



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, Brian Kelsey, Anne Salmon, Laurie McMahon, Tim Stonor, Jan West, Heather Wootton, Christopher Wright, Sir David Melville (Vice-Chair), Jackie Davidson, Jane Secker and Katie Begg.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on Tuesday 31st January

Present: DM, KB, AS, CW, HW, JC, MH, BK, AS, LM, JS, JW, HG, JD

Part I

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AH, TS	
Declarations of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">HG declared an interest. He is on the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and will absent himself from the Neighbour Plan discussion.	
Minutes	- JW proposed, JS seconded. The Minutes were approved	
Matters arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Creek: DM sent a note around about a letter from the local MP. It suggests the Maritime Minister has now managed to engage Peel Ports on the issue. The lawyer from KCC attended a meeting and is clear on the legal position and is willing to pursue it.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keypads for the back door: No update • Abbeyfields: HG had an email from our barrister and we expect a first draft opinion by the end of next week. • Conflicts of Interests Policy: the policy was approved. KB will send all trustees a declaration form and set up the register. • Finances: A £500 donation was made to the Christmas lights committee 	
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>Board Standing Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has not met • Environment and Planning • The minutes were circulated and the Neighbourhood Plan will be discussed later on the agenda. <p>Museum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes were circulated. HW reported that lots of new volunteers got involved in the deep clean. The Board thanked everyone involved for their hard work. • The museum is planning on opening in the half term and is working on ensuring it can be fully staffed. • JW noted that there are a lot of new museum volunteers and this is very impressive • PEEP • Has not met <p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has not met • 	

Finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BK presented the finances and said there has been positive things to report – including good income from Open Gardens and that the bookshop and VIC move costs were met entirely by grants – so were at no additional costs to the Society. There has been a 70% increase in footfall and takings at the VIC and another record income from the second hand bookshop. And we no longer have the overhead of rent at Gatefield Lane • The planned deficit for the year was very much less than expected. The Society had a successful year in relation to trading. • The overall funds of the Society were greatly enhanced by the legacy donations received. We have distributed our substantial funds across secure banks and with interest rates currently high, we expect these to grow. We expect c. £12k in interest alone over the next year. The figures will go into the annual report and then to the auditors. • LM proposed the accounts, MH seconded. The Board approved the accounts. • The Board approved the summary accounts as presented to pass on to the independent reviewers. • 	
Succession Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The AGM will be 24th May 2023 - KB will take the lead on preparing the annual report and papers with support from JW and AH 	
Open Faversham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HG proposed the Society partner with St Mary of Charity to organise an event in August called Open Faversham to replace Open Houses. This would focus on public spaces and town walks. • We would get volunteer help from beyond the Society and in partnership, the Society would take a leadership role in promoting the heritage of the town. • JS offered to support and tie in with Wikipedia • KB offered to support with marketing to schools 	
Museum Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HG raised that he is keen that the Society remains the keystone that directs people to all the heritage in the town. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW, HG and JC will progress ideas for how this kind of project can be progressed. • The Cinque Ports are having a review of what they're doing. DM asked if there is a Cinque Ports museum and HG confirmed it is in Rye. • HW raised that the Museums Together group is critical to this. • MH said that he was discussing the next stage development at Faversham Lakes and was informed that the developer is considering a heritage centre there. HG suggested he writes to the developer and the Board approved this course of action. 	
Lower Thames Crossing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current situation is that the development consent order has been put forward by Government. • The plans will be considered by a Government-appointed independent panel. 24th Feb is deadline for registering as an interested party. • The CO2 emissions associated with construction and use of the crossing are extremely high. • A transport specialists and other stakeholders find the system by which the plan is being approved is faulty. • The Board asked Chris to lead in drafting the Society's response to the development consent order. • KB will register the Society as a consultee and submit the documents once approved. • KB will also draft a social media post and send to Liz. 	
Gladmans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HG suggested we do not take private meetings with developers and the Board agreed. 	
Levelling up consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HG and DM proposed we put together a short response to this consultation, based on our comments about local communities having a say in housing, housing development meeting local need etc, and housing sustainability. • DM will prepare a first draft 	

AOB	- DM asked whether the Board would want to return to in person meeting. At present there was not a consensus to return to in person meetings.	
Neighbourhood Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Board worked through the policies and discussed how it might comment on each. - MH and DM will submit the comments to the Neighbourhood Plan consultation. - AS raised that there needs to be more detail in Kiln Court and Osborne Court. 	
Officers Report	Chair's Report	

NOTES:

Part II

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
Confidential matters		

Next Meetings

Date	Agenda
28 th February	Board of Trustees

Future Business