

COMMUNITY PROJECTS REPORT – FIONA PALMER

September 2026

Age Friendly Faversham (incl. Dementia, Loneliness)

-We held an Action Plan Workshop on 20th August. This was attended by 19 people from a variety of organisations, 1 of which was an FTC councillor. The attendees were split into 4 groups and looked at the following 8 domains from the age friendly wheel:

Table 1 - Outdoor spaces and buildings & Transport

Table 2 - Civic participation and employment & Communication and information

Table 3 - Social participation & Respect and social inclusion

Table 4 - Housing & Community support and health services

Many actions were proposed and were developed in the session. I have typed these into an action plan. This will then come to an FTC meeting for councillors to approve.

-Updates for the project are on this webpage: <https://favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk/community/age-friendly-faversham/>

Armed Forces in Faversham

-Cllr Charles Gibson, our Armed Forces Champion attended the Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club at Judds Folly on 24th August. His discussion with veterans on the day raised the issue of support for members of the Armed Forces. He has asked if there is anything we can do as a council to offer guidance about where support can be found, either via our website or by having a small area in the VIC. This is something I need to investigate.

-I have put together the evidence of expenditure from the 'Faversham in the Forties Celebrates Armed Forces Day' event, and submitted this to the Armed Forces Day Grant team, they will look through the costings and decide how much to pay us.

-Ongoing actions are to maintain the promotion of the Armed Forces in Faversham through our town events and sharing information about what different groups are doing on our website and social media.

-Updates for the project are on this webpage: <https://favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk/community/armed-forces-in-faversham/>

Faversham Charters and Magna Carta

-The online shop uses a Royal Mail plugin to calculate postage. This was due for renewal in August, and it was decided by Sarah Muteham to stop paying this, as we were not making much of a profit from the shop. Therefore, the online shop is currently closed. I need to investigate cheaper options for selling merchandise, to enable a larger return on investment, however I have not yet had time to work on this. **Do we want to continue the online shop?**

-I have recruited two new volunteers, one of whom will appear on the rota regularly, and the other is going to university, so will volunteer during his holidays.

-I need to complete DBS checks on the two new volunteers. There are 5 other volunteers whose DBS checks were completed over 3 years ago, volunteers are free, plus my own, which would cost £41. **Would you like to renew these, or continue without?**

-Ongoing work is to support the volunteers, prepare their rota, monitor the humidity in the exhibition room, collate visitor numbers, monitor merchandise stock sold in the Visitor Information Centre, work with school groups, and to create social media/ blog posts. I have not had much time to spend on this recently, so social media/ blog posts have dropped off.

-Updates are on this website: <https://favershamcharters.org/>

Faversham Community Networking Group (FCNG)

-We met in August and had speakers from Involve Kent, talking about Age Friendly Ambassador Recruitment; Strikeforce Football, talking about health benefits of staying active for their members and volunteers; Funding for All, talking about how charities and organisations can access their services to help find funding. This was our first hybrid meeting, utilising the FTC OWL (approved by Sarah Muteham), which allowed more people to attend via Teams.

-We met in September and had speakers from Lottery, talking about funding for charities etc; Sheppey Employment Forum, talking about NEETS; and I spoke about utilising the FTC website page for FCNG. The Alex kindly allowed us to use their Jubilee Room free of charge.

-A quiz night has been arranged for 23rd October. The money raised from this will help pay for the FCNG Christmas Dinner, for those feeling lonely to have company on Christmas Day (Run by Quick Quizzers).

-There will be a Christmas Dinner on 25th December, for anyone alone at Christmas. I have got to work with Becky Duffy to organise this over the next couple of months.

-We will be holding a Volunteer Fair on 12th February in The Guildhall (organised by FTC).

-We would like to build bridges between Faversham businesses, so they can support the charities and organisations. Perhaps creating a volunteer programme that builds experience needed to work.

-The next meeting is on 9th October at The Alex TBC.

-If you wish to join the mailing list, to receive the minutes, etc and attend meetings, please let me know.

-Ongoing work is to find new presenters for the meetings, to organise venues whilst the Guildhall is out of use, to prepare the agenda and power point for meetings, to write up and send out meeting minutes, and to pass on any information that is sent in to other members via email and the Facebook page. Throughout the year I am also responsible for collating the information for the Family Food Map (which goes out 3 times a year to all schools), the Z-fold Leaflets (which is reprinted annually), and the Christmas Dinner.

-Updates for the project are on this webpage: <https://favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk/community/fcng/>

Neighbourhood Watch

-I now receive all the emails from this scheme and others from the Community Police Officers.

-I have started to add some of the information to this webpage:

<https://favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk/community/crime-and-antisocial-behaviour/>

Other Projects

-Before Louise left, she asked me to take on the following projects, but I have not yet had time to look at them:

- White Ribbon - violence against women and girls
- Disability Confidence Employer – moving to the next level

Misc.

-I completed some website training to help me develop the community pages for all projects on the FTC website.

-I am now supporting Emma with Finance one morning a week (4 hours), so this has decreased the amount of time (to 3 mornings a week – 12 hours) that I can spend on other projects.