FARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL - Clerk to the Council: Helen Penney.
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Farningham Parish Council met on Wednesday 1st March 2023 at Shand Hall, Farningham. Present were 6 Parish Councillors, Cllr Roger Gough (KCC District Councillor) for part of the meeting and our Clerk, Helen Penney. There were also 3 visitors in attendance.

2023-24 Budget

To start with, some good news for Farningham residents! SDC have advised us that due to a small increase in the number of properties included in the coming Precept budget, the increase requested by FPC for our portion of Council Tax has fallen to 0.4%.

County Councillor's Report

KCC Cllr Roger Gough advised that the abandoned burger van in the A20 lay by near Button Street comes under both KCC Highways and SDC jurisdiction – the van itself needs to be removed by one and the surrounding paraphernalia by the other, so if you see some of it gone and the rest still there, it will be disposed of shortly.

Highways

FPC had been asked to look into the feasibility of blocking off access to the A20 at the top of London Road due to the dangers of joining the roads at that point and also the number of accidents being recorded on this section of road. KCC Highways have advised that there is insufficient space for a turning circle and the idea will therefore not proceed to any consultation with residents.

There are a number of other highway matters currently being addressed and we are supplying details to the relevant officers if and when requested.

Coronation Event 8TH May 2023 (11.00am to 3.00pm)

This event will be held at FARNINGHAM CRICKET CLUB in Horton Way. Please look out for details around the villages and on social media. The event is being held jointly with **Eynsford Parish Council**.

We need to keep reminding you that **THERE WILL BE NO PARKING** at the Cricket Club, apart for stall holders and a small number of spaces for Disabled Badge Holders. Parking will be available on Market Meadow slightly further along the High Street, next to Farningham Village Hall.

Also, **NO DOGS** will be permitted to the Event.

Litter Bins

FPC have complained to SDC that the litter bins in Farningham are not being emptied when the operative is away on our collection day, which happened during February (especially as it was school half term week when we had more visitors to the area).

We would also like to remind residents that the litter bins are **NOT for residential waste** and you should not put any household litter in them.

Friends of Farningham

We are pleased to announce that Friends of Farningham are back. The bi-monthly village clean-up group, are dusting off their gardening gloves ahead of the first meeting on Saturday, 1st April. Thereafter they will meet on the third Wednesday and first Saturday of the month until September.
They meet at 10am at Farningham Village Hall where Hi-Vis jackets are provided. Strong shoes and gloves are necessary, as well as any personal garden tools. Brooms are also useful.

Farningham Village Hall

A Social Secretary is needed on the Farningham Village Hall Committee. If you would like to get involved with fundraising and/or generally help with the running of this valuable local amenity please contact Committee Chair Viv Parker by email fvhchair@gmail.com or phone her on 01322 862330.

Local Elections

The Local Elections are being held on 4th May 2023. Farningham residents who vote in person will **NEED TO TAKE PHOTO ID** with them. This is a new requirement and you will NOT be allowed to vote without it.

If anybody is interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact our Clerk who can give you further details. Should there be more than 7 candidates, a Parish Council election will also be included on the ballot paper on 4th May. You have until **4pm on 4th April** to put your name forward if you would like to become a Farningham Parish Councillor.

Annual Parish Meeting:

And finally, a reminder that the Parish Council will be holding the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 19th April 2023 in Farningham Village Hall at 8:00pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th April at 7.00pm in the Shand Hall.

Daryl Burns
Vice-Chair FPC