



## Sally's Summary - Your Town Clerk, Sally

Thurston, summarises this month's meetings below. Full meeting minutes are available on our website.

### Planning and Highways 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

A resident raised concern about the dangers of **crossing the A420** at the end of Fernham Road and concern over the potential unsuitability of the proposed refuge which is intended to make crossing the road safer. This concern will be forwarded to the Highway Authority via the Faringdon Traffic Advisory Meeting. The Town Council remain concerned about A420 safety and urge members of public who are worried about this issue to contact us by email [office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk) and we will forward your concerns.

### Town Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

The annual town meeting took place in the Jubilee Room and online. The council, local groups and grant recipients gave reports. A recording of the meeting and the reports are available on our website.

### The Trusts 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

**Faringdon War Memorial Trust**- Cllr. Ford was elected as Chair and Cllr. Norris as Vice Chair.

Faringdon Whist Drive Club were awarded a hire subsidy.

**Tucker Recreation Ground Trust** - Cllr. Wild be elected as Chair and Cllr. Norris was elected as Vice Chair.

### Community and Partnerships 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Cllr. Farmer was elected as **Vice Chair**.

**Faringdon Play Day** will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> August. FTC will have a Geology sandpit activity and councillors will be available for people to talk to and ask questions.

A report on the successful Coronation celebration events was received with thanks. The community were thanked for their role in creating bunting throughout the town centre.

The **Community Larder** is a success in terms of reduction in food waste and value for money for members.

**Community Cinema** remains a success and a benefit to the community.

### Facilities 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Cllr. Palmer was elected as **Vice Chair**.

A recommendation will be made to the Finance and Audit committee to fund an architect to manage and cost **Portwell Pump** renovations.

Two self-watering **planters** have been purchased from £106 funding. A relocation proposal for all town centre planters was accepted, in the hope this will improve the look and feel of the town. Permission from OCC must now be sought.

Improvements to **Town Park** (behind the library) will be investigated and grants explored. If you have any ideas please contact [sarah@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sarah@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

New fixed noticeboards with QR codes will be installed throughout the town.

It was agreed to investigate the sale of the telephone box in Canada Lane. Anyone interested should contact [sarah@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sarah@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

### Full Council 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

A local resident spoke for 3 minutes regarding their objections to a planning application that may be made on the **Wicklesham Quarry site** in the future. Which was noted. The following update on current projects was given:

1. £5,000 of £106 monies have been released to pay for the research and development stage of the bench project. This will pay for a lead artist to project manage. The Town Centre Regeneration Working Party will support the clerk in delivering this project.
2. The tourist bus route has been finalised and the next stage is to get the route approved, hopefully in readiness for the Summer Holidays.
3. The Food Bank has successfully relocated to a larger room.
4. Footpath by Fernham Road and ransom strip. FTC can buy the strip of land for £1 and then apply for a right-of-way order with Oxfordshire County Council to lay a footpath. There may be some legal fees to pay.

The **Annual Accounts for 2022.23** were approved. Members of public who wish to view the account can do so by contacting [sally@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sally@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

A request from The Old Crown Coaching Inn to support **tables on the apron outside the Old Town Hall** which could be used by all town centre businesses. It was agreed that the clerk research current by-laws and should liaise with the Crown to obtain more information on their proposal.

### Faringdon War Memorial Exhibition 2023

The War Memorial Trust and the Royal British Legion will be holding an exhibition of war time memorabilia in the Old Town Hall to reflect on the impact that wars have made on local families.

If you have any memorabilia, items, stories, photographs or any documents from World War I, World War II, or any other conflict that you would like to share, or if you would like to volunteer to man the exhibition, please email [adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

Any precious items that you may think to be too valuable to exhibit can be photocopied and the Trust will take care to return original items to their owners. The exhibition will be open to the public from 10:00 am until 3:00pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November, and after the Remembrance Day ceremony on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> until 1:00pm



### Königstein Twinning

Faringdon is excited to be hosting visitors from our new twin town, Königstein im Taunus, from Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June to Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. The visit will see the twinning agreement signed at a special ceremony in the Corn Exchange on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

If you are interested in getting involved in future visits or events, please email: [konigsteinfaringdon@gmail.com](mailto:konigsteinfaringdon@gmail.com)

**A note from Faringdon's New Mayor - Cllr. Peter Castle**

In my role as Mayor, I would hope to work with the Council to reinvigorate the Town Centre by trying to

- a) Stimulate the Tuesday market.
- b) Sponsor and encourage social events like FollyFest
- c) Encourage bars/cafes/pubs.
- d) Encourage any other retail businesses.



The above are not under the town council's control so I do not underestimate the difficulty in achieving this. It is a medium to long term project and will only succeed with the support of not only the Council but the residents of Faringdon.

I also hope to try and sponsor/encourage more facilities for younger people, we already sponsor several activities, but this needs to go further.

As an Environmental Health Officer, albeit retired, I am fully committed to the climate change agenda, and to try to achieve eradication of single use plastics in commercial premises. FollyFest made a great start, using reusable cups, in 2022! Encouraging and supporting the development of the wilderness project together with the planting of new trees will also aid this goal.

The Place and the Pump House Project will also be priorities for me.

**July Artist of the month**

Faringdon Information Centre is excited to welcome two Oxfordshire artists, Kathryn & Nicola Dyche, for the month of July. Kathryn is a Ceramic Artist whose work encompasses wheel thrown and hand-built sculpture influenced by a love of texture, natural objects and organic forms. *Created with stoneware clay, all works are fired in an electric kiln.* [www.instagram.com/dyche ceramics](http://www.instagram.com/dyche ceramics)

Nicola is a self-taught Mixed Media Artist working in oils, acrylics pastels, ink and found objects. Her body of work includes portraits, landscapes and reimagined pieces. [www.instagram.com/nicoladyche](http://www.instagram.com/nicoladyche)

To see this collection of ceramics and paintings by local sisters, and members of the Faringdon Art Society, visit the **Faringdon Information Centre, open 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 1pm on Saturday.**



**Poster Challenge**

Design a "No smoking poster".

We want to stop smoking in our playgrounds, please design a poster to promote smoke free areas!

Open to Primary school aged children. Posters need to be colourful and include #SmokefreeOxon. Simply email [adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk) with your poster design.



**Town Council meetings – all are welcome!**

Residents are invited to all our meetings – you can join remotely online or attend in person. Meetings start at 7pm. Links to attend meetings are on our website:

**[www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)**

Dates for upcoming council meetings are as follows:

Full Council	10 <sup>th</sup> July
Planning and Highways	24 <sup>th</sup> July
Finance and Audit	17 <sup>th</sup> July
Grants Sub Committee	17 <sup>th</sup> July
Planning and Highways	21 <sup>st</sup> August

Contact:

[office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk) 01367 240281

[www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)