

MINUTES OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

30 July 2026 at 7:30pm

The Town Hall

Present: Cllr C. Martin (Chair), Cllr Saunders, Cllr Rowlands, Cllr Crayford, Cllr Gibson.

In attendance: S. Muteham (Town Clerk)

Public Questions:

None

348. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr B. Martin, Cllr Eyre.

349. Declarations of Interest

None.

350. Grant Policy and Applications

Cllr Gibson proposed and Cllr Rowlands seconded the following addition to the Grant Making Policy, to be inserted at the end of page 6:

“Extra credit will be given to applications and demonstrate an impact in supporting one or more of the groups identified by Faversham Town Council as under-served.

- *Young people*
- *Older people*
- *The Armed Forces Community*
- *Those fleeing violence and persecution*
- *Those affected by dementia*
- *Those who struggle to access traditional services and engage in town life.”*

Cllr Crayford voiced his opposition to making the grant application process more complicated and felt that as the grants would be opened later than last year, and grant applications may have already been drafted, this motion should not proceed. The motion made no reference to the Climate Emergency declared by the Town Council and could deter applications from environmental projects. Cllr Saunders similarly felt it was not the right time to make the process more complicated.

Councillors voted 3 for 2 against and the motion fell.

- a. Following a review of the Grant Making Policy, it was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the reviewed policy whilst removing section 6 in its entirety.**

- b. It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to shelve the Youth Grant Awarding Policy for future use when there was a budget line to support it.***
- c. Members considered the timeline for Community Grant Applications. It was proposed by Cllr C Martin, seconded by Cllr Gibson, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to open the grant application process on 3rd August 2026, close the process on 14th September 2026 and notify applicants of the outcome by 12th October 2026.***
- d. The timeline for the Youth Grant applications was not considered.
- e. Members considered the use of the Faversham & District Lottery funding to support smaller grants. It was proposed by Cllr C. Martin, seconded by Cllr Rowlands, and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to review how to structure a small grant policy.***

The meeting closed at 8:07pm