

# NOTES OF THE WEST FAVERSHAM ACTIVE TRAVEL

## WORKING GROUP MEETING

**21 July 2026 at 7:30pm via Teams**

**Present:** Cllr B Martin (Chair), Cllr Saunders, Cllr Gibson, Adrian Oliver (KCC), Michelle Anderson (SBC)

**Apologies:** Tim Stonor

**In attendance:** Rob Gibbs (Office Manager)

**1. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions**

An apology with reasons was received and accepted from Tim Stonor.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None.

**3. Contracting Arrangements**

It was established that the contract is between the Active Travel team at Kent County Council and Swale Borough Council. There was a budget of £35,000 to deliver a feasibility study in West Faversham encompassing Walking Route 10 and parts of Walking Routes 4 and 6.

**4. Commissioning Consultant**

The options were for either Swale Borough Council to manage the process of commissioning a consultant through the KCC Framework or FTC could commission it themselves ensuring communication with SBC. SBC are planning to work with WSP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey projects.

After discussing the options, it was agreed to recommend to the Active Travel Committee to proceed through the KCC Framework with a view to engaging Jacobs providing they sub-contract to PJA. The reason for this was that the Town Council had successfully worked with them on the 20mph Scheme and the LCWIP.

***Recommendation: To proceed through the KCC Framework with a view to engaging Jacobs who would sub-contract to PJA.***

It was established that the process would include making an application within the Framework, commission a consultant. The consultant would develop a proposal for acceptance. The consultant would set out some recommended interventions for the walking routes.

**5. Geographical Extent of the Project**

A draft geographical outline was presented by Cllr Saunders.

Some minor amendments were agreed:

- Include Lionfield and Arthur Salmon Close.
- Take the boundary up to Lower Road.
- Encompass Wallers Road to Bysing Wood Road and new estates.
- Lower Road through to Ospringe, Water Lane (as far as the primary school), Ospringe St, Ospringe Rd.
- Wildish Road/WFCC/Sainsburys.

## **6. Review of the Consultant Template**

The following were agreed as objectives:

- It was felt robust engagement with the community would need to take place. Community engagement events should include venues such as West Faversham Community Centre, Bysing Wood Primary School, and Ospringe Primary School.
- Possible walk arounds the area with community representatives from diverse backgrounds.
- Any interventions should have strong community buy-in.
- Possible interventions discussed included speed cushions, a bus gate.
- Promote cycling and walking to school.
- Linking new developments with the town.
- The key stakeholders were identified as Helen Whately MP, Kent Police, utility companies, the schools, WFCC, Ospringe Residents' Association, Housing Associations including Moat, Hyde, Sage, Southern, West Kent, Places for People, Faversham Medical Practice, Sainsburys, Gist.
- Agree with consultants how to measure outcomes.

The following process was agreed:

- Michelle Anderson to get KCC/SBC contract signed off internally.
- Confirm in writing to Michelle Anderson (SBC) that the Town Council wished to use the KCC Framework and engage Jacobs who would sub-contract to PJA.
- Rob Gibbs would be the Officer in liaison with Michelle Anderson and Cllr B Martin and Cllr Saunders would be the main Councillor contacts.
- Regular progress checks via conference calls.

The meeting closed at 8:53pm.