

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 MINUTES

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2006 previously distributed.

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

To receive from members, in respect of any items included on the agenda for this meeting, disclosure of any personal or prejudicial interests in line with the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and gifts and hospitality in line with Government Legislation.

NOTES:

- (i) *Members are requested to make declarations of interest, preferably on the form previously emailed to all members, to be returned to janet.stanton@farnham.gov.uk by 12 noon on the day before the meeting. Alternatively, members are requested to make declarations of interest on the form attached to this agenda and to hand to the clerk before the start of the meeting.*
- (ii) *Members are reminded that any member of the Committee declaring a prejudicial interest is required to withdraw from the meeting unless he/she has obtained dispensation from the Standards Committee.*

4 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

The Chairman will invite members of the public present to indicate on which item if any, they would like to speak. At the discretion of the Chairman, those members of the public, residing or working within the Council's boundary, will be invited to speak forthwith in relation to the business to be transacted at the meeting for a maximum of 3 minutes per person or 15 minutes overall.

Part 1 – ITEMS FOR DECISION

5 CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

a) Additional Lights Christmas 2006

Members will recall that whilst considering a report on the Christmas Lights for 2005, the view was expressed that two additional trees in the Woolmead should be decorated and further decorative features should be introduced into Downing Street for Christmas 2006. It was also noted that the lights in the tree outside the Library were worn out.

The Council's Contractor has now supplied the following quotation.

Woolmead

To decorate the two deciduous trees, each with 2400 bulbs £1,472.90

Library

To decorate one tree with replacement lights – 2400 bulbs £ 736.45

Installation costs £ 982

Downing Street

It is proposed to install seven branch lights onto walls in Downing Street (subject to owners permission) on wall mounted decorative pots which stand away from the wall – illustrations will be available at the meeting.

- 2 at 4 Downing Street (GP's practice)
- 1 at Grant & Co
- 1 at Firefly Lighting
- 1 at Mulberry Silks
- 1 at Robert Dyas
- 1 at Dom and Ruby.

7 x light units at £221.23 each £1,548.61
Installation of units £417

b) Replacement Light Sets

Replacement lights for those vandalised during Christmas 2005 are required. The cost for this is £520

c) Colour Scheme

The colour scheme for Christmas 2005 was red/white. The Committee may wish to retain this colour or change it to blue/white or mauve/white. The instructions of the Committee are sought.

Financial implications

A total sum of £ 5,676.96 is required for the works described above. The sum can be met from any savings identified in the revenue budget or from within the earmarked reserves-New Equipment Fund.

Empowerment

Power to contribute to tourism – Local Government Act 1972 S144.

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) The lights in the Library tree be replaced and additional Christmas lights be installed in trees in the Woolmead at a cost of £ 3,191.35**
- b) That additional decorations be installed in Downing Street at a total cost of £ 1,965.61**
- c) That replacement lights be provided for those vandalised during Christmas 2005 at a total cost of £520**
- d) That costs be met from any savings identified in the revenue budget or from within the earmarked reserves-New Equipment Fund.**

6 BANDSTAND CONCERT

To consider a report seeking the Committee's instructions regarding any possible bandstand concert in the summer of 2006-copy attached at Appendix A

7 RESTORATION OF TOMBSTONES, ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Members will recall that the Committee's 2006/2007 Capital Programme includes the restoration of tombstones in St Andrew's Churchyard.

St Andrew's Churchyard lies at the heart of the Farnham Conservation Area. It is a very important part of the character of the historic town centre and is also a much valued green space. It is in a pivotal location and is a well used route across the town centre. Regrettably, a number of the historic stone tombs are in a poor state and need restoration. Their decrepit appearance has a detrimental effect on the appearance of the churchyard.

Work on the Farnham Conservation Area Appraisal identified the need to carry out enhancement schemes in the town centre and repairs were carried out to four tombs in the Spring 2004, using £8,000 contributed by Waverley Borough Council. The restoration was carried out to tombs near the footpath, close to the church door. This has been very successful and made a marked improvement to the appearance of the Churchyard. However, there is a number of remaining tombs that need repairs.

Financial Implications

A sum of £3,500 is held in the Committee's 2006/2007 capital budget.

Empowerment

Joint operations of cemeteries – Local Government Act 1972 S 214(6)

RECOMMENDATION

The sum of £3,500 be released to facilitate the continued programme of tombstone renovation at St. Andrew's Churchyard.

8 LIBRARY GARDENS – RE-SURFACING OF TENNIS COURT

Members will recall that the resurfacing of the tennis court in the Library Gardens was included in the list of projects to be started in 2006/2007.

Three quotations have been requested and two have been received. It is suggested that the lowest quotation from Surface Renovations, who have carried out a detailed survey of the site, in the sum of £1,440, be accepted.

Work can commence within two weeks from the placing of the order, the project will take three days to complete. The tennis court will be available for use four days later.

A notice of the arrangements will be posted at the tennis courts in advance.

Financial provision is made within the 2006/2007 Capital programme.
Empowerment: Power to provide recreational facilities – Local Government Act (Misc Prov) Act 1976.

RECOMMENDATION: That the quotation in the sum of £1,440 from Surface Renovations for the renovation of the surface of the tennis court at the Library Gardens ,be accepted.

9 CHRISTMAS 2006

To consider a report on the proposed arrangements for Christmas 2006-copy attached at Appendix B

10 BUS SHELTER INSTALLATION PROGRAMME

Members will recall that locations have been agreed for the first three bus shelter installations. Complications have arisen with regard to the site near the Jolly Farmer at Runfold which is firstly not a well-used stop and there could be resistance from adjacent residents.

So far as the site near Dollis Drive is concerned, there are continuing difficulties regarding establishing land ownership. It appears likely that the site remains in the ownership of the original developer. In order to avoid lengthy delays in commencing the installation programme, Members may wish to consider alternative sites or replacement of shelters at well-used stops where the existing shelters have become very dilapidated. Whilst these difficulties are unravelled and in order to prevent a further delay until the next meeting, it is suggested that the Committee may wish to delegate authority to the officers, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, to decide on alternative locations if that proves necessary

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee authorise the officers, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, to agree alternative sites for the installation of bus shelters, if that proves necessary and expedient.

11 FARNHAM IN BLOOM

Members will be pleased to note that work is well underway with preparations for the summer display. The 208 baskets and 158 assorted tubs and planters will be installed during the week commencing 28 May. Each basket and tub will contain slow release fertiliser and water retaining gel and most of the baskets are designed with a water reservoir.

This year's display is being sponsored by Burns and Webber (local estate agents). The company has taken a very proactive role in assisting with the schools hanging basket competition and have taken part in every session when schools have made up their baskets. A total of 11 schools have taken part making a total of 45 baskets. The school baskets are currently being nurtured in the poly tunnel and will be delivered to the schools for the children to look after during the week commencing 5 June. Every child who has taken part will receive a certificate confirming their involvement.

As members are aware there are currently concerns regarding water supplies. South East Water has indicated that they have made no application for a Drought Order. However, careful use of water is an issue that will concern members and the possibility of using 'grey' water for the tubs and baskets is

being researched with a local waste contractor. However, as there is a degree of uncertainty about the availability of a water supply for plants and flowers it is

RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, be authorised to take whatever action becomes necessary or expedient with regard to the watering of the Farnham in Bloom display and for any such action to be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.

12 HIDDEN BRITAIN

To consider a report on Hidden Britain funding arrangements – copy attached at Appendix B (1).

Part 2 – ITEMS FOR INFORMATION
(There will usually be no discussion on these items)

13 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/2006 – PROGRESS REPORT

To note progress on items in the 2005/2006 Capital Programme – Report attached at Appendix C

14 HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

The Committee will be pleased to note that Farnham Town Council, in partnership with the Farnham Society, has registered the following properties to take part in Heritage Open Days on 9 – 10 September 2006:

- SIAD
- Council Chamber
- Farnham Castle and the Norman Keep
- St Andrew’s Church and Cobbett’s Tomb
- Museum of Farnham
- 24 West Street
- Farnham Maltings (with Sir Ray Tindle’s Classic Cars on display in the car park on Sunday 10th September)
- Town Walk

15 HEALTHCHECK UPDATE

TO NOTE a report on the implementation of the Healthcheck Action Plan-copy attached at Appendix D

16 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

A meeting was held on 3 April 2006 between WBC and FTC officers, to agree the immediate course of action regarding the renovation and transfer of public conveniences. Farnham Town Council is still awaiting arrangements for a site visit and renovation proposals.

Part 3 – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

There are no confidential items.

17 ITEMS TO BE TABLED

None

18 PUBLICITY

To decide whether to issue a press release in relation to any item on the agenda and, if not the Chairman, which member should be quoted.

The Chairman will close the meeting.