



FARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL - Clerk to the Council: Mrs J.C. Gray,
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Farningham Parish Council met on Wednesday 1st March 2017 – The Chairman, Philip McGarvey welcomed 4 Parish Councillors, Roger Gough KCC County Councillor, the Clerk Jane Gray and 6 members of the public. It was great to see so many people attending for a variety of reasons from advice on fencing, finding out more about Friends of Farningham or just to find out what the PC is up to, thanks to you all.

Play Equipment

The children's slide has been ordered for Oliver Crescent and it is hoped they will commence installing this around 24th April, unfortunately a bit late for the Easter school break, but in time for the summer.

Highways

We are not giving up and will continue to badger KCC and Highways for improvements to safety on the A20. We understand that not enough reports are being received regarding the dangerous and illegal right turns both at the A225 Eynsford Road junction with the A20 and out of White Post Hill. We are trying to find out who to report these incidents to and will advise next month the contact details.

Cllr Salmon also commented on the appalling state of the verges, especially on the slip roads off the roundabout at Swanley/M25 onto the A20. Cllr Gough advised these verges are managed by Highways England, not KCC. We will push for rubbish clearance, but it would also help if people didn't drop rubbish from their car windows, some people have no respect for their surroundings.

PCSO Report

Sarah Douse reported a break-in at Gorse Hill Nursery where a significant amount of ski-wear was taken. If you are offered any ski-wear which you think may have been stolen please report it to the Police non-emergency line 101.

DVLA and KCC have been undertaking a series of lorry stops on the A20 to search the cargo, weight checks, tax etc. It is hoped these stops will continue on a monthly basis.

Sarah reported fly-tipping is an ever increasing problem. It was encouraging that recently three people have been prosecuted for this offence. One recent load which was found contained personal data, including bank statements, bills etc and the householder will be taken to court, as it is their responsibility to employ a reputable company to dispose of waste. REMEMBER, if you want rubbish removed, make sure you chose a licensed company, if your details are found in fly tipping it's YOU who is responsible.

Sarah told the meeting about a spate of dead horses being dumped again, she also raised concerns that a ban had been imposed on individuals, not too far from our village, stopping them from keeping horses and she is worried more dead animals may start to appear.

The Police and PCSO team are regularly monitoring Farningham Woods car park in the evenings trying to stop gatherings taking legal highs and causing a disturbance.

Planning

There was only one planning application: to consider replacement signs at the Pied Bull.

Community Group

It has been really encouraging to see how many people are interested in joining the **FRIENDS OF FARNINGHAM**. So far we have had 14 people sign up and a meeting has been arranged for **FRIDAY 31st MARCH, 10am at Farningham Village Hall** when the group can meet each other over tea and coffee and the first projects can be agreed. High Viz jackets have been purchased and are being over-printed. It's not too late to join, contact the Clerk or Cllr Salmon for details.

The next **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting is on **Wednesday 5th April at 7.00pm** followed by the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING at 8.00pm** - both to be held in Farningham Village Hall as usual. Come along and show your support, it would be great to see you and you won't even have to listen to Cllr McGarvey droning on and on, because he will not be able to attend, so he will be making a written report – and then retiring as Chairman after 6 years in post. Better to go before he is pushed, he says – which isn't true at all, he will be a hard act to follow.

Daryl Burns
Vice-Chair Farningham Parish Council