

**AT A MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL** held at the Guildhall, Market Place, Faversham on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009

**Present:** The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A J Walker and Councillors T Gates, Mrs C Davis, B Mulhern, M S Gates, J N Coulter, D H S Simmons, J R Winlow, D G Wade, L G R Hobbard-Mitchell, N A Kay and M R Baldock.

**In the absence of the Mayor, Cllr E J Wilcox, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A J Walker took the Chair.**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor, Cllr E J Wilcox and Councillor Mrs J E Hawkins.

### **2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of Faversham Town Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 were approved by Members and signed by the Deputy Mayor as a correct record.

### **3. DEPUTY MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Deputy Mayor informed Members that during the month of July she had been pleased to steward the Guildhall for six hours during the three days of the Faversham Society's Open House Scheme and had also acted as steward for two hours in the Mayor's Parlour. In addition, Cllr Walker had been pleased to open the Annual Rally of the East Kent Federation of Townswomen's Guild and had attended the Dover Civic Service, the Mayor of Maidstone's garden party, the Mayor of Medway's coffee morning, and Deal and Margate Carnivals. Cllr Walker informed the meeting that she was pleased to report that at the Deal Carnival, Faversham's Carnival Queen was awarded third place in the Queen's competition and the Junior Queen also came third in her category.

Other events that the Deputy Mayor had attended included the opening of the model railway exhibition with the Deputy Mayor of Swale and she had also been pleased to open the Faversham Community Church Fun Day at the Love Lane estate.

**Cllr D H S Simmons arrived at the Meeting at 7.25pm.**

### **4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

It was:

***RESOLVED that recommendations be sent to Kent County Council and Swale Borough Council as set out in Planning Schedule 03.08.09.***

### **5. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

### **1. Local Sports Facility (to include Free Tennis for All)**

The Town Clerk reported that she was disappointed that Mr Deny Wilson, the Sports Development Manager at the Abbey Sports Centre had not attended the meeting as she had understood that his attendance had been organised by the Mayor. It was therefore agreed that no discussion should take place on this item and that the Town Clerk would contact Mr Wilson when the schools returned for the Autumn term in order that he could be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council.

### **2. Partial Review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East: Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People**

Several members of the Council commented that they had the opportunity of reading through the above Review and Cllr M S Gates proposed, Cllr L G R Hubbard-Mitchell seconded, and on being put to the Meeting it was:

*RESOLVED to recommend to the Government Office for the South East that Faversham Town Council favours Option D as set out in the Review documentation as this Option offers a compromise and is the most balanced or fair option allowing security in the existing area but also some opportunity or freedom of choice to move to other areas.*

### **3. The Kent Alcohol Strategy Consultation**

Members agreed that they had no comments to make on the Kent Alcohol Strategy Consultation.

### **4. Youth Working Party**

Members noted and approved the notes of the Youth Working Party meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Cllr J R Winlow reported to the Meeting that he was pleased to report that a successful Junior PACT meeting had recently been held at Davington.

In receiving the application for grant funding made by Mr Tony Old of the Swale Youth Projects, it was proposed by Cllr M S Gates, seconded by Cllr J R Winlow, and on being put to the Meeting:

*RESOLVED that a grant of £670.00 be paid to the Swale Youth Projects Scheme for the evening football coaching on the North Preston estate in Faversham, such sum to be paid from the Youth Facility budget allocation for the current financial year.*

### **5. Faversham Fairtrade Group**

It was acknowledged by Members that Faversham Town Council fully supports the concept of fair trade and considered that the application for grant funding received from the Faversham Fairtrade Steering Group should be worked through by the Town Marketing Group and the Faversham Enterprise Partnership.

In the light of the foregoing, it was proposed by Cllr M R Baldock, seconded by Cllr D G Wade, and on being put to the Meeting:

*RESOLVED that the grant application and supporting paperwork should be forwarded to the Town Marketing Group and the Faversham Enterprise*

*Partnership to ask them to support the scheme through their work with other business enterprises in the town and that no final allocation should be made to the group by Faversham Town Council at the present time.*

#### **6. Town Marketing Group Budget**

Cllr M S Gates presented to the Meeting the request from the Town Marketing Group for the £4,000 currently in the budget allocation made to the Group to assist in the launch of the arts centre project in the autumn 2009. He confirmed that Arts Council and SEEDA funding has already been obtained for this project and that Faversham Town Council's grant funding will only be used for the arts centre and not for the business/office units which are to be put into the site.

It was proposed by Cllr M S Gates, seconded by Cllr T Gates and on being put to the Meeting

*RESOLVED that a payment of £4,000.00 be made to the Town Marketing Group from its current year's budget allocation for the arts centre project as identified by the Group in their original budget request for the 2009/2010 financial year.*

#### **7. Faversham Classic Car and Motorcycle Show**

Cllr B Mulhern agreed to act as the Town Council's representative on the organising committee of the Faversham Classic Car and Motorcycle Show.

#### **8. Quality Parish Council Application**

Cllr D G Wade presented his report in respect of the Town Council's Annual Report and newsletters to the Meeting and confirmed that all outstanding newsletters will be published on the town's website. He confirmed that a Town Council Action Plan will be formulated shortly to bring together all the valuable work carried out with the Faversham Enterprise Partnership (FEP) and the Town Marketing Group (TMG) and that this will enable future reports to be put together more efficiently.

It was agreed that representatives from the Quality Parish Council Working Party, the Town Marketing Group and the Faversham Enterprise Partnership should meet with Officers and Members of Swale Borough Council at a meeting agreed to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009. In the light of this Cllr J N Coulter proposed, Cllr M S Gates seconded and on being to the Meeting it was:

*RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs C Davis should attend this meeting to act as both the TMG and FEP representative.*

Cllr Mrs C Davis drew Members specific attention to the Service Level Agreement between Faversham Town Council and the Faversham Enterprise Partnership and commented that it should also be noted that the reports are regularly submitted to the Town Council by these two organisations.

In the light of the foregoing Cllr B Mulhern proposed, Cllr Mrs C Davis seconded, and on being put to the Meeting it was:

*RESOLVED unanimously to accept the Annual Report as presented by Cllr D G Wade.*

#### **9. Public Realm Working Group**

Cllr Mrs C Davis presented to Members the notes of the Joint Public Realm Working Group meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2009 together with the plan of the targeted works for 2009/10 and onwards and Members agreed to endorse the proposals contained therein.

**6. TOWN MARKETING GROUP**

Cllr M S Gates presented to the Meeting the notes of the Town Marketing Group meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

In discussion, Members agreed that the sum of £674.64 returned to the Town Council from Amicus Horizon, being unused funds for the provision of an Outreach Worker, should be rolled over and used in the Spring 2010 for the provision of floral decorations in and around the town centre.

It was further agreed that Mr D W Swain should be asked as to how the success of the Reward Scheme now initiated in the town is being measured.

**7. PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

It was:

***RESOLVED that the Payments and Receipts, in Annex 03.08.09 circulated with the Agenda, be approved and confirmed.***

.....  
Mayor

**IN PRIVATE SESSION**

It was moved by the Mayor that in pursuance of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following item on the grounds that it is exempt information as defined in the Act.

**GUILDHALL CARETAKER**

The Town Clerk reported to the Meeting that she had received the resignation of Mr W H Reeves as Guildhall Caretaker which will take effect as from Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009. In accepting Mr Reeves' resignation, Members agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to him thanking him for his past services.

It was proposed by Cllr B Mulhern, seconded by Cllr Mrs C Davis, and on being put to the Meeting:

**RESOLVED that:**

- a) a firm of professional cleaners should be employed to give the interior of the Guildhall a complete spring clean*
- b) the position should be offered initially to the Town Sergeant, Mr R M Cole, but should he not wish to accept the position to run in tandem with his duties as Town Sergeant as was done by Mr Reeves and his predecessor, that the vacancy for a caretaker be advertised.*

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Mayor