



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL



Notes

Community Enhancement Working Group

Time and date

9.30 am on Wednesday 10th June, 2020

Place

To be held remotely via Zoom - Zoom Remote Meeting

Attendees:

Members: Councillors Sally Dickson (Lead Member), George Hesse, Michaela Martin and Pat Evans (ex-Officio)

In Attendance: Cllr John Neale

Officers: Iain Lynch (Town Clerk), Iain McCready (Business and Facilities Manager), Steph Jones (Community Enhancement and Projects Officer) and Stacey Wills (Community Enhancement and Projects Officer)

1. Apologies For Absence

POINTS	ACTION
Apologies from Councillors Dunsmore and Gray.	

2. Disclosure of Interest

POINTS	ACTION
There were no disclosures of interest.	

3. Notes of the last meeting

POINTS	ACTION
There were no notes for the meeting in March 2020 due to the meeting not being quorate.	

4. Extinction Rebellion

POINTS	ACTION
Councillor Dickson introduced Peppy Dadd and Thomas Lankaster from Extinction Rebellion Farnham.	

<p>Thomas Lankaster and Peppy Dadd introduced a PowerPoint presentation showing the benefits that have come out of lockdown, and also how Farnham Town Council can work with them to upkeep these benefits. This presentation is attached at Annex 1.</p> <p>Extinction Rebellion Farnham then opened the discussion to Councillors for questions. The Town Clerk updated the Working Group members on the pavement widening scheme which is going ahead from Friday 12th June. Councillor Neale mentioned that an advisory 20mph limit will be included with the pavement widening.</p> <p>Iain McCready addressed the points raised by Peppy Dadd on biodiversity matters and explained that Farnham In Bloom consults with many community groups including the Farnham Biodiversity Group, to improve our greenspaces throughout the town. 50 trees were recently planted in West Street Cemetery. West Street Cemetery's wildflower area was increased by 200% and Badshot Lea Cemetery's by 300%. The Outside Workforce team does not cut hedges between March and July. The grass in the cemeteries is cut shorter for health and safety reasons and for bereavement purposes. However biodiverse areas are still also provided.</p> <p>Councillor Dunsmore advised she was working with SCC to plant 20 trees to improve biodiversity in Wrecclesham.</p> <p>In relation to the provision of cycleways Cllr Neale commented that this is something that Farnham Project Board is looking at and will invite Extinction Rebellion Farnham to contribute.</p>	
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5. Electric Car Charging

POINTS	ACTION
<p>The Town Clerk advised that SCC were consulting on-street electric car charging points in Farnham, explaining that shoppers, commuters, and residents should be catered for.</p> <p>The group agreed that Falkner Road would be a good spot due to the wider roads, and distance from town, as would the Longbridge parking bays and also Abbey Street. Councillor Dickson queried how much it would cost for someone to park and charge at the same time, and this would be discussed with Surrey.</p> <p>It was agreed the Town Clerk would respond to SCC.</p>	<p>Town Clerk to advise SCC on views.</p>

Councillor Michaela Martin left the zoom call due to technical problems and the meeting was then not quorate, but continued to discuss items for information.

6. Farnham In Bloom

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Iain McCready reported to the group that due to the lockdown volunteer numbers had gone down, but there were still groups like the Badshot Lea Bloomers helping with planting whilst adhering to social distancing rules.</p> <p>Members noted that 26,000 plants had been planted so far, over 200 hanging baskets had gone out in and around the town and the FIB team had provided Wey Hill in Bloom with some hanging baskets and flowers for planters too.</p> <p>Iain McCready also reported that 10-12 planters would be used as a part of the pavement widening scheme and would be planted up on Saturday 13th June.</p> <p>Iain McCready outlined the desktop judging process this year for the entries to South and South East in Bloom, the introduction of Gostrey Meadow to the SSEIB entry this year and the new Farnham in Bloom Twitter account. Members were also informed about the competitions that were still going ahead remotely this year, and events that were to be confirmed.</p>	

7. Allotments

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Members received an update on Farnham Allotments waiting list numbers and vacant plots. Members noted that the allotments were looking better since the lockdown and there were hopes that the allotment competitions gain interest. There had also been successful progress in collecting outstanding overdue rents.</p>	

8. Street Furniture

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Members noted two new benches in the Bourne had been installed, and the last Hidden Heritage board put up near Farnham Hospital. Members noted an outstanding problem with graffiti in Sturt Walk due to an access issue, and that South East Water were dealing with this problem.</p> <p>Members discussed the use of Dibond on the Robert Dyas substation and as it has been previously agreed at a Working Group meeting Officers will go ahead with the works.</p> <p>The Town Clerk reported requests for more cycle stations to be installed around the town to encourage more people to cycle. Members agreed a map of existing cycle racks should be created, and the cost of a cycle station will need to be considered. Councillor Hesse raised concerns about a cycle storage shed and how this would</p>	<p>Officers to proceed with the Dibond works at the Robert Dyas Substation. Officers to prepare map of existing cycle racks.</p>

look aesthetically. Iain McCready reported that four of the Farnham In Bloom black banners were fitted to the railings earlier in the week.	
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9. Famous Names Wall

POINTS	ACTION
Members discussed the nomination of Russ Mantle for the Famous Names wall and agreed he should be honoured due to his long-term ties to Farnham and achievements. It was reported that the next famous name's event has been postponed due to the current Covid-19 situation and that the officers are in contact with the recipient's granddaughter to make arrangements.	Community Enhancement Officer to progress plans.

10. Bush Hotel Bins

POINTS	ACTION
Members noted that signs would be going up in the bin alleyway this week, and there were currently no bins in the alleyway.	

11. Date of the next meeting

POINTS	ACTION
It was agreed that the next scheduled meeting will be held on the 23 rd September 2020.	

The meeting ended at 11.40 am

Notes written by Iain.McCready@farnham.gov.uk