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## Swale Joint Transportation Board

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**MINUTES** of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT on Monday, 3 March 2025 from 5.31 pm - 6.42 pm.

**PRESENT:**

**SWALE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:** Derek Carnell, Angela Harrison and Karen Watson.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCILLORS:** Mike Baldock and Antony Hook, and John Wright (Chair).

**KENT ASSOCIATION of LOCAL COUNCILS:** Julian Saunders (Parish Councillor).

**PRESENT (VIRTUALLY):** Councillor Simon Clark.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCILLORS (VIRTUALLY):** Mike Baldock and Mike Whiting.

**KENT ASSOCIATION of LOCAL COUNCILS (VIRTUALLY):** Jeff Tutt (Parish Councillor).

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Billy Attaway, Martyn Cassell and Mike Knowles.

**OFFICERS PRESENT (VIRTUALLY):** Daniel Cannon-Skeet and Richard Shelton.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Hannah Perkin.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (VIRTUALLY):** Councillor Tony Winckless.

**APOLOGY:** Councillor Rich Lehmann.

698 **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

The Chair outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

699 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 December 2024 (Minute Nos. 428 – 440) were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

700 **Declarations of Interest**

No interests were declared.

701 **Public Session**

There were no registered speakers.

702 **Informal Consultation Results - Proposed Extension of Residents' Parking Scheme into Belmond Road, Faversham**

The Seafront & Engineering Manager introduced the report as set out in the agenda papers.

Parish Councillor Julian Saunders proposed the recommendation and this was seconded by Kent County Councillor Antony Hook.

**Resolved:**

***(1) That the results of the recent informal consultation with residents of Belmond Road, Faversham be noted and that the existing Faversham Residents' Parking Scheme be extended to include Belmond Road.***

**703 Informal Consultation Results - Proposed Double Yellow Lines - Park Road, Faversham**

The Seafront & Engineering Manager introduced the report as set out in the agenda papers.

Kent County Councillor Antony Hook said that he agreed with the removal of yellow lines directly outside 1 Park Road, Faversham. However, there were concerns with the removal of yellow lines outside the recreation ground because trucks often parked across the entrance to the recreation ground which could make it difficult for emergency vehicles to gain access. He proposed the following motion: "*That the yellow lines directly outside 1 Park Road, Faversham be removed but officers consult with the fire service before the removal of yellow lines outside the recreational ground.*" This was seconded by Parish Councillor Julian Saunders and on being put to the vote agreed.

**Resolved:**

***(1) That the results of the recent informal consultation with residents of Park Road, Faversham be noted and the proposed double yellow lines directly outside 1 Park Road, Faversham be abandoned.***

***(2) That officers consult the fire service before the removal of yellow lines outside the entrance to the recreational ground.***

**704 Formal Objections to Traffic Regulation Order - Swale Amendment 11 2025**

The Seafront & Engineering Manager introduced the report as set out in the agenda papers.

The Chair invited Members to make comments, which included:

- Glad to see the proposals as parking in Strode Crescent, Sheerness and other areas across Sheerness was a real problem;
- the Isle of Sheppey did not have sufficient parking for the number of cars;
- noted that there was not a lot of public interest so why was this particular traffic order being explored?;
- received several complaints about the disabled bays at Strode Crescent but wondered if better enforcement was needed, rather than the removal of the bays; and
- double yellow lines would improve public safety, so this proposal was a sensible option.

The Seafront & Engineering Manager responded to the points raised and said that the original proposals to remove the disabled bays came from the local Police. With regard to better enforcement in Strode Crescent, he said that parking enforcement could only

operate in areas with restrictions and that currently vehicles were parking in areas with no restrictions so the extension of double yellow lines would help enforce the restrictions.

Councillor Angela Harrison proposed the recommendation and this was seconded by Councillor Karen Watson.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the formal objection received during the consultation period for the Traffic Regulation Order Amendment 11 2025 be noted and the two disabled persons' parking bays in Strode Crescent, Sheerness, be removed and the double yellow lines be extended as detailed in the advertised Traffic Order.**

**705 Parking in Faversham Town Centre**

The Head of Environment and Leisure introduced the report as set out in the agenda papers. Whilst the proposals were unlikely to resolve all of the issues, it was a way of trialing a different approach and could be reviewed continually.

Parish Councillor Julian Saunders proposed recommendation one and this was seconded by Councillor Karen Watson.

Parish Councillor Julian Saunders proposed the following amendment to recommendation two: *"Members are asked to agree not to proceed with the implementation of the current Faversham Town Centre scheme for the moment and to take the opportunity to review future options when resources allow."* This was seconded by Councillor Karen Watson.

A visiting Ward Member was invited to speak and congratulated officers on their hard work on the proposals. The Ward Member was supportive of the amendments and asked officers if it was possible to include double yellow lines at Court Street, Faversham in the formal consultation as market traders were now having issues with getting access to the market square due to parking issues along Court Street.

In response, the Head of Environment and Leisure said that Court Street was entirely a cobbled street which meant it was difficult to paint double yellow lines, it was therefore not possible for Court Street to be included within the consultation.

The Chair invited Members to make comments, which included:

- Painting double yellow lines directly onto the block paving was a better option than painting on the cobbled stones;
- the Faversham Town Centre demographic was changing and there was a need for more street space in the Town Centre;
- why were officers not exploring the option of designating the area as a non-parking zone in a conservation area? As it could be applied without the need for double yellow lines;
- parking was a premium in Faversham and did not want residents parking in busy public places that would prevent the market trade; and
- did not want to deter new businesses from coming to Faversham Town Centre.

The Seafront & Engineering Manager responded and said that the Traffic Management Act had allowed a change to parking zones in conservation areas. However, there were complications around distinguishing the areas that allowed temporary parking, against those areas that allowed no parking at all. He stated that there would be a need for large signage and additional costs to properly advertise which areas residents could park in and he considered double yellow lines were the most suitable way to enforce parking in the Town Centre. In addition, there was an uncertainty about how disabled badge holders would be impacted by this approach.

The Head of Environment and Leisure reminded Members that the Swale Joint Transportation Board was making a recommendation to the Policy and Resources Committee and it was the Policy and Resources Committee that would make the final decision as to how any future project on pedestrianisation would be properly funded.

***Recommended:***

- (1) That the report be noted.***
- (2) That officers proceeded with the drafting of a Traffic Regulation Order to reinstate waiting restrictions in the vicinity of the Guild Hall in Faversham Town Centre.***
- (3) That the implementation of the current Faversham Town Centre scheme not be proceeded with at the moment and future options be reviewed when resources allowed.***

**706 Verbal update on Highway Improvement Schemes on the A249 Key Street and Grovehurst Road projects**

The Major Capital Programme Project Manager gave a verbal update on the A249 Key Street and Grovehurst Road projects.

**707 Highways Work Programme**

The Chair asked that Members contacted the relevant officer direct if they had any queries on the report.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That the report be noted.***

**708 Progress Update Report**

The Chair asked if officers could provide an update on the following items at the next Swale JTB:

- ANPR Cameras;
- Resurfacing works at Brenchley Corner;
- Rural lanes; and
- Speed Camera policy for Parish Councils.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That the report be noted.***

**709 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Swale Joint Transportation Board would be confirmed at Swale Borough Council's Annual Council meeting on 14 May 2025.

Chair

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All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel