

North West Farnham Residents Association

Annual General Meeting

**Wednesday June 15th 8 pm 2016
St Francis Hall (off Three Stiles Road)**

Followed by

Local Councillors' Forum

Dear Member

Newsletter 61

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 20th June and it will be followed by our usual Councillor Forum. We will be welcoming the Councillor Mrs. Pat Frost (Surrey County Council) and Our Town and Borough Councillor Mr. John Williamson. I am sure that we shall have the usual lively and informative debate. Anyone who would like to come but needs some extra help or transport can phone me on 01252 714480.

Chair and Committee Report

The Fields in NW Farnham

We in the committee and other members of the North West Farnham Residents Association have continued to work to ensure that any of the greenspace in the area is safeguarded as far as we can. Our Association pointed out the dangers of what can happen if there is no local plan in place at Waverley. What is happening now is exactly what all of us have been worried about. If there were a plan in place then there would be a requirement that brown field sites or sites with low amenity value should be used first before any green field sites are used. With no plan then ANY green field site in Farnham can be the subject of an application despite the fact that there are more suitable sites which could be used. Given all the reasons why planning permission should not have been granted such as pollution, traffic management, infrastructure and Specially Protected Areas, our green fields continue to be the target of developers. There is a huge Brownfield site at Dunsfold which could take a large number of new dwellings with none of these problems so why is this happening here in Farnham?

In our view, the situation is almost entirely due to Waverley's incompetence and now the date for producing the Waverley plan has been put back for a second and third time and will not appear until next year. The Town Council on the other hand should be producing theirs soon (***) but of course it is Waverley who are the planning authority and so will have the final say. There are plans in the pipeline for many of the green spaces in and around our region such as Coxbridge and Folly Hill amongst others. The NWFRA committee has pointed out to both the Waverley Local Plan team and the Farnham Town Council Neighbourhood Plan team that the area North and West of the Hopfields is an Area of Great Landscape Value for good reason and that this area should be given protection from development in the future in the new plans.

I would like encourage all members to continue to write to our local government representatives to urge them to place some protection on all the areas of North West

Farnham that are under threat under these new conditions. Our historic green spaces make Farnham and we must fight to keep it that way.

Other Planning Matters

We still need to be aware of any planned developments in other parts of our Ward. The website provides a link to the planning applications in Waverley and if you click on the Castle Ward applications it will give you a list of all the applications in our area. For those of you without a computer, word of mouth works just as well so if you have any information about an application near to you, please contact any member of the committee and let us know and then we can circulate it more widely to other members who may wish to be involved.

Community Speed Watch and Traffic Matters

There is always a problem with traffic in Farnham, as was said in the previous newsletter it is either going too fast or not going at all. In the past few years there have been yet more accidents in Crondall Lane and the traffic there as elsewhere seems to be increasing. We would like to repeat our thanks to all the Speed Watch volunteers, who are still in operation in the area, whatever the weather. They continue to record cases of excessive speed but hopefully our presence there helps to keep some of the speed down. We are hoping to continue this activity and as usual we need more volunteers to help spread the load. The speed indicator signs remain erratic and one has disappeared altogether but the remaining one sign is still working at the time of going to press. Please contact the Speed Watch coordinator, Chris Cleland, on 01252 733134 if you have any views to express or feel you can spare some time.

The Website

Our website has been running for over two years now and one of our committee, Mr. Keith Miller, is the 'webmaster'. It is well visited at over a hundred hits per week and it has been very useful in communicating changes and developments as we hear of them. We are really keen to provide a good service to you all and we would like to tackle issues that are important to you so please log on either at home, at the Library or in the locality office in South Street, and tell us what they are. The site address is www.nwfarnham.org.uk.

Other Matters

May I remind you that this year's subs are due and your friendly neighbourhood collector will be around to collect them. They remain at £2.00 a household.

If you have any matters you would like to raise at the meeting please let us know and I am looking forward to seeing you all on June 13th.

Penny Marriott

May 2016.