



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

B

Notes Community Enhancement Working Group

Time and date

9.30 am on Thursday 10th June, 2021

Place

Council Chamber - Town Council Offices

Attendees:

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

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 Michaela Wicks.	

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. Farnham In Bloom

POINTS	ACTION
1. Officers outlined the list of upcoming events including the Bloomin' Litter Pick on Saturday 12 June. Members were updated on projects such as planters for Weyhill In Bloom, Lion and Lamb Yard maintenance contract, Hanging Basket making with Weydon School	

	<p>and helping with a courtyard garden at Farnham Heath End School. 30 volunteers have supported the team with planting and making up 250 hanging baskets.</p>
2.	<p>South and South East in Bloom are judging in person this year and the judging dates are as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Street Cemetery to be judged on the 7th July • Gostrey Meadow to be judged on the 13th July • Large Town to be judged on the 13th July • Town Centre to be judged on the 15th July • Badshot Lea Cemetery to be judged on the 15th July <p>The Town Clerk asked Councillors to be available to meet the judges at the start and the end of the judging tour as time is very restricted. There would also be an informal reception at the Town Hall planned for after the tour, although social distancing requirements meant limited numbers. Councillors were also reminded that their help would be needed to help clean up the town before judging.</p> <p>Cllr Martin asked her business contacts if they wanted to sponsor a hanging basket and asked officers to follow up any leads.</p>
3.	<p>The Working Group were updated on the RHS Community Awards. The deadline is 25th July. Farnham is the only town in Surrey which has been nominated and Farnham is entering the following three categories:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting with purpose • Nature-friendly gardening • Cultivating your community

5. Farnham Biodiversity Action Plan

POINTS	ACTION
<p>The Business and Facilities Manager advised that a draft policy had been prepared for consideration. There were several items that need some clarification and amending as they included items which were beyond the powers of the Town Council. This document would therefore go to a Strategy and Finance meeting for additional comments.</p>	

6. Green Flag

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Officers explain that now the Green Flag - 10 year management plan had been submitted and a date for judging Gostrey Meadow was awaited. Cllr Neale advised that there were a few issues with the document and officers reassured him that the document could be amended and added to every year.</p>	<p>Officers to bring designs of new information boards for Gostrey Meadow to the next meeting.</p>

Councillors asked about the old information signs. Officers were working on designs and mock-ups of the information boards to the next Community Enhancement Working Group in September. Officers confirmed that some work had already taken place in Gostrey Meadow for example some resurfacing work, some improvements to the play area and replacement bins with waste and recycling sections. The possible pedestrian crossing on South Street would be looked at under the Farnham Infrastructure Programme. The proposed Café project with Ridgeway School was being covered by the Assets Task Group and was currently awaiting additional architectural drawings on the suggested new location.

7. Allotments

POINTS	ACTION
<p>Members noted that there were currently 12 vacancies, with 7 people still to pay and 84 people on the waiting list. The delay in handing over of the ownership and management of Weybourne Road Allotments from Waverley Borough Council was discussed and Councillor Dickson agreed to raise this with Waverley Borough Council.</p>	<p>Councillor Dickson to contact Waverley Borough Council regarding Weybourne Road Allotment transfer.</p>

8. Street Furniture

POINTS	ACTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There were no requests for new items. 2. Members noted that there had been an increase in graffiti across the town and that the Police were aware of a particular individual. Officers explained that once a month an external graffiti removal company clean up graffiti that is on Farnham Town Council's land. This company would also do some extra days before Farnham in Bloom judging. Members agreed to contact Waverley Borough Council about their graffiti removal policy on their land. 3. Members noted that cleaning of bus stops would be done before judging. 4. Officers explained that new banners (a summer and a winter set) were being produced for the railings. 5. Councillor Earwaker reported that Plastic Free Farnham attended the Sustainability Fair in May where they talked to local businesses and residents about supporting the Plastic Free Initiative. 6. The Town Clerk, in response to a list of items raised by Cllr Hesse, advised that dual-hatted councillors should raise these matters through Waverley Borough Council where the items were the Borough Council's responsibility. It would be wrong for the Town Council, with its scarce resource, to take on expenditure relating to other Principal authority responsibilities. He further advised that matters requiring attention on FTC land would be added to a list for action, and prioritised if a health and safety matter 	<p>Councillor Dickson to contact Waverley Borough Council regarding their Graffiti policy.</p>

9. Date of the next meeting

POINTS	ACTION
The date of the next meeting was agreed as 23 September 2021 at 9.30am.	

The meeting ended at 11.10 am

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