

Anyone interested in getting involved in any of these focus groups is very welcome to join — new members and fresh ideas are always encouraged as are a range of skills, delivering leaflets to more technical involvement – all are welcome. Please contact Helen Penney, Parish Clerk (Email: clerk@farninghamparishcouncil.gov.uk), if you wish to do so. The Steering Group looks forward to continuing to work with residents as the Neighbourhood Plan develops in the coming months.

Future Events

We hope to see you at one or many of the upcoming events and please save the dates.

- **11 May 2026, 7pm** – Farningham Annual Parish Meeting, Farningham Village Hall
- **13 June 2026, 12 noon** – Farningham Village Fete, Market Meadow, Farningham
- **29 July 2026, 10:30am–1:30pm** – Fun Day, Market Meadow, Farningham
- **4 July 2026, 7:30pm** – Elvis Night community event, Farningham Village Hall
- **12 September 2026, 7:30pm** – TBC community event, Farningham Village Hall

Elvis night tickets are available to purchase via the link below:

<https://buy.stripe.com/eVq9AT6ATeBTcvz1IF9EI02>

Or scan the QR code below by opening the camera on your phone (as if taking a photo):



Future Meetings

There will be future public meetings to update residents on the Plan, which will be advertised nearer the time. Meeting details, further events and updates will be shared through the Farningham Parish Council website, Trident and the FNP Facebook page. Scan the following QR codes with the camera on your phone to gain access:



Farningham Parish Council
Website & Neighbourhood Plan



Farningham
Neighbourhood Plan



Farningham Neighbourhood Plan – Community Update

Community events, discovery walks and growing local involvement are helping to shape the vision for the future of Farningham.

Residents across Farningham have been sharing ideas, walking the village and coming together at local events as part of the developing Neighbourhood Plan. These contributions from residents are helping shape the plan as it continues to make steady progress.

Community Engagement Events



Coffee morning discussion about the Neighbourhood Plan – 14 February 2026

Bringing residents together: Our Events team have been busy, as involving the community has been a key priority. Three recent events brought residents together to ask questions, share ideas and talk about the future of Farningham. A coffee morning on 14 February offered a relaxed opportunity for residents to drop in and talk with members of the Steering Group. This was followed by an art evening on 5 March, and then a lively wine-tasting evening on 7 March 2026. The latter was particularly well attended, with around 60 people taking part.



Residents enjoying the art evening –
5 March 2026

Wine tasting evening bringing
residents together – 7 March 2026

Special thanks go to Patricia for her work on the art session. Patricia runs regular art groups for those interested. Special thanks also go to Mark Hopkins of Forest of Farningham, who kindly provided a wonderful selection of wines for the evening for us to try. Residents also heard about the upcoming conversion of the Bull Stores into an eatery and wine shop, expected to be completed later this year.

Two lucky prize winners were drawn at the wine-tasting event: Kathleen Bradley, who won the wine, and Sarah Shanmuganathan, who won two tickets to the Elvis Night on Saturday, 4 July 2026.

The Steering Group would also like to thank the Events team and other residents for organising these occasions, along with Helen Penney, Parish Clerk, for her continued support.

Around 60 residents took part in the lively wine-tasting evening, sharing ideas about the future of the village.

Discovery Walks



Discovery walks exploring village routes – December 2025 to March 2026

Exploring the village together: Over the last few months, four Discovery Walks have taken place across different areas of Farningham. These well-attended walks allowed residents to explore the village together while sharing ideas about the future.

“It was great to explore parts of Farningham I hadn’t walked before and share ideas about the village’s future.”

— Discovery Walk participant

Some residents mentioned they had not been aware of the walks, while others said they would be interested in joining future events. If there is enough interest, a village walking group could be established in the future.

Ideas from the walks and events were recorded on a village map and will help shape the developing Neighbourhood Plan as it moves forward, reflecting the views of residents.

Key themes included pedestrian safety, speeding traffic, pavement accessibility, improved waymarking of local walking routes, interest in a safer crossing of the A20 to Farningham Woods, and design ideas to maintain the distinctive character of the village. Some of these ideas could become future projects for the Parish and be built into our vision for the village.

Working with Sevenoaks District Council

Steering Group members recently met with officers from Sevenoaks District Council, including Hannah Gooden, Emma Coffin and Aaron Wilkinson, who were encouraging and supportive of the community’s constructive and positive approach to planning. The Farningham Neighbourhood Plan was also mentioned at the Sevenoaks Development & Infrastructure Advisory Committee meeting on 5 March.

Next Steps

In April, a Collaborative Opportunities Plan session will take place with planning consultants Tibbalds. Draft policies for the plan will begin to be developed, with an initial draft expected during the second quarter of 2026 for further discussion with the community.

Focus Groups

Four focus groups are helping to develop ideas for the plan:

- **Natural Environment** – climate change, movement between places, and health & wellbeing
- **Built Environment** – housing, transport, parking, design and heritage
- **Village Life** – employment and the economy, infrastructure and the community
- **Events**