FAVERSHAM FOOTPATHS GROUP

www.favershamfootpathsgroup.org.uk

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4th AUGUST 2026.

(preliminary set to be approved at next AGM)

The Group's eleventh AGM was held at 4.30pm on 4th August 2026 at the Guildhall, Faversham. Fifteen Members were present.

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

   Trevor Payne (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting, and that the attendance again was very good this year. He apologized over the lateness of the date this year which had been caused over the FTC's refurbishment of the Guildhall that was due to start in April, but has now been deferred until September 2026.

2. **ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

   Attendees There were fifteen members present (Nine from the EC plus six Group members) and a speaker
   Executive Committee (EC) Members were : 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).
   Group Members who were present were Stuart Harrison, Richard Filipczak, Jan Scott, Mike Wilkins Claire Sullivan and Frances Worthington (plus Andrew Hutchinson of KCC PROW although not being a member was the Guest Speaker).
   Apologies were received from Ann Ashton, Marion Ripley, Laurence Young, Peter Towler, Becky Towler and Iris Neal.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVOUS AGM ON 10th APRIL 2025**

   The previous minutes were approved. Proposed by (CoJ) and seconded by (LH)

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM**

   There were no matters arising that were not covered in the Executive Committee's report from the previous meeting. The meeting noted the report.

5. **REPORT ON WORK FROM THE GROUP SINCE THE 2025 AGM**

   See report below :-

6. **FINANCIAL AND MEMBERSHIP REPORT BY TREASURER (Ashley Sayewell)**

   See report below :-

7. ELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

The Group were advised as per the Agenda that the constitution specifies that the AGM must include the election of Officers and other Members of the Executive Committee. The EC shall comprise of three Officers (Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary) and four other Voting Members.
The EC can also co-opt not more than three additional, non-voting, Members.

In the absence of other nominations for Officer or Member positions, the meeting agreed that the following Officers and Members should be elected/re-elected: Trevor Payne (Chair), Ashley Sayewell (Treasurer), Robin Sayewell (Secretary), Andrew Osborne (Member), Anne Salmon (Member), Cllr Julian Saunders (Member), Linda Harrison (Member and Walks Leader), Chris Oswald Jones (non-voting Member), Adrian Oliver (non-voting Member and Funds Raising Co-ordinator). Proposed by (CoJ) and seconded by (LH) with a general show of hands in agreement.

8. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2027

It was agreed that the subscription should remain as £5.00 per member, with the continuing proviso that anyone joining later than the end of September in a calendar year should be deemed to have paid their subscription for the following calendar year too. However it was suggested by the Treasurer during her report (as later), that Donations would be welcomed and requested a vote of thanks to those who already continue to give donations to the Group.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS RELATING TO THE GROUP

No items were formally raised, apart from the hard of hearing asking the Chair to speak up. Post Meeting, the Hearing Loop Facility would require all the speakers including participants from the audience to all hold a Microphone for the facility. The Secretary will investigate for next year.

10. Guest Speaker

The Guest Speaker for this year at the AGM was Andrew Hutchinson, East Kent Area Manager for KCC PROW, who gave a most interesting speech on the purpose of PROW and the footpaths plus their maintenance that come under the Department's responsibility. One of his Projects is the Footbridge, West of Ashford Station (which crosses at least six tracks, including the third rail and the HST overhead wires), falls under PROW's responsibility, which is unusual as these are normally the responsibility of Network Rail.

As he is also the Project Leader for the Faversham Reach and Waterside Close Project, he advised the Audience where this stood so far, and his confidence that works would commence on the missing links soon.

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REPORT BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON WORK OF GROUP

This report summarises the main activities of the Group since the report produced for the 2025 AGM. At that AGM it was decided to move the date for future AGMs to April each year. Unfortunately the now pending Guildhall Works that were due to start in April 2026, suspending a date for our AGM are now due to start after the Hop Festival in September 2026.
The EC would welcome questions or comments at the AGM or in advance of the meeting.

GENERAL

1. The Executive Committee (EC) has:
• continued to maintain and update www.favershamfootpathsgroup.org.uk
• maintained membership of Ramblers and continued the Group's public liability insurance.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2. The EC has met six times since the last AGM, most meetings were held in the Guildhall or at the Chair's House. Minutes of meetings have been emailed to members, posted on the website (plus delivered to members without internet access) and updates on the main developments have been supplied regularly to Members. Between meetings EC members have liaised as necessary by email.

CREEKSIDE PATH AT FAVERSHAM REACH/WATERSIDE CLOSE (ZF43)

3. The EC has continued to liaise with the KCC PROW (Public Rights of Way) department. They have appointed engineers to work on the ramps and slipway parts of ZF43. These are the only parts of the route to remain closed, all existing parts of the route are now open to the public. We would encourage members to take advantage of these developments.

KING CHARLES III ENGLAND COAST PATH (ECP)

4. The FFG continues to press the various agencies involved to link the path on Abbey Wharf (former Oil Deport) with the ECP at Provender Walk.

WALKS

5. We are very grateful to Linda Harrison for organising these. The walks are a very popular part of the group's activities and attract new members, but they do require considerable thought and planning to organise.

6. This year the FFG took part in Faversham Town Council's Active Travel month in June 2026 Similar to last year, the group organised a walk in the month plus again this year we were going to take part in an opening event in the Town Centre in Court Street, but at late notice, Swale Borough Council cancelled the event.

OTHER MATTERS

7. The EC has also acted in the following main matters:

- Designation of local footpaths – The FFG has continued, with the support of Faversham Town Council, applying for Definitive Map Modifications Orders (DMMO) for the Tram Road between Ham Road and Oare Creek, and Creekside routes through the site of the Home Bargains site

- East Kent Recycling (EKR) Ltd. Road at Oare Creek & ZF1 – We have liaised with EKR, and they have confirmed that they are still in conversation with SBC Planning to progress this.

- Walking and cycling provision in Faversham. Work on the East to West walking route is completed, with work on the Newton Road crossings and the southern entrance in Bank Street to the Central Car Park. A new North to South Route is being looked into with new crossings along London Road (A2), improvements to Briton Road joing Forbes Road, a new crossing at the Brewery in North Lane and junction on the Brents at Branmble Hill

- Improved access to Lorenden Park which has proved to be popular with walkers and local residents.

- Flood Lane and Home Bargains Store. SBC have now carried improvements to the condition of Flood Lane where it fronts their land.

- Ham Road Housing Development (Gladmans). The FTC Appeal that led to the Judicial Review has been recently rejected. However it is now understood that FTC will be taking this matter to the High Court.

Trevor Payne
Chair

July 2026

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Financial and Membership Report as at 31 December 2025 (AGM 4th August 2026)

Introduction

Membership of the Faversham Footpaths Group (FFG) becomes due on 1 January each year and as a result, financial records are kept using the calendar year as the financial year.

Accounts and membership 2025

The Income figure of £285.00 for 2025 is misleading; it is a snapshot figure as at 31st December 2025, the true figure being £340.00. Unfortunately, our membership did reduce by 6 due to resignations/non-payment of fees. However we were joined by 5 new members during the year bringing the total to **76** members.
Due to our bank removing the £5.00 monthly fee charges during the year our expenditure costs are down on last year, totaling £369.41. Faversham Designs who host our website have, once again, maintained their fee at £120.00. There were small increases to insurance, and the group subscription to the Ramblers Association costs.
Despite the reduced expenditure I, sadly, have to report a deficit as at 31st December 2025 of £84.41p.

56 members paid their subscription electronically, which is very helpful to the Group.

Other actions

A Data Protection Policy and Privacy Statement have been in place since April 2019 in order to ensure that the Group is acting in line with the new Data Protection regulations.

Conclusion
This has been a tricky fifteen months to comment on. Previously I have been dealing with bank balances during the middle of the month depending on the AGM dates. The loss of 6 members in 2025 equated to £30.00 and although we welcomed 5 new members our numbers have not increased. We hope to remedy that having invested in new leaflets about the group.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

Ashley Sayewell
Treasurer

31st December 2025.

If any member would like further information on our finances or a copy of our annual financial and membership report please contact her on ashley.granvia@outlook.com

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Financial and Membership Report as at 31st December 2025

2025 Income		**Membership**	
Subscriptions	305	Members @ 31/12/2024	77
Prepaid	5		
New Mem.	25	Resigned/nonpaid 2025	-6
Donation 2024	-15		
Donations	20		
Late 2024 m/ship. Gratis 2 mem.		Renewed 2025	71
Early 2026 subscriptions	-40		
Early 2026 Donations	-15		
TOTAL	**£285**	New members	5

2025 Expenditure			
Bank Charges	41.60	Membership as at 31st Dec. 2025	76
Insurance	130.81		
Ramblers M/ship	77.00	Paid by bank transfer	60
IT/Services Website	120.00		
Total	**£369.41**		

Surplus/(Deficit) **(£84.41p)**

Opening balance as at 31st Dec. 2024	£1112.20
Closing balance as at 31st Dec. 2025	£1027.79
Net Assets	**£1,027.79**