

## Sally's Summary - Your Town Clerk

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

### Community and Partnerships - 4th September

The committee were sad to learn Carole Gough is leaving her post as Co-Ordinator at **The Place**. Carole was thanked for all her wonderful hard work during her time there.

A **draft revenue budget** of £23,005 for 24.25 was agreed. Councillors will soon be available to meet residents once a quarter at a Tuesday market and on a Saturday morning. New **signs** have been approved for all **bus shelters** which will have a QR code linking to the FTC website.

8 new **artworks** are being installed on **bollards** in the Market Place in October.

### Town Council - 11th September

Further concerned resident letters about **A420 safety** were received. All the concerns will be passed to Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) as the highway's authority.

Objections to a **licence application** to have **street traders outside the Swan Public House** were received. The Planning and Highways Committee will consider a response to the licensing authority - Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC) at their meeting on 25th September 2023.

**Broadband** has now been installed in the **Old Town Hall** following a grant from OCC and will be available free of charge in a few weeks to hirers of the facility.

A report on the upsurge in Anti-Social Behaviour in Faringdon was received. Successful measures have been taken to reduce incidents. The neighbourhood police team were thanked for their efforts.

**Faringdon Tourist Bus** - the new service has been a very well received project. A meeting will be called once all the data for the project has been received, to determine the next steps for the bus and consider extending the pilot scheme.

#### **Amenity Land in Faringdon:**

- **The FAZE site** which will likely be declared as surplus by OCC and sold. If this happens FTC will consider all options.
- **The Infant School site** which will become a special educational needs and disability (SEND) School.
- Several options were being investigated to site a **multi-use games area**. It was noted that land was available for sale on **London Street**. The clerk will do a feasibility study on the purchase for community use. **NB this land has now been sold to a private buyer.**

Members considered a recent decision by the **dental practice in Faringdon to cease NHS provision**. The clerk will write a letter to the practice and the local MP, David Johnston, to express disappointment and concern about this decision.

The rise of numbers at **Faringdon medical practice** was discussed. The chair explained that he regularly received complaints from residents regarding difficulties in getting appointments.

**Wessex Leisure Developer Funding** – The council considered notes of a meeting with VoWHDC to discuss reallocation of funds allocated to a leisure centre in Wantage, which will no longer go ahead. The clerk will continue to investigate possibilities for the use of this money and report suggestions and findings to the council so they can be put forward to VoWHDC who are the responsible body.

### Facilities Committee - 18th September

A trainee Forest School tutor was given permission to run six sessions of **Forest School in the Wilderness** starting late September.

**New LED lighting in the Corn Exchange** has been completed. Contractors continue to use the **Highworth Road layby**, without permission, preventing people from parking there for the view, causing significant wear and tear to the surface and creating extra work for the FTC maintenance team.

New town centre **planters** and re-located planters will be planted up for the autumn in October.

Solar panels on the roof of the old theatre at the Pump House will be investigated and quotes obtained.

The installation of a **defibrillator** will be investigated in the **Old Telephone Box on Canada Lane**

### Town Meeting 6th November-Calling local businesses!

FTC hold a town meeting in November to discuss the budget for the coming year.

This year we would also like to invite the businesses in Faringdon to come along to tell the council about any issues and ideas for improving the economic health of our town.

The meeting will be held in the Jubilee Room at the town council office and start at 7.30pm. The meeting will be held both online and in person. All residents of Faringdon are welcome. Please email [office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk) for more details.

### Town Council meetings – all are welcome!

Residents are invited to all our meetings – you can join remotely online or attend in person. Details and links are on our website: [www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

Dates for upcoming council meetings are as follows:

Trusts	October 2nd
Full Council	October 9th
Planning and Highways	October 23rd
Finance and Audit Committee	October 30th
Town Meeting	November 6th

### Charity Christmas Cards ARE HERE!

Charity christmas cards have landed in the Information Centre. We have a massive range from many different charities. Please pop in and have a browse. Mon Fri 9am to 4pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm in the town council office.



**Town Clerk Graduates!**

Sally Thurston, our Town Clerk, has graduated with a Masters in Public Leadership, with distinction.

Sally completed the two year programme which has been developed specifically for local council officers. The course was validated by De Montfort University and included modules that studied collaboration, engagement, public services, leadership and policy development.



**October Artist of the Month**

Fresh from his very successful showing at the recent Art Society Exhibition, Faringdon Information Centre is delighted to welcome Faringdon Artist, Peter Wheeler, as October's Artist of the Month.



Central to this year's additions to his collection of Winter themed cards, is a challenging commission for a painting of the famous Faringdon Christmas House. Chris and George

Platt have been decorating their house and front garden with wonderful lights and displays for over 20 years, giving seasonal pleasure to the whole community, as well as raising thousands of pounds for charity. Peter said recently "I found this a difficult assignment, when trying to make sense, in paint, of a dark scene with coloured lights it is difficult to give the right perception of awe and atmosphere. However, I am pleased with the end result and in recognition of Chris and George's enormous dedication I will be donating 10% from the sale of each card to their chosen charity".

There are a further three Winter themed cards added to the collection, a different depiction of the ever-popular Folly card, and an enchanting scene of snow falling on our much-loved Church of All Saints, and a different scene through the Narrows showing a light dusting of snow on the War Memorial. These NEW additions have already proved enormously popular and reprints are on their way.

Come along to the Information Centre at The Pump House Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm and Saturday 9.30am to 1pm during October 2023 for an opportunity to purchase from the extended range of cards, all carefully curated, printed and hand finished from original artwork.

**Faringdon Christmas Light Switch On 2023**

Our Christmas Light Switch On is Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023. If you want to have a stall, are interested in volunteering or are a local business who would like to be involved please email for more information: [adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)



**Faingdon War Memorial Exhibiton 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.

If you would like to volunteer to please email [adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:adele@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)



**FARINGDON JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB**

**TUESDAY EVENINGS – 6PM TO 8PM**

**FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 10 TO 13 YEARS (SCHOOL YEARS 6, 7 AND 8)**



**TUESDAY NIGHTS FROM 6PM TO 8PM AT FARINGDON CRICKET CLUB, STANFORD ROAD, FARINGDON, OXON. SN7 7AQ**

**FREE ENTRANCE AND FREE ACTIVITIES**

Tuckshop / Snacks available to purchase  
Contact = 07436 270267 / [martin.gillett@oxonplay.org.uk](mailto:martin.gillett@oxonplay.org.uk) / [www.oxonplay.org.uk](http://www.oxonplay.org.uk)

This project is funded and supported by;



**STOP PRESS TOURIST BUS EXTENDED**

The tourist bus will continue to the end of October. The town council is exploring ways to continue the service beyond this date. If you have used the bus let us know what you think – [office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

Testimonials will help us seek further funding!

Contact:

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

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