



**Sally's Summary**

**A busy month of meetings with lots going on!**

**Community and Partnerships - 29<sup>th</sup> September**

A draft budget was set at £19,700. The purchase of a maypole and flagpole will be investigated by Cllr. Bentley Partnership updates were received from Faringdon Food Bank, Earth and Faith Tree Planting scheme, Community learning Hub and Folly Fest.

Due to the rise in CV-19 a reduced parade will be held for **Remembrance Day on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021** from 10.30am convening for an act of remembrance at the War Memorial at 10.45am.

Suggested future events were put forward and will be investigated including a May Day event, catch the pigeon Boxing Day event and community litter picks

**Queens Platinum Jubilee** – a working party was set up to organise events. Anyone wishing to be involved should contact [adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

**Christmas Lights Switch on** – to be held 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Sadly, Rotary cannot run the event this year. FTC will organise an event focusing on children's crafts, Christmas Music and local business. Faringdon Rotary will help with marshalling and Thomas the Tank Engine.

**Community Larder** – Now up and running every Tuesday in the Corn Exchange 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Please come along to find out more!



**Facilities Committee meeting - 6<sup>th</sup> October**

**Draft budget** figures were set for the Corn Exchange, Pump House and Recreation and Open Space Capital Expenditure in 2022/23 could include energy saving measures for all venues. A bandstand would also be investigated.

**Facility Reports** for all town council operations were received.

**Christmas Lights 2021** – A big thank you to Perry Bishop who will sponsor all the small Christmas Trees and to Leaders who will sponsor the large one. Thanks also to Rotary who will source and install the trees. FTC will install and pay for all the lights as usual.



Work suggested in a **tree survey** on FTC owned trees was approved.

It was agreed to purchase a tree to plant as part of the **Faringdon Branches Out** project. A £200 grant would be given to the Friends of the Wilderness to plant an appropriate tree. Any residents who would like to be involved in this project can find out more from the Information Center or Mustard seed.

**Climate Change** - the Facilities Manager will work through all recommendations from a recent energy saving audit and bring feasible projects should be brought to the next meeting.

**Highworth Layby Sign** – Cllr. Webb will work with the Clerk to replace this sign.

**Eagles Park** – a licence to operate this park was signed. This will hopefully become a Boules Park in Spring 2022.

**The Wilderness** – The Friends of the Wilderness, consisting of volunteers, has now been set up and will manage the area in partnership with FTC. Anyone wishing to join the group should email [office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk) and their details will be forwarded.

**Town Council -11th October 2021**

A motion proposing that Faringdon Town Council declares its support for The United Nations Treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons was considered. It was AGREED that this motion should be considered at the Town Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> November in the Corn Exchange at 7pm to allow members of the public to be involved.

District Cllr. Grant was asked about the state of the **car park at Folly Park**. He agreed to make enquiries about the adoption of Folly Park View and the car park to enable it to be repaired and maintained.

**Faringdon Town Centre Pavements** – the town council are very disappointed to learn that the pavements in the Town Centre will not be refurbished until 2022. The Town Council feel the state of the town centre pavements are dangerous and noted that there had been several falls.

Residents are encouraged to report all defects and accidents to Oxfordshire County Council via Fix my Street. Cllr. Thomas would be asked why the works were un-budgeted and why. The Clerk will write to Oxfordshire County Council to express disappointment and concern highlighting the urgency of the work.

**Faringdon Folk Festival 9<sup>th</sup> October**

Congratulations were made to Folk Weekend Oxford There was Morris dancing, folk music at the Bell, a beautiful floral display under the Old Town Hall by local florists Go Tell the Bees, Jem's Complete Care and our Town Mayor Kiera Bentley.



**Grants Sub Committee on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Cllr. Finn was elected as Chair of the Grants Sub Committee. The following grants were awarded:

- Root and Branch £1,800,
- Pump House Project £1800 .
- Vale Community Impact £2000
- Faringdon Pharmacy £150 painting bursary

### **Finance and Audit Committee Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

The conclusion of external audit 2020.21 was received and the Clerk was congratulated on another clean audit.

Legal fees to progress the purchase of the former Volunteer Inn were approved.

It was agreed to purchase equipment to allow meetings to be accessed virtually and to be broadcast live.

Remembrance Artwork will be purchased

Repairs and improvements to Christmas lights' infrastructure will be undertaken.

The first round of budget setting took place giving an early draft figure of £458,766.

**Come to our Town Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 at 7pm in the Corn Exchange to find out more!**

### **Artist of the Month for November 2021**



Faringdon Information centre is pleased to welcome Teresa Mackenzie lived in this area all her life and over the years has tried a variety of crafts. She likes to try new handicrafts as well as returning to ones she has enjoyed in the past. Her favourite is making jewellery, not only stringing necklaces and making up earrings, etc., but making the

beads that make up these pieces. This involves hand rolling each bead, decorating and baking them and then varnishing each one. Another favourite is Redwork embroidery, usually in the form of Christmas decorations. She also enjoys sewing, making small gifts such as lavender bags, make-up bags, card purses, etc. Come along to the Faringdon Information Centre during November to see Teresa's beautiful, handcrafted jewellery and gifts.

### **Christmas is Coming!**

**Cards for Good Causes** -A fantastic range of Charity

Christmas Cards will go on sale. A large percentage from the cards goes directly to the charity. Come and have a browse!

Opening hours Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm and 9:30am to 1pm on Saturdays.

### **Christmas Light Trail**

Decorate your home or business with a Christmas Light display and be a part of our fun Christmas trail. For more information and how to take part please email: [adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)



**Light Switch On** A smaller event than usual this year with a focus on local businesses and community groups. Join us on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November. Santa's Grotto in The Place from 2:30pm Children's Craft sessions in the Corn Exchange and music in the Market Place from 4pm. Light Switch on at 5pm

Any local businesses or groups that would like to be involved please contact

[adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

### **Faringdon Christmas Market**

We are so looking for forward to our Christmas Market held in the Market Place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December from 10am to 1pm. Stalls, music and Christmas fun!

To book a stall email [Liz@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Liz@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)



### **Councillor Profile Cllr. Peter Castle**

I retired some 6 years ago after almost 50 years as an Environmental Health Officer working mainly in local authorities from the Vale of White Horse to Kensington and Chelsea. I moved to Faringdon to be close to my two daughters and their children.



I undertake voluntary work with Oxfordshire's Youth Justice Service both as a referral panel member and acting as an appropriate adult at Abingdon Police station on a Rota. I was encouraged to put myself forward for election to the Town Council by my daughters and had the privilege of being elected.

My focus is both on the environment in its broadest sense and on stimulating the town centre to be a vibrant hub not only of some retail shops but especially of places for eating and drinking and general social interaction which I believe is the way to proceed. I live in the town and have enjoyed my time here and working with the other Councillors to try and improve life for all inhabitants of Faringdon.

### **November 2021 Meetings**

1st November Full Council, 17<sup>th</sup> November Community and Partnerships, 24<sup>th</sup> November Planning and Highways, 1<sup>st</sup> Dec Facilities. These meetings will be held in the Jubilee Room in the Pump House and start at 7.15pm.

**22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 TOWN MEETING to discuss budgets, parking, prohibition of nuclear weapons and more!**  
Corn Exchange. 7pm All Welcome.