

FAVERSHAM FUTURE FORUM held in the Purifier Building, Faversham on Monday, 6 June 2016

Present: The Mayor, S Campbell and Councillors Henderson, Martin, Belsom and Flower.

Also present: Town Clerk and 21 members of the public.

The Mayor, Cllr Campbell, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their interest.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mulhern and Cosgrove. Andrew and Griselda Mussett, Eldon Hinchliffe, Gulliver Immick, Hilary Whelan, John Wellard, Fran Ward.

2. REASONS FOR CALLING THE MEETING

There are four to six developments with outline planning permission covering all four corners of the town. This is not about the how or why, but working together to create a wish list to take forward to developers. We won't all get what we want, but if we work together we may get something. There are a few people here with skills that can help the process.

3. SCOPE

The forum is only concerned with the areas with outline planning permission; this is not a protest group but the coordination of a continuous conversation about Faversham.

4. FORMAT

Start discussions in a group, agree directions and how often to meet, whether it's occasionally or quarterly.

5. NAME OF GROUP

It was agreed to call the group Faversham Future Forum

6. STARTING WISHLIST

With outline planning permission:

Ham Road, Bretts	310
Brickfields	240
Brogdale	63
Perry Court	370
Love Lane	260

On the Local Plan:

Nova	93
Love Lane	60
Preston Fields	256

The group disbursed to consider their wish list.

7. REVIEW WISHLIST AND BRAINSTORM SESSION

- Solar panels as standard on south facing roofs
- Awareness of carbon footprint of the built environment
- Allowance for allotments on each site
- Consider flats and more green space for children and adults
- Residential units for inter-generational families, including annexes
- Eco-sustainable
- Routes shared with cyclists, pedestrians, runners **all** the way into town; car free
- How to minimise car use – make it a ‘less good’ choice
- We need Highways to do a complete projected audit, they have not impressed with their contribution at two recent meetings
- It’s not about number of houses but what type. Supported housing for elderly, starter homes, which are affordable and homes for social rent.
- Ospringe – murder
- A251 – rubbish road junction
- At least two routes to each new development – a choice
- Access to town – shoppers’ mini buses?
- Green spaces
- Proper by-pass around Ospringe
- The developments given approval have all been considered on an individual case. There has been no overview of the wider picture. The ‘no to Perry court’ identified this. Transport issues on Ashford Road still become worse
- Bus services from the new developments into the town centre are essential. Frequent (every 10 minutes) and from early morning until last at night. Buses of an appropriate size for the number using them
- Before going any further Faversham needs a traffic model and a transport strategy to accommodate growth
- Variety of house size – eg one person dwellings
- Sustainable – lifelong housing (standard for accessibility and downstairs toilet)
- Housing for single people – elderly and adult (very short supply ad would free up larger houses for families)
- Eco-friendly materials
- Affordable housing – young family housing; older people catered for; has to be a living town.
- Mix nursery with older people nearby
- Build up eg Lincoln flats, London
- Small mixed business units – work local
- Cycle routes integrated throughout Faversham
- New relief road from southern end of Western Link to join with A251/M2 junction

8. WHAT NEXT?

It was agreed that there was an appetite to continue. The next steps were discussed. It was felt that a traffic plan for Faversham was required, but KCC was not considered capable of this work, it was also agreed that the cost would be prohibitive.

9. FURTHER OPTIONS

Bimby.org is a readymade template for a forward plan. Design SE works with councils and arranges workshops with developers and is putting a proposal together for the Town Council. Tim Stonor will contact The Design Council and Academy of Urbanism. Action for Market Towns and Sustrans were also mentioned. Peter Hutchinson and Debbie Lawther will both look into Bimby.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed that affordable housing should remain affordable, for local people only and that a perimeter should be set at the beginning. Green credential should also be insisted upon.

Free plant identification for beginners course on Monday 11 July at Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre, Brogdale Farm. To book contact Hannah Cook Hannah.cook@kmbrc.org.uk or 01795 532385.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11 July 7-9pm, venue likely to be 12 Market Place but tbc. Please bring a list of 5 things you love about Faversham.