



# THE FAVERSHAM SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1962

## FLEUR DE LIS HERITAGE CENTRE

ESTABLISHED 1977

Company No. 7112241, Registered Charity No.1135262  
Address 10-13 Preston Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8NS

**Trustees:** Harold Goodwin (Chair), Jonathan Carey, Matthew Hatchwell, Andrew Holden, Sophie Kemsley, Brian Kelsey, Anne Salmon, Laurie McMahon, Tim Stonor, Graham Warner, Heather Wootton, Christopher Wright, Sir David Melville (Vice-Chair) and Katie Begg.

### **Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

Present: HG, HW, SK, KB, AS, BK, MH, TS, CW, DM, JC

#### **Part I**

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
<b>Apologies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AH, LM</li></ul>	
<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	
<b>Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HG raised an error in the AGM section on the number of attendees for it to be quorate.</li><li>The minutes proposed by MH and seconded by CW. The minutes were <b>approved</b></li></ul>	
<b>Matters arising</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Planning Committee has been given access to the Fleur Hall.</li></ol>	

<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Board Standing Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Museum Committee has replied that they are unsure how to proceed with the issue of the cellar. HG explained that the minutes were not complete and that the Standing Committee was referring to looking at costs of alternative storage, as it does not seem likely the cellar could be adequately tanked. JC suggested in the short term a better dehumidifier might pose a solution.</li> </ul> <p><b>Museum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board agreed with the book disposal list that was issued in August. Books will go to the Secondhand Bookshop unless valuable to another museum.</li> <li>The Museum has now opened for 4 weeks. The visitors went up in a weekly progression and this was encouraging. There have been donations from these visitors in the absence of the entry fee.</li> </ul> <p><b>Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has not met. HG asked for advice on who might be invited to be on the Committee when it reconvenes. DM raised the Committee should focus on water quality in the creek as an issue. He suggested Graham Setterfield as a potential expert member of the Committee on this issue. MH agreed and suggested that Cooksditch be included in discussions on the water quality issue. DM would like to attend the Environment Committee. HG also raised that air quality and re-wilding should be considered by the EC.</li> </ul> <p><b>PEEP</b> will meet on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.</p> <p><b>Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Court St: The work has been done already.</li> <li>Mount Ephraim: HG asked that we be more enthusiastic in our support</li> <li>64-65 Preston St: it should be added that the Society welcomes the application and that it will be another outside facility.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross Lane: A comment in support should be submitted, stating that the Society welcomes the reinstatement of the wood windows.</li> <li>• RSPB Seasalter Levels: The language will be amended to say it is welcomed.</li> <li>• Queen Court Barn: JC asked that we keep an eye on this development but the Board supported the recommendation</li> <li>• Queens Parade: HG suggested the Society should object to the application, as it is industrialisation in the conservation area. JC declared an interest as a near neighbour. JC stated that the traffic issue is of concern, and that the proposal will block views of the terrace. CW suggested it is wrong for the area. AS suggested we need to amend the new wording to say 'extension' and not 'building'. DM asked if there was a form of words that might encourage a different application which improves the look but is more respectful to the conservation area. The Board voted in favour of recommending against this proposal. JC abstained.</li> <li>• Provender Walk: The Board agreed no comment would be appropriate.</li> <li>• Mast: HG agreed with FSPC that we should strongly oppose. The Board agreed.</li> <li>• Aside from the above amendments, the Planning minutes were approved.</li> <li>• Brogdale: The Board <b>unanimously supported</b> HG submit comment on the Brogdale application.</li> <li>• Pedestrianisation: HG has submitted proposed comment to the Board. The Board unanimously approved and asked it be submitted on behalf of the Society.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Finances</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Half Year Results: There was a trading deficit but thanks to legacies and grants from Swale and Government this has been transformed into a surplus.</li> <li>• The secondhand bookshop continues to trade very strongly and helped keep the Society afloat. Expenditure is in line with budget.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Unrestricted funds remain healthy and we are in a strong financial position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Finance Committee minutes also make note of the expected costs of the move to the VIC - £25,000. The Committee believes the business cost to be strong, with over £6k pa saved on rent and an expected higher footfall. Therefore the Finance Committee believes the cost will be self-financed in four years.</li> <li>• The completion of the roof works at No.12 were finalised in line with cost estimates.</li> <li>• The next five years will be focused on restoration of our existing buildings.</li>   <li>• The Auditor Report has been finalised.</li>   <li>• Online copies of the Annual Report and auditors reports should be made available at the AGM.</li>   <li>• Charities Report: BK proposed that the formal accounts be signed by the Chair and distributed to all regulatory interested parties. This was proposed by CW and seconded by KB. The Board voted to approve the financial report.</li>   <li>• Charities Report: MH proposed, CW seconded, and the Board approved their submission.</li> </ul>	
<b>AGM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 in 20 of the members of the Society must be present for the AGM to be quorate.</li> <li>• We have 776 members, meaning we must have 39 members present at the AGM</li> <li>• CW will talk on the Moon at Faversham</li> <li>• KB will help set up the technology.</li> <li>• The nominations for the AGM are:</li> <li>• David Melville, Jan West, Jonathan Carey, Harold Goodwin,</li> <li>• The Board has received the membership report. It was very good, and the Board thanked Leigh for this. HG explained this will be the</li> </ul>	

	<p>new baseline as the figures were not accurate before, and comparators should be available soon.</p>	
<b>Cleve Hill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DM updated on Cleve Hill. The developers have indicated that they are planning to begin the development at the start of 2022. There was no detail. On the 9<sup>th</sup> August DM was invited to speak to the Cabinet of SBC about the dangers associated with the battery storage. The developers have not yet issued the battery safety and management plan to SBC as the relevant planning authority. The development consent order is an outline planning consent, and the detailed planning consent must be provided by Swale. It is a positive development that SBC dedicated its planning meeting on 9th to this issue. DM's comments were well-received and cabinet members have been assigned to the issue. DM will maintain contact.</li> <li>• KFRS have also been approached as they are a statutory consultee on the battery safety and management plan. DM and HG met with the KFRS lead on this and it was a positive meeting.</li> <li>• SBC have only 8 weeks to respond the battery safety and management plan submitted by developers.</li> <li>• Our points are now focused on making the battery installations safe, and that the fire suppression methods are appropriate. First responders must also be suitably protected. Battery fires are becoming more common across the world. The Society is maintaining an interest in Cleve Hill but is also in contact with interest groups about another potential solar power station in East Anglia.</li> </ul>	
<b>VIC Lease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HW has sent comments on the VIC lease and other detailed comments are welcome.</li> <li>• HG asked the Board for permission to approach Tassels for legal advice on the lease contract. The Board <b>agreed</b>. The Standing Committee will pursue this.</li> </ul>	
<b>Local Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Duchy has agreed to speak in the church at a town meeting. They will then have a day of consultation meetings.</li> </ul>	
<b>Volunteer Agreement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Board members are asked to sign the volunteers agreement and return to Leigh</li> </ul>	

<b>Historic Swale</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This organisation will likely be wound up or become part of Visit Swale.</li> </ul>	
<b>AOB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board will continue to meet on Zoom</li> <li>DM asked if time could be given at the next Board meeting to considering whether it is more appropriate to meet every two months.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>Officers Report</b>	<b>Chair's Report</b>	

## NOTES:

Part II

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
Confidential matters		

## Next Meetings

Date	Agenda
28 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Board of Trustees

## Future Business