



Clerk's Corner – Your new Town Clerk, Katherine Doughty, summarises recent meetings below. Please see our website for detailed minutes:



Planning and Highways Committee – 23rd September 2024

The Town Clerk will contact Oxfordshire County Council for guidance on what defects to report before councillors carry out a survey of our pavements.

The Clerk is chasing a survey and report on the Market Place's sunken bus lane.



Community & Partnerships Committee – 30th September 2024

Town Councillor Surgeries have been a success and will continue to operate in 2025. Again, these will be indoors in the winter and outside in warmer months. **Please join us on Saturday 2nd November**

for our last surgery of 2024: 10am-12 noon in the museum.

August Play Day, Tucker Park:

Councillors agreed to take part in this again next year but to organise a separate activity for children under the Faringdon Town Council (FTC)

gazebo. Councillors approved the programme and budget for **Christmas Lights On event on 30th November** and look forward to helping at the event. The councillors agreed to set up a working party to investigate whether the Tourist Bus will run in summer 2025. Following the success of the Open Air Cinema, councillors agreed to hold this again in 2025.

Full Council – 14th October 2024

It was agreed that the Town Clerk will write to SSE to raise the problem of streetlighting on Highworth Road not working. The Council considered (and supported) a planning application for a proposed Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) School at Lechlade Road. Organisation of a new Art Bench trail is coming together. These 8 new themed benches are being funded from local developments and will be located around the town. More to follow in due course.

Planning and Highways – 21st October 2024

Bloor Homes (Oriol Gardens) proposed amendments to play equipment for the development which FTC strongly objected to as the proposed play equipment is inferior to the previously approved NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play) equipment. FTC want to return to the original specification and add two more pieces of apparatus and ensure some equipment is designed for inclusive play. Members considered correspondence regarding poor walking and cycling connectivity in the town, notably between housing estates. The Town Clerk will work with the Vale Planning Officers to investigate ways to improve connecting paths.

Upcoming Council Meetings

Links to join remotely are available on our website: www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk and on the council's Facebook page. At each meeting, there is always an opportunity for the public to speak - please come along and have your say.

Finance & Audit and Grants	28th October 2024
Town Meeting	6th November 2024
Community & Partnerships (extra: 6-7pm)	11th November 2024
Full Council	11th November 2024

Artist of the Month

Fresh from his very successful showing at the recent 60th Art Society Exhibition, the Information Centre is delighted to welcome once again the well-known



Faringdon artist, Peter Wheeler, as November's Artist of the Month.

Peter says "2024 is a special year for me: I will be celebrating my 90th birthday this month, but more importantly, back in May of this year I was fortunate in being able to take part in Faringdon Art Society's exhibit for Oxford Artweeks.

Having always considered Artweeks to be another selling opportunity to the wider public, I didn't appreciate that it is so much more - an opportunity for other artists to view, discuss, and generally critique the displayed work of their fellow creators. I used the time at the Old Town Hall to work on a new, and quite difficult, Christmas depiction of Dusk in Faringdon's Market Square and was blown away by the wonderfully appreciative comments.



To think that I still have this sort of recognition from my peers is very humbling and really means such a lot to me.

Going forward I'm not sure how much longer

I shall be able to paint to my own standard, but this year there are three winter themed cards, a Christmas Walk at The Folly, and two new views of our pretty Market Square, together with all the previous favourites of course. These new additions have already proved enormously popular, and reprints are on their way".

Come along to the Information Centre at The Pump House in Faringdon Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm (Saturday 9.30am to 1pm) to purchase these carefully curated, printed and hand-finished cards from original artwork.

Christmas Lights On – 30th November 2024

We are fast approaching our popular Christmas Lights event! Join us for Faringdon's Christmas Lights Switch On in the Market Place, 30th November 2024, 1pm to 6pm. There will be a Craft Fair in the Corn Exchange, arranged by Faringdon Art Society, Santa's Grotto, fairground rides and market stalls in the Market Place. Enjoy music around the Christmas Tree and much more.

For more information, please email:
office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

Call for Marshals for Lights On!

We are looking for community marshals to help at the **Christmas Light Switch On** – Saturday 30th November 2024. This would involve walking around the event, reporting any issues to the events team. Shifts will be for 1 or 2 hours. It's a lovely festive event to be part of. For more information contact:

office@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk