



FARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Helen Penney.

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Farningham Parish Council held their Annual Meeting in the Shand Hall at St Peter and St Paul's Church on Wednesday, 8th May 2024 and present, at the start of the meeting, were five parish councillors, Sevenoaks District Councillors Laurence Ball and Alan White, seven members of the public and the Clerk Helen Penney.

New councillor:

Mark Keith offered his services and was duly co-opted onto the Parish Council. His very welcome addition has brought us back to full strength.

Chair:

Cllr Burns was re-elected chair and Cllr McGarvey will continue to oversee our finances with Cllr Fitzsimons who has been co-opted to the council for several months now. The full list of committee allocations will be in the minutes of the meeting and will be available on the website.

Accounts:

Our accounts for the 2023/24 financial year have been signed off by the Parish Council and our Internal Auditor, Julia Chamberlain. The Exercise of Public Rights – where residents can request to inspect and view our accounts – will be available to view, on reasonable notice, from 10th June to 19th July 2024 by prior arrangement with the Clerk.

Himalayan balsam clearance:

A management/litter pick will take place in the Farningham section of the river on Wednesday, 29th May, meeting at 10am at the Village Hall. The North West Kent Countryside Partnership will be bringing volunteers and we very much hope villagers will add their weight to the cause. Our community voluntary group Friends of Farningham will join in and at a recent meet they gathered up some of the light metal from the two illegal fires by the Thames Water compound alongside the river. Friends of Farningham would be delighted to see more members; the noticeboard has the dates of our upcoming meets or contact Carol Salmon on 01322 860983.

Family Fun Day:

Sevenoaks District Council's free family fun day is coming to Farningham on Wednesday, 21st August, 10:30 to 13:30. It will be held in Market Meadow, next to the Village Hall in the High Street, and will include crafts, games, sports and activities in a friendly and safe environment. Simply turn up on the day with waterproof clothing and/or sunscreen (this is during the great British summertime!) and your own refreshments.

New footpath:

After seven years in the melting pot, we are delighted to finally confirm a new KCC Footpath SD350 running from The Lion Hotel alongside the river to link up with the established footpaths under the A20 bridge. Although the public had used this path for many years we sought to have it named and numbered to ensure it remained free to access. A new map of Farningham, including this path, will soon be placed next to the noticeboard at Irving's Corner.

Defibrillators in the village:

Our third defibrillator, that had been at the cricket pavilion and moved to the Pied Bull, is now available 24/7, in an appropriate cabinet, at the Pied Bull car park.

Farningham Parish Council would like to thank local electrician Rob for installing the cabinet and the Pied Bull for allowing it to be attached to their outbuilding. Thank you also to Farningham Cricket Club for keeping it safe whilst it was located in the cricket pavilion.

Farningham Parish Council now has three defibrillators with 24/7 access - the Village Hall, BS Motors and the Pied Bull car park. Defibs (not FPC owned) are also at Braeside Surgery and the Teardrop Centre that can both be accessed during opening hours.

FPCs defibrillators are registered on The Circuit database so the control room (999) has the knowledge and information to be able to direct anyone to their location in an emergency.

Health and Wellbeing Support in Kent

Running until the end of May, 31ten have been commissioned to carry out an insights piece of work on behalf of Public Health in KCC to understand why people don't access services and ways that they can support people to adopt and maintain healthy lifestyle choices. The questionnaire can be found at the following website <https://forms.office.com/e/k6FJbwe5Rc>

SDC Local Plan:

The Local Plan is expected to next be discussed by the SDC Development and Conservation Committee on 11th July 2024 although dates and information may be added and/or changed as we head towards the summer. Our chair Daryl Burns and Cllr Kevin McGeough were among a group that recently met with local MP Laura Trott to discuss the proposed incursion into Green Belt land and in particular the possible development at Pedham Place.

Regular updates:

If you would like more regular updates from Farningham Parish Council they are available on Facebook or by email. To receive email updates, please complete the sign up box at the foot of the home page www.farninghamparishcouncil.org

The Facebook link is www.facebook.com/farninghampc

The next Farningham Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday, 12th June at 7pm in the Shand Hall, which is adjacent to the Church. There is an allocation of time for public participation and if you would like to attend, please contact the Clerk via the links at the head of this page.