

5. Policy and Resources

Town Council Budget for Financial Year 2009/2010—The Faversham Town Council Precept for the coming year has been set at £29.13 per Band D property. This will enable the Council to give the following grants:

Citizens Advice Bureau	£ 5000
Christmas Lights Committee	£ 2000
FACE	£ 500
Faversham Hop Festival	£ 2000
Faversham Carnival Club	£ 1750
Faversham in Bloom	£ 175
Faversham Society	£ 3500
Kent BTCV	£ 250
Classic Car & Motorcycle Show	£ 1000

These are to bodies important to the wellbeing of the town making it more attractive as a trading centre and tourist destination. Provision is also made for the further support of the Faversham Enterprise Partnership (FEP) (£15,000), the Town Marketing Group (TMG) (£44,000) and Youth Facilities (£5,000).

In addition, reserve of funding has been set aside to aid the future management of the Alexander Centre and for a third year funding has been committed to the Leader Plus project initiated by the FEP and TMG for the creation of a Faversham Area Walking Project; also supported by Swale Borough and Kent County Councils, Faversham Area Tourism Association (FATA) and Shepherd Neame Plc.

For second year, the town council is making a further grant of £5,000 to the Faversham Creek Consortium for the creek regeneration project. This project is similarly supported by the Faversham Municipal Charities and Bensted's Charity and the commitment of Medway Ports Authority.

Mrs Susan Brockman
Town Clerk

TOWN COUNCILLORS and THEIR WARDS

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Councillor Mick Gates - 01795 535301
Councillor Bryan Mulhern - 01795 538498
Councillor Anita Walker - 01795 531192
Councillor Lloyd Hubbard-Mitchell - 01795 536436

DAVINGTON PRIORY

Councillor Jane Hawkins - 01795 538206
Councillor John Winlow - 01795 591706

ST. ANN'S

Councillor Tom Gates - 01795 538534
Councillor John Coulter - 01795 539046
Councillor Mark Baldock - 01795 530192
Councillor Nigel Kay - 01795 531298

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Mr Bob Cole *Town Sergeant*



Faversham
TOWN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2009 ISSUE
ANNUAL REPORT to 30th JUNE 2009



Annual Report 2008/09

1. Mayor's Overview

Over the past year the town council has continued to deliver visible, tangible benefits for Faversham. This annual report highlights the council's achievements over the year to 30th June 2009.

Its key working parties are focussing on improving the economic prosperity of the town, creating opportunities for our young people and championing the upgrading of our town centre and creek to ensure Faversham is a place in which we can all be proud to live, work and visit.

The council's budget plans for 2009/ 2010 provide for continuation of these activities.

Cllr Ted Wilcox, Mayor of Faversham

2. Town Marketing Group (Economic)

The Town Marketing Group (TMG) is the arm of the town council that works on economic development; it also acts as the council's 'think-tank'. The group was formed some eight years ago at a time when the council recognised the town and surrounding area needed to give greater priority to wealth creation and sustaining a positive public profile for the area.

The TMG comprises town councillors and representatives of the Faversham Area Tourism Association (FATA) and the Faversham Enterprise Partnership (FEP). The FEP provides administrative and management support to the TMG.

During the past year the TMG has worked to increase the substance of the town's tourism promotion work, resulting in the council approving an increase to £10,500 of the annual budget it provides to support tourism development projects.

In addition, the TMG has, at the council's request, started to review the council's roles and functions. As part of this review, the council is investigating taking further direct responsibility for town allotments, parks and gardens, the war memorial and public buildings.

*Cllr Mick Gates,
Chairman of the Town Marketing Group.*

3. Youth Working Party

The Faversham Youth Working Party— this committee brings together providers of youth services in the town and recommends actions to the full town council. With five councillor representatives the council leads the committee which is administered by the Town Clerk.

In association with the police, local authority, housing association and church youth officers, community workers and local young people the purpose of the committee is to facilitate the development of projects and facilities to support the young people of Faversham. It is providing opportunities for the young to channel their energies and enthusiasm positively.

The value of the group is its capacity to coordinate action across the network of youth services in the town. With the approval of the town council in the year to 30 June 2009 the committee has used its budget of £5,000 to provide grants to:

- Faversham Activities for the Disabled
- Faversham Youth Club
- Faversham Junior Football Club
- Bysing Wood Road Youth Club

The impact of these initiatives is being monitored by Committee to assess their success and inform the ongoing development of youth services in Faversham.

*Cllr Mick Gates,
Chairman of the Youth Working Party*

4. Environment and Public Realm

Formed in 2006 Faversham Joint Public Realm Working Group in line with recommendations from the Faversham Streetscape Strategy Study public consultation. The group comprises town councillors and KCC, Swale Borough Council and Faversham Enterprise Partnership staff.

The group guides Faversham oversees a programme of street improvements for which it has obtained funding from the town council, Swale, KCC and the South East England Development Agency. Work is carried out in accordance with the Streetscape Strategy Study, endorsed by the town council, SBC and KCC. Work is commissioned through SBC and KCC.

Since its inception the group has been involved with a series of town centre improvements, including upgrading the central car park, construction of the Back Lane footpath between Market Place and the central car park, and Court Street reconfiguration of the West Street/South junction to give improved sightlines and more grassed and planted space.

During the past year the group put together detailed plans and oversaw the first phases of works to

- Install new, less intrusive street lighting in Court Street
- Repainting town centre street furniture
- New street name signs and further tree planting

These actions are scheduled for completion in 2009/10.

*Cllr John Winlow,
Lead Faversham Town Cllr
Joint Public Realm Working Group*