



# FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes Council

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### **Time and date**

7.00 pm on Thursday 19th September, 2019

### **Place**

Council Chamber - Town Council Offices

### **Councillors**

Councillor Pat Evans (Mayor)  
Councillor Alan Earwaker (Deputy Mayor)  
Councillor Paula Dunsmore  
Councillor David Beaman  
Councillor Roger Blishen  
Councillor Carole Cockburn  
Councillor Sally Dickson  
Councillor John "Scotty" Fraser  
Councillor George Hesse  
Councillor Andy MacLeod  
Councillor Michaela Martin  
Councillor Mark Merryweather  
Councillor Kika Mirylees  
Councillor John Neale  
Councillor John Ward

### **Apologies for absence**

Cllrs David Attfield, Brian Edmonds and Michaela Gray

### **Officers Presents:**

Iain Lynch, Town Clerk  
Andrea Mann, Assistant Town Clerk  
Iain McCready, Business and Facilities Manager

There were nineteen members of the public and two members of the press in attendance.

Prior to the meeting, prayers were led by Pastor Michael Hall – Farnham Pentecostal Church.

### **C69/19 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Attfield, Edmonds and Gray.

### **C70/19 Disclosures of Interest**

Apart from standard declarations by dual or triple hatted Councillors, there were no disclosures of interest relating to items on the agenda.

C71/19 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Farnham Town Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were amended to record Cllr Mirylees as present and Cllr Merryweather as having submitted apologies, then agreed to be signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

C72/19 **Questions and Statements by the Public**

- 1) Mr Barry Hartop read a statement to the Council which had been circulated to Councillors before the start of the meeting. The statement included communication to the managers of Giggling Squid, Pizza Express, Bills, Castle Inn and Gales from Castle Street residents expressing concerns about significant disturbance resulting from collections and deliveries to the restaurants.

The statement included a request to Waverley Borough Council to mandate that:

- Refuse/recycling contractors do not make collections before at least 7.15am.
- Deliveries are made in the time window of 7.15am and 7.15pm.

The statement asked for Waverley Borough Council to contact the above establishments and insist that delivery contractors switch off refrigeration units and that goods are delivered immediately and as quickly as possible.

Mr Hartop said that representation would be made directly to Waverley Borough Council and asked for Farnham Town Council to support enabling this action.

The Mayor responded that Farnham Town Council was unable to take direct action but the concerns would be passed on to Waverley Borough Council, specifically Environmental Health.

- 2) Mr Bob Stevens endorsed Mr Hartop's comments. Additionally, Mr Stevens said that he had not seen visible traffic enforcement in Castle Street over the past 5 years and gave examples of recent parking violations in Castle Street.

The Mayor advised that both matters raised by Mr Stevens and Mr Hartop would also be referred to Surrey County Council.

- 3) Mr Timothy Holland-Bosworth endorsed the comments made by Mr Hartop and Mr Stevens. Mr Holland-Bosworth acknowledged that Farnham Town Council may not be in a position to take direct action but considered the whole situation to be completely out of control and asked why Traffic Wardens wouldn't act. Mr Holland-Bosworth said that buildings in Castle Street were starting to deteriorate because of the heavy lorries and asked for support in conserving heritage in the conservation area.

The Mayor advised that Farnham Town Council was working with the authorities to resolve all of the issues identified. Cllr Neale supported the response and said that work was underway to look at the wider picture for Farnham and the town centre, advising that a meeting had taken place with Surrey County Council earlier that day. Cllr Cockburn asked who had been at the meeting? The Town Clerk advised that the meeting included the matter on whether HGVs should be permitted in Castle Street and that the Leader and Town Clerk had attended on behalf of Farnham Town Council.

## C73/19 **Town Mayor's Announcements**

The Town Mayor reported that she had continued to be busy since the previous meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> July and highlighted the following engagements:

- Hosting a lunch for the Britain in Bloom judges on 31<sup>st</sup> July and unveiling a plaque in memory of Gill Ely, a community volunteer.
- Attending the Minden Day parade in Farnham to observe the tradition of issuing roses. The Mayor had had a wonderful time and thanked everyone for the opportunity.
- Attending the Jalsa Salana (Annual Convention) of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK and speaking to the attendees which was broadcast worldwide. Following the event, the Mayor had received an email from someone in Australia who had heard the broadcast and was hoping to visit Farnham.
- Visiting Andernach in Germany which coincided with the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of twinning between Andernach and Ekeren in Belgium. It had been a privilege to speak on behalf of Farnham in the Andernach Council Chamber.
- The South and South East in Bloom awards in Brighton where Farnham had wiped the board in winning a Gold and being crowned regional category winner in both the town centre and large town categories. Badshot Lea Cemetery was awarded a Silver Gilt with a Gold award in the Small Cemetery category and West Street received Silver Gilt in the Large Cemetery category. The Mayor thanked volunteers and Council Officers, with special thanks to Iain McCready.
- The Gin Festival hosted at the Maltings.
- Unveiling the Transport Trust's Red Wheel plaque commemorating the work of Abbotts Coachbuilders in Wrecclesham.
- A visit to T S Swiftsure including an annual inspection with the Sea Cadets. The Mayor was saddened to hear that the premises had been broken into the following day and equipment was stolen.

## C74/19 **Questions by Members**

Cllr Merryweather asked for clarification on Castle Street (as per Item C72/19) and assurance that Farnham Town Council, Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council's combined efforts for Castle Street would be matched in representing Weybourne & Badshot Lea.

In response the Mayor said that every effort would be made to raise traffic issues across the town.

C75/19 **The Notes of the Tourism and Events Working Group held on 3rd September 2019**

Cllr Earwaker introduced the notes of the Tourism and Events Working Group held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. The meeting had reviewed both the recent and forthcoming events. There were no recommendations.

Cllr Cockburn commented that the meeting had not been quorate and asked whether there had been an issue. In response, Cllr Earwaker said that there had been a number of other commitments on that day and concluded that low attendance was a one-off.

Cllr Ward asked whether the Music in the Meadow programme could be extended into the first part of September?

The Mayor thanked Cllr Earwaker for his practical support at the events.

Cllr Hesse raised concerns over the fumes from the ice-cream van in Gostrey Meadow during the summer events, a matter which had been discussed at the Tourism and Events Working Party in detail. Following discussion, the Town Clerk confirmed that a detailed email response had been circulated to all Members and the matter would be pursued further.

The notes of the meeting were adopted.

C76/19 **The Notes of the Community Enhancement Working Group held on 4th September 2019**

Cllr Dickson introduced the notes of the Community Enhancement Working Group held on 4th September 2019, commenting that it had been a particularly busy meeting.

Farnham in Bloom: Cllr Dickson congratulated Iain McCready and staff on the results of the South and South East in Bloom awards and noted the School and Community awards ceremonies would be held at Squires' Garden Centre on 10<sup>th</sup> October to which all Councillors were invited to attend.

Improving the Town Centre Environment: the meeting had discussed an issue with the maintenance of Surrey County Council owned trees where large, unsightly stumps were being left when diseased trees were felled. This had generated a recommendation to Council to ask Surrey County Council to remove the trees completely and write to Surrey County Council on the matter. Following discussion, an amendment to the motion was proposed.

**It was RESOLVED *nem con*:**

- 1. That Surrey County Council should remove trees completely, not leave unsightly stumps, when trees are removed and restore the pavements.**
- 2. Letters should be written to the relevant portfolio holder and Chief Executive of Surrey County Council about this issue.**

Bins by Boots Opticians: Cllr Dickson reported that the new owner of the Bush Hotel had supported the project by offering to fund half of the cost of renovating the bin storage area. Cllr Ward asked for an update on the works and, in response, Iain McCready reported that preparatory work would be completed the same week then shop owners would be contacted.

C77/19 Cllr Beaman reported that the tree saplings donated by Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt and planted at the Memorial Hall had disappeared and asked if Farnham Town Council could replace them, seconded by Cllr Fraser. Cllr Hesse expressed an interest in liaising with Officers on species. The Mayor suggested that Farnham Town Council approach Waverley Borough Council as the trees were located on WBC land. In response, Cllr Merrweather said that he would be delighted to receive the letter as the relevant Waverley Borough Council Portfolio Holder and Cllr Ward supported this approach. Cllr Cockburn offered to contact Jeremy Hunt to see if he would donate new trees.

**It was RESOLVED *nem con*:**

**That Farnham Town Council writes to Waverley Borough Council Portfolio Holder for Finance, Assets and Commercial Services asking for the saplings to be replaced.**

The notes of the meeting were adopted.

C78/19 **The Notes of the Strategy & Finance Working Group held on 10th September 2019**

Cllr Neale introduced the notes of the Strategy & Finance Working Group held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

A meeting of the Infrastructure Planning Group had noted the Neighbourhood Plan Independent Examination on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Vision for Farnham – a meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September had outlined the progress on the project including complex strategic highways issues and local town centre proposals. Cllr Neale reported that a meeting had taken place that day with Surrey County Council and Waverley Borough Council to look at how the project could progress with Surrey County Council's assistance.

Members discussed a proposal to ask Surrey County Council to reinstate the Farnham Task Group. Cllr MacLeod reported that Surrey County Council had closed down all its Local Committee Task Groups across Surrey and suggested that the implementation of CIL in the borough presented a good reason to reinstate the group. Members asked for Farnham Town Council representation on the group and asked for assurance that other areas, such as Heath End, Hale Road and Castle Street were also being discussed because of the impact on schools and churches. In response, Cllr Neale believed the town was well represented at Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council was buying into the "Place and Community" approach. Cllr Neale and the Town Clerk confirmed that other areas were discussed.

**It was RESOLVED *nem con***

**That Farnham Town Council ask Surrey County Council to reinstate the Farnham Task Group.**

**C79/19 Grant Applications**

A grant to Pass and Play (Netball) from the 2019/20 budget was agreed in the value of £500 towards expenditure on new equipment.

**C80/19 Consultations**

The Strategy & Finance meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September had proposed responses to the Waverley Polling Station Review consultation which were reviewed.

**It was RESOLVED *nem con* to respond to the Waverley Polling Station Review consultation as follows:**

<b>Polling District</b>	<b>Current Polling Station</b>	<b>WBC Proposals</b>	<b>FTC Response</b>
Bourne North	St Thomas-on-the-Bourne	No change	
Bourne South	South Farham Infant School	Suggestions sought	New Cricket pavilion could be considered.
Castle 1	Memorial Hall	No change	
Castle 1	United Reformed Church	No change	If needed the Town Council offices could be used.
Firgrove 1	St Joans Centre	No change	
Firgrove 2	Brambleton Hall	No change	
Hale and Heath End	Baptist Church Hall	No change	
Hale and Heath End	Gorselands	No change	
Moor Park (1)	TA Centre	No change	
Moor Park (2)	Abbey School	Suggestions sought	
Boundstone	Leverton Hall, St Peter's Church	Suggestions sought	Wrecclesham Community Centre.
Shortheath	Leverton Hall, St Peter's Church	Suggestions sought	Wrecclesham Community Centre.
Upper Hale	Hale School	Suggestions sought	Hale Institute could be considered.
Weybourne	Weybourne Village Hall	No change	
Badshot Lea	St Georges Church Hall	No change	
Wrecclesham	Wrecclesham Community Centre	No change	Leverton Hall, St Peter's Church.
Rowledge	Rowledge Village Hall	No change	Leverton Hall, St Peter's Church.

## C81/19 **Climate Emergency**

Cllr Neale reported that a draft report on the Climate Emergency had been discussed by the Community Enhancement Working Group and the Strategy and Finance Working Group. The report was adopted as presented with the agenda and

**It was RESOLVED unanimously that Farnham Town Council:**

- i) Agrees there is a “Climate Emergency” that requires further action.**
- ii) Aims to become carbon neutral by 2030, acting directly on activities within its responsibility, and in cooperation with principal authorities.**
- iii) Continues to review its operations and the way in which it delivers services and develop an action plan to consider positive changes that would reduce carbon emissions.**
- iv) Recognises that to achieve its carbon neutral targets, it is essential for central government to provide powers, funding and other resources; so, the Council calls on UK Government and local climate change partnerships to provide the necessary support.**
- v) Continues to encourage the local Farnham community to take all practical steps to reduce its own carbon footprint and safeguard the environment.**

## C82/19 **CCTV Policy**

The CCTV Policy at Annex 2 to the Notes of the Strategy & Finance Working Group was considered.

Cllr Hesse commented that it would be helpful if a new CCTV system could, in the future, monitor speed around Farnham.

**It was AGREED *nem con* to adopt the CCTV Policy as presented with the agenda.**

## C83/19 **Contracts**

Cllr Neale highlighted several contractual matters which had been reported to the Strategy & Finance Working Group held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019:

- Air conditioning works in the Council Chamber were ongoing.
- A CNG supply unit to fuel the new Council vehicle was in operation.
- External works to the Town Council were being undertaken and additional works were required:

Following a proposal by Cllr Neale, seconded by Cllr Earwaker,

**It was RESOLVED *nem con***

- i) To waive Standing Orders Contracts.**
- ii) To award an extension of the contract to K Construction to refurbish the first and second floor windows, fascias and gutters with the total project cost (including scaffolding) of £22,600 being met from the 2019/20 budget.**

C84/19 **Community Engagement**

Cllr Neale reported that the Strategy & Finance Working Group on 10<sup>th</sup> September had discussed a review of Farnham Town Council's approach to community engagement, as set out in Annex 3 of Appendix D on the agenda.

**It was RESOLVED *nem con***

- i) To welcome the report at Annex 3**
- ii) Create a Young People Task Group to progress Farnham Town Council's approach to engaging younger people. Cllrs Dunsmore, Earwaker, Martin, Mirylees and Neale volunteered to join the group.**

C85/19 **Expenditure of Brightwell's Section 106 Contributions**

Council noted work in relation to the Brightwell's scheme Section 106 funding.

**It was RESOLVED *nem con***

**That the Tourism and Events Working Group develop a wayfinding strategy, in consultation with the Farnham Conservation Area Management Plan and Farnham Visitors Forum.**

Cllr Merryweather encouraged all Members to review the Section 106 Contributions database on the Waverley Borough Council website.

The notes of the Strategy & Finance Working Group were adopted.

C86/19 **Planning and Licensing Applications**

Cllr Fraser introduced the notes of the Planning and Licensing Consultative Working Group meetings held on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2<sup>nd</sup> September and 16<sup>th</sup> September. The meetings had considered 138 applications, 35 of which were considered to be contentious.

A site visit had taken place on the proposed diversion of Footpath 300 as part of the development on land off Crondall Lane. Following the site visit Members had concluded that the public footpath should follow the original route outside of the housing development. Cllr Fraser explained that the route served the whole area and the diversion would result in half of the path being sited on private land which could potentially restrict access. The Town Clerk advised that the diversion had already been approved and a public enquiry would be required should Farnham Town Council uphold its objection. Following discussion,

**It was RESOLVED that the objection of the Planning and Licensing Consultative Working Group to the diversion of Footpath 300 be withdrawn (14 Members agreed and 1 Member objected).**

Cllr Fraser also drew attention to the following points:

- Applications to remove existing conditions should be looked at carefully.
- Some non-material applications were not considered to be non-material by the Working Group.
- The Working Group meetings had struggled with the speed of response when viewing plans on the Waverley Borough Council's website.



- The Waverley Borough Council Street Naming Team had asked the developer of the Folly Hill site to accept all the names previously suggested by Farnham Town Council.
- Members were pleased to hear that Waverley Borough Council had refused applications citing the Farnham Neighbourhood Plan.

C87/19 Cllr Fraser asked for Farnham Town Council's support by asking Waverley Borough Council to request that trees fronting the Garden Style development at Wrecclesham Hill be retained where possible. The Town Clerk advised that the trees could be retained, as minuted by Waverley Borough Council Planning.

**It was RESOLVED *nem con***

**That the Town Clerk pass comment to Waverley Borough Council asking for an amendment to the decision, that trees on the frontage of the Garden Style development be retained, apart from those which are diseased. (Proposed by Cllr Fraser, seconded by Cllr Merryweather)**

C88/19 **Waverley Borough Council Farnham Air Quality Working Group**

In response to a request for representatives,

**It was RESOLVED *nem con***

**That Cllrs Dickson, Earwaker and Fraser be appointed as the Farnham Town Council members of the Waverley Borough Council Farnham Air Quality Working Group.**

C89/19 **Reports from Other Councils**

Cllr MacLeod referred to an article in the Herald regarding the Woolmead development site and reported that Berkeley Homes were considering all projects, including Woolmead. Cllr MacLeod said that, in his judgement, the scheme would go ahead and reported that a meeting was due to take place with the Waverley Borough Council Executive. Cllr MacLeod hoped Berkeley Homes would issue a further statement in the Herald.

Cllr Dickson reported that tree works were underway in Farnham Park.

Cllr Dunsmore provided an update on the pedestrian crossing point at The Street in Wrecclesham. Surrey County Council had accepted Option 2 and Section 106 funding was available.

Cllr Cockburn reported that the Farnham Sports Council had praised Farnham Town Council in the Herald for the plaques on the "famous names wall" remembering sports people in Farnham. Cllr Cockburn also reported that the Biodiversity Action Plan was underway which would be an exciting project and a recent meeting was well attended.

Cllr MacLeod reported from Surrey County Council:

- Surrey Fire and Rescue Service was switching focus from emergency response to fire prevention.
- All Community Recycling Centres would be retained and Farnham would be reviewed.
- On-street parking permits were rising from £50 to £80 per annum.

C90/19 **Reports from Outside Bodies**

Cllr Hesse reported from the Crime Prevention Panel meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> August advising:

- Volunteers were being sought for the Food Fair.
- Support was required for the RFID Protectors.
- PCSOs were keen to work actively with the community.
- A website was being developed.

C91/19 **Any confidential matters (if required) arising from discussions of the Working Group notes.**

There were no confidential matters.

C92/19 **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting of full Council was agreed as Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.

The Mayor closed the meeting at 9.25 pm

Chairman

Date