



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Notes Community Enhancement Working Group

Time and date

9.30 am on Thursday 23rd September, 2021

Place

Byworth Room - Town Council Offices

Attendees:

Members: Councillors Sally Dickson (Lead Member), Paula Dunsmore, Alan Earwaker (ex-Officio), George Hesse and John Neale

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

1. Apologies For Absence

POINTS	ACTION
Apologies were received from Cllr Martin.	

2. Disclosure of Interest

POINTS	ACTION
None received.	

3. Notes of the last meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The notes of the previous meeting were agreed.	

4. Plastic Free Farnham

POINTS	ACTION
The members welcomed Colin Shearn from Plastic Free Farnham. Colin explained about the Deposit Return Scheme that the Government are introducing. This scheme aims to reduce plastic waste and involves returning used plastic items to the retailer. Colin informed members that	

retailers will need infrastructure such as electricity and space for bottle banks to be stored.	
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5. Farnham In Bloom

POINTS	ACTION
<p>1. Farnham Town Council officers updated members on the recent South and South East in Bloom results. Farnham received Gold for Large Town, Town Centre, Badshot Lea Cemetery and West Street Cemetery and Silver Gilt for Gostrey Meadow.</p> <p>The Working Group agreed the officer suggestion to enter Green Lane Cemetery and Hallifax Garden, Rowledge into South and South East in Bloom. The members agreed that the community benefits of Farnham in Bloom with regards to schools, volunteers and community groups getting involved, were all extremely beneficial. RHS Community Awards and Green Flag results were expected in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Members noted the upcoming events and projects for the year including the Bloomin' Litter pick which will take place on Saturday 6th November from 10am – 12.</p> <p>2. Members discussed the possibility of large bulb planting schemes using mechanised planting and agreed in principle to pursue. This would be suitable for large areas and a mixture of bulbs would be planted to create interest from early Spring through to Summer. Location would be looked at once more detailed costs had been sought.</p>	<p>Extend entry in South and South East in Bloom to cover Green Lane Cemetery and Hallifax Gardens.</p> <p>Officers to prepare costs for large bulb planting trial to be shared at the next meeting.</p>

6. Allotments

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Members noted that four plots were vacant and that over the summer work had been carried out on water pipes and general maintenance</p> <p>Councillor Dickson updated members following her correspondence with Waverley Borough Council regarding the Weybourne Road allotment ownership transfer to Farnham Town Council. The ownership of the access to the site is still an issue and Councillor Dickson agreed to follow up with Waverley Borough Council's legal team for further information.</p>	<p>Councillor Dickson to follow up access issue with Waverley Borough Council for Weybourne Road Allotment site.</p>

Street Furniture

POINTS	ACTION
<p>i) Farnham Town Council had received several memorial bench requests for Gostrey Meadow. Officers advised that hardwood benches could be installed to replace existing black plastic benches and that these benches could be adopted by residents as memorial benches. The cost for a memorial bench is £600 and includes a memorial plaque and maintenance and upkeep for several years. This was agreed by members.</p>	<p>Bench replacement of benches in Gostrey Meadow to be progressed within existing budgets.</p>

<p>ii) The Working Group noted there were no outstanding graffiti issues to report.</p> <p>iii) The Working Group noted that Farnham Town Council had recently received a letter from Biffa about Towns and Parishes being charged for street bin collection. FTC staff currently empty any bins on Farnham Town Council land. The Town Clerk had raised this matter with Richard Homewood of Waverley Borough Council and he was investigating the circumstances. This item would be discussed at the next meeting when additional information had been received from Waverley Borough Council but FTC should not be paying for public realm bins that were Waverley responsibility.</p> <p>iv) Members requested that the Wrecclesham bus stop be renovated with wood stain. Town Clerk reminded members that there is additional money from the Welcome back scheme that can be used for bus stop improvements.</p> <p>v) There has been a request from members for Christmas themed railing banners to encourage shoppers to shop locally and support businesses at Christmas time. Officer to look at costs and designs.</p> <p>vi) Members noted the recent adoption of the Redphone boxes in Rowledge, Boundstone and West Street and the suggestions that had been made for their use. First refusal was given for defibrillator use. The Working Group agreed on the proposed 'Little Library' for the phone box in Rowledge (defibrillator already on co-op wall next to phone box). The Scouts were scheduled to help repaint the phone box and some reglazing of panels would be needed. There has been a suggestion that the phone box on West Street (near the library) could be made into a Gold 'cultural' box initially depicting the recent success of Kylie Grimes in the Paralympics, Rachel Morris and other Farnham Sporting heroes.</p> <p>vii) Councillor Dickson suggested that Farnham had a 'Dogs welcome' sticker scheme for businesses. These stickers would indicate if dogs were welcome to come into the shop or business. The Town Clerk advised that this item would need to be discussed at the Tourism and Events Working Group as part of the business liaison activity.</p>	<p>Officers to follow up with Waverley Borough Council regarding proposed bin charges for the town.</p> <p>Bus Stop maintenance be progressed by officers.</p> <p>Officers draft designs for Christmas railing banners.</p> <p>Recommendation: It is recommended That the phone box on West Street be used as a 'culture box' and that the initial use be to celebrate Farnham's Sporting heroes in conjunction with the Farnham Sports Council.</p> <p>Item for T&E Working Group</p>
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The meeting ended at 11.30 am and it was agreed that the remaining items would be added to the agenda on 18th November.

8. Finance

POINTS	ACTION
This item was held over to the next meeting Thursday 18 th November.	

9. Famous Names Wall

POINTS	ACTION
This item was held over to the next meeting Thursday 18 th November.	

10. Trees

POINTS	ACTION
This item was held over to the next meeting Thursday 18 th November.	

11. Air quality

POINTS	ACTION
This item was held over to the next meeting Thursday 18 th November.	

12. Date of the next meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The date of next meeting was agreed as Thursday 18 th November at 9:30am	

Notes written by stacey.wills@farnham.gov.uk