

## News and Views January 2016

### County and District Council Reorganisation - 31/1/17

February 7th. Faringdon Library 10-12.30.

Representatives from the council will be at the Library on Tuesday 7th February for anyone who wishes to have a chat.

Response forms(paper) are available at the library, or follow the link for draft proposals and have your say online.

<http://www.oneoxfordshire.org/get-involved>

### Fined for not picking up after their dog- 31/1/17

Excellent news that someone has been fined for not picking up after their dog. Please share and keep reporting, if we work together we can stop this vile problem in our town!

A person has been issued a fixed penalty notice for not removing their dog mess from along London Street, Faringdon near the Market Place end of the town. The incident occurred in November 2016 and an investigation process took place to identify the dog walker at the time of the incident. The person has been identified and issued with a FPN for failing to remove their dog mess.

Unfortunately, I am unable to provide the identity of the dog walker as they are discharging their liability by paying the FPN. If they decide not to paid the FPN, then it will be taken to court where the person will then be identified after prosecution.

We can use this to remind dog walkers to pick up after their dog.

There is still a particularly repeat issue of dog fouling along Park Road, along the pavement area of the new Tesco's store. I have installed signs in the area, made Tesco's aware, approached dog walkers to ensure they are fulfilling their responsibilities of picking up after their dog, but still the issue persists.

I need people to be vigilant in this area and report in any information as to who may be causing the issue. Their details will be kept confidential.

Kind regards

Colin Marshall

Environment Warden

Email: [colin.marshall@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:colin.marshall@southandvale.gov.uk)

Tel: 01235 422159 Admin: 01235 422403

### Childcare - 30/1/17

I am qualified in childcare, hold first aid and food hygiene certificates. I am a non smoker, driver with my own car. I am looking for a part-time local position as a nanny/home help. I have experience in working with children of all ages and some special needs experience too. My ideal position will be for 5 half days or 3 full days each week. I am willing to do light housework and cooking if required.

I have a 6 year old son who I may need to drop off and collect from Faringdon infants school also. If you are interested please drop me an email [lisajconstable@aol.com](mailto:lisajconstable@aol.com)

### Parking yet again. - 29/1/17

Just what do yellow lines mean? Who are pavements provided for? Why do people park opposite a car so the road is extremely narrow? To get up the Coxwell road I go up through the Gardens as its easier. London Street in the daytime is a chicane. How come the pavement outside the Kwiksave is now a car park? Goodlake Avenue is the best. Untaxed and uninsured cars park where they like and no one seems to care. When will someone please take responsibility?

Colin Eddy

### **Bloor Homes-** 29/1/17

It is also interesting that in the original plans, the spinney, (small wood undergrowth with water) just up from the boundary fence was to be kept.

Now it is to be removed. Why?

Name supplied

### **Steve Knightley in Concert** - 29/1/17

Steve Knightley is the songwriting force behind 'Show of Hands' (they played two sell out shows in Great Coxwell's 'Live At The Tithe'), and are widely acclaimed as the finest acoustic roots duo in England.

I'm delighted to say that Steve is coming to the Faringdon Corn Exchange on Friday May 19th as part of his 'Landlocked Tour'.

One of England's greatest singer songwriters"

Mike Harding, BBC Radio 2

Tickets £18.00 are already selling online from [wegottickets](#) but are also now available from the Information Centre, The Pump House, Market Place tel 01367 240281.

### **Faringdon Library Book Club-** 27/1/17

Volunteer/Volunteers Needed

If you have a passion for reading and would like to run a monthly daytime session at the library please get in touch.

Books will be provided free through the Library Service

Refreshments available

Tel. 01367 240311 Sheena or Jacky

Email. [farindon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:farindon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

### **Home Library Service** - 28/1/17

Love reading but find it difficult to get to the library?

Do you know someone who can't get to the library due to frailty, infirmity or a disability?

Did you know?

You can borrow books, audio books, music CDs and DVDs.

Your library books will be delivered and collected by a **Home Library Service Volunteer**. There is no charge for requests or late returns.

Contact Faringdon Library

Tel. 01367 240311

Email: [farindon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:farindon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

### **Blood Homes - another disaster waiting to happen.** - 27/1/17

The recent design of the Folly Park is one of the worst I've seen, the planners ignored Police advice on configuration. Trees and planting has been removed unnecessary. The traffic will have an impact, who travels to work by Bicycle these days. The sheer size of the housing planned is going to be a third of Faringdon, Bloor nearly 400 homes, Taylor Wimpy 200 homes, more land for another 300-400 homes. And this has no impact interesting! Its also interesting to see how Bloor are applying for planning permission in stages.

Named Supplied

### **Bloor Homes-** 27/1/17

Speaking to the people regarding the traffic, they do not think there will be a problem with the extra vehicle movement along Park Road. I left Mariens Drive 7.15 this morning, to go to Wantage.

There was a queue from the pedestrian crossing by 7 Second to None, someone let me out to join the queue which then took ten minutes to reach the roundabout. A420 was full of traffic coming

from Swindon, going to Oxford as far as you could see, also coming from Oxford. More houses are not going to make any difference? Where were the men doing the survey?

Monica Graham

### **Grants available** - 27/1/17

#### **The Step Change Fund focuses on capacity building and strengthening of Oxfordshire's charitable sector.**

The Step Change Fund aims to help high-quality social organisations make a step change to their business model that will create a more solid platform from which they can deliver services. The fund holders are particularly interested in projects that enable a 'step change' in financial terms. This fund does not offer core funding simply for the continuance of existing services. Grants will be given for projects that can demonstrate realistic plans for increasing reach and impact and for building longer-term resilience for the future.

The fund has over £1 million to distribute over the next four years. Grants in the first instance will be between £10,000 and £50,000, with the possibility of further funding up to £25,000 for follow-on projects. Total grants will be capped at £75,000 and will not normally be greater than 30% of the applicant's annual income, should this be less.

Step Change has grown out of the Future-Building Fund, which launched as a pilot programme in May 2014 and was successfully completed in April 2016. The lessons learnt from the pilot have shaped Step Change's focus and methodology.

[Read this to see what projects were awarded grants](#)

[http://oxfordshire.org/grants/step-change/?dm\\_i=1OSY,4QADH,OV53EN,HQ98P,1](http://oxfordshire.org/grants/step-change/?dm_i=1OSY,4QADH,OV53EN,HQ98P,1)

### **Cleaner Faringdon** - 26/1/17

Do you know of a public area in Faringdon that could do with a bit of a clean up? The District Council would like to know so they can help tidy and spruce it up. Somewhere with lots of litter perhaps or somewhere looking a bit tired.

Let us know and we'll pass the details on.

You can contact us 01367 240281 or email [tic@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:tic@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

Thank you.

### **One Oxfordshire ( merge County Council and District Council responsibilities)**- 25/1/17

Tuesday February 7th Faringdon Library 10-12.30. There will be someone there to help.

<http://www.oneoxfordshire.org/get-involved> Online consultation ends 28th February

Ed

### **Bloor Homes exhibition-** 25/1/16

100 houses in first tranche- Planning permission to be applied for

Then land for new primary school to be passed to Oxfordshire County Council(OCC) - they will build the school

Not sure of dates- think 2020 was mentioned ( which affects the school)

Different design to Folly Park View. Housing density something like 38 houses per hectare.

A few 2.5 storey houses- no 3 storey.

Layout includes play areas and Community Forest

They appear to have taken note of the Neighbourhood Plan

Traffic volumes and road changes being assessed (by a consultant for OCC). Roundabout on Park Road unlikely

Will include 'extra care' housing as part of the 25% Social housing

No Community Interest Levy payments (CIL not in place yet). There will be a 106 agreement (no idea what it will/could include)

Ed

*Anyone find anything else out?*

### **Qualified maths tutor wanted** - 23/1/17

I am looking for a qualified tutor in Maths, for a Year 11 student taking their GCSE in June of this year. Probably for an hour or two a week - Faringdon based. If interested, please call or text me on 07714 431297.

Name supplied.

### **Learn about Community Interest Levy. Town Council Meeting Tuesday 24th January**

7.15 pm in the Old Town Hall, Market Place, Faringdon.

Item 9 on the agenda

*Vale of White Horse District Council - Planning for Infrastructure Consultations*

*Before Town Council responds to this consultation, a member from the District Council planning team will be attending the meeting to discuss CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) in more detail.*

*Deadline for comments to the District Council: 26 January 2017.*

*Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Draft Charging Schedule DCS); [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/cil](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/cil)*

*Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document*

*(SPD) [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/section106](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/section106)*

### **TWO NEW PARTNERS JOIN THE WHITE HORSE MEDICAL PRACTICE-** 19/1/17

Dr Kerrin Masterman and Dr Robert Russ have joined the partnership of Drs Douglas, Bartholomew and Cartwright at The White Horse Medical Practice, from 1st January 2017.

"We are delighted that Kerrin and Rob have accepted partnership, securing the future of the practice, and sharing their considerable experience as GPs with us in running the practice," said Dr Cartwright.

Both doctors have already contributed greatly behind the scenes in helping drive the practice forward in difficult times.

We are certain they will continue to help the practice develop and tackle the considerable challenges of today's NHS.

All the staff at the practice wish them well in their new positions.

WHMP

### **Local Government Oxfordshire** ::- 19/1/17

I will tell you what I think of the proposal ::

One Oxfordshire Council for the whole of Oxfordshire will focus 90% of its Time , Money and Resources on the City of Oxford and I doubt that Faringdon , Great Coxwell , Little Coxwell and our surrounding villages will get hardly anything near what we get now .. We will be so far down the bottom of the list we wont get a look in ..

Cutting Services if we don't do as we are told and change , is an empty threat .. If we do change we will probably have our services cut in favour of existing and new services for Oxford and the big towns ..

Removing Local Councils and combing them into one is in my view Removing LOCAL Government and replacing it with CENTRAL Government ..

The whole idea is misleading and leaves us in Faringdon worse off .

Dean Suckling

### **Consultation: Local government in Oxfordshire - time for a change?-** 19/1/17

We think so. Today we published our 'One Oxfordshire' draft proposal to abolish all six councils in Oxfordshire and replace them with ONE new council for the whole county, saving £100m in the first five years. That would save £20m each year - enough to fix over 300,000 potholes or provide 1 million hours of home care.

We want to hear from residents about what you think (<http://www.oneoxfordshire.org/get-involved>) of the proposal.

Our proposal Oxfordshire currently has six councils – one county council and five district and city councils. We believe the current system is complicated, wasteful and no longer financially sustainable. Without change, important local services could be reduced and some may be cut altogether. We think all six councils should be abolished and be replaced by ONE new council for the whole of Oxfordshire. It would save over £100m in the first five years - money that could be used to improve local services and keep council tax down. This is called a 'unitary' council. It would be simpler, offer better services, respond better to local priorities and be lower cost. This is what we mean by ONE Oxfordshire (<http://www.oneoxfordshire.org/>) .

### **SIMPLER**

- One website, one phone number, one contact for all your council services
- Other public services such as the NHS and police could work better with one council rather than several
- Joined-up planning for jobs, homes and transport is better for residents and the local economy
- One council taking decisions in the best interests of the whole of Oxfordshire

### **BETTER SERVICES**

- One council is responsible for all the environmental services such as street cleaning and road maintenance in your area
- Joining up social services, housing and benefits makes it easier to support people who need extra help
- One council for Oxfordshire can keep vulnerable children and adults safer

### **MORE LOCAL**

- One local councillor representing your community who is accountable for all council services in your local area Parishes and town councils have more influence over decisions for their own communities
- Your councillor takes local decisions as members of 'area boards' covering existing district/city areas

### **LOWER COST**

- No duplication – abolishing six councils to create one, brand new council costs less to run with fewer councillors and senior managers
- One council saves £20m each year, which can be used to deliver better services and protect them from future cuts
- Keeps council tax down

*Ed: See press article . Council Leaders keep quiet over failed council shake up that cost the tax payers £200k*

[http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/yourtown/oxfordshire/14690005.Council\\_leaders\\_keep\\_quiet\\_over\\_failed\\_council\\_shake\\_up\\_that\\_cost\\_taxpayer\\_\\_\\_200k/?commentSort=score](http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/yourtown/oxfordshire/14690005.Council_leaders_keep_quiet_over_failed_council_shake_up_that_cost_taxpayer___200k/?commentSort=score)

## **Re Town meeting** - 19/1/17

How many people attended who weren't councillors or town employees? The notes below sound like self congratulation by the town council... I take it none of the items on this list of wonders and achievements was put forward by anyone who was NOT a councillor?

Name supplied

ED: *I wrote the meeting notes and posted them here so that more people are made aware of FTC activities They are in my view an accurate statement of the main points made. The first set of bullet points was information from the Town Council. The 2nd, as it states, by people from the the Town. Only a few towns people attended (this is not unusual) The formal minutes will be available from FTC in due course- no timescales mentioned.*

## **Faringdon Town Meeting (FTC) 16/1. Notes** - 18/1/17

- Recreation and Open spaces and Venues will committees will merge
- Planning and highways committee will meet every month (previously every 3 weeks)
- Youth services to change to Community and Partnerships- and will include Youth and other initiatives
- Children Centre ( to be closed by OCC in March 2017) will continue at the Pump House Project, financed by FTC and other organisations.
- Tidy Team has been successful. Time allocated will double later in the year
- January newsletter has been produced- you can sign up for this ( see <http://faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/>)
- The Neighbourhood plan is now part of Local Planning Policy. FTC will seek to ensure that all future planning applications are consistent with the policies in the plan
- FTC will receive £25k planning gain/developer contribution from Fernham Fields development. £60k from the Waitrose/Aldi/Costa site. £0 from The Steeds. South of Park Road agreement has not been finalised. Details of 106 agreements will be put on FTC website.
- Council Tax/Faringdon amount will increase by c 3% to cover staff cost for Childrens Centre.
- 3343 houses in Faringdon charged Council Tax. (The FTC budget is based on this)
- FTC have appointed an assistant Town Clerk and a manager of the Tourist Information Centre.
- Income from Town buildings has increased through the Town Councils move to the Pump House and the letting of the former space used in the Corn Exchange. Income from lettings of the Corn Exchange has increased. Pump House letting income has reduced as there are now fewer rooms that can be let.
- Thames Water have said the sewage system will be upgraded by April 2018

### Other points(raised by attendees)

- 25mph speed limit through town suggested- need to ask Traffic Advisory group
- No plans for CCTV
- Faringdon in top 10 of best places to live. We need to raise awareness of this. <https://www.onefamily.com/hotspots/top-20/>
- Open meeting re 420 houses. South of Park Road. Bloor Homes. Corn Exchange 24/1/ 3pm- 7pm
- VWHDC (Roger Cox) explained the £250k cost of implementing parking enforcement in Faringdon in a letter to FTC. This will be put on FTC website.
- Decluttering project of town centre signs in progress

- Space for 1 coach to park in the aldi/waitrose car park. FTC are working with the Town Team to promote Faringdon as a tourist destination. Includes use of the coach space.

### **ATTENTION YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS AND YOUNG WRITERS-** 18/1/17

Rotary national competitions taking place now for young people aged 7 to 18 years. Work to be submitted by Saturday 18th March 2017. Information pack/s & entry forms from Rtn Paul Rogers

Email – [rotarycomp2017@aol.com](mailto:rotarycomp2017@aol.com)

Or download from our website [www.faringdonrotaryclub.org](http://www.faringdonrotaryclub.org)

### **Waitrose Community Support-** 18/1/17

Hello I'm the Store Manager of the new Waitrose in Faringdon and we are looking for 3 local good causes each month to support and get a share of £500 through Waitrose Community Matters.

Have a look at this link and get in contact. Thanks

[http://www.waitrose.com/home/inspiration/community\\_matters.html](http://www.waitrose.com/home/inspiration/community_matters.html)

### **Public Exhibition. Bloor Homes. Land South of Park Road-** 17/1/17

Tuesday 24th January Corn Exchange 3pm to 7pm

The new scheme will provide a high quality residential development for up to 425 new homes, a primary school, children's play space (equipped and natural play), community forest, allotments and an orchard, a sustainable drainage system and new access from Park Road.

<http://www.parkroadconsultation.co.uk/>

### **Toddler Film Time @ The Regent Cinema Wednesday 25th January-** 17/1/17

The Many Adventures of Winnie The Pooh (U)

Film starts at 1.00pm, doors open 12.30pm

TICKETS ON THE DOOR £4 or FREE if registered/fill in a short form to be registered with the Children's Centre (Action For Children)

Bring your little one along and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere! Film will finish by 2.30pm

Enquiries: 01367 242191

Toddler Film @ The Regent Cinema

(in partnership with Faringdon Children's Centre)

### **PETITION UPDATE - REINSTATE GP SURGERY FUNDING-** 14/1/17

We have smashed our first target for signatures and are increasing it to 500. If you want to protect our GP service for the future, funding for its infrastructure expansion must be reinstated to meet population growth. Please add your voice to the hundreds of others here.

<http://www.oxonlibdems.uk/westernvalegpffunding>

David Grant

### **Faringdon Community Bus needs more volunteer drivers-** 13/1/17

Have you ever wanted to drive a bus? Do you have some spare time?

Do you want to help in providing a valuable service to the community?

If the answer to any of these questions is "yes" then why not join the Faringdon Community Bus team which needs more volunteer drivers?

The bus is straightforward to drive and full training will be given. Although welcome, no significant commitment is required, maybe only 3 or 4 mornings a month.

If you would like to join us, please contact

Richard Smith (07879 470440) or

Steve Wright (01367 241011) or

email: [info@FaringdonCommunityBus.co.uk](mailto:info@FaringdonCommunityBus.co.uk)

[www.FaringdonCommunityBus.co.uk](http://www.FaringdonCommunityBus.co.uk)

## **Costa coffee drive thru, doors open on the 18th of January-** 13/1/17

### **Volunteer for Thames Valley Police** - 13/1/17

Join us at 6.30pm on Tuesday 17 January for an online Q&A looking at how you can become more active in your community with Thames Valley Police.

As well as numerous volunteer roles and opportunities, did you know that TVP now runs cadet units in each of the local police areas? There are also neighbourhood action groups who help police with local problem solving and shape the local policing priorities.

Assistant Chief Constable Nikki Ross will be part of the panel to offer guidance and advice and respond to any questions that you want answering.

Join in the conversation between 6.30pm - 7.30pm on Tuesday 17 January at: [Thames Valley Police, Cover it Live](#)

If you miss it live, it can be replayed anytime after the event on the same link.

You can send any questions in advance of the session by reply to this alert up to 5pm on Tuesday 17 January, and by tweeting @ThamesVP using #AskTVP.

Whatever you've resolved to do this year – be a part of it with Thames Valley Police.

### **Re: Hidden Tunnels-** 13/1/17

Your question peaked my interest and a cursory trawl of the net I came across <http://www.thetarotlady.co.uk/Files/OLDCROWNREADING.pdf>

How much you believe in her writeup about the various ghosts is up to you however she seems to have elaborated a little more on the tunnels.

I can find nothing about being able to explore them though. Perhaps it is worth speaking to the landlord of the inn?

That said I can not imagine the tunnels are that exciting or long. If tunnels is your thing there are some awesome network of linked tunnels in Oxford (mainly linking the Bodleian and the OUP.

Rob

### **Learn and Dance Salsa. Monday 16th January in Faringdon** - 13/1/17

Join our 6 week beginners' course at the Catholic Church Hall, Faringdon - starting Monday 16th January 2017 at 6.30pm.

It's great fun, an easy way to make new friends, keeps your mind working and your body moving!!!

For more info please text me on 0776 626 5223 or like our Facebook page "Social Salsa in Swindon".

We also have a website [www.socialsalsainswindon.co.uk](http://www.socialsalsainswindon.co.uk) I look forward to meeting you soon

### **Hidden Tunnels-** 13/1/17

Does anyone have any information about apparent hidden tunnels under Faringdon? There's supposedly a short network of tunnels that used to lead from the crown towards the church, I was wondering if there was any way of accessing them and how I would go about doing so if they exist?

[farkasmaro@gmail.com](mailto:farkasmaro@gmail.com)

### **Grants for local festivals-** 13/1/17

Community groups in the Vale of White Horse looking to stage local festivals or events can claim up to £1,000 grant funding - but they need to apply by Wednesday 1 March.

Vale of White Horse District Council which offers grants to non-profit community organisations, still has funds available to support local festivals and events taking place over the next 12 months.

The funding can cover up to 75 per cent of the total cost of staging festivals open to the local community.

Events the council has helped to fund recently include the Abingdon Cycle Festival, ATOM

(Oxfordshire Science Festival), fennel Festival, and Wantage Summer Festival.

If you need help to fund a local festival in the Vale of White Horse

visit [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants).

Cllr Elaine Ware, Cabinet Member for Grants at Vale of White Horse District Council, said:

“Staging an event in your town or village can bring the whole community together and help to attract more visitors to the area. We helped to fund some great events last year but there’s still funding available for 2017.

If you are looking to hold a festival make sure you get your application in before 1 March.”

### **New grant opportunity: up to £50k from Building a Stronger Britain Together** - 13/1/17

A new Home Office grant opportunity is offering up to £50,000 to charities working on projects that counter extremism and build stronger communities.

The Building a Stronger Britain Together programme offers two forms of support through a competitive bidding process:

- **Grants:** targeted funding for specific projects with demonstrable outcomes which provide a positive alternative to extremist voices
- **In-kind support:** such as social media training, technical assistance to help a group improve their website, or capacity-building work to help a group protect more vulnerable individuals.

You can apply for both in-kind support and grant funding. Grants are being managed by community foundations such as OCF across England and Wales.

*PLEASE NOTE that the deadline for grants is 5pm on **Monday 6 February 2017**. There is a fixed amount of funding available and bids will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis.*

It is also worth noting that the application form and Home Office processes are lengthy, and groups can only apply for up to 25% of their annual income, therefore very small groups may find it difficult to apply.

Full details and the link to an application form can be found on the [Home Office website](#).

### **Wicklesham Quarry: Grundon served with Breach of Conditions Notice.**- 13/1/17

Oxfordshire County Council served Grundon Ltd with a Breach of Conditions Notice on 9th December 2016, for failing to restore Wicklesham Quarry according to planning conditions. A County Council Monitoring Officer previously photographed damage to one of the ponds, which are the habitat of European Protected Species. For the latest update, follow the

link: <https://www.change.org/p/faringdon-town-council-the-vale-of-white-horse-district-council-and-secretary-of-state-sajiv-javid-protect-wicklesham-quarry-from-development/u/18960803>.

Earlier updates can be found by scrolling down the main petition page.

Anna Hoare

### **SAVE YOUR LOCAL MacMillan GROUP!** - 11/1/17

Please help us to save our Faringdon & District Macmillan Cancer support group.

We desperately need committee members, a Chairperson and a Treasurer.

Unless we get some new people our group is about to close, so no more

Giant Coffee Mornings @ Corn Exchange and all of the other events that are held throughout the year.

Our group regularly raises over £12k per year for local people with cancer.

Please contact Colin or Christine on 07854 190 998 if you know someone who might like to help keep this

long established fund raising group going or email [christinegibbard@gmail.com](mailto:christinegibbard@gmail.com)

### **First Aid at Work** - 11/1/17

All businesses and including the self-employed, are required to consider their first aid needs in the workplace and to make adequate provision for this through risk assessment:

For those requiring a First Aid At Work (Lev.3 FAAW 3 day) first aid qualification. A course is due to be run on 23rd to 25th January 2017 and has been arranged at a local venue in Faringdon.

Due to a group booking in place, and further places available, I am able to offer spaces at a cost of £125.00. This will include certificate, training manual, refreshments (including lunch).

All training is provided in line with HSE recommendation for the workplace and Health & Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981.

Should you, or your staff require this training, then please contact me for further information, or if you have further questions regarding first aid at work or other courses that I may be able to provide.

Malcolm Gee

MG Training & First Aid Support

Tel: 07796 572752 Email: [malcolm@the5gees.plus.com](mailto:malcolm@the5gees.plus.com)

### **Couch to 5K Beginners Running Course**- 11/1/17

The Faringdon Far Runners will be running a beginners 'Couch to 5K' course starting 29th January. If you've thought about running, but don't know where to start, or made a New Years' Resolution to be more active, lose weight, or just get out and make new friends then we can help. This course is also suitable for those returning to running after an injury or a longish break. Our 'Couch to 5K' follows the NHS Choices plan which runs over 8-10 weeks and we'll have a 'graduation' run at a local Park Run to celebrate your achievement. If you're interested then there's more information on how to sign up on Run Together and book on to our Beginners course here: <https://groups.runtogether.co.uk/FarRunners/CouchtoFiveK>

We're also on Facebook and Twitter under FarRunners, or you can email us on [farrunners@yahoo.com](mailto:farrunners@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

More experienced runners who can complete at least 5km are also welcome to join us on our week night runs. Again more information on Run

Together <https://groups.runtogether.co.uk/FarRunners/CouchtoFiveK> or <https://groups.runtogether.co.uk/FarRunners/>

Jon Durant and Rachel Whiting (Run Leaders)

### **Community Bus trip to Witney**- 9/1/17

The Faringdon Community Bus is running a trip to Witney on Thursday 12th January.

It will leave the Market Place at 1.15pm and will leave Witney at 4pm.

Tickets £5.00 (£2.50 for under 16's) are available from the Information Centre, The Pump House. Tel 01367 240281.

### **Monday 16th January Town Meeting**- 7/1/17

Corn Exchange, 7.30pm

Presentation by Faringdon Town Council of the proposed budget for 2017/18.

Residents will have the opportunity to put forward suggestions for projects to be considered.

### **New term, new repertoire for Ferndale Community Choir**- 5/1/17

Wednesday 11th January Roman Catholic Church, Marlborough St, 6.45 for 7pm start, £3.50 per session

No experience needed. Everyone welcome

We've a really good selection of modern, folk, musical theatre songs and warmups- many very familiar tunes.

Some we just sing- because we like to sing. Some we'll work at to get them as good as we can.  
Led by Louise Woodgate, professional singer and teacher.  
Do come along- we have 40ish coming each week. The more the merrier  
Contact 01367 242222

### **Waitrose are scheduled to open in Faringdon on 2 Feb.**- 5/1/2017

### **Change of Use- Lamb and Flag** - 5/1/17

The new owners of the Lamb & Flag in Longworth have applied to VoWHDC planning for change of use, converting the house into a residential dwelling.

There are 2 applications :-

<http://bit.ly/2hglaLw>

<http://bit.ly/2h5ZIYW>

This is due to be discussed at the KBS PC meeting on Monday January 9th 2017 @7pm - Southmoor Village Hall.

If you believe that this valuable community asset deserves to be saved, PLEASE, show your support by attending the meeting.

Points to think about with regards this valuable community asset:

- It has hosted live music events which not only brought the community together, but also provided a platform for local artists which contributed to the local area's culture
- The pub has also hosted advertising for local events which encourages the community to come together to support local businesses
- There were television screenings of sporting events enjoyed by patrons, providing a safe place to enjoy a drink for vulnerable members of society
- The pub has in the past hosted fantastic quiz nights bringing people together from a variety of different backgrounds, furthering the recreational interests of the community
- The pub has taken part in, and hosted, events to raise money for local charities
- There is the most fantastic beer garden (which until recently had a children's play area), that can be used and enjoyed by families.
- The pub served amazing food enjoyed by the local community, with special offers for older people & meal deals on certain evening (Ladies Night Mondays - place was always packed out!).
- There is access for disabled people providing an easily accessible and inclusive space to meet with other member of the local community and provides a safe and enjoyable environment furthering the persons well-being.
- It has been used as a regular meeting place for local community groups and charities to use
- The pub offered games including darts, pool, aunt sally, billiards etc.
- The pub enabled local people to enjoy a range of drinks and food in a pleasant, convivial atmosphere, furthering their individual well-being.

The Lamb & Flag offered something the other pubs in the village don't. The Hinds Head at one end of the village is fantastic and has a loyal clientele, but for larger gatherings it can be a bit of a squeeze :) . The Waggon & Horses is more of a sports pub these days - which suits many patrons very well - but for others it is something that might drive them away; but the Lamb & Flag, at the other end of the village like a bookend, retained that convivial Country Pub charm. Wouldn't it be a crying shame to lose that?

With the village expanding in that direction in the very near future, it makes sense to fight to keep the Lamb & Flag

### **The Big Knit** - 5/1/2017

The Big Knit is back and it is BIGGER than ever! This means we're collecting hats as usual but they won't appear on innocent bottles until winter 2017. We are aiming to collect twice as many hats as last year and have two separate deadlines for sending hats in by, one in winter and one in

summer.

How The Big Knit helps older people in Oxfordshire

In the UK, as many as 25,000 older people may die needlessly in the winter because of the cold. All funds that we raise locally through the Big Knit campaign support Age UK Oxfordshire's Information and Advice Helpline, which provides vital support for older people and carers in Oxfordshire during the cold winter months.

In addition to raising much-needed funds, the Big Knit is a great way to bring people and communities together. Knitting groups have been held up and down the country for people to get involved, share patterns and have a cup of tea or two!

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/news--campaigns/the-big-knit/>

### **Don't Just Give Up, Give Blood This New Year! - 4/1/17**

NHS Blood and Transplant aim to collect over 6,000 units of blood per day but only 2.3% of potential donors gave blood in the past year.

Blood can be split into red blood cells, platelets and plasma which can all be used to treat a wide range of different injuries and illnesses. That means that with every 1 donation, you could save and improved up to 3 lives!

Most people between the ages of 17 and 70 are eligible to donate; some donors have helped over 500 people throughout their lifetime.

#### **The Corn Exchange, Faringdon**

Tuesday 17 January 2017

13.10 - 16.00 & 16.50 - 19.15

**Call** - 0300 123 2323    **Web** - [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk)    **Free App** - NHS Give Blood

So give us a call, get online or download the free app to book your appointment today.

### **ADMISSIONS TO FIS and FJS UPDATE- 3/1/17**

Admission to Faringdon Infants and Faringdon Juniors will change slightly for September 2018 intake. From this date Faringdon Junior School will take 30 reception children and Faringdon Infants will take 60. Children who start at Faringdon Infant School in 2018 will remain at this school eventually moving sites – they will not transfer to FJS in Year 3 as they have in the past.

The FAoS will be holding a drop-in session on Wednesday 25th January at the Old Town Hall, Faringdon from 2.00-4.00pm. Parents will be able to find out more about the Admissions and what it might mean for them.

Consultation information can be found on the Faringdon Academy

website: <http://www.faringdon.academy/consultations/>

The consultation period ends on the 31st January 2017. Please direct any queries

to: [academyqueries@faringdon.academy](mailto:academyqueries@faringdon.academy)

### **Faringdon Primary School in 1960s- 3/1/17**

Please have a look at the photo on <http://www.faringdon.org/memories-of-faringdon.html>

Can you name any of the teachers?

Thanks

Gene Webb

### **Sensory Garden project seeks Volunteers- 2/1/17**

Happy New Year!

Privileged people - you have the opportunity of the century, literally in 2017 to create a legacy for the next 100 years at least in your own community!

There are no publicly accessible sensory gardens in the region, let alone the area; they are all in hospices or special needs schools.

We say that everyone needs a Sensory Garden!

This project will provide benefit for all kinds of people for generations to come.

I need volunteers for the following work-streams:

1. Special needs: experience or interest in working with children and adults with special needs e.g. Downs Syndrome, Autism etc.
2. Dementia/ Alzheimer's: qualifications, experience or interest in working with people with these conditions
3. Sensory : experience or interest of working with people with special Sensory needs e.g. Blind, deaf etc.
4. Accessibility; experience or interest in creating an accessible environment for all including those in wheelchairs, with mobility aids such as walking frames, crutches etc.
5. Mental health: experience in working with people of all ages with mental health issues including those conditions generated by trauma e.g PTSD or Post Natal Depression (PND)
6. Carers: experience or interest in being a carer. What do carers need to make their life better/easier for them? What can the garden do in terms of providing a safe and understanding environment?
7. History: interest in local history, world politics, the home front, occupations pre and post war, medicine, military and weaponry. Liaison with families connected to Faringdon war dead; how do we reflect their family sacrifices in the garden for future generations?
8. Art: interest in sculpture, trench art etc.
9. Education: educational trails, outdoor classrooms etc, - history, politics, English literature( war poetry), art, chemistry (ordnance etc.), biology (field medicine, plant biology etc), geography (terrain to support military intent etc.)
10. Local Economy - interest in establishing a viable commercial structure for the garden. Who will supply the cafe? How do we generate a profit for the long term?
11. Horticulture: experience and/or interest in the trees and shrubs we plant and why. Long term maintenance considerations
12. Community: how do we get the schools and groups involved with the project and garden long term? How do we mark their involvement?
13. Business: how do we harness the offers of support from business?
14. Military: experience or interest in establishing links between Faringdon military of 1914-1918 and today. How do we commemorate the armed forces and establish links to the garden for future generations?
15. Wildlife: experience or interest in British wildlife and the encouraging of local species in the garden. Liaison with the wildlife trusts, RSPB etc. Will need to research design elements such as bat and bird boxes, ditches for frogs, newts etc.
16. Elderly/"Vintage" citizens: Experience and/or interest in the design of the garden to ensure accessible to these community elders. Especially important with regards to the cafe, outdoor furniture, arbors, rest stops etc. A critical influence in the project from selection of tea cups and chairs to path layout and placement of benches etc.
17. Children: this garden is not designed as a playground but will have obvious benefits for small people such as a safe place to play and learn. We need people who can tell us how they think we should design dens, play areas, ponds etc. so these future generations are safe and sound.
18. Employment: How can the garden create employment for members of our community who need a helping hand to get on the job ladder?
19. Wellness: anyone with experience and/or interest in how the garden encourage physical and mental wellness? Design features, environments and facilities from spaces for meditation, Tai Chi and yoga to refreshments in the cafe.
20. Physical: interest and/or experience in the encouragement of physical activity in those who are elderly, recovering from illness or trauma or wish to become more active.

Please note that these 20 elements will be project teams in their own right. You will not need to attend committee meetings etc unless you want to. We need to harness your time and interest in

these areas so we get it right. You don't need to have specific qualifications but you do need to be interested and to care about the outcome of the area you're involved in. Age and qualifications are irrelevant entirely. We are creating something special for all generations and you are needed, regardless.

Please let me know which area you'd like to get involved with. Each work-stream will be given budget and a timeline to join up to.

Please email [faringdonsensory@icloud.com](mailto:faringdonsensory@icloud.com)

This Project will be finished in 2018; your involvement is crucial but should be easily managed alongside your daily life.

You can do something special. You can. Do it in 2017 Make it your resolution

We need you. Your community needs you. They don't know it yet but your future community needs you too.

Go on... make yourself proud...

Mel Lane