

**Councillor, Mrs Alison Reynolds BEM was duly elected Mayor of Faversham for the Civic Year 2019 to 2020.**

Alison was born in Faversham, the eldest of six children, educated at the local schools she has very happy memories of those times. Gymnastics and netball were her passion, for which she represented Kent.

Leaving school at 16, Alison was employed as a junior wages clerk in Canterbury, on qualifying three year's later she took a position at BMM Weston.

Alison met her husband Dennis, also born in Faversham, at the local youth centre in South Road. Marrying in September 1969 at the Baptist Church, they had their reception at Delbridge House and will be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary in September 2019. Alison's eldest daughter, Helen, now lives in Perth Australia whilst her second daughter, Laura, is Principle of the Jersery Academy of Dance, Channel Islands.

Her long relationship with the Faversham Gym Club began in October 1979, when her daughter attended and Alison became a qualified instructor. Alison worked with Darryl Trosh to have Faversham's sport centre built, land was purchased and plans drawn up but Swale Borough Council had insufficient funds. Alison continued the battle with Swale finally agreeing a 30m x 30m empty building with a fully repairing maintaining lease for 25 years. However, she went on to persuade the Lottery to fund £250,000 to equip the centre and the further £117,000 for the play area was raised by the community. In February 2003 the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Centre opened.

Alison was awarded the British Empire Medal in 2018 for her services to community sport in Kent.

Alison is looking forward to the next year as Mayor of Faversham, having in only the first week met many volunteers and champions in the wider community whose causes she hopes to support.



## Thank You Claire

We would like to thank Claire Windridge, Economic Development Officer, for organising this year's Transport Weekend. It was a fantastic event, with a number of new additions and we were very fortunate to have the FBU Fire Truck as our PA system!

You may notice that this newsletter does not have its usual editorial finesse! Unfortunately, Claire was taken ill recently and I am sure you will all join me in wishing her a speedy recovery.

Councillor, Mrs Alison Reynolds BEM



**Excellence**  
in Governance

Faversham Town Council has been awarded Quality Gold Status, which demonstrates the council has been at the forefront of best practice and achieved excellence in governance, community leadership and council development. Quality Gold Councils provide leadership for their communities, bring people together, have excellent business planning process, ensuring value for money as well as constantly seeking new innovations and opportunities to improve.

### Faversham Town Council Schedule of Meetings at The Guildhall

Monday 8th July	6.00pm	Planning Committee Meeting
Monday 8th July	7.00pm	Town Council Meeting
<b>Tuesday 9th July</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Faversham &amp; District Engagement Forum</b>
Monday 22nd July	6.00pm	Planning Committee Meeting
Thursday 25th July	9.30am	Public Spaces Committee
Wednesday 31st July	7.30pm	Policy and Finance Committee
Wednesday 7th August	7.30pm	Community Services Committee
Monday 12th August	6.00pm	Planning Committee
Monday 12th August	7.00pm	Town Council Meeting
Wednesday 28th August	7.30pm	Policy and Finance
Monday 2nd September	7.30pm	Heritage Committee
Monday 9th September	6.00pm	Planning Committee
Monday 9th September	7.00pm	Town Council Meeting

**Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings**  
**Those highlighted are specifically for public participation**

# Abbey Ward



## Cllr Antony Hook MEP

Antony lives in town with his wife Becky and daughter Olivia. Antony was first elected to Faversham Town Council in January 2017 in a byelection. He was elected to Kent County Council in May of the same year and was elected to the European Parliament in May 2019.

He is a criminal law specialist and is especially known in the profession as a prosecutor of serious crimes.

## Cllr Denise Knights

Denise Knights was born in London and at 16 joined the Metropolitan Police Cadets as a residential officer at Hendon. She went on to serve as a Woman Police Constable at many stations.

Upon marriage and family Denise moved to Kent and changed her career into Interior Design. She ran her first business "Dreams Unlimited", creating wall murals and hand painted children's furniture. In her first year the business was entered into the National Livewire competition and she was a runner up for young person of the year award.

In 1992 Denise joined Hamiltons International Ltd as a Design Director and now owns the company. In 2016 they relocated from Chislehurst to Faversham.

Denise was the founder member and Secretary of the successful Faversham Traders Association for almost two years. A wonderful tool for businesses to work together and promote each other. Recently she has become an Industry Liaison Officer for the Canterbury School of Visual Arts, working with businesses and students to progress students into the workplace. She is very focused on helping young people and local businesses to succeed and to try to combat anti-social behaviour within Faversham.



## Cllr Hannah Perkin

Hannah, originally from The West Country, has lived in Faversham since 2010. She lives with her husband and 2 children, who attend a local primary school.

Hannah attended the University of Reading, gaining a degree in Archaeology and Ancient History. Whilst there she discovered a love of hospitality and became a manager with pub company Mitchell's and Butler. After having her children, Hannah became a Breastfeeding peer support coordinator for Swale under KCC's public health agenda and volunteered and worked in the Surestart Children's Centres across the Borough. More recently Hannah has moved back into hospitality working in a number of venues in Faversham and in 2017 opened her Vegan Catering Business which went on to become a finalist in the Taste of Kent awards, "producer of the year" category 2018 and the first solely Vegan company to reach the finals.

A vocal campaigner on issues of gender equality, disability awareness, animal rights and governmental transparency, Hannah is not one to shy away from controversial subjects having spoken at Liberal Democrat conference on such topics as abortion rights. Locally Hannah has campaigned on a number of issues including air quality, accessibility of play equipment, period poverty, public health and making local government more accessible to members of the community that lack a voice.

Hannah has been an active participant in local committees and working groups and looks forward to using the knowledge and skills she has learned from these in her Councillor role.

Hannah is also a Swale Borough Councillor and Deputy Cabinet member for "health and well-being" and is dedicated to ensuring that the concerns of Faversham residents are heard on both councils.

## Cllr Chris Williams (Tel: 07826264689)

Chris Williams grew up in the Millfield area of Faversham and went to school at St Mary's of Charity primary and The Abbey School. He has lived in Faversham since and currently lives in the centre of town. Chris has always had a great interest in local issues and loves being part of the community.

Chris went to the University of Greenwich studying Horticulture which has shaped his career since, including working at Brogdale for many years and now running his own business, Edibleculture, based in Faversham. Education, environmental issues and the supporting of local businesses has always been an integral part of his working life and business. Chris is a committee member and a founding member of the Faversham Traders Association.

Most recently Chris has campaigned for greater action to be taken on single use plastic, including being a member of Plastic Free Faversham and currently sits on the steering group for Surfers Against Sewage for Faversham's plastic free town status. Being so passionate about the environment led him to make his business the first and only totally single use plastic free nursery in the UK which includes working with the Abbey School to educate young people in waste, recycling and other environmental activities.

Joining the Liberal Democrats and being elected as a Town Councillor is very important to Chris, who really feels he can bring something to the council, representing people in his ward, Abbey, and doing the best for Faversham as a whole.



# St Ann's Ward



## Cllr Kris Barker

Kris Barker has lived in, and around, Faversham for over thirty years, with brief periods away at university or for work. He has a young family, two boys, with his wife Zoe. Kris attended the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, after which he read Political Economy at university.

Kris has spent over twenty years managing technical products, like broadband, voice and video services, for British Telecom and France Telecom. He currently manages products and project teams at Arqiva, who broadcast national television and radio services to millions of people every day. In the last two years. Kris has managed the delivery of major video and streaming architectures to the cloud.

Kris has been a campaigner for the local Liberal Democrats for three years. He has a particular interest in social equality and social mobility, which he feels begin with youth engagement and education.

Kris is a Harlequins fan, played rugby for nearly 20 years and is a qualified RFU referee. He currently spends any spare time cycling and is doing a 250- mile charity ride for SSAFA in September.

## Cllr Trevor Martin

Trevor Martin grew up in Faversham and lives in the town with his wife, having raised a family here. Trevor attended the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in the town before setting out on a career in the theatre industry, acquiring a City and Guilds qualification in theatre electrics along the way. Trevor has had many careers during his working life, including stints on the railway, in education support and is currently a Civil Servant.

Trevor is a devoted public servant, with a passion for helping young people. He is a volunteer school governor with over 30 years' experience, currently Vice Chair at the Abbey School, having previously held the same role at both St. Mary of Charity Junior school and Davington Primary School. Trevor was proud to obtain the Certificate in School Business Management from the National College for School Leadership.

He spent many years volunteering at Macknade, and then Faversham Cricket Club as a scorer, umpire and as club secretary, receiving national recognition for his efforts.

He has also previously volunteered for St John Ambulance, and the Scout movement. Trevor is the Great-grandson of John Harrison, who was awarded the Edward Medal for his actions during the Gunpowder works explosion at the Uplees gunpowder mill in 1916. Trevor and his family loaned John's medal to the Fleur de Les heritage centre in 2015, where it can be seen today. Trevor is a fan of sport, particularly F1, cricket and American Football. He is a devoted Pittsburgh Steelers fan.



## Cllr Carole Jackson (Tel: 07746 772694)



Carole was born, locally and has lived here all her life, raising a family. She is retired after working for Tesco and KCC. For many years Carole was an USDAW Senior Shop Steward.

She is proud to serve her ward and hopes that people find her approachable and open to communicate. Carole will always try to keep her promises; facing new challenges she looks forward to helping local residents solve them. If Carole does not know the answer, nor how to help, she'll say so and endeavour to find out, through relevant channels, getting back as soon as it is possible to do so.

Carole is interested in maximising and unlocking positive opportunities, as well as gaining an understanding of issues currently facing the town. She is available to contact via email and telephone, but if you see her about, walking her dogs then do not hesitate to stop and talk.

Carole is a Member of the Council's Complaints, 20's Plenty, Staffing and Community Services Committees. She is also representative on the Swale Citizens Advice and Age UK.

## Cllr Julian Saunders (Tel: 07746 772695)

Since moving to Faversham four years ago, Julian has been heavily involved in developing local groups and campaigns. Prior to becoming a town councillor he was Treasurer of the Faversham Town Twinning Association and Faversham Footpaths Group and Faversham Labour's Reach Out Campaign Organiser. Julian also organised an online petition to protect Faversham Library's hours.

Having spent most of his working career in local government in London helping people get into employment and training and develop their careers, Julian is now a Swale Borough Councillor and the Swale Deputy Cabinet member for Community Safety.

On the Town Council he is on the Public Spaces Realm, Policy and Finance and Climate and Biodiversity committees. Julian is Swale Borough representative on Bensted's Charity and a Town Council representative on the committees for the Alexander Centre and the Swimming Pool.

During his time on the Town Council Julian hopes to contribute to making it easier to walk and cycle round Faversham and to better use being made of the public buildings and spaces in the town.

In his spare time he is a keen cyclist and walker, enjoy growing vegetables and spend a lot of time listening to all kinds of music.



# Watling Ward

## Cllr Sam Blair



Sam moved to Faversham in 2013, after relocating to Kent for work in 2011, from Merseyside. Sam is currently working as a Technical Manager for a cheese and charcuterie specialist. Prior to her current role she worked in the fresh Produce industry which is what initially brought her to Kent and gave her the opportunity to travel all over the world. Sam has an BSc Hons in Applied Microbiology from John Moores University, Liverpool.

In her spare time Sam enjoys reading and learning about the local history whilst being an administrator on the Facebook group Memories of Faversham and surrounding villages. She is a member of the Faversham Society and also volunteers in the Fleur de Lis Museum on Sunday mornings.

Sam chose to move to Faversham because of its long and varied history and believes it is an amazing place to live.

## Cllr John Irwin

John lives in Faversham with his wife and three young children. The family moved to the town from London in 2015, seeking a better quality of life. All the family agree that Faversham is a great place to live.

John is an advocate of localism, believing that many of the social, economic and environmental challenges we face are best addressed by small communities of people working in co-operation. His two priorities are to support and promote those in the community already engaged in making things better and to find new and better ways of connecting the council with those who want and need our support. He promises to represent the interests of all who live in the town.

John was born and brought up in Belfast and works full time in the healthcare industry.



## Cllr Ben J Martin



Ben J was born and raised in Faversham and is the son of St Ann's ward councillor Trevor Martin. He has worked in retail and hospitality management since graduating from the University of Greenwich with a Diploma in Business & Sustainability. Ben has previously been a volunteer at Faversham Cricket Club as Child Welfare Officer, and as a member of the club's executive, and was a member of the now disbanded Faversham & District LVA.

Ben is an active and vocal campaigner for openness and transparency at all levels of government. Ben started campaigning while a student at the Abbey School in Faversham, setting the case for the replacement of the school's, at the time dilapidated, canteen and has since campaigned against the 2003 Iraq war, for the abolition of the beer duty escalator, and on a range of issues including housing, roads, pedestrian safety, citizen's rights, environmental issues, for support for local pubs and on air quality, drafting a question put before the European Commission. Ben J is a proponent for a bypass of the A2 at Ospringe.

Ben J was a member of the Affordable Housing Steering Group arranged by the Faversham Society & supported by the Town Council. He has produced reports on Air Quality in the Ospringe Street area.

In 2017 Ben J spoke to a packed conference hall in Bournemouth about the unfairness of the tax system on small businesses in the hospitality sector, particularly pubs. In 2018 Ben J took part in the 3 peaks challenge, as part of a team that raised over £5000 for the Costa Foundation to build a school in Ethiopia. Ben J is also a Swale Borough Councillor for Watling Ward and Cabinet Member. He is the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group at Swale Borough council.

## Cllr Eddie Thomas

Eddie was born in Canterbury and grew up in Herne Bay. He attended The Archbishops School in Canterbury, and Medway College of Art & Design, where he studied photography.

Eddie started work at Safeway whilst at college, he then went on to start his career in Retail Management at the Safeway Store in Preston Street in 1988.

He moved to Faversham in 1992. Whilst working at Safeway, he realised that his skills lay in people management, teamworking and coaching and developing colleagues. It was these skills that lead Eddie to his current job of a Driving Instructor. He enjoys the challenge of growing a student's skills and confidence until they are independent enough to drive on our busy and challenging roads.

As a driving instructor, and someone who spends their working day on the roads, Eddie is often involved with issues and campaigns relating to roads and road safety. Hence Eddie supports the "20's plenty" group, the campaign for an Ospringe bypass and the urgent need to reduce air pollution around Faversham.

Eddie takes part in the Faversham Speed Watch Group and believes that driver education and awareness of speed, is an important part of making Faversham a more pleasant place to walk, cycle and drive. Eddie enjoys gardening and creating space for wildlife in his garden. He has dug a wildlife pond and built a couple hedgehog houses. A work colleague once said of Eddie, that the thing he most admired about Eddie was his tenacity. Eddie looks forward to using his skills and life experiences to make Faversham Better for all.



# Priory Ward



## Cllr Claire Belsom

Claire would like to thank everyone who supported her in the recent election, which saw her re-elected to serve a second term as a Town Councillor.

Claire was brought up in Priory Ward along with her two sisters, she attended Davington School, The Lady Chapel and The Abbey School. She is happily married with 4 children all of whom were and are being educated in town.

Since being elected in 2015 Claire has worked tirelessly on a number of projects. The very first one was with the late Hilary Whelan and Brenda Chester raising over £30,000 for an Outdoor Gym at the Reedland Crescent park and Claire has continued to support the Brents Community Association by being a member of its management committee.

As Chair of the Faversham Town Council Community Services Committee Claire has worked with the Allotment Society and Associations. It will not be very long now for the St. Nicholas Road site to be up and running, this has been a very important project to her and plots are now being allocated and an association being set up, which is wonderful news.

Claire is a founder member of the Faversham Community Land Trust which has over 150 members and the AGM will be held in July. She is well aware of the housing crisis regarding "really affordable" in our town.

Having recently become Chair of the North Preston Community Hub Claire hopes to achieve a community building at Reedland Crescent park in the future.



We are delighted to announce that Mr Kenneth Judges was presented with the KALC Community Award - Faversham Hero 2019 by the Mayor of Faversham, Cllr Mrs Alison Reynolds BEM, at the Annual Meeting of the Town. Ken was nominated for the award by his nephew, Keith Church, for his long service to Faversham Scouting.



As part of the Town Council's commitment to Plastic Free Faversham, environmental sustainability and biodiversity, we have been working with Edible Culture for the past few months to review our annual hanging basket offer. These have been provided free to local businesses within the town centre for a number of years. David Ware of Edible Culture said "Our baskets are different. The aim was to create a nature friendly hanging corridor through the town, containing plants including white borage, lavender, grasses, hedgerow flowers and salvias. The plants are all grown by us in Faversham, produced without the three P's - plastic, peat and pesticide."

Once the season is over the baskets will be broken up – perennial plants will be distributed at the Faversham Food Festival on Sunday 15th September to individuals and community gardens. The frames will be recycled for next year and the liners composted. Kevin Moon, Chair of the Faversham Traders' Association and owner of Ollie Bongo's Pet Essentials, commented "It is a really nice idea which brightens up the town centre. It's good to see a local trader being used and I am pleased the Town Council and traders are working well together."

At the Annual Town Meeting, Past Mayor, Mr Trevor Abram, presented his Mayoral Charities, Faversham First Responders and Faversham Sea Cadets, with cheques of £1,845 each. Mr Abram thanked those who had supported his charitable events throughout the year.



# Peace Proms

Friday 19th July

The Market Place

Faversham

GUNPOWDER W/ I  
SERVING  
REFRESHMENTS  
FROM 5.30PM

RAILWAY SWING  
BAND  
FROM 7.00PM

Commemorating the Centenary of Peace Parades on 19th July 1919

## Faversham Food Festival

13th to 15th  
September 2019

The Faversham Food Festival brings together community groups, food producers, retailers, restaurants and cafes to share our enjoyment of local food and beverage with fellow residents and guests.

The annual FREE TO VISIT Faversham Food Festival takes place over the course of three days each year.

For More Details Go To:-  
<https://favershamfoodfestival.co.uk/>



## Your Town Councillors & their Contact Details

Cllr Antony Hook\*\*

(Abbey Ward)

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Cllr Denise Knights\*

(Abbey Ward)

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Cllr Hannah Perkin\*

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Cllr Chris Williams

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Cllr Claire Belsom

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Mayor of Faversham Cllr

Alison Reynolds BEM

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Cllr Kris Barker

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Cllr Carole Jackson\*

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Cllr Trevor Martin

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Cllr Julian Saunders\*

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Deputy Mayor of Faversham

Cllr Sam Blair

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Cllr John Irwin

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Cllr Ben J Martin\*

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Cllr Eddie Thomas\*

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\* Swale Borough Councillor

\*\* Kent County Councillor

## Join the Faversham Youth Council and make a difference to your town!

By joining the Faversham Youth Council you can help create a town where young people are respected and able to influence and inform decisions that affect their lives. We want to give the young people of Faversham the chance to have a say on the issues that matter to them, and a chance to have their voice heard.

As a member of the Youth Council you will get involved in a number of our campaigns and you do not have to be elected to be a member, just come along.

## Join Brooke and the others here



[www.favershamyouthcouncil.org](http://www.favershamyouthcouncil.org)

WEDNESDAY 24TH JULY  
6 PM-9 PM

The Old Brewery Store

Ages  
13 - 19

# OPEN MIC NIGHT

Free Entry

Acts Wanted

Singing - Comedy - Poetry  
Theatrical

## GET YOUR TICKET NOW

Use your mobile to scan the QR code



## Faversham Town Council - Staff List

Louise Bareham	Town Clerk	<a href="mailto:louise.bareham@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk">louise.bareham@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Adrienne Begent	Deputy Town Clerk	<a href="mailto:adrienne.begent@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk">adrienne.begent@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Claire Windridge	Economic Development Officer	<a href="mailto:claire.windridge@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk">claire.windridge@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Emma Powell	Finance Assistant	<a href="mailto:emma.powell@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk">emma.powell@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Adam Andrews	Town Caretaker	<a href="mailto:adam.andrews@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk">adam.andrews@favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
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The entrance to Faversham Town Council offices is in Back Lane, please ring the call button to be admitted.

Town Council opening hours are Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm.



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