



# Supporting the local community during uncertain times

Farnham Town Council has set its share of the council tax at a level that will ensure it can deliver its promised programme of quality services and events for residents, businesses and visitors during 2025/26.

The priorities for the next 12 months are:

- Enabling community organisations to help others Farnham Town Council has increased its grants budget by £25,000.
- Valuing Farnham's younger people Offering continued support to create better life opportunities for all young people in Farnham.
- **Safeguarding the town's assets** £10,000 has been earmarked for the Museum of Farnham which is run by the Farnham Maltings. This will help secure the future of this valued service.
- Improving facilities As well as installing a new playground at Gostrey Meadow, a project to build new public conveniences and storage for the equipment used at events will get underway (subject to planning permission).
- Coming together as a community Farnham Town Council organises over 50 events which help to improve the environment, support the local economy and provide a sense of belonging and pride.
- Local government reorganisation Working with Surrey County Council and Waverley Borough Council to get the best for Farnham from local government reorganisation.

#### **Cost of Farnham Town Council's services**



Farnham Town Council's services and community activities for 2025/26 cost £1,946,650. At least 21% will be generated by income from sponsorship, events and services. The amount funded by council tax contributions is £83.45 per year or £1.60 a week for a Band D property. This equates to an increase of ten pence per week over the 2024/25 level.

For more details, look out for the explanatory leaflet in your council tax bill. If you have any comments, please do contact your local town councillor or staff at the Town Hall or come along to the Annual Town Meeting of Electors.

#### Local democracy in action



Do you have an opinion on the provision of services by Farnham Town Council for younger people or the variety of community events?

Do you value Farnham's floral displays and the benefits to the environment and wellbeing that go hand-in -hand with Farnham in Bloom? What else could Farnham Town Council do to make Farnham an even better place to live for all?

These are some of the questions that Farnham Town Councillors want to hear your views on at the Annual Town Meeting of Electors on 24 March at 6.30pm at UCA.

All Farnham electors are welcome to attend the meeting and are free to ask questions and make comments about issues relating to Farnham. If the matter is not a Town Council responsibility, town councillors present will do their best to answer the question or follow up with the relevant organisation.

The meeting will be chaired by the Mayor of Farnham and lead councillors will give presentations reviewing the past year and looking ahead to what's planned for the next 12 months.

To reserve your seat and to assist with catering arrangements, please email customer.services@farnham. gov.uk or call 01252 712667.

### Help out at Badshot Lea Cemetery

Saturday 8 March, 10 am -12 pm

If you like being active and enjoy being out in the fresh air, come along to this 'help out' session. Help is needed with preparing a new wildflower meadow, litter picking and tidying up the cemetery. The aim is to get the cemetery looking its absolute best ahead of visits by the judges of the Green Flag award and South and South East in Bloom.

#### Farnham in Bloom Community Day



Celebrate the launch of Farnham in Bloom 2025 on Saturday 22 March from 10am to 3pm at Gostrey Meadow.

The atmosphere will be lively with music and organised volunteering activities which will include moving compost, planting new flowerbeds and litter picking.

There will be children's activities, a farm and stalls hosted by community groups.

Gold sponsors for this year's Farnham in Bloom include The Patio Blackspot Removal Company Ltd, Squire's Garden Centre and BBS Ltd.

#### Be seen in Farnham

If you are a local business and would like your brand to be associated with the highly successful national-award-winning Farnham in Bloom, contact bloom@farnham.gov. uk to find out about available sponsorship opportunities. There are packages to suit all budgets.

#### Spring clean Farnham

Between 21 March and 6 April, Farnham Town Council is supporting residents to take part in the Great British Spring Clean. If you know of an area that is looking a little untidy and you are willing to organise a working party to

help clear it up, Farnham Town Council can provide you with litter picks and all the equipment you need.

To get involved, email bloom@farnham.gov.uk.

#### Gostrey Meadow playground

Farnham Town Council is embarking on a project to improve the playground and public conveniences at Gostrey Meadow.

A consultation to find out people's preferred design for the playground has recently closed. The results are being analysed and will be revealed later this month.

To keep up to date on the project, visit www.farnham. gov.uk/playground.

## Farnham Literary Festival 6 to 16 March



The 2025 Farnham Literary Festival is organised by Farnham Town Council and is a celebration of literature in all its forms. It includes a jam-packed programme of performances, workshops, author talks, competitions, panel discussions, and more.

For details about the events, competitions and how to book, visit www.farnhamliteraryfestival.co.uk, follow @ farnhamlitfest across social media, or pick up a full festival brochure from the Town Hall on South Street.



#### Farnham Town Council

Town Hall, South Street, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7RN

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