



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

The meeting was held at 4.30pm on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at the Guildhall in Faversham. Eight EC Members were present, Trevor Payne (TP) Ashley Sayewell (ACMS), Anne Salmon (AS), Andrew Osborne (AO), John Coulter (JC), Julian Saunders (JS), Linda Harrison (LH) and Robin Sayewell (RS).

#### 1. WELCOME / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

*TP welcomed 'everyone' to the meeting. Apologies had been previously received from Willemien de-Koning (WdK), who is away at the moment.*

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR EC MEETING HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023

*These were approved.*

#### 3. MATTERS ARISING

##### (i) Walks

*Previously, there was an FFG Sunday programmed walk on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2023 (details and photos are on show within the FFG Website). Both Linda Harrison and Ann Ashton have continued jointly organising and running the walks programme, where a further walk is likely to take place on a Sunday in late September 2023.*

##### (iii) Website

*Nothing further to be reported at this meeting.*

##### iv) Walking and Cycling provision in Faversham linked with future proposals for the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan

*Walking and cycling provision in Faversham – (JS) explained that latest scheme named the 'Cross Town Walking Route' from Waller's Row through to the Longbridge at the Rec (via Cross and Gatefield Lanes) will have an exhibition in the town during the last two weeks of October 2023*

*Faversham Neighbourhood Plan - (TP) advised as previous, the FFG/EC will need to review the revised version when it is available to see if our comments have been adopted.*



## (v) Faversham Creek Bridge

*(RS) No further developments and there was nothing further to report since the previous meeting.*

## (vi) Creek Basin

*The Group continues to monitor the situation over any future developments regarding footpaths to the Creek Basin as a matter of course, which is also giving concern and was brought up in the document, Ordnance Wharf as previous, (RS) has written on behalf of FFG supporting footpath proposals by the Development. However, following, the recent uncertainty over Morrison's closure and the 'future' of the site, the EC agreed that (RS) would write to FTC over the concerns over the 'future' of the 'thirty-year old' Creek Path Link from Flood Lane to North Lane. He also advised he had preliminarily completed a KCC 'Designation of Local Paths' form which will likely have to be next process.*

## (vii) Vicarage Lane / Eastling Road

*(RS) has written to KCC PROW to obtain interest and support from them over a possible resolution and scheme. He will continue to liaise with KCC. (TP) also to continue contact with David Simmons over the matter.*

## (viii) Rail Crossings and other Footpath Issues

*(ZR492) (RS) had written to KCC again over this. They have again replied saying they will contact Network Rail again.  
ZR500 and its closure near the Thanet Way due to an illegal rubbish tip since 2017. KCC PROW have since replied advising with photos they have been to site and intend to take this further.*

## (ix) Brenley Corner

*(RS) continues monitor over a M2/A2 diversion from the roundabout. This is a National Highways issue, where it was previously noted that Operation BROCK was in place with a Check Point at Brenley on some days in late July early August causing delays.*

## (x) SBC liaison with FFG issues

*(JS) will continue to progress his concerns with SBC over a certain lack of liaison with FFG over the town's footpath matters especially with regards to new housing where he had previously indicated he still intended to write to SBC Planning Department about this.*



## (xi) Flood Lane

(RS) has pursued SBC and KCC over a No Through Road sign from West Street and has since heard from the Lead Officer of KCC Highways who has agreed to provide signage. This situation is being monitored as mentioned in (vi) in regards to the Morrisons site's future.

## (xii) Augustine Camino Footpath Route

(WdK) is currently away, but continues to promote this alternative Pilgrims route from Rochester to Ramsgate that passes through Faversham. See also Item 10 regarding the AGM.

## (xiii) Ham Road Housing Development(s)

(LH) with support from the EC will continue to assist the residents over the Objections to the scheme over Footpath, Environmental and Wild Life concerns. In the meantime, with regards to Faversham Lakes Country Park, (LH) has heard from Councillor Peter Cook that FTC are in discussions with the Developer over a North West future link from the Park footpath to ZF1 at Oare Creek

## **4. TREASURER'S REPORT AND MEMBERSHIP**

(ACMS) reported the following :-

Balance of Accounts : Two statements have been received since the last meeting, the agreed closing balance being £1014.40 as at 5th August 2023.

Payments

- Out:                                There are no outstanding payments at this time.
- In:                                    There were no payments into the account.
- Bank Charges:                These came to £10 (2 x £5 standard fee).
- Cash:                                £10 cash in hand; fees relating to two new members

2023 Membership : We are pleased to report that there are now Seventy-three FFG members. A new member, Carol Kelly, joined with effect from 20th August 2023.

HSBC Bank: We have moved on, albeit very, very slowly, regarding changing bank account details. The Secretary with help from (TP) has now been successful in arranging 'telephone banking' contact and changing the address details, with thanks again to Ann Ashton (ex-Treasurer) acting as postman during this period. During the meeting a resolution was proposed by (RS) that (ACMS) should become the third signatory, this was seconded by (JS). The resolution was passed unanimously.



## **5. WEST CREEKSIDE PATH ALONGSIDE FAVERSHAM REACH AND WATERSIDE CLOSE.**

*(AO) reported the KCC PROW team are continuing to make progress over the design of the ramps and slipway link.*

*In the meantime, an extended closure notice will come into place on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 explaining that the creek-side footpath here will be open except for three short lengths where work has to be carried out to make them walkable.*

*it will therefore be lawful to walk the footpath having accessed it via the Coastal Margin access land, although this will only be an access route until fully opened when the missing ramps and link are constructed. Details of this Closure Notice and Map (indicating the closed sections in red) are included at the end of these Minutes, after AOB.*

## **6. ENGLAND COAST PATH**

*Provender Walk through to the Former Oil Depot Site (RS) reported the Gate has been removed, plus he has at last managed to make contact with the newly formed South East Coast Path Trail Partnership based in East Sussex, where the officer concerned is familiar with our area, and has requested and been supplied with all details from FFG to look into the proposed direct Creekside Link.*

*As suggested by KCC PROW, (RS) has written to SBC Planning over the status official incorporation of this path as a footpath, details of which will be passed to FTC for them to also investigate.*

## **7. EAST KENT RECYCLING LTD (EKR) PLANNING APPLICATION**

*(RS) has been advised by KCC PROW that the Bretts Scheme for diversion of ZF1 is now passing through the necessary Planning procedure to allow this company to commence construction.*

## **8. SWALE LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION - Reg19**

*The SBC Policy & Resources Committee meeting on the 19th November 2022 did actually 'pause' the Local Plan process and this was likely to be the situation until after the local elections in May 2023 As before, the FFG / EC through (TP) would continue to monitor the situation for any footpath implications.*

## **9. DESIGNATION OF LOCAL PATHS / NATIONAL LOST WAYS INITIATIVE**

*'Designation of Local Paths' (RS) and (AO) as previous reported on recent developments regarding the KCC forms for the Tram Road and Abbeyfields Footpaths, to which there had been not too much support back which was disappointing.(RS) after discussion did ask the EC for more support in obtaining public form filling and completing.*



*(JS) advised FTC supported the proposal, and that as part of their next Newsletter, these two schemes plus he recommended also the Creek Path on the Morrison's site (as in vi) would be promoted to the Public.*

*'Lost Ways'. No real contact from Kent Ramblers Association, The FFG will continue to review all of the district's Public Rights of Way where the cut off deadline is now 2031.*

## **10. AGM 2023**

*The date for the next AGM will be Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm to be held in the Guildhall. It was agreed at the previous EC Meeting that Andrew Kelly, the Administrator of the Augustine Camino be the speaker at the next AGM and he has been contacted.*

## **11. LOG OF ISSUES RAISED**

*(RS) continues to monitor current developments and update the Log as required.*

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

*The next meeting will at 4.30pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at the Guldhall.*

## **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) (RS) advised of the current situation regarding the locked gateway between Lakeside Avenue and Footpath ZF3, where it appears KCC although having responsibility for the roads have no involvement with the Common Areas that appear to be under the domain of the resident's freehold ownership of the site. It was reported however, that the gate is not always locked*
- b) (LH) advised of her overall concerns over effect of the new community development to the south of the village of Dunkirk, known as Winterbourne Fields, where the (RS) on behalf of the EC has e'mailed the same concerns in a response to the WCHAR Consultation document.*