



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL



Notes Community Enhancement Working Group

Time and date

9.30 am on Thursday 25th November, 2021

Place

Council Chamber - Town Council Offices

Attendees:

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

In attendance: Cllr 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, Cllr Wicks, Cllr Hesse and Cllr Merryweather.	

2. Quorum

POINTS	ACTION
Due to the lack of Working Group members present in the Council Chamber, the meeting was not quorate. However, the meeting went ahead and these notes are presented for information only.	

3. Disclosure of Interest

POINTS	ACTION
None received.	

4. Notes of the last meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The notes of the previous meeting were agreed.	

5. Farnham In Bloom

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Farnham Town Council officers updated members on the list of events for the year and introduced the idea of a 'Freshers Fair' for the community groups to attract new members and volunteers. This is planned for March.</p> <p>Members noted the possibility of changing the judging route for the Large Town entry for South and South East in Bloom to go through north Farnham and to include locations such as Badshot Lea and Upper Hale. Members agreed that it would require additional work by all the community to ensure the route looked its best and it would also need support from Surrey County Council and Waverley Borough Council. Officers wanted to make members aware that the results for South and South East in Bloom could drop by two places to a silver instead of the usual gold with a new route.</p> <p>Officers updated members that the cost for the mechanised bulb planting would be £3,000. The bulb planting would be started in December and take place near West Street Cemetery. Officers would look to seek sponsorship for this and will include it in the Invest in Farnham brochure.</p>	

6. Allotments

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Members noted that three plots were vacant and once the invoices go out in the New Year there were traditionally more plots that became vacant.</p> <p>Town Clerk advised that Witley Parish Council charged £50 admin fee for new plots holders and members could look to increase the current charge of £25. Officers would include this proposal in the budget planning meeting and look to increase the admin charge for 2022/23.</p> <p>Another proposed change was to change the time of year that the invoices go out from January to October. This would enable the movement in plots to happen before the growing season started. It was intended to invoice for six months from January 2022 and then invoice for a full year from October 2022.</p> <p>Councillor Dickson advised that Waverley Borough Council's Legal Team had written a letter to Nuffield Health with regards to the Weybourne Road Allotments access and were awaiting a response.</p>	

7. Street Furniture

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Officers updated members on using 'Welcome Back Fund' money to clean and refurbish the bus stops in the area alongside Waverley Borough Council contractors. Members felt it would be helpful to have a comprehensive list of the bus stops and the current state of them.</p>	

Members noted that officers had no additional information from Waverley Borough Council regarding the charging of street bin collections.	
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8. Robert Dyas Yard

POINTS	ACTION
Councillor Neale informed members that the Robert Dyas yard had recently been cleaned up. Town Clerk reminded members that Farnham Town Council could facilitate and lobby for improvements to the yard but that it is the responsibility of Waverley Borough Council and the landowner.	

9. Famous Names Wall

POINTS	ACTION
Members agreed that as the Gold 'cultural' box on West Street would be depicting Kylie Grimes Paralympic success, consideration would be deferred. The other nominations would be brought back for a future meeting after discussion with the families of the nominees.	

10. Finance

POINTS	ACTION
Members were asked to review the current finances and to see if they wanted to add in any additional budgets. The Town Clerk would include an additional sum in the draft budget for annual large bulb planting of £5,000.	

11. Risk Assessments

POINTS	ACTION
Officers would update the current risk assessments and circulate to members.	

12. Trees

POINTS	ACTION
Officers advised members that Surrey County Council were supplying 100 whips and 10 feathers which would be planted at West Street and Green Lane Cemeteries. The Working Group noted that tree planting at Riverside would take place in January and be part of The Queen's Green Canopy. This event would involve the Lord-Lieutenant, local schools and the Islamabad Community who had agreed to donate £8,000 towards the trees. Liquidambar Styraciflua and Betula Utilis Himalayan Birch trees would be planted to create an avenue.	

Members noted that they may wish to increase the annual tree budget to £6,000 at the budget meeting.	
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13. Air Quality

POINTS	ACTION
Members noted the Air Quality report provided by Waverley Borough Council.	

14. Date of the next meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The date of next meeting was agreed as Thursday 3 rd March 2022 at 9.30am.	

The meeting ended at 11.30 am

Notes written by ian.mccready@farnham.gov.uk