

# Faversham Society Newsletter

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## From the chairman

HAROLD GOODWIN

Swale Borough Council engaged Peter Brett Associates to provide a starting point for developing a longer-term vision for how Swale might deal with choices about the type and location of housing growth. National government is making consultations on a new method of calculating housing targets.

Emerging numbers suggest that Swale needs to provide more housing permissions – equivalent to about 35% more every year, on top of the number already in the local plan. This is equivalent to 7,500 additional homes by 2037-38.

The consultant's report, *Choices for Housing Growth*, suggests scenarios that could accommodate 15,000 new houses in Swale. Faversham emerges as one of the likely options for substantial house building. It was in this context that, along with the Rev Simon Rowlands, of St Mary of Charity, we invited Alan Best, from Swale's spatial planning team and representatives of the Prince's Foundation for Building Community and the Duchy of Cornwall to share with us their thinking about how the residents of Faversham might have more influence over housing development.

The Faversham Society remains committed to a second Neighbourhood Plan, but we also wanted to explore how we might exert more influence over the housing developers. Alan Best explained



**The exhibition *In Their Shoes – Women of Faversham* is now on show in the Fleur museum foyer [See page 2](#)**

that Swale had to complete a new local plan by April, 2022, so it was a tight timetable, and the options papers will be out in April.

The society is planning a members' meeting on Swale Local Plan consultation to form the board's response on behalf of the society, which will be finalised at the board meeting on 5 June.

The presentations from the Duchy of