



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

B

Notes Community Enhancement Working Group

Time and date

9.30 am on Thursday 9th June, 2022

Place

Council Chamber - Farnham Town Hall

Attendees:

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

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
There were no apologies received.	

2. Disclosure of Interest

POINTS	ACTION
There were no disclosures of interest.	

3. Notes of the last meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The notes of the last Community Enhancement Working Group meeting held on the Thursday 3 rd March 2022 were agreed.	

4. Farnham In Bloom

POINTS	ACTION
1. Officers updated members on the work of the volunteers in making up 80% of the 250 hanging baskets and putting in over 800 hours of time to pot on plug plants, help with Bloomin' Kids workshops and	

<p>Schools Hanging basket making sessions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Members noted the upcoming dates and projects for 2022 including dates for judging for South and South East in Bloom and RHS Britain in Bloom. 3. Improvement works were also highlighted to members including the 12 sites that have had either new wildflower turf or updated sections, new benches, tree planting and the demolition of the old pavilion. Members also noted the range of measures introduced to increase biodiversity including bug hotels in West Street and Badshot Lea Cemeteries created by Men in Shed's group and grass left to grow for the month of May where possible to increase pollinating insects. Cllr Dunsmore is talking to the Co-op manager in Wrecclesham about the possibility of them funding a bench outside the shop with the Co-op Community Fund. 4. Officers updated members after it was agreed at Council for South and South East in Bloom Awards to be hosted in Farnham in partnership with Farnham Town Council. Sponsorship will also be provided by Patio Black Spot Removal Company and Graduate Landscapes. The event will be held at the Maltings and Officers are working with the Maltings on the arrangements and discussing catering options which may include a lunch for 400 at Gostrey Meadow. The Working Group noted the principle of supporting the event had been agreed by Council but proposed that a contribution of up to £2,000 be made for the hire of the Maltings for the event from the Community Initiatives budget. It was noted that positive economic benefits for the Town should accrue from the event. 	<p>Recommendation: To contribute up to £2,000 towards the costs of hosting the South and South East In Bloom Awards 2022.</p>
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5. Trees

POINTS	ACTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Surrey Street Trees project will continue again in the autumn and members showed an interest in accepting more trees. 2. Officers updated members on the issue of trees being planted at WBC's recreation grounds which had resulted in complaints from the public about the loss of play space. There had been no prior consultation on this matter and some of the trees were being destroyed by people who were frustrated at the loss of informal recreation space. WBC Councillors have been asked to raise this issue. 3. Members noted that whips had been potted on to mature in the nursery and officers were looking for recommendations of where to plant trees in the autumn. The Working Group agreed to plant more mature trees to extend the avenue at Riverside and to plant by the Co-op in Upper Hale. 	<p>Recommendation: To accept more Surrey Street trees which can be planted around Farnham and the surrounding areas</p> <p>Officers to action in the autumn.</p>

6. Allotments

POINTS	ACTION
Officers updated members on waiting lists and the latest Allotment Liaison Group meeting. Councillor Dickson had no update on the Weybourne Road Allotments. Councillor Dickson did suggest a new category for the Allotment Show - Best wildlife photo. The Allotment Show is taking place on Sunday 4 th September.	Officers to include a best Wildlife photo at the Allotment Show

7. Street Furniture

POINTS	ACTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Dickson requested a bench at Upper Hale by the chemist and dog groomer. Officers explained that a recycled bench would work well in this location. More benches located in Riverside would also be favourable – potentially as memorial benches. It was agreed to recommend that further Jubilee benches be placed in each ward after discussion with Ward Members. So 2. Monthly graffiti cleaning has taken place and Members were asked to consider a regular budget towards additional bus stop cleaning. Members were also made aware that some of the older vinyl wrapping needs to be updated as it has faded overtime. It was noted that the bus stop in Wrecclesham need refreshing/restaining. 3. Some railing banners will be updated or cleaned in time for judging. Officers made Members aware that a request has been made to have banners on the railing by the Maltings. Further to a request by a local group, the Working Group confirmed it did not want banners to be on these railings. 	<p>Recommendation An additional Jubilee benches be placed in each ward in consultation with ward members.</p> <p>Officers to progress.</p> <p>The Working Group decided that banners on the handmade railings at the Malting would not be acceptable</p>

8. Famous Names Wall

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Members noted that the outstanding Famous Names events are to be held on the following dates:</p> <p>21st July – Cyclist Russ Mantle 26th July – Michael Blower 6th September – Sir Ray Tindle CBE DL</p> <p>A nomination for Cyril Trust MBE was considered and it was agreed to discuss planting a tree in his memory with his family.</p> <p>It was noted a proposal for Kitty Milroy being added would be considered.</p>	Officers to pursue.

9. Date of the next meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 7 th September at 9.30am.	

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