



## MINUTES OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

The meeting was held at 4.30pm on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at the Guildhall in Faversham. Six EC Members were present, Trevor Payne (TP), Ashley Sayewell (ACMS) Anne Salmon (AS), Andrew Osborne (AO), Linda Harrison and Robin Sayewell (RS).

### 1. WELCOME / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

*(TP) welcomed everyone to the Meeting where apologies had been previously received from Julian Saunders (JS) and Chris Oswald-Jones (CoJ). A Memorial Service for John Coulter had been held at St Mary's Parish Church on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024*

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR EC MEETING HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

*These were approved.*

### 3. MATTERS ARISING

*(i) Walks Both Linda Harrison and Ann Ashton have continued jointly organising and running the walks programme, the last one being on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024. In the mean-time the FFG together with FTC had organised walks in June. There will now be two walks alongside the Creek on weekends in the Autumn of 2024 for the Town Council's Active Travel month. Members have been notified of these dates that for those involving the Town Council had to be amended due to the forthcoming General Election, and SBC by-election in Priory Ward.*

*(ii) Website There were no items about the website to be reported at the meeting.*

*(iii) Walking and Cycling provision in Faversham linked with future proposals for the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan and the Faversham Town Conservation Area Review*

- a) Walking and cycling provision in Faversham –.SBC were now looking into a further Faversham North to South Walk scheme by way of funding proposals. However, the Town Clerk previously wrote to (RS) over the LCWP scheme inviting the Group to be involved in the proposals being put forward to KCC and they have had discussions with Adrian Berendt over this and all other relevant FFG matters. In the mean-time the East to West route works are still underway in Lower Road.*
- b) Faversham Neighbourhood Plan - This is still being scrutinised by the EC where the report mentions the Plan aspires to promote a continuous walking route around the Creek and also indicates that the Town Council should have a referendum on its acceptance. However as previous and most surprising to the EC, a date has yet to be published.*



*c) Faversham Town Conservation Area Review – The EC had previously made comments over the review’s lack of accurate detail to the West Creekside Path and the current condition of Flood Lane.*

*(iv) Faversham Creek Bridge No further developments and there was nothing further to report since the previous meeting.*

*(v) Creek Basin and Flood Lane The Group continues to monitor the situation over the pending reopening of the Supermarket Store by Home Bargains Group who now have approval of their revised Planning Application. (RS) reported that he and (LH) had recently met with Philippa Dickenson, Chair of Faversham Creek Trust over the configuration of the Flood Lane Gate, which has now been resolved with the Estates Manager of TJ Morris (Home Bargains).*

*The meeting discussed the Creek Path here, and that the trust and its members will support the PROW application (see also Item 9.), plus they are keen to liaise with Shepherd Neame (SN) over the section at the rear of their Bottling Building. (AO) mentioned the relatively unknown pathway from North Lane to the Creek edge on what is known locally as Hog’s Island here, which also could be brought into any discussions / negotiations with (SN)*

*(vi) Vicarage Lane / Eastling Road Ted Wilcox representing Lorenden Trust had as previous written to (RS) and advised that they support the outline proposal suggested in principal, but will require KCC PROW to take full responsibility for the new entrance. (RS) has taken this up with Adrian Oliver the KCC Highways Active Travel officer who advised of a way of having a PROW crossing Lorenden and linking this new gate to the top of Painters Forstal Hill which (RS) will suggest to Derek Macey as a proposal.*

*(vii) Rail Crossings and other Footpath Issues*

*(LH) previously raised (ZR500) and its closure near the Thanet Way due to an illegal rubbish tip since 2017. KCC PROW have since advised, ‘with photos’, they have been to site and intend to take this further. (RS) will write again to KCC.*

*(viii) Brenley Corner (RS) continues to monitor and campaign over providing a M2 / A2 diversion from the roundabout in way of a more suitable Interchange. We await news if the new Government is planning to shelve this scheme.*

*(ix) SBC liaison with FFG issues (RS) now receives regular updates from SBC Planning over all schemes covering Faversham. (RS) would also like to give thanks to (CoJ) over the assistance he gives the Group of the latest Planning Applications.*

*(x) Augustine Camino Footpath Route Nothing further to report*

*(xi) Ham Road East Side Housing Development This Development has currently been refused Planning Permission by SBC, but an Appeal Application has subsequently been submitted by the Developers. (AO) suggested that (RS) should write to SBC to ask them to include a request for a Section 106 for funding for the*



ZF43 links, when they write to the Inspector who is running the public enquiry outlining conditions SBC would like the Inspector to impose if they approve the application. This would be especially beneficial in funding this attractive route from the site via the section of the path at Waterside Close and Faversham Reach alongside the Creek, promoting that this will eventually become the King Charles III England Coast Path.

(xii) Duchy of Cornwall Development (RS) on behalf of the Group, has commented on the current two Planning Applications for this development.

(xiii) Winterbourne Fields near Dunkirk (RS) has responded to the Groups concerns over the matter.

## 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 £1052.20 as at 5th August 2024.

### Transactions

Expenditure : None.

Income : Bank transfers totalling £10 have been paid into the account relating to two new member's subscription fees.

Cash totalling £30.00 has been paid into the account relating to 5 new members + a donation.

Bank Charges : These came to £10.00 (2 x £5.00 monthly standard fee).

### 2024 Members

Thanks to Linda Harrison leading some of FTC Active Travel month walks we have been pleased to welcome 6 new members into the group, bringing the current total to 76 members.

### Members Fees

|    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 3  | members pre-paid              |
| 52 | members paid by bank transfer |
| 17 | members paid cash             |
| 4  | members £20 cash in hand      |

### HSBC Bank

Nothing to report at present.

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



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

All of our Members should 'promote to others' that both of these Estates' 'open areas' including the Creekside Paths are legally fully accessible via the entrance from the Upper Brents. The only closed areas are purely the unconstructed North and South ramps plus the slipway links.

In the meantime KCC, plus the 'Countryside Code Organisation' and 'Natural England' have provisionally produced a notice that will be erected at various sites, inviting the public to walk on 'Coastal Margin Access Land' and a provisional copy of this notice is attached as an appendix at the end of these minutes. Please note this notice can only be posted or erected by KCC Personnel, not the General Public.

(RS) will be contacting Cleve Hill Solar Park again enquiring if they could offer financial support or expertise to the scheme.

(JS) As previous will be leading walks now in the Autumn around the East and West sides of the Upper Creek Perimeter in conjunction with the FTC Active Travel Month that will involve these two estates.

## **6. KING CHARLES III ENGLAND COAST PATH**

Provender Walk through to the Former Oil Depot Site (RS) to continue pushing the necessary agencies over the opening up this section directly with Provender Walk.

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

(RS) has been in direct contact with Bretts at Canterbury over the repositioning of ZF1, who have advised they are keen to commence and complete the project which is currently being looked into by them with the SBC Planning Department.

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

We understand that the 'pause' has ended and the process restarted by SBC. (TP) will continue to monitor developments

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

'Designation of Local Paths' (RS) and (LH) met with the Chair of Faversham Creek Trust at the Home Bargains site recently. The Chair has agreed to pursue its members to complete the necessary forms over a PROW incorporation for the Flood Lane and North Lane link alongside the Creek here. They have all the necessary forms

'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 2024**



*This will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 in the Guildhall at 7.00pm. The EC is still looking into the possibility of having the AGM earlier in the year and at also an earlier time. Under the Group's Constitution and Rules this needs to be put for vote to members at the AGM Meeting.*

*The speaker for this year's AGM will be Hayley Taylor, who is the Project Manager for Bird Wise in North Kent, an initiative that brings together local authorities, conservation organisations and developers to protect the wildlife of the Thames, Medway and Swale Estuaries.*

*(LH) presently a Non-Voting Member was elected at the last meeting to become a voting member due the unfortunate recent vacancy and this will be tabled at the AGM for sanctioning by Group Members.*

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

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

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

*This is a revised date now, and planned to be at the Guildhall on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 16.30hrs.*

## **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

*A discussion took place about approaching various trading organisations over funding that may become necessary for present and future footpath projects. Therefore the EC is looking for a Group Member or any person who has experience in the field of Fund Raising and is willing to act on behalf of the Group, who can professionally carry out such an important role. It is likely the person would be invited to become an EC Member.*

*This item will added to the next set of EC minutes and will be on the Agenda for subsequent meetings. (TP) will also bring this up at the AGM in November 2024.*

*Appendix on following Page (not to be copied, posted or published in any way)*





## COASTAL MARGIN ACCESS LAND

You are welcome to walk & enjoy this land\*

### Please Follow the Countryside Code

Respect Everyone

Protect the Environment

Enjoy the Outdoors

**During your visit please help to protect and respect the land for everyone**

Keep dogs under effective control and on a short lead in the vicinity of livestock.

Leave gates and property as you find them.

Protect plants and animals and take your litter Home.

\*Restrictions apply please visit King Charles III England Coast Path:  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/manage-your-land-on-the-england-coast-path>

