





## Sally's Summary

This regular feature will include a round up from the meetings over the month. Full minutes are available on our website.

### Community and Partnerships 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

The Community and Partnerships Committee deals with issues that are important to the community and works with partners towards making life in Faringdon better. If you would like to raise anything, please get in touch. The meeting covered many items, here are the highlights:

- The unspent events fund of £2650 from 2020.21 will be earmarked for use on CV-19 recovery events in 2021 and 2022
- Unspent youth grant funds will be earmarked for next year. If your youth group would like to apply for up to £2000 contact [sally@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sally@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)
- If the 2021 outdoor cinema cannot go ahead, due to CV-19, the committee will consider two outdoor cinemas in 2022
- Saturday markets will now be held weekly due to requests from the community.
- The Town Council will support Earth and Faith in their tree planting project. 
- Volunteers will return to run the foodbank in June. The generosity of the public and businesses throughout the pandemic has been staggering. Thank you!
- A community larder in conjunction with SOFEA and The Place is being investigated. Keep an eye out for updates coming soon.
- A Play Day organised in partnership with Oxfordshire Play Association will be held at Tuckers Park on 6<sup>th</sup> August 11am to 3pm, CV-19 restrictions allowing.
- A recommendation was made to council that funds be allocated to a new junior youth club (years 7 to 9) facilitated by Oxfordshire Play Association.
- Community snow and footpath schemes are now up and running. If you would like to volunteer contact [marzia@farindgontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:marzia@farindgontowncouncil.gov.uk)
- The rubbish in the Hobble was discussed as a problem. A new bespoke recycling bin will be installed in the summer and local businesses will be contacted.
- A litter pick will be coming soon – please watch this space!
- A dog poo campaign will be launched in conjunction with the district council. 
- An outdoor fitness project will be launched in May in the Town Park, with a variety of sessions on a Saturday morning. Please see our website for details.

### Planning and Highways 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021



The planning committee considered 10 applications. Please see our website for full details.

## Full Council 14th April 2021


The full council takes an overall view of council business and receives and considers all the actions from the various committees and working parties.



At the start of the meeting Town Mayor, Cllr. Wise, led the tribute to HRH Prince Philip.

Cllr. Wise then led a tribute to Roger Cox, who sadly passed away last month. Roger was a true pillar of the community; always well respected, imposing in stature and in his outstanding contribution to the town and to the Vale of White Horse through his many years as both Town and District Councillor. He will be sadly missed. The Town Council extend their sympathies and thoughts to his family.

One minute's silence was observed.

- County Councillor Judith Heathcoat is retiring in May. On behalf of the council, Cllr. Wise thanked her for her many years of service to the people of Faringdon and wished her well in her retirement.
- Government legislation brought in during the pandemic ends on 6/5/2021. This means the council will no longer be allowed to hold online meetings if this is not changed by government. The following was therefore agreed:
  - Online Town meeting to be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm
  - Full Council to be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June face-to-face in the Corn Exchange with limited numbers.
  - Planning and Highways to be held as a discussion meeting online on 26<sup>th</sup> May – response to planning applications to be delegated to the Deputy Town Clerk.
  - Strategic Working Party and Trust meetings to be held online.
  - Normal face to face meetings to resume from 21<sup>st</sup> June.
- The Solar Streets project will receive support – more details at the Town Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May.
- A street naming policy was rejected. The policy will be redrafted to include: *'streets should be named from the war memorial except in exceptional circumstances'*
- £5,000 was allocated to the new junior youth club planned by Oxfordshire Play Association – further details about the club will be available shortly. 

## Good news - Old Town Hall

Old Town Hall renovation will begin on 26<sup>th</sup> April. Works will continue until August. This will include full refurbishment inside and out, with repainting and a new lift. A grant of £66,050 was received from FCC Communities Foundation, a



not-for-profit business that awards grants for community through the Landfill Communities Fund.

The remaining funds came from s106 developer contributions, the Faringdon War Memorial Trust and the Town Council.



The bus lane will be closed from 21<sup>st</sup> June to 13<sup>th</sup> August – please keep an eye on our website for further details. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused during this period.

## Saturday Market NOW WEEKLY

- Join us for our weekly Saturday Market from 10am to 1pm in the Market Place. To book a stall please contact:



Liz@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

## Faringdon Nature Action Group



It's May already and Spring has sprung! We have had several very cold snaps these last few weeks, but wildlife is waking from hibernation and attempting to carry on regardless. How about a *No Mow May*? If

you do not cut your grass it results in 10x more nectar for bees and other pollinators. Grass cut every 4 weeks produces the most nectar producing flowers. For trees and birds, the Woodland Trust has highlighted the plight of the blue tit. It only has one chance to raise a family each spring, and for a bird that may only live for 3 years, each of these needs to count. Unlike other garden birds, blue tits raise just a single brood of chicks each spring, carefully timing the hatching of their eggs to the bud burst of trees and the explosion of caterpillar prey that comes with it. Later in the year, in coalition with local groups, we are looking to promote a tree planting project for wildlife and biodiversity. If you would like to get involved, please contact [cllr.swallow@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.swallow@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk). Above all enjoy the outdoors, go for a walk, and reconnect with our great local natural assets.

## Faringdon Information Centre

Has reopened its doors again, do pop in to have look at our maps, guidebooks,

Faringdon souvenirs, cards by local artists, pottery and much more. Pick up one of our newly printed walk leaflets or just stop by to ask one of our friendly team a question about Faringdon.



We are currently open from 9 am to 12:30pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am to 1pm on Saturdays.

## Councillor Profile - Cllr. Stephen Smith

I am the National Officer for Managers In Partnership, representing senior NHS managers across south central England and in London. I am a member of Faringdon United Church, the Vale of White Horse Masonic Lodge, a volunteer at Homeless Oxfordshire and an active trade unionist and Labour Party member. I aim to play a full and active role in the community



I have chosen to make my home and I am grateful for the opportunity to give something back. I hope to bring experience of private, voluntary and public sector work to the council table. I strongly believe that active and engaged citizens in close contact with their elected representatives is the best way of ensuring the voice of Faringdon residents is heard and acted upon.

[Cllr.smith@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.smith@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Meetings in May

Town Meeting - 5<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm  
Planning and Highways - 26<sup>th</sup> May at 7.15pm  
Please join us via Microsoft Teams, details, agendas and links are available on our website.  
Annual meeting of Full Council - 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.15pm in the Corn Exchange.

Contact [office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk) 01367 240281  
[www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)