MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

12th October 2026 at 7:00pm

The Guildhall

Present: Cllr B Martin (Deputy Mayor/Acting Chair), Cllr Coniam, Cllr Crayford, Cllr Eyre, Cllr Gibson, Cllr T Martin, Cllr Newman, Cllr Perkin, Cllr Saunders.

Apologies: Cllr C Martin (Mayor), Cllr Cook, Cllr Golding, Cllr Jones, Cllr Rowlands

In attendance: Adrienne Begent (Interim Town Clerk), PC Kirsten Jones (Minute Item 701 only).

Public Questions: John Irwin questioned whether the Town Council was planning to organise any outreach events encouraging local residents to stand as Councillors at the next election. Both John Irwin and Harold Goodwin suggested training that was neutral as regards party politics. It was felt important to provide education on what the powers of the Town Council were. Harold Goodwin suggested using the Town Council Newsletter. Cllr Perkin advised she would speak to KALC about possible training. Cllr B Martin advised there would be an update on the Community Governance Review and the pause on Local Government Reorganisation, at the Eastern Area Councillor and Residents Forum on 12th October.

As this was a statutory meeting of Faversham Town Council, Lay Preacher Graham Dawkins from the Faversham Benefice of Churches said prayers prior to the start of the meeting.

697. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the apologies for absence with reasons from Cllrs C Martin, Cook, Golding, and Rowlands*.**

698. Declarations of Interest

None.

699. Town Council Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Town Council meeting dated 14th September 2026*.**

The Interim Town Clerk provided an update on public consultation taking place by Swale Borough Council regarding the proposed closure of the office at the Alexander Centre.

700. Mayor's Announcements

Cllr B Martin reported on recent engagements attended by Cllr C Martin including the Hythe Civic Service and the Royal British Legion dinner. It was noted the Faversham Carnival would be taking place on 17th October and Remembrance Sunday in the coming weeks.

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701. Report from Community Police Officers

PC Kirsten Jones provided an overview of the Report from the Community Police Officers dated September 2026. PC Jones apologised for the absence in police attendance over the summer period.

Cllr Crayford and PC Jones referred to ongoing work in tackling anti-social behaviour on the Davington Fields Estate.

Cllr Gibson referred to an email sent to PC Jones from Cllr Rowlands regarding working with the town centre businesses over a recurring issue.

Councillors thanked PC Jones for her report. Cllr Jones left the meeting.

702. Active Travel Committee

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 Committee meeting dated 7th October 2026.***

703. Policy and Resources Committee

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the RECOMMENDATION to add a Scheme of delegation to have the ability to move money between accounts. RFO in conjunction with the town council to move money up to £100,000 without it going to council meeting for official approval.***

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting dated 5th October 2026.***

704. Community Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Coniam, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Community Committee dated 23rd September 2026.***

705. Heritage, Buildings and Creek Committee

It was agreed to defer this item until the following meeting.

706. Faversham Emblem

A discussion was held on the request by Little Hand Woodcrafts to use the Faversham Emblem.

It was proposed by Cllr Crayford, seconded by Cllr T Martin, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to contact Little Hand Woodcrafts to establish how profits from the manufacture would be distributed and to refer the matter to Policy and Resources Committee for the development of a policy setting out a list of all the Town's logos, and the terms and conditions of their usage.***

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707. Receipts and Payments

The meeting was adjourned at 7.50pm to give Councillors an opportunity to review the Receipts and Payments. The meeting reconvened at 7.55pm.

Councillors discussed the invoice from H Goodsell & Son Ltd and agreed that the payment certificate number 2 should be presented to the Full Council and in future all payment certificates should be attached to invoices.

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Newman, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to approve the invoice from H Goodsell & Son Ltd for payment.***

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to approve all other invoices for payment.***

708. Private Session

It was proposed by Cllr B Martin, seconded by Cllr Perkin, 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 be prejudicial to the public interest because of the commercially sensitive nature of the business be transacted.***

709. Faversham Town Council Tourism Website Design and Hosting Option

The report from the Visit Faversham Co-ordinator was received and noted.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Newman, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that subject to agreement from the RFO, that if our current arrangement ceases to function, the Destination Core One is chosen.***

710. Faversham Swimming Pools

The report detailing responses from Faversham Pools to questions raised by the Town Council were received and noted.

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Crayford, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to consult Tassells Solicitors seeking advice on the issue that the Town Council is minded taking over the existing charity as a corporate trustee from April 2027 and to query what the possible future liabilities and key risks are.***

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Crayford, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to consult the Faversham Pools charity to see if the charity could contribute towards the legal costs.***

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711. Staffing Committee

Cllr Crayford provided an overview of the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 16th September 2026.

Cllr B Martin provided an overview of the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 5th October 2026.

The meeting closed at 8.59pm.

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