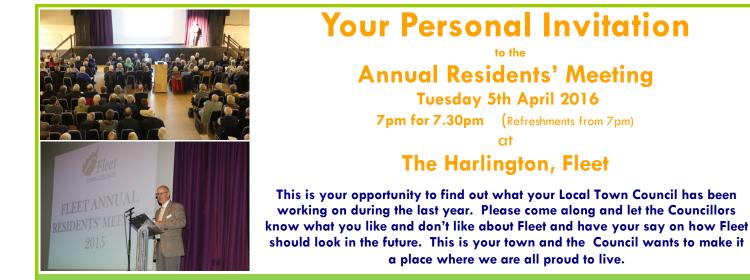


...making a difference

TOWNTALK

The newsletter from Fleet Town Council

March 2016



Big Decisions to be made...

The Town Council has been in planning mode this year. We have been developing projects identified by some of the Friends Groups and projects that the Council believe are necessary for the future wellbeing of Fleet. We have displayed and asked for resident's feedback on proposals for:

- A Garden of Remembrance as an extension to the existing Fleet Cemetery
- Long term proposals for Calthorpe Park recreational activities
- An overall vision for the Views including details of a Sensory Experience
- A new Harlington Development to replace the existing community facility

The public's response overall has been very positive and we have taken due note of the many positive and constructive comments that were left by visitors at the various exhibition sites. The plans are being reviewed in the light of these comments.

The future challenge to the Council will be how to finance these projects and we will be exploring the use of development-related funds and grants. There are a multitude of funds out there, many for very small amounts and many tied to very specific criteria, but somewhere there is a needle in the haystack! Our job is to find it.

The Council has embarked on a Neighbourhood Plan and has engaged with local community groups to establish a future vision for Fleet and, with the assistance of an experienced firm of consultants, will translate those objectives

into policies that will have legal standing in the planning process. More detail is presented on page 2.

On behalf of the staff and councillors we all look forward to meeting many of you on the 5th April.



Bob Schofield

Chairman

ALL FLEET RESIDENTS WELCOME



Produced and Published by Fleet Town Council The Harlington 236 Fleet Road Fleet GU51 4BY

> 01252 625246 www.fleet-tc.gov.uk

🍠 @Fleet Council 📑 Fleet Town Council

Photography: David Fisher— Aldershot, Fleet & Farnham Camera Club



Saturday 23rd April Time: 9.30am - 12.30pm Meeting at the Harlington





To help make Fleet a better place to live and work, we are looking for volunteers to help tidy up and

improve the appearance of Fleet Town Centre and the parks. We are inviting residents and organisations to come along and be part of the day. It is hoped that when we all get up on Sunday 24th April, there will be a noticeable improvement in the appearance of Fleet. There are a variety of different tasks you can get involved with including: refurbishing benches, weeding, litter picking, removing fly posters etc...

As usual, Fleet Town Council will supply all the materials and equipment. If you are interested please contact us on: Tel: 01252 625246 ...or just come along on the day! Email: charlotte.benham@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Making a Difference...

Neighbourhood Planning - with Clir Alan Oliver

Who is preparing the Neighbourhood Plan? "A Steering Group consisting of interested members of the local community."

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

"A Neighbourhood Plan is a formal spatial planning document whose core is a series of policies that will inform and control the use of land and development in our neighbourhood. "

What will be included in Fleet's Neighbourhood Plan?

- * Town Centre retail mix and community facilities
- * Housing development sites and mix of housing types
- * Design design principles and the protection of the individual character of areas in Fleet
- * Green Infrastructure protection and development of green spaces and conservation areas

The plan is taking as a major input, the various consultations residents have participated in on the Future of Fleet over the last 5 years. The Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group is currently working on the above 4 specific work streams which will all need to be evidence based."

Will the residents of Fleet be consulted about the contents of the Neighbourhood Plan?

"Yes. We expect to be able to present a draft Neighbourhood Plan to you at the end of the year. This will be conducted as a formal consultation and all Fleet residents will be invited to let the Steering Group have their views."

Will the residents comments be included in the final Neighbourhood Plan

"Yes. The feedback will be incorporated into a final Neighbourhood Plan that will be subject to a referendum in early 2017."

If the residents of Fleet approved the Neighbourhood Plan for Fleet, how will it be used in the future. "If supported by the majority of town residents, the plan will then be used by FTC and HDC as a key document in any planning and development proposals within the neighbourhood."

Has your community been affected by flooding or an emergency?

Then find out how you and your neighbours can become more resilient to, and recover more quickly from, flooding and other emergencies. Discover what Community Emergency Plans can do for you and how you can shape them to meet your local needs. Find out more at the Fleet Town Council's Annual Resident's Meeting on the 5th April and join Hart District Council's

Flooding Department for an exciting, free day of practical, hands-on training at Fleet's Fire Station in June 2016. Date and details to be announced at the Annual Residents meeting.



Tennís at Calthorpe Park

Now the days are lighter and the weather is improving why not get together with family and friends to play tennis at the Calthorpe Park Courts? You can book a Court online anytime by visiting our website <u>www.fleet-tc.gov.uk</u> Alternatively you can visit the Harlington Box Office during opening hours (Mon - Fri 10am - 5pm & Sat 10am - 3pm)

Upcoming Dates for your Diary

- Annual Residents' Meeting 5th April 2016
- Action Day 23rd April 2016
- Fleet Half Marathon 20th March 2016
- Fleet Food Festival 29th May 2016
- Circus 19th to 27th June 2016
- Fleet Carnival 1st to 3rd July 2016
- Firework Fiesta 5th November 2016
- Remembrance Sunday 6th November 2016
- Christmas Festival 23rd November 2016

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Review Consultation

As a result of recent Hampshire Fire and Rescue Review Consultations, the team at Fleet Fire Station is relieved that an

show what a difference can be made!





Alan Oliver Councillor

intermediate vehicle is being allocated to Fleet, rather than the smaller First Response vehicle that was originally proposed, along with a Land Rover and large water carrier vehicle. Thankyou to all those who got involved and responded to the consultation. It goes to

... to the local community

Your Questions, Our Answers

Why does Fleet need a new Harlington?

We asked residents what they thought was good and bad about the Harlington and you told us the seating was poor, the lighting and sound were poor and the toilets were not the best. Most people liked the varied programme of events that were being introduced. We know the building is highly inefficient, single glazed windows and no insulation and is in constant need of repairs (especially the toilets). The boilers that heat both the Harlington and the Library are well over 20 years old and obsolete.

Can the current Harlington building not be retained?

The Harlington at present is owned by Hart District Council and is a liability in need of serious works. If the council were to renovate The Harlington rather than build a new one, the minimum works that would be required would be: a new roof, the installation of double glazing throughout the building, new boilers and heating systems, new downstairs toilets, a new façade and access to the building and electrical rewiring. These works would be estimated to cost in the region of $\pounds1.5$ million and would still result in the precept being raised – for an average B and D household, based on a 25 year loan, the precept would be increased from $\pounds55.63$ to $\pounds64.07$. Also if the Council were to renovate rather than replace, there would be no improvement in the theatre facility or seating arrangements.

How were residents informed of plans to build a new Harlington?

At the Annual Resident's Meeting held on the 31st March 2015, various options and indicative costs for varying degrees of refurbishment or replacement of The Harlington were presented to the public with over 200 attendees. The strong mood of that meeting was to progress with the development of a new facility with a properly designed theatre of 300/400 seat capacity and tiered retractable seating in the auditorium. Copies of the presentations were posted on Fleet Town Council's website after the meeting.

Fleet Town Council then commissioned a firm of local architects to investigate the feasibility/impacts of developing a new facility in close proximity to the existing Harlington. Fleet Town Council presented the outcome of that work at an Open Day in conjunction with Fleet Future on the 31st October and over 800 people visited the exhibition. These displays were then put on show in several locations around Fleet from October to the 23rd December 2015 and were also uploaded to our website, advertised in several magazines, press releases and forms of social media. Furthermore, when Fleet Town Council decided to apply to raise the Council tax to fund designs for a new facility, a flyer was sent to every resident in Fleet explaining the reasons behind the increase and how it would affect them. This flyer was also uploaded to the Council's website.

Were the public informed of the possible Council Tax increase prior to the application to Hart District Council?

As explained above, the tax implications were presented at the 2015 Annual Residents Meeting and at public exhibition. Increasing the Council Tax was debated at the Full Council Meeting on the 2nd December 2015. The Agenda and Minutes were all available to the public on the Council's website. All agendas are publically advertised a minimum of three days prior to the meeting and the public are welcome to attend.

Why are other Councils not contributing when their residents use The Harlington?

In 2010 the new parishes of Fleet Town, Church Crookham and Elvetham Heath were created and Hart District Council initially legally transferred the Harlington operation to all three new councils. CCPC and EHPC declined to participate in the Harlington, so to retain the Harlington and create an active community entertainment and recreation hub, Fleet Town Council took on sole responsibility. FTC was only offered a lease for The Harlington as HDC chose to retain ownership of the property because they believed there was development potential. Fleet Town Council are writing to neighbouring Parish Councils to ask if they would now be willing to contribute to the development of a new Harlington as their residents use the facilities.

Why are we proposing to build on Gurkha Square?

Hart District Council agreed that Fleet Town Council could explore the possibility of building a new Harlington on Gurkha Square which is also owned by Hart District Council. Other sites were reviewed but there is a very limited opportunity within the town area and buying a private site could add in the order of £2 million to the overall development cost.



Continued on page 4

Your Questíons, Our Answers contínued...

If a new Harlington is built will Parking be affected?

Hart District Council manages and owns the car parks within Fleet. However Fleet Town Council understands that Hart District Council recognises the importance of maintaining the same number of spaces for the benefit of the local retailers, residents and visitors.

Is the proposed increase excessive?

First of all to clear up a misconception, the percentage increase that has been quoted only applies to that part of your Council Tax bill that relates to Fleet Town Council. The existing charge is $\pounds 55.63$ per annum, so just over $\pounds 1$ /week per Band D rated household. The proposed increase is made up of two parts;



 $\pounds 4.81/year$ to maintain the current level of services against lost income and increased costs. The second part is $\pounds 39.37$ per year per B and D household to raise the money to undertake architectural and engineering investigations and designs for both a replacement and a refurbishment option for a new Harlington Facility. It is not just for planning as indicated in social media. At the end of this exercise the public will have the opportunity to decide which option they believe will deliver the best long term solution and the best value for money.

Other parish councils have been down this route before us; Hook Parish Council raised their local tax to \pounds 97.70 a number of years ago to fund the development of the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Hartley Wintney and Blackwater and Hawley raised their tax to \pounds 70.95 and \pounds 83.64 respectively to fund major capital works. The Town Council's only source of income is the local parish rate. If we were restricted to a 2% increase this would raise little more than \pounds 11,000 per annum. On this basis nothing new will ever be built in Fleet and we will be unable to maintain the existing building as it deteriorates.

Can I view Fleet Town Council's accounts?

The Town Council's accounts are in the public domain. Lists of Payments for each month are available on Fleet Town Council's website – we would advise that the transaction details column will only show the last item description entered if an invoice contains more than one item. We have seen many comments on social media regarding this for example our grounds maintenance – the $\pm 10,000$ a month does not just cover the Edenbrook play areas but eight different areas including our major parks, Oakley, Ancells Farm, Calthorpe, The Views and Basingbourne. If you wish to view any other documents this can be arranged by contacting us.

Where can I find information?

Information including plans/presentations for The Harlington development can be found on our website <u>www.fleet-tc.gov.uk</u> or alternatively you can contact us on 01252 625246 or Email: <u>info@fleet-tc.gov.uk</u> Information is also usually published on our Facebook and Twitter (@FleetCouncil), displayed on our noticeboard in The Harlington and included in the monthly magazine Fleet Life.

Friends of the Parks

Friends of Fleet Cemetery

Fleet Town Council is responsible for the general maintenance within the Cemetery. However the owner of the exclusive rights of burial is responsible for maintenance of the plot. Unfortunately some of the graves are sadly neglected as families move away or are unable to visit. Fleet Town Council has recently set up a Friends of the Cemetery Group to help undertake works. If you are interested in joining or for more information please contact the Cemetery Clerk on <u>cemetery.clerk@fleet-tc.gov.uk</u> or call 07880722941.

Friends of The Views

It is hoped that a new Friends of The Views will be set up in the next couple of months. This is the only park in Fleet currently without an active Group. The Friends of Groups are local residents interested in supporting the regeneration of a particular park through Action Days and other leisure and environmental projects. If you would be interested in joining the Friends of The Views or want more information please contact us on 01252 625246 or Email: <u>charlotte.benham@fleet-tc.gov.uk</u>

Interested in joining?

Fleet Town Council also has 4 other Friends of Groups: Ancells Farm, Basingbourne Park , Calthorpe Park and Oakley Park.

If you are interested in joining any of the Friends of Groups mentioned above or require more information, links to their websites can be found at <u>www.fleet-tc.gov.uk</u> under the Sports & Recreation tab or call 01252 625246.

Friends of the Views and Friends of Fleet Cemetery are seeking members!







Hiring a Fleet Town Council Venue

Fleet Town Council offers two very different community venues

that can be hired out

The Harlington

Ancells Farm Community Centre For availability call: 01252 811009 www.theharlington.co.uk

HARLINGTON

The larger of the two, The Harlington, situated in the town centre, can seat up to 300 people in its main auditorium or up to 500 people can dance the night away at your special celebration party.



The Auditorium

As well as this larger space, the venue has a function room and many smaller rooms, perfect when you need something a bit more intimate or you want to hold a small meeting. Both the Auditorium and Function Room have licenced bars with a selection of draught beers and ciders available...

New to The Harlington is a purpose built dance studio with its fully sprung dance floor which is now open and available for hire.

The Harlington is the ideal venue for all occasions and is also the home of regular music, drama, fitness and dance classes, many of which are held in the newly opened Dance Studio.



Ancells Farm Community Centre



At the heart of Ancells Farm is the Community Centre. This centre features a main hall that can be divided to suit individual's requirements as well as meeting rooms and an outside garden.

This hub of local activity is ideal for meetings, local clubs and suitable for all types of celebratory parties. It is also the home to a local pre-school, a dance academy, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts as well as sports, fitness and dance groups.



瓣 Friends of Basingbourne Park 🐐

Easter Egg Hunt - Sunday 20th March at 2pm

2015 has been a good year for Basingbourne Park. New paths have been laid through the woods, the Pavilion was fitted with a new roof, the Friends of Basingbourne (FOB) have repainted more of the playground, hosted nature walks and participated in a very successful BioBlitz survey.

FOB plan to further enhance the area by opening up a new path to the canal. The current path towards the canal is not passable due to bushes, fallen trees and a stream. FOB have been awarded a grant from the Orchid Environmental Trust Fund to open up a walkway with new foot bridges via the Wickham Woodlands through to the Canal. FOB would like to know your views on these ideas for improving these paths. You can view the proposed canal side paths map on FOB's website www.basingbournepark.org.uk

Please fill in the Canal Side Woods Survey at this address: <u>www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SPC2Q6V</u>



What's on at The Harlington

HARLINGTON

Box Office: 01252 811009 <u>www.theharlington.co.uk</u>

	Descent of the top acts from the UK comedy circuit Descent of the top acts from the UK comedy circuit	SATURDAY 16th April 21st May 18th June Show: 8.30pm
FLEET FILM	A Social Cinema Group showing award-winning Films from around the world Tickets available on the door. £6 Information visit www.fleetfilm.co.uk	MONDAY 11th & 25th April 16th May 13th & 20th June
FLEET AZZ C	Featuring some of Britain's finest Jazz musicians 3rd Tuesday of the month Please visit www.theharlington.co.uk for prices	TUESDAY 19th April 17th May Show: 8:00pm
Sisce Sisce events	Monthly Roller Disco Tickets just £6 per person (including skate hire). Purchase on the door only. Bar open with snacks available. For more information visit <u>www.discoskate.co.uk</u>	FRIDAY 15th April 20th May 17th June Time: 6 - 9:30pm
KAST OF KINKS	KAST OFF KINKS Not to be missed! Celebrate St. George's Day with the actual former members of the legendary band 'The Kinks', getting back together to re-live the good times. Tickets: £18 Reserved Seating / £16 Standing	SATURDAY 23rd April Show: 8:30pm
	An Evening with Peter Snow: The Battle of Waterloo Experience Peter talks about his latest book co-written with Dan Snow. Followed by audience Q&A: Ask about Peter's career in journalism, politics, or even the famous "Swingometer"! Tickets: £15	TUESDAY 26th April Show: 7:30pm

	THE STEVIE WONDER EXPERIENCE		FRIDAY
	sensational 10-piece live b	e Wonder tribute show featuring a and - replicating the line-up and wn live shows - with the incredible	29th April
STEVIE WONDER	Zion Wilson from BBC's Last Choir Standing. Tickets: £18.50 Seated / £15 Standing		Show: 8:30pm
	STERE	OTONICS	SATURDAY
	"They're really good! They so	ute to the Stereophonics. ound just like we did years ago!"	7th May
Stereotonics	(Kelly Jones - Lead singer from the REAL Stereophonics) Tickets: £15 Reserved Seating/ £12.50 Standing		Show: 8:30pm
		Diamond	SATURDAY
	WAYNE DENTON, fronts this live concert. Faithfully recreating the songs, atmosphere and evoking memories of the era in his own inimitable style. Interspersed with humour and audience participation, faithfully recreating and delivering the hits of Neil		14th May
Neil Diamond	Di	amond. ts: £17.50	Show: 8:00pm
ABBA	ABBA Fever 5 piece live band with 5 part harmonies the show transports you back to the 70's through the biggest hits of the world's favourite band. ADDED FAMILY SHOW DUE TO DEMAND		SATURDAY
Sion sent			11th June Show:
			3:00pm 8:30pm
	SAMTANA - THE ULTIMATE SANTANA TRIBUTE - are dedicated to faithfully reproducing the authentic, pulsating, fiery Latin		Friday
			24th June
	sounds of Carlos Santana. Tickets: £15 Reserved Seating/£12.50 Standing		Show: 8:30pm
Starburst Theatr	e comíng home	Courses and (Classes
For those of you that may not have seen the	P. C. C. C. M. A.	The Harlington offers a wide range Classes including:	
news yet, Fleet Town Council is pleased to announce a new look		Len Tyler Music School For children from birth to ag	e 9

December programme at The Harlington for 2016.

The highlight will be the "homecoming" of Starburst Theatre, who will be providing Fleet's pantomime at The Harlington. Starburst Theatre produce fantastic NODA award winning shows and give all the profits from their productions to the Starburst Charity which helps local children with special needs.

Other features may include more Christmas Party nights, a Christmas Jazz Show and Christmas Film Nights. Details will be published on the Harlington's What's On page.

- www.lentylermusicschool.co.uk
 - **Rock Choir** www.rockchoir.com

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- Ceroc
 - A fusion of Salsa/Ballroom/Hip Hop/Tango/Jive www.cerocplus.co.uk

Funtime Dance and Drama

Children and adult classes throughout the week www.funtimedanceanddrama.co.uk

A full list of Courses and Classes can be found at: www.theharlington.co.uk





Your Councillors

Ancells Ward

Cllr Neil Walton Tel: 01252 504030 neil.walton@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Jonathan Wright Tel: 07909797167 jonathan.wright@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Calthorpe Ward

Cllr Grahame Chenery Tel: 01252 617033 grahame.chenery@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Leslie Holt Tel: 01252 624814 leslie.holt@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Courtmoor Ward

Cllr Steve Cantle Tel 07468 043861 steve.cantle@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Tel 07919 440226 Cllr Alex Gray alex.gray@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Fleet Central Ward

Cllr Denis Gotel Tel: 01252 614648 denis.gotel@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Alan Hope Tel: 07946 292557 alan.hope@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Tel: 01252 679235 Cllr Alan Oliver alan.oliver@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Richard Robinson Tel: 01252 614590 richard.robinson@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Paul Einchcomb Tel: 01252 662720 paul.einchcomb@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Pondtail Ward

Tel: 01252 629667 Cllr Kathy Jasper kathy.jasper@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Dai Pierce Tel: 01252 621408 dai.pierce@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Bob Schofield CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL Tel: 01252 621373 bob.schofield@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Jeff Smith Tel: 07581 537516 jeff.smith@fleet-tc.gov.uk

What is Fleet Town Council responsible for?

- Ancells Farm Community Centre
- Cemeteries and Burials
- Christmas Lights
- Floral Displays
- Grants
- The Harlington
- The Harlington Coffee Shop
- Parks & Play Equipment at: Ancells Farm, Basingbourne, Calthorpe & Oakley Parks and The Views
- Pavilions at: Ancells Farm, Calthorpe, Basingbourne, and Oakley Parks.

Full Council Meeting

The Ultimate Samtana Tribute

July

Policy & Finance Meeting

A full list of Fleet Town Council

meeting dates is available at

Planning Meeting

Planning Meeting

Planning Meeting

Fleet Jazz Club

Planning Meeting

www.fleet-tc.gov.uk

For more shows visit

www.theharlington.co.uk

Abba Fever

RLA Meeting

Comedy Club

Full Council

- **Planning Applications Consultations**
- Residents' Annual Meeting
- Skate Park at The Views
- **Tennis Courts in Calthorpe Park**
- War Memorial
- Football Pitches
- Notice Boards

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5 Annual Resident's Meeting

April

- 6 **Full Council Meeting**
- 8 Jenny Éclair
- 11 Planning Meeting
- 16 Comedy Club
- 18 Policy & Finance Meeting
- 19 Fleet Jazz Club
- 23 The Kast Off Kinks
- **Planning Meeting** 25
- An Evening with Peter Snow 26 The Stevie Wonder Experience 29

May

- 7 Stereotonics
- 9 **Planning Meeting**
- 11 **Full Council Meeting**
- Neil Diamond 14
- 17 Fleet Jazz Club
- Comedy Club 21
- **Planning Meeting** 23

Police — Beat Surgery Dates 2016

Redfields Garden Centre Elaines Café—Linkway Hart Shopping Centre The Keys Lusso Café—Ancells

10:00-11:00 14:30-15:30 13:00-14:00 10:00-11:00 15:30-16:30

Dates were not available at the time of going to print but will be www.hampshire.police.uk

Useful Telephone Numbers

Ancells Farm Com Centre 07702 834701 **Basingstoke Hospital** Birth/Death/Marriage Reg 0300 555 1392 **Bus Permits** Citizens Advice Bureau **Council Tax** Electoral Registration Fleet Cemetery

Fleet Link Bus Service **Fleet Town Council** Hants County Council

Frimley Park Hospital	01276 604604
The Harlington	
& Box Office	01252 811009
Hart District Council	01252 622122
Hart Leisure Centre	01252 629974
Hart Shopping Centre	01252 811834
Hart Voluntary Action	01252 815652
Library	0300 555 1387
MP – Ranil Jayawardena	0207 219 3637
Police	101
Refuse/special collections	01252 622122



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