

## **COMMUNITY SELF HELP SCHEME AIMS TO GET RE- SULTS - *ambitious plans for im- proving community and sports facili- ties in West Faversham unveiled***

The West Faversham Community Association. Has been planning to significantly improve and extend the Bysing Wood Community Centre. To be successful the members of the community championing the project need the support of those who are interested in seeing things happen and they are attracting the skills and ideas of local people to help. Three Town Councillors have brought their professional skills to support the Association.

On Saturday 18 April 2009 at an Open Day held at the Centre, the Architects and the Association's Officers unveiled their ambitious plans. A new main hall with a stage, seating for over 200 people, space for functions like weddings and parties or use for sports like badminton. Other support facilities include a bar and kitchen, large nursery area, community meeting rooms for housing associations, a neighbourhood police office and changing rooms and showers.

The community representatives are determined that this multi-million pound scheme should not be seen as 'pie in the sky' and have approached its initial development in a progressive and forward thinking way; even down to the building's carbon footprint. Environmentally friendly measures include solar water heating for the changing rooms, collecting rainwater to flush toilets and a ground source heat pump that makes heating the building virtually carbon neutral. Early responses from government grant agencies has been encouraging. Watch this space for further developments.

## **TOWN COUNCILLORS and THEIR WARDS**

### **ABBEY**

Councillor Mick Gates - 01795 535301  
Councillor Bryan Mulhern - 01795 538498  
Councillor Anita Walker - 01795 531192  
Councillor Nigel Kay - 01795 531298

### **DAVINGTON PRIORY**

Councillor David Barker - 01795 591040  
Councillor John Winlow - 01795 591706

### **ST. ANN'S**

Councillor Tom Gates - 01795 538534  
Councillor John Coulter - 01795 539046  
Councillor Mark Baldock - 01795 530192  
Councillor Lloyd Hobbard-Mitchell - 01795  
536436

### **WATLING**

Councillor Cindy Davis - 01795 534570  
Councillor Ted Wilcox - 01795 533004  
Councillor David Simmons - 01795 532100  
Councillor Geoff Wade - 01795 531035

Council Offices  
The Alexander Centre  
Preston Street, Faversham, Kent  
ME13 8NY

☎ 01795 594442/3

Fax: 01795 590198

E-mail: [faversham.towncouncil@virgin.net](mailto:faversham.towncouncil@virgin.net)

Website: [www.faversham.org](http://www.faversham.org)

Susan Brockman	<i>Town Clerk</i>
Julie Fettes	<i>Mayor/Town Clerk's Secretary</i>
Bill Reeves	<i>Town Sergeant</i>



## **NEWSLETTER** SUMMER 2008 ISSUE

## **REPORT BY THE MAYOR OF FAVERSHAM**

On the wall in the Guildhall's council chamber are the names of all the past Faversham Mayors, going back across the centuries to the 1200s. Sitting in the Chamber during Council meetings brings home the realisation that, as a councillor you have a duty to maintain and build on Faversham's impressive historic legacy. Being elected Mayor gives me the opportunity to head the Town's Council's drive to secure a strong and viable future for our great town.

That brings with it a responsibility. The Town Council no longer has the direct control of the support and services delivered to the households and business that make Faversham what it is today. We are heavily dependent on Kent County and in particular Swale Borough. Faversham has to work closely with both Councils to ensure the health and wellbeing of the town.

When it created the Faversham Enterprise Partnership in 2004 the Town Council brought together an 'arms length organisation' made up of all three councils. As a result innovative work is taking place. As your Mayor I am looking forward seeing this extended during my term of office to strengthen the prosperity of the town.

**CLLR TED WILCOX**  
**Town Mayor 2008/2009**

## **STATUTORY POWERS and DUTIES - *the Town Council is reviewing its service responsibilities***

In 2002 the Town Council outlined its vision for Faversham. In August an eight stage process to review the Council's development vision and its roles and functions begun.

The first stage, to identify the functions that parish and town councils can legally undertake or be involved with is progressing. Those that the Council already undertakes are being listed to identify new responsibilities that could be taken on and assist in fulfilling the Council's ambitions for the town.

In the coming months a further seven stages will be carried out. Progress can be followed in future newsletters

**Stage 2 Analysis** of findings

**Stage 3 Feasibility** of taking on new functions

**Stage 4 Consultation** with local people to measure the support for the Council to take on new functions and the implications

**Stage 5 Negotiation** with current providers of functions to pass responsibility to the Town Council

**Stage 6 Planning and preparation** of a service transfer plan

**Stage 7 Implementation**

**Stage 8 Review**, measuring the impact of action and refine working practices

## **AN AREA OF EXCELLENCE FOR FOOD and DRINK? - *could the town and surrounding area become a centre of gastronomic excel- lence?***

The Faversham area has a strong food and drink product, offering a broad range of eating choices from Michelin starred dining, eastern cuisines and quality 'pub meals', to brewing, specialist retail outlets and top flight agricultural production. However, despite several recent initiatives the Faversham area has not built a strong reputation for its food and drink.

To overcome this partnership working is starting on a series of linked projects to deepen the vitality of the area's food and drink industry. The aim is to establish Faversham as a centre of gastronomic excellence with funding agreed in principle from sources outside the town like the LEADER scheme

## **FAVERSHAM STREETSCAPE *improving the town centre's built envi- ronment***

Street Lighting improvements are being planned that could see lighting brackets on buildings in Court Street and Market Place. Negotiations are proceeding with owners of town centre premises. In addition floodlighting the Guildhall is also being considered which police feel could also add to the security of the town centre at night.