AT A MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL HERITAGE, BUILDINGS AND CREEK COMMITTEE held in the Townhall

Monday 28th September 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs L Coniam, R Crayford, G Gibson, C Martin, J Rowlands (Chair), Ms P Dickenson, Mr H Goodwin and Mr A Thorne

Virtual: Mr A Hook

In attendance: Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk)

236. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs T Martin and J Saunders

237. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

238. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting on 27th July were noted having previously been approved a Town Council on 10th August.

Cllr R Crayford abstained.

239. ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARRISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Actions and Minutes from previous meetings were noted.

240. THE GUILDHALL

Members received and noted Paper 1 – Guildhall Works Report (D. Martin)

Cllr R Crayford commented that the weekly reports being circulated to members were very useful and informative.

Members received Paper 2 – Quotes for Flagpole Inspection.

It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr C Gibson and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to appoint Company A.***

Members received Paper 3 – Installation of 2 swift boxes on the Guildhall.

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr L Coniam and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED in principle to support the installation pending confirmation on LBC and PP requirements. The Environment Committee would be asked to consider funding the purchase of swift boxes. +***

It was noted that installation of swift boxes could be a future newsletter item.

241. THE OLD TOWN WAREHOUSE

Members received Paper 4 – Public Engagement Report. It was noted that the events at the Old Town Warehouse had been well supported, with a total of 289 visitors over the three days.

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Chair

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The display boards had also been exhibited at the Town Hall and included in Open Faversham at St. Mary of Charity Church.

A total of 256 questionaries were completed during the public engagement events.

The feedback has been shared with Martin Ashley Architects and will be fed into their designs.

242. WATER SAFETY ALONG FAVERSHAM CREEK

It was proposed by Cllr R Crayford , seconded by Cllr C Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to:***

1. Undertake a review of existing public water-safety and rescue equipment along Faversham Creek, including its location, condition, accessibility, visibility and signage.
2. Identify areas along the Creek where there may be gaps in existing provision or where the level of risk warrants additional measures.
3. As part of the review, consider whether additional or alternative public rescue equipment would improve safety, including life rings, throw bags/throw lines, water-safety stations, improved signage and emergency location information.
4. Seek advice and, where appropriate, work with relevant organisations including Kent Fire and Rescue Service, HM Coastguard, the RNLI, Swale Borough Council, landowners, local schools and other organisations with responsibility or expertise in water safety.
5. Commit to the aspiration to make water safety equipment publicly available at the Front Brents Jetty. Costs to be considered at a future meeting.
6. Engage with partners working with the creek, including Peel Ports and Sondes Estate.
7. Receive a report back setting out the findings of the review, any recommended improvements, responsibilities for the maintenance and inspection of equipment, and indicative costs or potential sources of external funding

ACTION: Schools to be offered visits if the committee decides this is appropriate after the review is published **AT**

243. PRIVATE SESSION

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands seconded by Cllr C Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act1960), 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.***

245. THE OLD TOWN WAREHOUSE

Members received and considered Paper 6 on the Old Town Warehouse

246. THE CREEK BRIDGE

Members received and considered correspondence.

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr C Gibson and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED that a Creek Task and Finish Group should be formed to progress this item. Membership would comprise of Cllr R Crayford, Ms P Dickenson, Mr A Hook and Cllr J Rowands.***

It was proposed by Cllr J Rowlands, seconded by Cllr C Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the quote for £4000 +VAT.***

The meeting ended at 20.34