it was felt with the number of projects ongoing this should go ahead and future meetings would be dealt with on a meeting-by-meeting basis.

Chris Oswald-Jones raised issues including:

- A2 Crossing
- Court St/Market Place TRO Controlled Parking Zone
- SLOW road marking repainted in South Road
- St. Ann's Road issue reported as a fault with KCC Highways
- Partridge Lane Car Park trees epicormic growth
- Water leak outside Superdrug premises

Future Agenda items:

- Bysing Wood and West Faversham Feasibility Study
- Faversham LCWIP
- 20mph Compliance – Report on engagement with residents in Cambridge Road
- Agenda item for improving the provisions for people with disabilities (linked to LCWIP)

- North/South Walking Route – Adrian Oliver to provide an update.

The meeting closed at 9:19pm.