



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), Leigh Allison, Jonathan Carey, Matthew Hatchwell, Andrew Holden, Brian Kelsey, Anne Salmon, Laurie McMahon, Tim Stonor, Jan West, Heather Wootton, Sir David Melville (Vice-Chair), Jackie Davidson, Jane Secker and Katie Begg.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on Tuesday 30th April 2024

Present: HG, KB, AH, AS, DM, LA, JW, BK, JS, LM

Part I

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
Apologies	MH, HW, JC	
Declarations of Interest	None	
Minutes	LM proposed, LA seconded. The minutes were approved.	
Matters arising and AoB	Princes Award AoB	

Committee Reports	• Board Exec Committee: The Board acknowledged this paper. • Futures: • <u>Cleve Hill:</u> HG raised that SBC is planning on taking legal advice on Cleve Hill. SBC turned down the battery safety management plan and the developers will appeal. The appeal by the developers goes to the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of State will appoint someone to review the case and look at the evidence, although the scope is unclear. SBC will be asked if they wish to make further representations as part of this process – and other consultees may be asked for further evidence. DM has written to SBC asking if they have any further information on the process. The Society's and SBC's positions are current aligned, and we have offered to work with them on the submission of any materials. We have had a response and SBC have little further insight on the process. At the moment, there is little more to do. Our barrister has been helpful in explaining the position and is keen to continue to help. BK asked if in the medium to long term, SBC loses an appeal, if there is any danger of any legal costs that we might incur if we support the appeal on a legal basis. DM said it depends on the detail of the case, but this is a concern for SBC. The developers are claiming that SBC ignore their own officers' advice and the advice of an expert and are appealing on these grounds. However, DM suggested that the Society would not be liable. <u>Duchy development:</u> The Environment and Planning Committee position was supported by the Board. LA raised that in the VIC many people are raising queries on the Duchy development. HG said we should print some copies of the newsletter so that it can be given to people raising queries about the Society's position. LM supported this. DM said it doesn't serve as a position so we need a shorter statement so that we can give it out to those who need it to be easily digestible. KB offered to draft this. KB also suggested that whatever position we eventually take, there will be some people unhappy with our view, and therefore we need to take a measured, calm approach to developing our position and consult fully with our members. LM supported this and suggested that we need to approach with caution and need to not appear that we've already decided on a position on the Duchy. HG shared a map of other potential future sites in Faversham for the future. The Board discussed how it will respond to media enquiries on the Duchy. The Board decided that at present it will not fund a joint mail out with Farms Fields and Fresh Air. KB will draft a response. <u>General large scale development issues:</u> TS said that the key consideration for housing is housing with jobs and connected development which integrates with the town. HG also raised	
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	that sewage is also a concern. The Society will be assessing all large-scale development on these grounds. JD raised that customers are also raising the issue of the Duchy in the bookshop. JD supports a Members Meeting on the issue when its ready, and HG confirmed that we will do that before taking a final position. DM suggests that at the AGM we present this issue proactively. JS said that it will also be helpful if we can give a time frame for the meeting. HG said it would probably be Autumn for a members meeting. AS said that the report on the Neighbourhood Plan is in but there will be a meeting on 5th June on this. Outreach: LA said that the Society has launched a self-guided tour of the town book. There has been a revamp of the website to make it more user friendly on mobile. There is a talk from KAS tomorrow. JS is going to help LA will talks going forward. We have had over 20 new members this month – which is a record since LA took over as Membership Secretary. LM asked if we can find out whether people who are moving into the area are joining the Society. • Heritage: There was no heritage report this quarter due to trustee absence. • Resources: The Board noted this report.	
Finances	- BK presented the Q1 accounts. It has been a successful quarter with no standout items in the budget. BK expressed concerns about the utilities but has been reassured that these will average out over the year. We have a small deficit of £1500 which BK believes will be worked out over the remainder of the year. Both shops and the interest we are receiving will cover any uplift in outgoings. There is no movement on restricted or designated funds. - JW said that we have a refund coming on the insurance at about £1400. - JD said the bookshop takings are down slightly on a weekly basis in comparison to last year. Saturday takings are doing well. BK reassured that the bookshop is still performing well against budget. - BK will liaise with Alistair about the AGM presentation for the annual report. - BK raised the request for financial support from Farms Fields and Fresh Air. BK said financially this would be ok but HG raised that it needs to be discussed under the Futures Quadrant.	
AGM and changes and to the Board	• KB said that we have one candidate for Chair – Ann Furedi. The Board requested to see her statement which KB will circulate. • DM resigned from the Board with immediate effect, with the purpose of allowing the Board to co-opt Ann Furedi to the Board of Trustees. The Board thanked DM for his service and HG said that his contribution will be recognised at the AGM. The Board accepted this resignation with heavy	

	hearts. The whole Board recognised the value of DM's input and work for the Society over the years, particularly on Cleve Hill. - KB proposed Ann Furedi to the Board of Trustees, LA seconded. The Board co-opted Ann Furedi as a Board member. - JW thanked DM and HG for everything they do for the Society. DM said he has enjoyed working with everyone over the years.	
AOB	JD has been working on public transport issues with local councillors and will keep the Society updated.	
Officers Report	Chair's Report	

NOTES:

Part II

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
Confidential matters	- .	

Next Meetings

Date	Agenda
27 August 2024	Board of Trustees

Future Business