



## MINUTES OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

(preliminary set to be approved at next EC Meeting)

The meeting was held at 4.30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at the Guildhall in Faversham. Nine EC Members were present, Trevor Payne (TP), Ashley Sayewell (ACMS), Anne Salmon (AS), Andrew Osborne (AHO), Julian Saunders (JS), Linda Harrison (LH), Chris Oswald Jones (CoJ), Adrian Oliver (AO) and Robin Sayewell (RS).

### 1. WELCOME / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

*(TP) welcomed everyone to the Meeting*

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR EC MEETING HELD ON 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024

*These were approved.*

### 3. MATTERS ARISING

*(i) Walks Both Linda Harrison (LH) and Ann Ashton have continued jointly organising and running the walks programme, the last one being on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024. However, there is a walk organised for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and Members have been notified.*

*The final two walks from 2024 Town Council's Active Travel month led by (JS) that were postponed will now take place in the summer. The Website and Members have been notified of these changes, but dates in June 2025 will be confirmed shortly.*

*(ii) Website There are no items about the website to be mentioned at the meeting, apart from last year's invoice from Faversham Designs. The account has been settled but the cheque remains uncashed.*

*(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 – there was a well-attended LCWIP Meeting at the Guildhall in November 2024. The full report is available on the FTC Website.*
- b) Faversham Neighbourhood Plan - There was an Exhibition of the Plan by FTC at Davington Church on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024. The referendum in November 2024 resulted in 94% acceptance of the Plan.*
- c) Faversham Town Conservation Area – 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, although the new approved associated report without our comments being taken on board is now approved.*

*(iv) Faversham Creek Bridge No further developments apart from a full page article in the Faversham News on 5th December 2024.*

*(v) Flood Lane (RS) has once again written to Graeme Tuft, Greenspaces Officer at SBC over the continuing disgraceful condition of Flood Lane's road surface that 'frontages' the Greenspace areas there, that SBC are responsible for. He has also subsequently written to Kieran Golding SBC Councillor for St Anne's and Simon Jones Head of KCC Highways over the matter.*

*(iv) Creek Basin The Group continues to monitor the situation over the Flood Lane Gate at the Supermarket Store. (RS) arranged for Faversham Fire Station to look at its potential use for emergencies, which they agreed upon. RS suggested that 'No Parking, Emergency Vehicles only signs would be beneficial and he has asked the Estates team of the Store to provide.*

*Shepherd Neame (SN) have been asked about the Creek path here and the section at the rear of their Bottling Building. They agree in principal that it is a good proposal, but at this stage will not commit to giving land rights on their properties.*

*(vii) Vicarage Lane / Eastling Road (RS) and (LH) met at site with Denis Fogel of KCC PROW and part of the Board of Lorenden Parkland Trust. They have agreed to the position of the gate but will not fund its purchase from KCC. They also require sanction from KCC Highways, (AO) of KCC Active Travel has been asked to cover this item, The Village residents that (RS) personally knows will be contributing towards the Gate and its installation.*

*(viii) 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. As (RS) and (LH) met with Denis Fogel at Lorenden, this was further discussed, but there are Landlord issues to be cleared first.*

*(ix) 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. The Faversham News ran an article about this on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024, (RS) has since written to Helen Whately MP about the article.*

*(x) Augustine Camino Footpath Route Nothing further to report, apart from (ACMS) and (RS) together with two other FFG members, attended a Guided Tour with other congregation members of Davington Church at St Augustine's in Ramsgate in early December 2024.*



*(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. However the enquiry has been adjourned until March 2025 to allow parties to take account of recent changes to the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework).*

*(RS), as previously suggested by (AHO), did write to SBC to ask them to include a request for a Section 106 for funding for the ZF43 links when they make contact with 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 SBC over the Group's concerns over the matter.*

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

*(ACMS) reported the following:-*

##### **Balance of Accounts**

*Three statements have been received since the last meeting (AGM), the agreed closing balance being £1232.20 as at 5th January 2025 (this figure includes £120 re an unpresented cheque).*

##### **Payments**

*Outgoings:*

*Pending – Cheque for £120.00 re Faversham Designs not yet cashed.*

*Access Insurance – a renewal quote of £130.81 has been agreed by TP/RS & myself. A cheque will be issued this week.*

*Ramblers Association - 2025 fee is £77, an increase of £3.50. This should be agreed at the meeting & a cheque issued.*

*Income:*

*A bank transfer of £15 was received from a new member in mid-November. (£5 fee + donation). Thank you.*

*£170 was received end Dec/Jan in bank transfers representing 32 members 2025 fees + £10 donation.*

*Bank Charges :*

*These came to £15 (3 x £5 standard fee).*

*2024 Members :*

*We had 77 FFG members @ 31/12/2024.*



2025 Members – 1 member has resigned bringing the total to 76.

Members Fees :

We currently have £40 in cash waiting to be banked; £25 re 5 current members fees, £15 in donations. See also above under bank income.

HSBC Bank :

Nothing to report.

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

*(RS) reported that KCC PROW have appointed engineers and have instructed them to proceed with the plan to design and deliver all three structure together. However if the slipway proposal becomes troublesome for any reason, then they will not allow that to delay the installation of the two ramps either end. This is because with the two ramps in place, there is the option to avoid the slipway link, as the Estate's land is within the Coastal margin.*

*Following FFG's recent application for funds with the Ramblers Association, they have been aware of the long standing issues associated with opening up this path, and the complexities around it. They have also indicated they wish to be kept updated on developments with this. If KCC move forward with agreeing that ZF43 can be fully opened as a public right of way and there are accessible features needed along it, they will certainly encourage us to consider a future application. (RS) will follow up on this.*

*(JS) As previously said, will be leading walks now in June 2025 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 David Greenaway of 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 Philippa Dickinson 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' The FFG will continue to review all of the district's Public Rights of Way where the 'Ramblers' have only recently reported the cut off deadline has now been removed.*

## 10. AGM 2025

*This will be on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 4.30pm in the Guildhall. As the speaker for last year's AGM, Hayley Taylor Project Manager for Bird Wise in North Kent, proved popular, it was agreed also because the Member attendance level at that Meeting was lower than the previous year's to ask her to speak again at this year's AGM.*

## 11. LOG OF ISSUES RAISED

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

## 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

*The next FFG EC Meeting will be held at the Guildhall at 4.30pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025.*

## 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

*No other relevant business was discussed.*