

## Notes from Faversham Future Forum 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Present:** Cllr Geoff Wade (GW), Sue Akhurst (SA), Julia (Bailey) (JB), Frances Beaumont (FB), Claire Boraston ((Newton Place Practice (CB)), Cllr Shiel Campbell (SC), Paul Cumberland (PC), Janice Ely (JE), Roger Ely (RE) Cllr Peter Flower (PF), Dr Alastair Gould (AG), Cllr Mike Henderson (MH), Cllr Antony Hook (AH), Denise Knights (DK), Debbie Lawther (DL), Findlay Macdonald (FM), Ben J Martin (BJM), Lawrie McMahon (LM), Robert Morrison (RM,) Chris Oswald-Jones (COJ), Hannah Perkin (HP), Amanda Russell (AR), Tim Stoner (TS), Chris Williams (CW), Professor Chris Wright (PCW),

**In attendance:** Miss Adrienne Begent (AB) -Deputy Town Clerk, FTC

Apologies: Trevor Abram (TA), Claire Belsom (CB), Harold Goodwin (HG), Maria Newman (MN), Jenny Reeves (JR), Julian Saunders (JS), Janet Turner (JT)

### 1. Notes from Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and Matters Arising

1.1 GW and JR have met to discuss community transport. They will continue to look at models of good practice elsewhere. The intention is to build up a portfolio of case studies ready to be used if the opportunity arises for a scheme.

### 2. Future Health and Community Health Needs

CB: The results of Swale CCG had reported in the press were poor, but Faversham is not in that area.

The managers of Bank Street and Newton Road work closely together.

The number of new houses in the future will affect both practices, with increased patient numbers. This is in addition to other pressures faced by practices, such as patients living longer and potentially having more complex needs and the problem of recruiting and retaining GP's.

The nature of primary care is changing, services traditionally in hospitals are moving to the community, adding to space demands.

GW: What capacity are both practices presently running at?

CB: 100% It is a constant juggling act to fit all activities into the building. There is a lot more room sharing which brings it own problems.

SC: What is the role of the CCG in anticipating the impact of future housing and services required?

CB: Section 106 money goes to Swale then to NHS England then down to the CCG. It is really for capital funding but will consider revenue funding.

MH: It is reported that there is a shortage of GP's in Swale and beyond. Why is this, not enough being trained, leaving the profession mid career?

AG: Agreed with reasons suggest by MH, though there are other reasons.

PF: There is a lack of GP training in Kent, there is a need for a training hospital.

AG: The pressures of the job making it harder to recruit and retrain GP's. Steps to maintain service levels such as longer hours for surgeries are not family friendly.

FB: reported that she had received excellent personal care. Had attended balance classes at Kesson Physio, could this sort of activity be provided through the practices?

CB: That is type of service they would like to provide, but funding is the problem. The possibility of joint initiative with Bank Street could be explored.

AH: If lack of room in existing premises is a problem, why not consider rooms in alternative buildings? How does Emergency system work?

CB: The urgent care system (waiting) is multidisciplinary scheme and works well. But external factors, such as staff holidays when less booked appointments are available can affect it, with people who can't get routing appointments using it. The system is reviewed regularly.

AG: It is not feasible to use rooms in alternative buildings for appointments. Primary care has evolved from a GP in an empty room. It is a full team approach with GP's need support. Further the impact on town planning on health should not be underestimated, for example Diabetes prevention.

PC: If your lists are near capacity how will you cope with the new developments, will you close lists? Do we need a new surgery?

CB: The CCG has to apply to close the list, it would be judged on safety grounds. The practices are not at that stage yet, but if the proposed extension did not go ahead they would be a step closer to that stage. A third surgery in the town would bring its own problems, staffing and funding for examples. There are economies of scale.

AG: A list of 5000 (homes) would be too small and not effective.

**ACTION:-** A small group be formed led by **LM** to liaise with local health practices to assess the potential impact of new housing development on the provision health services in the town and report back to the Forum. The aim being to widen understanding future community health needs and highlight the issues that should be addressed as the town's population grows.

### 3. East Kent Recycling

RM: The Environment Agency is conducting a consultation regarding the renewal of permit for the site. 50 submissions show on the website but it is believed that up to 30 more have been submitted.

Anderson who are building 330 homes on land close to the site have asked Bretts not to lease land to EKR. Presently  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the land is leased from Bretts, so the site is now reduced to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the size. Kent County Council were unaware of this development.

A site meeting is planned (20/02/19) which representatives of UPROARE and SBC will be invited to.

MH: Is not aware of the site meeting and will make enquires.

RM: It is worth noting that planning permission is site specific not company specific.

SA: If Anderson have influence over who rents the land from Bretts do they have influence on who could buy the land in the future?

FB: If EKR applications for the site are unsuccessful, does the site brownfield? Could it be used for housing?

SA: Risk of flooding on the site is to high for it to be developed for housing.

RM: Regarding the Aylsham Site, Dover District Council have no objection to the development of the site.

#### 4. Cleve Hill Solar Park

- 3.1 The meeting was reminded that the deadline to register to comment on the Clever Hill Solar Farm proposal is 28/01/19.

#### 5. Housing Developments

AB: Reported that Swale Borough Council had confirmed the timetable for Garden Villages. Officers will be reporting a draft new communities assessment to Members of the Local Plan Panel on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, when Members will decide whether news communities as a concept should continue to be explored as part of the Local Plan process (this decision will not be site specific). A subsequent meeting in June (tbc) is scheduled to provide Members with an opportunity to give a steer to officers on what development alternatives should be considered for consultation. Officers will draft a report, which if agreed will could be subject for consultation at the end of 2019. A formal decision would not be taken until 2020. (Timetables post Feb are subject to change).

SA: Had been informed by a member of Macknade Cricket Club that the Government was now giving guidance not to build on Grade 1 Agriculture Land.

MH: An extraordinary planning meeting had been held at Swale to consider a proposal for 700 houses. It is worrying that Swale is forming a view on developments that is not being made public.

GW: Considered that at the previous meeting of FFF support had been expressed for the Duchy proposal. It was important to remain openminded. It would be upsetting if the work of the community through this forum was stone walled. We want to influence the process.

#### 6. Community Land Trust

HP: The Steering Group has met it's objectives and has now been disbanded.

BJM: The next step is the setting up of the Board.

LM: Membership of the Board needs to include people from the town.

PC: What is the length of time affordable housing should be used for? What is the life expectancy of the units that will be built?

GW: Other parts of the country have discounted ownership schemes, where properties are sold at a discount, lowering the cost of ownership for local people.

DL: What will be the relationship between The CLT and Swale Borough Council.

GW: The CLT will be independent and therefore subject to normal planning procedures. It will be Faversham specific. The CLT should not be made political in the forthcoming elections.

## 7. Water supply and waste water management

GW: The Town Council with resident representatives had held a productive meeting with Southern Water

AH: The meeting was attended by two officers from Kent Highways and five representatives from Southern Water. At the meeting it transpired that no one is aware as to why when the houses were built on Abbeyfields the road was not adopted, which would have alleviated the pattern of mixed ownership which is in place. Southern Water are legally bound to accept two trucks of sludge from cesspits a day, which is transported down Abbeyfields.

PF: There is evidence of the trucks drooping raw sewage on the road.

AH: Enquires are being made with Kent County Council about the road being adopted. However the road would need to be in good repair at stage of adoption if that was agreed to. Southern Water may contribute to get the road to standard to be adopted?

GW: The number of vehicle movements for tanker emptying will have an impact on air quality in the area. There are other facilities for tanker emptying in Boughton and Sittingbourne.

SA: There is also the issue of discharge into the creek. At Town Council (10.12.18) Brian Pain had asked the representatives from Southern Water for figures regarding discharge.

**ACTION: Discharge into the creek from sewage works and houseboats to be added the next Forum agenda.**

COJ: IT is encouraging that Southern Water has agreed to investigate the make up of the road.

PF: There is a sewage pipe from Lady Dane to the sewage works. Why can't this facility be recommissioned?

COJ: The planning applications for the Nova site and Lady Dane contain details of the existing sewage pipe.

GW: Even if the road is adopted, vehicle movements won't reduce. The sewage works have capacity for 1000 more houses.

AH: When planning permission was given for the water treatment works, were restrictions on vehicle movements put in place?

PF: There has already been incidence of flooding of raw sewage at Cyprus Road.

#### 8. 20's Plenty, Road Safety and Public Health

AR: The Working Group met with Kent County Council on 18/01/19 and this had been a positive meeting. It was very positive that Phil Jones had been present who has a holistic view, understands Faversham and has a sound knowledge of transport policy and Infrastructure including cycling. The crux is to include roads where traffic moves faster than 24mph.

There is sufficient evidence that by using signage only speeds will be reduced, with the need for road alterations. Kent County Council officers seem positive to this idea. There is however a need for Phil Jones to influence policy at Kent County Council.

GW: What is the timetable for moving forward?

AR: The plans will go back to JTB with design and costings. It will then go out to public consultation. It is hoped that that the public consultation will happen this year.

#### GW: H9. Air Quality/Pollution

CW: It is month four of monitoring. Water Lane readings exceeding legal limits occasionally. Noted that car engines left running outside Ospringe School.

AH: The health aspects of not driving to school fits in with the work of this group.

AR: Schools are good way to engage with the community before formal consultation.

HP: Has set up a Facebook group – Faversham Clean Air Parents Network which would be useful tool.

#### 10. Heritage Hub

GW: The Town Council will be applying seed funding for this project.

SA: There is great enthusiasm for this project, drawing together different bodies. Harold Goodwin (HG) is working with Canterbury Christchurch University on the mapping project. John Owen who owns a number of historic maps is also engaged. Different overlays are being discussed for example Gunpowder History. In time HG hopes that an Academic Conference will be held. The Cricket Club should be invited to become involved.

GW: The project is moving forward. Nigel Kay is investigating funding streams for the charter and regalia room at the back of the building. Work on relocation the Doddington Library to the Reading Room is proceeding as planned.

#### 11. Planning Guidelines

GW: The Town Council has endorsed the Planning Guidelines.

**ACTION : GW (Chair of Policy and Finance) will send the guidelines to James Freeman (Swale Borough Council)**

#### 12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of FFF will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

[Office Note: Date changed after the meeting]