

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held at the Town Hall, 1 – 2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone, CT20 1DY on Tuesday, 10th June 2025 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors Jane Darling, Peter Gane, Belinda Walker, Lucy McGirr and Roger West

Absent: Councillor Bridget Chapman

In attendance: Vicky Deakin - Communities & Events Officer

1322. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

1323. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

The Committee was asked to appoint a Chair for the Community Services Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: To appoint Councillor Roger West as Chair of the Community Services Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1324. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

The Committee was asked to appoint a Vice Chair for the Community Services Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: To appoint Councillor Lucy McGirr as Vice Chair of the Community Services Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker

Seconded: Councillor Roger West

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1325. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

1326. MINUTES

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 8th April 2025 and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th April 2025 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Jane Darling

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1327. REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

In line with the Town Council's adopted Standing Orders, the Committee was asked to consider the Terms of Reference for the Community Services Committee.

RESOLVED: That the existing version of the Terms of Reference remain unchanged.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1328. WORKING GROUPS 2025/26

The Committee was asked to consider whether any Working Groups were necessary and if so, to approve nominations for membership for 2025/26 as follows:

Museum: Councillors Akuffo-Kelly, Chapman, Walker and McGirr.

RESOLVED: That subject to the agreement to membership from nominees the Working Group be agreed as follows:

Museum: Councillors Akuffo-Kelly, Chapman, Walker and McGirr.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1329. ARMED FORCES DAY – SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2025

The Communities and Events Officer briefed the Committee in respect of plans for the formal Armed Forces Day Lunch.

RESOLVED: That a vote of thanks for the Communities & Events Officer be recorded.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Roger West

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1330. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM REPORT CS/25/389

The Committee received, noted and considered the recommendations in Report CS/25/389.

RESOLVED:

1. To receive and note report CS/25/389

2. To agree that Folkestone Town Council submits an application to the Arts Council for an 'Unlocking collections' project grant to fund an exhibition and a series of workshops to explore the museum collection using AI.

3. That a vote of thanks for the Museum Manager / Curator be recorded.

Proposed: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1331. FOLKESTONE TOWN CENTRE AND CHERITON CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

INSTALLATIONS AND SWITCH ON EVENTS (15TH AND 29TH NOVEMBER RESPECTIVELY)

The Committee was updated by the Communities & Events Officer and Councillor Peter Gane in regards to the Christmas lighting installations, and developing plans and arrangements for Christmas events, including the Lions Club Santa Grotto to be hosted in the Town Hall on Saturday 13th December.

RESOLVED: That £2,500 be released from the Christmas Lighting budget, match funding what the Cheriton Christmas Committee has allocated for new lights in Cheriton.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1332. DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION

Folkestone & Hythe District Council is proposing to introduce a new Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) under Section 59/60 of The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The Committee was asked to consider if it wished to compose a response and/or submit individual Member responses.

RESOLVED: That the Communities & Events Officer submit a response on behalf of the committee stating their view that dogs should not be permitted access on any play parks and signage be installed to this effect.

Proposed: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1333. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM ACCESS POLICY

The Committee were asked to review, approve and adopt the Folkestone Museum Access Policy.

RESOLVED: To approve and adopt the Folkestone Museum Access Policy.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1334. PRIMARY YOUTH FORUM

The Communities & Events Officer updated the Committee with the feedback received from schools and on the progression in establishing a primary youth forum since the last Committee meeting.

1335. PRIMARY SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES

The Communities & Events Officer updated the Committee with feedback from schools and local organisations in respect of potential youth activities and initiatives since the last Committee meeting.

1336. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 14th October 2025 at **7pm**

The meeting concluded at 7.20pm

Chair.....

Date.....