



Sally's Summary - Your Town Clerk, Sally Thurston, summarises recent meetings below. Please see our website for detailed minutes:

Facilities Committee 18th March 2024

Clos M  lois Boules Park: the partnership agreement between Faringdon Twinning Association and (FTC) Faringdon Town Council has been signed detailing, who is responsible for what in the Boules Park, opposite The Swan Pub. Boules are available to hire for a small charge at the Swan Pub or the Information Centre in the Market Place.

New side doors are being designed and made for the rear of the Corn Exchange to comply with reviewed fire regulations.

Planning and Highways Committee 25th March 2024

Two representatives from Mersenne Developments Ltd were keen to address local concerns over plans for a **children's day nursery on Volunteer Way**. Residents and Members supported the proposal in principle, but the key concerns voiced related to major concerns over additional traffic, traffic flow, drop-off, pedestrian safety, effect on neighbouring roads and noise. FTC's response would include requesting that Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) Highways address Park Road issues of vehicle numbers, access to and from Park Road and pedestrian safety. Residents were encouraged to attend the relevant planning meeting at Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC) to voice their concerns.

Members considered a request from a local resident for the **alleyway between Coxwell Road and Marlborough Gardens to be formally named**. VoWHDC will be asked if this and other alleyways and footpaths around the town will be named.

11 planning applications, including two which had been amended, were considered. Responses can be viewed on our website. A consultation for A417 Station Road / B4019 Coxwell Road (Faringdon) – Proposed Traffic Calming measures was considered and the following comments would be made:

- Cycle lanes need review. The one going from Coxwell Street to Gravel Walk makes a cyclist think they are they are on a protected cycle lane but then suddenly the lane ends leaving the cyclist vulnerable.
- Marlborough Street narrowing will reduce space for cars turning right and the grass verge may be parked on.

It was agreed to ask for a review and appraisal of the **Faringdon Conservation Area** from VoWHDC. The review should include consideration of including all streets with historic buildings and guidance for planners. **A parking restrictions review** to include the consideration of restricted and residents parking on various town centre roads was noted. It was suggested that residents parking be extended to include Coxwell Street. The review would be put forward by OCC for consultation with residents before any implementation.

Full Council Meeting, 8th April 2024

Members of the community are running an **awareness day for the British Heart Foundation & First Responders** in the Old Town Hall on 8th June 2024. Councillors have been asked to join the organising committee.

The **Strategic Plan** approach and objectives were adopted. The plan will guide FTC work over the next three years:

Faringdon Town Council Strategic Plan 2024 – 2027

Vision

Our vision for Faringdon is of a sustainable town that meets the needs of its residents.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a representative voice for the community and offer practical support to maintain the sustainable economic and social wellbeing of the town.

Strategic Objectives

Engagement

- To consult and communicate widely to engage residents of all ages
- To promote and encourage public participation
- Improve engagement with local businesses
- To work in partnership with key stakeholders

Environment

- Improve the appearance of Faringdon, whilst celebrating its heritage and uniqueness
- Connect and integrate the town by advocating safer cycling and walking routes
- Support the economic development of the town centre
- Promote and support the FTC climate change agenda
- Work to ensure the shortage of leisure space is addressed

Economics

- Manage our finances transparently and adhere to legislation and policy
- Ensure adequate funding is allocated to maintain and improve our buildings and services
- Expend CIL funding to mitigate the impact of an increasing population
- Ensure that objectives set are deliverable with adequate resources allocated
- Seek grant funding to deliver objectives where possible
- Make FTC grants available to assist and benefit Faringdon residents
- To deliver services that are economic and efficient

Short Term Objectives (January 2024 to May 2025)

- Support the town centre
- Promote all Town Council good work and improve communication
- Continue to tackle climate change with an active working party
- To compile list for CIL spending to take to consultation with residents
- Consider ways to address lack of amenity space
- Install a multi-use games area in Faringdon
- Support the production of a Local Cycling and Walking Plan

A reminder that the **Mayor, Deputy Mayor, committee chairs and committee positions will be elected at the annual meeting on 13th May at 7pm.**

An opportunity to apply for flood risk management funding was received from OCC. This will be discussed at the Planning and Highways committee meeting on 22nd April.

A working group was set up to respond formally to the **VoWHDC Playing Pitches and Leisure Facilities Strategy Consultation**.

Faringdon War Memorial Trust 15th April 2024

Cllr. Ford was elected as Chair and Cllr. Norris as Vice Chair at this annual meeting of the Trust.

Faringdon Whist Drive Club were awarded reduced hire to enable them to continue with their weekly club.

The Royal British Legion reported £24,297.66 was raised by the **Poppy Appeal for Faringdon and District**.

New thermal curtains are currently being made for the Corn Exchange and will meet safety legislations.

A group of ten artists from Faringdon Art Society are exhibiting for **Oxfordshire Art Week in the Old Town Hall**. 'Local Artists' will display a variety of styles. The exhibition will take place on 18th-19th May and 24th-27th May, 11am-5pm.

Tuckers Recreation Ground Trust 15th April 2024

Cllr. Wild was elected as Chair and Cllr. Norris as Vice Chair at this annual meeting of the Trust.

Reports from both the football and judo club were received. The football club reported frustrating delays, due to issues with the lease, on the release of s106 funding for floodlights.

Upcoming Council Meetings

Links to join remotely are available on our website:

www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk. At each meeting, there is always an opportunity for the public to speak - come along and have your say.

Town Meeting	1st May 2024
Full Council	13th May 2024
Planning and Highways	20th May 2024
Full Council	10th June 2024
Facilities	17th June 2024
Planning and Highways	24th June 2024

Annual Town Meeting: 1st May 2024 7pm

FTC's Town Meeting and the Community Award Presentations will be held in the **Jubilee Room, Pump House**, Faringdon. All electors are welcome and may speak and vote on any matters. The Community Awards winners will also be announced, and we are looking forward to hearing the results of votes for such wonderful individuals and community groups which we are so lucky to have in Faringdon.

 **Faringdon's Big Green Day**

Saturday 15th June 2024
10am - 1pm at the Corn Exchange

JOIN US
for a day to celebrate **green** activities, projects, and businesses in and around Faringdon

Email
sarah@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk
if you would like to take part

 **ALL WELCOME TO OUR COUNCILLOR SURGERIES**

Chat to your local Town Councillors

When? Tuesday 7th May 2024, 10am-12 noon

Where? Farmers' Market, under our Faringdon Town Council gazebo

Email liza@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk for queries

Artist of the Month

Our Artist of the Month for May is Chloe Romanos, a jewellery artist who creates unique keepsakes using silver and gold, as well as gemstones. Each creation has a story behind it, inspired by mythical creatures, archaeological treasures and the Art and Crafts movement, from birds and butterflies to texture and colours. Chloe is a member of Faringdon Art Society, who are exhibiting in the Old Town Hall as part of Artweeks. She welcomes commissions to design and create unique bespoke items of jewellery and can be contacted via



www.cloeajewellery.com. To see Chloe's work pop into the Information Centre throughout May; we are open 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am to 1pm on Saturdays.

Faringdon's Maypole

A maypole has been purchased for the town with a generous grant from Faringdon United Charity. The maypole is being used for an after school Maypole club at The Elms Primary School. We hope it proves a great community investment that can be used by local schools and at Council events for all to enjoy.



First Aid Training Day

FTC staff underwent a First Aid Training Day earlier this year. This informative course now qualifies our staff in First Aid.

Photo: Malcolm Gee of MG Training overseeing CPR practice.

Bench and Signs

A bench has been installed at the Retail Park using Cllr. Bethia Thomas' Councillor Priority Funding. We are pleased that there is now a place for people to rest while waiting for the Community Bus. You also might notice some new signage adorning various bus shelters across the town. We hope they are informative – let us know what you think!



Faringdon Folly Needs You!

The Folly Trust needs volunteers to help with private hire bookings. Could you spare a few hours when your diary allows? Visit www.faringdonfolly.org.uk for details.



Councillor Surgeries

Find your Town Councillors under the FTC gazebo to chat about feedback, concerns, or questions you might have. We hope that the weather is as good as last months; we will be there regardless!