

# **FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**

The Pump House, 5 Market Place FARINGDON, Oxfordshire,  
SN7 7HL Telephone 01367 240281 [www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)  
Clerk: Sally Thurston



<b>Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 30th September 2020 via Teams virtual conference</b>	
<b>1/1/20</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllr. Castle
<b>2/1/20</b> <b>Roll call:</b>	<b>Bethia Thomas (Chair)</b> Lucy Martin Kimberly Morgan Stephen Smith Liz Swallow Mike Wise
<b>In attendance:</b>	<b>Carole Gough, The Place (left after min. 7/1/20)</b> <b>Sally Thurston, Town Clerk</b>
Min no: Item/meeting/year	<b>Marzia Sellitti, Deputy Town Clerk</b> <b>Joanne King, Town Clerks Assistant</b>
<b>3/1/20</b>	<b>Minutes of last meeting – Wednesday 5th February 2020</b> Signed as a correct record.
<b>4/1/20</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Cllr. Wise and Cllr. Thomas declared an interest in item 6, as members of the Twinning Association.
<b>5/1/20</b>	<b>Public Question and Speaking Time</b> None. It was NOTED that for future meetings links will be published to allow public participation. Members of the public, who are not familiar with online meetings, will be able to submit written requests to the council as usual.
<b>6/1/20</b>	<b>Partnerships Update</b> a) Members NOTED a report of current partnerships with external agencies in Faringdon and received a partnership list. Members were asked to inform the Clerk if any partnerships had been missed. The list would be used to invite partners to future meetings. It was also NOTED that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faringdon Community College has been approached regarding having 2 students as co-opted representatives on Faringdon Town Council</li> <li>• No further discussion has taken place regarding twinning expansion due to the Coronavirus outbreak. Dates for twinning visits in 2021 were under discussion.</li> </ul>
<b>7/1/20</b>	<b>The Place</b> Members received and NOTED a progress report on The Place.  The report highlighted that the move to the Corn Exchange had gone smoothly and that groups would hopefully start in late October and four new volunteers joined the place. Members thanked staff and volunteers for their work. The Town Clerk was thanked for her work in making the move possible.  Members also NOTED that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions were being held with Oxfordshire learning Hub about the possibility of a project in Faringdon. Members would be updated at the next meeting.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An expansion of the clothes library was being investigated. It was hoped that this could be extended into an office in the Corn Exchange and this would be taken to the Facilities Committee for consideration.</li> </ul>
8/1/20	<p><b>Precept 2021/22</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members NOTED a financial report for 2020/21.</li> <li>It was PROPOSED that the DRAFT budget provided be put forward. This gave an expenditure budget of £ 16,495. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED</li> <li>Members considered a capital expenditure projects for 2021/22. It was PROPOSED and AGREED to defer this decision to December 2020.</li> </ol>
9/1/20	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members received an update on recent community engagement. With Councillors surgeries being temporarily stopped for Covid-19. It was NOTED that informal engagement with the community has carried on with residents.</li> <li>Members NOTED that a new public consultation will be taking place to gather the public opinion on how they envisage Faringdon in Future. This initiative will be supported by Community First Oxfordshire. Councillors suggestions shall be sent to the clerk and a draft survey considered at the next meeting.</li> <li>Members received and considered a recommendation to trial the monthly distribution of the Faringdon Town Council newsletter as a two-page spread in The Advertiser. It was discussed that the new method of distribution aimed to reach members of the community who are not online. It was PROPOSED to pilot this method from November 2020 and March 2021, when it will be reviewed. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</li> </ol>
10/1/20	<p><b>Community Cinema</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members RECEIVED and NOTED an update on the community cinema. It was NOTED that due to COVID restrictions the cinema is currently closed. A cinema session The PLACE is currently being investigated and risk assessed.</li> <li>Members NOTED that an investigation regarding a drive- in cinema in Faringdon was carried out but resulted to be financially and environmentally an inviable project.</li> </ol>
11/1/20	<p><b>Safer Streets Partnerships</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members NOTED that an update on closing streets to play will be given at the next meeting. It was felt that that this should be a community led project.</li> <li>Members considered developing a partnership with schools in Faringdon aiming at making streets safer. It was PROPOSED to bring this matter to Full Council to nominate a representative to investigate this further. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</li> </ol>
12/1/20	<p><b>Food Bank</b></p> <p>Members NOTED an update on the Food Bank. The report highlighted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Food Bank is being operated by Town Council until coronavirus restrictions are lifted</li> <li>157 single adults and 54 families had been supported during the pandemic.</li> </ul>
13/1/20	<p><b>Community Fridge</b></p> <p>Members considered possibilities for a community fridge in Faringdon. Members NOTED a similar service running in Wantage mix, conveying that</p>

	<p>this should be a community led project. It was PROPOSED to appoint Cllr. Smith to investigate this project further. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</p>
14/1/20	<p><b>Youth Grants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Members RECEIVED and NOTED an update from One Small Step. The final video productions of Animation Station will be shared on the council website and social media.</li> <li>b) Members considered a new grant process for 2020.21. It was PROPOSED to set the following dates for application submissions: 25th November 2020 and 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</li> <li>c) Members NOTED a list of youth organisations in Faringdon. Members congratulated the staff for compiling a comprehensive list useful to all residents who wish to know all services available in town.</li> </ul>
15/1/20	<p><b>Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust</b></p> <p>It was PROPOSED to appoint Cllr. Swallow to be champion for developing partnerships to develop and protect wildlife sites in Faringdon. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</p>
16/1/20	<p><b>Portway Underpass</b></p> <p>A proposal from VWHDC for repainting the mural was NOTED. Members felt that consultation with the community was essential, particularly the houses surrounding the underpass who should be informed via a leaflet drop. It was AGREED that the Clerk liaise with the Arts Officer at the Vale to request that the community are fully consulted.</p>
17/1/20	<p><b>Community Warden Schemes</b></p> <p>Many parish and town councils have footpath and snow warden to coordinate the upkeep of public paths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was PROPOSED to set up a footpath and snow warden scheme. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</li> <li>• It was PROPOSED to appoint Cllrs. Martin and Thomas as footpath wardens. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</li> <li>• It was PROPOSED to appoint Cllr. Martin and Swallow as snow wardens. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</li> </ul>
18/1/20	<p><b>Items for Information Only (to follow)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members NOTED a PRIDE financial report, with thanks to Cllr. Burns</li> <li>• Members were informed that it had been incorrectly stated on social media that the council raised the hiring rates in the Corn Exchange leading to the country market to cease their activity. This was addressed with the country market and clarified there was no price increase.</li> </ul>
19/1/20	<p><b>To consider agenda items for the next meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To bring to the Finance committee a recommendation to suspend annual grants deadline</li> <li>• To review a list of future events and likelihood of these.</li> <li>• To discuss closing streets for play</li> </ul>

Meeting closed 21:07