

North West Farnham Residents Association

[Home](#)[Documents](#)[Issues](#)[Planning](#)[Photographs](#)[Links](#)[Committee Minutes](#)[Newsletters](#)[AGM Minutes](#)[Constitution](#)

Newsletter No 50

Autumn Meeting

**Wednesday October 6th 8 pm
St Francis Hall (off Three Stiles Road)**

'Keep it local –Keep it Beautiful' by Kevin Taitt and David Hepper

Dear Member

We are very lucky this year to have not one Speaker but two to entertain and inform us. The first speaker is Kevin Taitt who is the Town Council Officer in charge of Farnham in Bloom. His greenhouses are in our area next to the West Street Allotments. He is going to give a short talk about Farnham in Bloom and the work of the Town Council and would be happy to answer any questions that you have. The second speaker is David Hepper who is one of our committee members and he is going to give a short talk about the 'Transition' towns and the 'Farnham Local Food' initiatives. You are very welcome to join us and have a chat with other members while you enjoy some post talk refreshment. The entrance fee will be £2.00 each as usual. Anyone who would like to come but needs some extra help or transport can phone our secretary, Harriet Ellis, on 01252 714480.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Wednesday 17th of June and the Chairman welcomed the Town Mayor, Councillor John Ward, Councillor Mrs Pat Frost (Surrey County Council) and Councillor Steven Hill (Farnham Town Council and Waverley Borough Council). They answered questions from the residents and took part in a lively and informative debate the main issues discussed are covered in the Chairman's report below.

Chairs Report

The committee's work has carried on as usual as we continue to try to monitor changes which affect our area and improve things where we are able. The main issue of the last year has to be the threat to the fields in our area which are at present outside the Town built up area but have been identified as potential building land in Waverley's Draft Strategic Land Availability Assessment. Waverley has to produce an assessment of land available for housing if the Government should require extra housing in the area and they have identified two designated areas, firstly the Field behind the University of the Creative Arts or UCA, and secondly two fields which would extend the housing westwards from the Chantry's.

Such a designation does not mean that houses WILL automatically be built but once an area has been designated there is an increased likelihood that this will happen and also that it is very difficult to retract that status once it is awarded. It is important we are all very vigilant over this issue as our green space needs to be preserved. Historically the Fields behind the UCA are very important. They were once a medieval deer park, it has pre-historic track ways, part of the old pilgrims way and there have always been footpaths across it. We definitely want to avoid the building of 400+ extra houses as Farnham is already having problems with traffic and other infrastructure and there is the loss of green space in an area where there is a large population of young people. The agents for the landowner are already making efforts to prevent access to the fields and it is clear that the threat to them is very real.

In the AGM, Matthew Elliot, one of our residents explained further. He said that the landowner has given Wimpey an option on the Field behind the University of the Creative Arts until 2018. He suggested that Wimpey will have been lobbying Waverley Borough Council very hard and if we wish to fight this potential development then we need to lobby ourselves now and we need to do this in two main ways. We need to write letters, both to Waverley's Planning department and separately to our local MP Jeremy Hunt, and also sign the petition which is circulating at the moment and which already has around 400 signatures.

There are suggestions for inclusion in a letter on the website nwfarnham.org.uk and a copy of the item below. We need a ground-swell of opposition to any hint of development in these two areas as it will be too late once a decision has been taken. There will be time to discuss this any further developments at the end of the Autumn meeting and hopefully a copy of the petition will be available to sign.

I am looking forward to seeing you on October 6th.

**Penny Marriott
September 2010.**

Click [Here](#) to see the previous Newsletter.

[Return to the top](#)