

Raised by:	Item Request:	Response	To be put onto Agenda: Yes/No
Cllr Charles Gibson/Town Cllr Julian – Faversham Town Council	I am writing in my capacity as Market Manager of Faversham Charter Market to seek the Town Council's support in lobbying Swale Borough Council for a variation to the existing Traffic Order governing vehicle access in Court Street and Market Place on market days. Since my appointment on 1st August this year, I have become increasingly concerned about the volume of traffic using Court Street and Market Place as a cut-through to Preston Street and beyond during the market set-up period and while shoppers are beginning to arrive. Despite the current restriction, which only applies between 10am and 4pm, vehicles continue to mix with traders unloading and pedestrians moving through the area from as early as 8am on Fridays and, in particular, Saturdays. The market is licensed to open for business at 9am, and in practice, visitors are already present from 8am onwards. This overlap between live traffic, stallholder vehicles, and early shoppers represents an increasing public safety risk and can hamper the market's full and safe opening. To mitigate this, I am requesting that the Town Council support a proposal to vary the existing Traffic Order so that the barrier at the junction of Court Street and Crescent Road is closed from 9am on market days, rather than 10am. Such an amendment would bring the traffic restriction into line with the market's operational hours and	Having spoken to the Head of Place at Swale, who previously commissioned the consultant to look at the possible pedestrianisation of Faversham Town Centre, the advice is that this piece of work has been completed. Any amendment to the moving Traffic Regulation Order which covers the current closure times would be something for Kent County Council to progress. There would be a cost associated with drafting a Traffic Order Amendment, and also changing the existing signage on site.	Yes

	significantly reduce the potential for accidents in a pedestrian-heavy environment.		
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	I would be grateful if the Council could raise this matter with Swale Borough Council as a matter of urgency, before a member of the public is seriously hurt.		
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