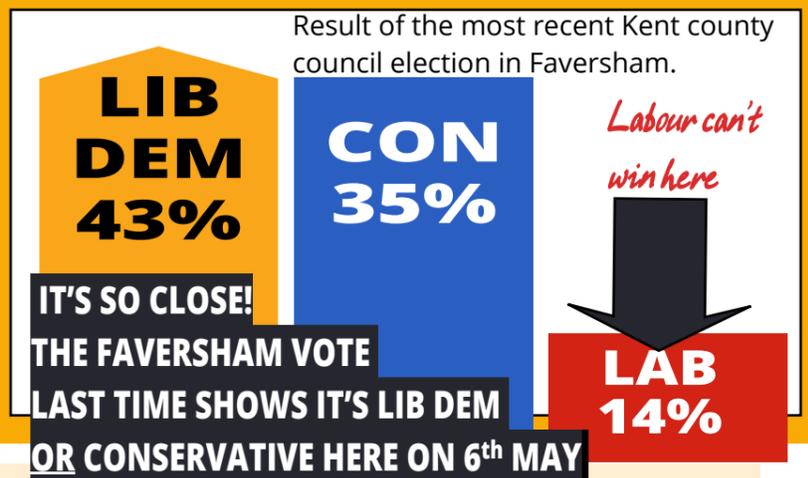


# Faversham FOCUS



Local Information from your Faversham Liberal Democrat councillors.  
Edited by Councillor Antony Hook and Josh Rowlands. Delivered by Royal Mail. Printing and delivery paid for by local volunteers.

## MOVING FAVERSHAM

## FORWARD TOGETHER

**Thankfully, numbers of new cases of COVID-19 are coming down and lockdown is starting to ease.**

worry, frustration or isolation over the last year. Many people have lost jobs or face an uncertain outlook at work.

As local councillors, we will continue to do all we can to ensure that everyone in Faversham who needs any kind of support gets it.

The pandemic has been awful. At least 415 people in Swale are officially recorded as having died from COVID-19. In addition, many local families know a friend or relation outside of Swale who had died.

For many who have survived having the virus, it has been a horrible experience. "Long Covid" is still being researched but some survivors will suffer long-term health problems. The mental, emotional toll on people has been heavy. Many of us have felt



Eddie Thomas, Hannah Perkin, Ben J Martin and Antony Hook represent you on Swale Council and Kent County Council, together with Lib Dem councillors on Faversham Town Council. Contact us if there is anything you need..

**We are making sure that life in Faversham gets better for everyone who lives here - whether in supporting local business, improving the local environment, tackling crime, celebrating our heritage or supporting great events for families and local people. We still believe that better is always possible.**

## Antony Hook gets Faversham new money to tackle crime and a new community warden

**Crime and anti-social behaviour are real concerns in Faversham. Around 200 crimes are reported here every month.**

Faversham and why and, most importantly, what can be done to prevent and stop it."

Local Lib Dem Councillor Antony Hook is using £9,000 from his grant as a county councillor to address crime and anti-social behaviour in Faversham. Councillor Hook said,

Faversham has been without a community warden for some years. After the previous warden moved on, Conservative-run Kent County Council left the post vacant.

"Crime is too serious to give up hope that something can be done. I have worked in criminal justice for 17 years and know the effect crime has on victims and their families.

At Kent's recent annual budget meeting, Antony Hook moved an amendment calling for funds to fill vacant warden posts. That has led to the job being advertised and we should have a new Warden soon.

"Nothing ever excuses crime but poverty, addiction, mental health, poor education, lack of direction for the young can all drive crime and are factors locally. We need more police but we also need to consider what else can be done to make things better.

Community Wardens do a wide range of work including supporting the vulnerable and helping local people.

"The Town Council will use the grant I have secured to engage a professional researcher to analyse what crime is happening in



Councillor Antony Hook

## Working hard all year round for Faversham

# Action on local issues in Faversham

## Celebrating town's heritage

Faversham is a special town with a unique history that deserves to be celebrated.

and needs a well thought out exhibition to explain its meaning and importance.

The Town has a copy of Magna Carta from the year 1300.

Councillor Trevor Martin said,

The Town Council's heritage committee has been working hard on putting this on permanent display for visitors. Its age means it has to be kept in a controlled environment

"So far, £85,000 has been raised for the project and a lot of this is money coming into Faversham from outside. Canterbury Christchurch University are working with us on the content of the exhibition. This will be great for local and visitors."

## Protecting animals

Fireworks are loved by some people but unpopular with others. The noise can cause harmful distress to animals including dogs, cats and other family pets.

The RSPCA has found that almost half of dogs feel fear at the sound of fireworks. 8 out of 10 horses are anxious or very anxious on hearing fireworks. An animal may injury itself in panic and in extreme cases an animal may go into cardiac arrest from the stress.

Faversham Councillor Hannah Perkin has proposed action to protect animals. Her plan has now been adopted by Swale Council.

The plan calls for local displays to avoid using the loudest fireworks and local shops not to sell these. Information should also be promoted about the real harm to animals caused by loud fireworks. All fireworks displays should be properly advertised so animal owners can take precautions.

Councillor Hannah Perkin said,

"Animals hear differently to humans. Other countries have stopped using very loud fireworks and so should we. My plan includes everything the council can legally do to discourage use of very loud fireworks and protect animals."

The Conservative government has blocked local communities from having power to actually limit the loudness of fireworks used in the local area, leaving animals to suffer needlessly.



Councillor Hannah Perkin

## Ashford Road / A2 Junction

This busy road junction is being expanded by Kent Highways.

Local Liberal Democrats pushed for the designs to consider people and not just cars.

As a result, three new crossings for pedestrians will be created and a path for pedestrians and cyclists on the south side of the A2. This will make it safer for pupils going to Abbey School and people crossing the A2 to go to Aldi or come into town from Ashford Road.



We've got three new crossings, a new pavement added to Kent's plans and are pushing for more.

We are pushing for replacement of trees and hedges and the town's Climate & Biodiversity group has input to make a better habitat for nature than was there before. The look of this gateway to Faversham is also important and could be made more attractive.

## Action for Faversham's environment

We know that local people really value our local environment. The Lib Dem led Town Council recently gave out 1000 new trees to local residents.

**environment free from toxic chemicals which enter our food and water. By setting out a bold action plan, the Lib Dem led Faversham Town Council can achieve a Pesticide Free Town.**



Councillors have given out 1,000 new trees for Faversham.

We have obtained a £9,000 grant from outside Faversham to add to the Town Council's resources for environmental work.

We are also arranging for living roofs to be put on some Faversham bus shelters.

The living vegetation installed on the bus shelter will filter pollution and particulates from transport exhausts and provide planting for pollinators and other endangered insects.

We are also calling on Kent Highways to stop using types of weedkiller that harm wildlife.

Councillor Chris Williams says, "We owe it to future generations to create an

## Helpful phone numbers

Mental Health Matters  
0800 017 0160

Faversham Age UK  
(01795) 532766

Domestic abuse help SATEDA  
(01795) 417251

Universal Credit helpline  
0800 1448444

Citizens Advice  
0344 848 7978

Faversham Salvation Army  
07771045382

## Contact us

If there is anything you would like help with, please contact us.

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