

**AT A STATUTORY MEETING OF FAVERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Guildhall, Market Place, Faversham on Monday, 26 October 2009

**Present:** The Mayor, Cllr E J Wilcox, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A J Walker and Councillors T Gates, Mrs C Davis, B Mulhern, M S Gates, J N Coulter, J R Winlow, D G Wade, N A Kay and Mrs J E Hawkins

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D H S Simmons, L G R Hubbard-Mitchell and M R Baldock.

**2 MINUTES**

Members agreed that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 1 September be amended and that the Resolution contained in Item 5 of the Town Clerk’s Report should read: ***RESOLVED that Faversham Town Council take no action in this matter as it has concerns with regard to the legality and the administration of this proposal and it could also set a precedent.*** Subject to this amendment the Minutes of the Meeting of Faversham Town Council held on 1 September 2009 and 28 September 2009 were approved by Members and signed by the Mayor as correct records.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of Interest in relation to Planning Applications were declared by Councillors Mrs C Davis, B Mulhern and J N Coulter and are recorded in the Planning Schedule dated 26 October 2009.

**4. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor informed Members that during the past month he and the Mayoress had attended the Blessing of the Hops service and lunch at Boughton, the High Sheriff of Kent’s Justice Service in Maidstone, the Canterbury Samaritan’s Annual General Meeting, the Devine Dimensions exhibition at St Peter’s Church in Oare, the Three Women Artists exhibition at the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre and a Poppy Appeal Lunch at Brompton Barracks in Gillingham when Mr Hugh Robertson MP was the guest speaker. The Mayor and Mayoress and Deputy Mayor had also attended Speaker’s Day in Dover in the presence of the Lord Warden and the Cinque Port Mayors

The Mayor had also attended local meetings of the Town Marketing Group, Davington PACT group and the Faversham Area Tourism Association when feedback from the Tourism Conference held early in October and hosted by the Mayor showed that the event had been very positive and well received by those attending. The Mayor had also been given a presentation by Mrs Lucy Guthrie on the Faversham web site and had attended a Community Empowerment Peer Review at Swale Borough Council.

In conclusion the Mayor reported that he had been delighted to entertain the Mayor of Hazebrouck and two Deputies and their wives over the weekend of the Faversham Carnival which he felt this year had been a very successful event. In recognition of the

Statutory Meeting the Mayor invited Members to join him for drinks in the Mayor's Parlour at the conclusion of the meeting.

## **5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

It was:

***RESOLVED that recommendations be sent to Swale Borough Council as set out in Planning Schedule 26.10.09.***

## **6 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

### **1 Faversham Library – Mobile Service**

Members agreed that they had no comments to make on Kent County Council's proposals for the re-ordering of the Kent mobile library service.

### **2 Kent Highways**

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A J Walker and Cllrs Mrs C Davis and J R Winlow expressed an interest in attending the Kent Highways Annual Parish Seminar on 25 November 2009 and the Town Clerk suggested that she would put forward all three Members to that Authority to ask if three representatives can be sent from Faversham instead of the suggested two.

### **3 Kent Police Meetings**

Members noted the meeting arranged to take place with Faversham Police representatives on Monday, 9 November 2009. It was agreed that Cllr T Gates should represent the Town Council at the Mid Kent Area Police Briefing for Parish Councils on 2 December as he will already be attending the meeting in his capacity as County Councillor.

### **4 Church Services**

Members noted the arrangements for the Remembrance Day Parade and Service on Sunday, 8 November and the date of the St Catherine's Patronal Service scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 25 November 2009.

### **5 Christmas Holidays**

It was agreed that the Town Council offices will be shut for the Christmas holidays from noon on Wednesday, 23 December 2009 and will re-open on Monday, 4 January 2010.

**Cllr T Gates left the meeting at 9.05 pm**

## **7 TOWN MARKETING GROUP**

Members received and agreed the notes of the Town Marketing Group meeting held on 30 September 2009.

## **8 PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

It was:

***RESOLVED that the Payments and Receipts in Annex 26.10.09 circulated with the Agenda be approved and confirmed.***

**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 items on the grounds that they are exempt information as defined in the Act.

**1 FAVERSHAM ALLOTMENTS**

It was proposed by the Mayor, Cllr E J Wilcox and on being put to the meeting:

1. ***RESOLVED to initiate meetings with representatives of the allotment sites in Faversham and to continue to discuss the possibility of Faversham Town Council taking responsibility from Swale Borough Council for running the Faversham allotments to include particular discussion to establish any possible financial liability to the Town Council.***

**2 TRAVELLING EXPENSES**

It was proposed by the Mayor, Cllr E J Wilcox and on being put to the meeting:

***RESOLVED to set the rate of travelling expenses paid to Town Council staff and Councillors in the sum of 40p per mile to take effect immediately.***