



# FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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## Notes

### Community Enhancement Working Group

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#### Time and date

9.30 am on Wednesday 23rd September, 2020

#### Place

Held remotely on Zoom

#### Attendees:

Members: Councillors Sally Dickson (Lead Member), Paula Dunsmore, Alan Earwaker and George Hesse

Officers: Iain McCready (Business and Facilities Manager) and Stacey Wills (Community Enhancement and Projects Officer)

#### 1. Election of chair for meeting

POINTS	ACTION
In the absence of the Lead Member Cllr Hesse was elected to chair the meeting.	

#### 2. Apologies For Absence

POINTS	ACTION
Apologies were received from the Town Clerk and Cllr Pat Evans. Cllr Dickson apologized that she would come late.	

#### 3. Disclosure of Interest

POINTS	ACTION
None were received.	

#### 4. Notes of the last meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The notes of the previous meeting were agreed.	

## 5. Farnham In Bloom

POINTS	ACTION
<p>1. Farnham Town Council officers reported to the group that several planned events had to be cancelled due to the current COVID -19 situation.</p>	<p>Officers to progress Community</p>
<p>2. The idea of Schools and individuals taking part in a competition to design a 2021 carpet bed in Gostrey Meadow was agreed under the theme of “Community”.</p>	
<p>3. Schools will also receive some spring bulbs to plant.</p>	
<p>4. Iain McCready outlined plans for the change over from summer bedding to winter. This will be done over several weeks and will include planting some perennial plants to add in height and texture to the planters.</p>	
<p>5. The Working Group welcomed the South and South East in Bloom results to the members, with 4 golds and a Silver Gilt for West Street Cemetery. A visit will be arranged to Gold winning Reigate Cemetery to see how West Street Cemetery can be improved for next year.</p>	<p>Enhancement Officer to arrange</p>
<p>6. Plans to improve the community gardens at 40 Degreez and Battings Garden were discussed. Cllr Earwaker said that he would be happy to help with Battings as this is in his ward.</p>	
<p>7. Members discussed the focus for Farnham in Bloom for 2021 considering the current restrictions on events. Cllr Dunsmore suggested that the focus should be on small community gardens possibly in each ward which the residents can get involved in.</p>	<p>Officers to prepare designs for the next meeting</p>
<p>8. Cllr Hesse suggested information signs like those in Bishop’s Meadow be put up in greenspaces. These signs could highlight wildlife and things to see. It was also noted that the signs in Gostrey Meadow need changing to reflect that FTC now own it. Cllr Hesse proposed that the bench at Gostrey Meadow needs to go back to the UCA.</p>	
<p>9. Cllr Dunsmore noted that a strategy was needed for FTC green spaces to allow a focus and direction on the work to be undertaken. The Business and Facilities Manager suggested that a Green Flag management plan (national standard for parks) be prepared. It was agreed to start on a plan for Gostrey Meadow and for members to review this first draft at the next meeting, then be used as a template for the other spaces.</p>	<p>Officers to feedback first draft of the Gostrey Meadow Green Flag Management plan.</p>

**Cllr Dickson arrives**

## 6. Finance

POINTS	ACTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Business and Facilities Manager made the members aware of the reduction in sponsorship budget. This was due to many businesses either being closed for long periods of time or not committing to sponsorship due to result of the pandemic.</li> <li>2. Officers noted that there may be potential additional sponsorship opportunities for the planters. Cllr Hesse suggested that the estate agents could put signs on the planters instead of placing them on historic buildings.</li> <li>3. When discussing future budgets, Cllr Hesse said that he and Cllr Beaman had been talking to Waverley Borough Council about purchasing a Glutton machine to help with street cleaning. The Business and Facilities Manager informed the group that Farnham Town Council had in the past shown an interest in taking on the Barrow-man role within the Town Centre, but nothing had been decided. Members agreed this should be reviewed.</li> </ol>	<p>Councillors noted the current financial position.</p> <p>Officers to contact WBC to confirm current position</p>

## 7. Allotments

POINTS	ACTION
Members received an update on Farnham Allotments waiting list numbers and vacant plots. GPS mapping of the sites has taken place and, in the winter, improvements to water taps and some tree pruning will take place.	Members noted the progress of the Allotments work.

## 8. Famous Names

POINTS	ACTION
Members received an update on the two outstanding famous names which had not taken place due to restrictions and considered a further nomination. It was agreed that a tree and a plaque should be placed in West Street Cemetery for one of the nominations. It was also noted that a plaque for Russ Mantle the cyclist should be arranged for this year.	Community Enhancement Officer to arrange the plaque for Russ Mantle and tree planting for latest nomination.

## 9. Bush Hotel Bins

POINTS	ACTION
Members noted the progress and completion of the project.	

## 10. Street Furniture

POINTS	ACTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Working Group were informed that new bins were required for new areas of open space and agreed the purchase of 4 x covered bins (1 for Halifax garden, 1 Batting's Garden and 2 x Gostrey Meadow).</li> <li>2. No outstanding graffiti issues after an increase during the summer.</li> <li>3. Members discussed the broken metal barriers around town and</li> </ol>	Officers to purchase and install 4 covered bins in line with current design.

officers noted that they had moved the banners from the temporary barriers to the permanent barriers.	
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## 11. Bourne Conservation Group Report

POINTS	ACTION
The Working Group welcomed the BCG annual report and noted the excellent progress.	

## 12. Date of the next meeting

POINTS	ACTION
It was noted that the next scheduled meeting date fell on Armistice Day. The Working Group have asked for the date to be changed if possible.	Alternative date to be sought.

The meeting ended at 11.30 am

Notes written by [ian.mccready@farnham.gov.uk](mailto:ian.mccready@farnham.gov.uk)