

HELLO SPRING

Councillor Bob Schofield looks to the year ahead



Welcome to our spring newsletter.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and new initiatives in 2024. We hope you like the new format of our newsletter. Town Talk has served us well, but it is time for a fresh presentation. We will also be

freshening up our website to make it more accessible and make it easier to find the information you need. We will welcome your feedback.

Hopefully you all enjoyed the Coronation celebrations last year. It was fabulous to see the number of you who turned out. In an aim to maintain this sense of community we are hoping to trial a new event this year – a music festival on The Views. It is in the early stages of planning, and is subject to securing funding, but we hope it will appeal to all tastes and ages.

Fleet Town Council is always eager to hear from residents and we hope to hear from you over the course of this year. We have taken a monthly stall at Fleet Saturday Market, to chat to anyone who wishes to

come along. On 18 March we will be holding our Annual Residents' Meeting which we trust will be informative and give you the opportunity to raise any issues of concern or interest. Even if it is a matter that we cannot deal with directly we will either point you in the right direction or take up the issue on your behalf with the appropriate authority.

We also hope you will join us for the launch of our Greening Fleet initiative on 9 March, at The Views.


And finally, fellow Fleet Town Councillors have set out the primary values of the Council:

- We conduct our business in an apolitical way.
- We operate collectively.
- We communicate effectively and listen.
- We care for the environment.
- We are financially responsible.
- We are inclusive, act with integrity and are transparent.

The projects we have lined up this year are a demonstration of our commitment to these values.

Best wishes, Bob
Chairman, Fleet Town Council

Annual Residents' Meeting - 18 March, 7pm at The Harlington, Fleet



Fleet Town Council extends a warm invitation for you to attend this year's Annual Residents' Meeting, where the Council will share its plans, including our Vision for Fleet, aspirations for The Harlington and an update on Greening Fleet. As in previous years we have arranged for representatives from some of our community partners to attend, so residents can hear first-hand from these important organisations and ask questions.

We look forward to meeting the many regular attendees, and seeing new faces too. If you are unable to attend, copies of the presentation will be available on our website, www.fleet-tc.gov.uk after the event.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2 'Vision for Fleet'
- 3 Greening Fleet launch event
- 5 Highlights for the year ahead
- 6 Entertainment at The Harlington

Fleet Town Council Budget & Precept 2024/25

Band D Precept
£123.92 per year /
£2.38 per week

Budget planning for the next financial year has been challenging due to the impact of high inflation and the financial pressure from contractual price increases, including maintenance, the cost of utilities and staffing.

Careful money management and ensuring the best value for residents, means we are able to continue offering our full range of services to meet our vision for the town, and plan for the future.

Consequently, at the Council meeting in January 2024, the Council agreed that the precept will increase for the coming year by **13 pence per week** for a Band D household. This represents excellent value for money for the range of public services, leisure and recreation facilities we provide for our residents.

Please see a summary of our expenditure and income for next year below. The full budget can be viewed on the Council's website.

Expenditure 2024/25



Income 2024/25



Fleet Town Council's VISION FOR FLEET

A welcoming, sustainable, inclusive and environmentally ambitious town, looking to the future with a strong, healthy, active and diverse community, which responds positively to change.

The Council agreed its Vision in October 2023 and will deliver this by:

- Supporting our young people
- Supporting our vulnerable and elderly
- Providing ambitious opportunities for leisure, culture and wellbeing
- Being environmentally conscious and promoting green initiatives
- Promoting a safer environment for residents and businesses
- Delivering strong governance effectiveness and improved facilities
- Developing engagement and information sharing
- Generating wider social value for the town through partnerships

5 WAYS TO ENJOY FLEET THIS SPRING

- 1 Take up tennis...** book a court or become a member at Calthorpe Park on www.calthorpeparktennis.com
- 2 Pack up a picnic and head to a park...** and let your little ones enjoy the play equipment at Basingbourne, Calthorpe or Ancells Farm Park.
- 3 Love where you live and volunteer...** at our Action Day in May, or at Fleet's new Repair Cafe.
- 4 Get next to nature...** find somewhere new and peaceful to walk in our green spaces: try the woods at Oakley Park or Basingbourne.
- 5 Keep an eye out for Fleet's floral displays...** our town planters will soon be full of buds.



Greening Fleet

Fleet Town Council has embarked on an exciting new project, that aims to encourage and inspire the local community to come together to create a more sustainable town.

LAUNCH EVENT

9 March, The Views, 10am-1pm



From Cllr Kate Cottrell

We've been working hard making plans for Greening Fleet, and now, to help everyone get involved we have planned a **Launch Event** on 9 March at The Views.

There will be interactive activities for the entire family as well as educational stands which will highlight our fabulous local green spaces and groups. We will have hints and tips to help you to accomplish your Challenge Cards which will contribute to our entire town's CO2 saving and will set you on a path to lowering your bills.

Furthermore, you will be able to find out how and when to get involved in this year's events which you can pick and choose at your will.

We would love for you, your friends and family to be involved in our local town, in our environment, and in Greening Fleet, and we hope to see you there. **Together everyone achieves more!**

For more information see our website: www.fleet-tc.gov.uk or email info@fleet-tc.gov.uk



Rise to the CHALLENGE!

We're inviting everyone to take part in the Greening Fleet project - and with the Challenge Card it's so easy. You will have received your Challenge Card with this newsletter.

We are asking Fleet residents to commit to three of the challenges listed on the card, then display the card in your street-facing window to show the town you've joined in the challenge. We will be out counting cards 14-19 April, and we really hope to see yours!



Greener heat for The Harlington?

Fleet Town Council has worked in close partnership with Hart District Council on their application for a grant to install an Air Source Heat Pump at The Harlington. The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme has been set up by the Government Department for Energy Security and Net Zero to enable the public sector to reduce carbon, as well as making buildings more comfortable and cheaper to heat. We await the outcome of the application, due early March 2024.



Fleet's Own Repair Café



Fleet is getting its very own Repair Café, offering a space for the community to bring in items for repair instead of discarding them. Facilitated and supported by Fleet Town Council, the first Repair Café session is on **Saturday 6 April, 10am** at The Harlington, Fleet.

A huge thank you to the numerous volunteers and Cllr Kate Cottrell, whose combined efforts have made this project possible. Look out on social media and the Town Council website for future Café dates.



Interested in finding out how you can help fight climate change locally? Visit Impact Hart, a new website specifically aimed at Hart's local community to help tackle climate change and other key environmental topics. www.impacthart.co.uk

Crowning glory for Fleet

The Coronation was surely the jewel in the crown of Fleet's community events in 2023, with a hugely attended high-street parade, car show and fair at Calthorpe Park. There was a real party atmosphere as the town gathered for bands and entertainment all weekend, topped off with beacon lighting and spectacular fireworks.

Blooming lovely

We hope you enjoyed Fleet's bee-friendly floral displays in 2023. Designed to add a glorious touch of colour and nature to the Fleet shopping experience, the 100 hanging baskets and 26 street planters are planted in June and maintained until October by Fleet Town Council's specialist contractor.

Thinking back

to Fleet Town Council highlights in 2023



A CRACKING CHRISTMAS LUNCH

For the eighth year running, Fleet Town Council held a free Christmas Day Lunch for those in Fleet, Elvetham Heath and Church Crookham who would otherwise have spent Christmas Day alone. Once again, the event was a huge success and around 60 people, both guests and volunteers, participated on the day.

Huge thanks to the volunteers that helped on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day - it was very much appreciated!

Thank you to those who made it possible by donating money, time or services - The Harlington, CH Cleaning Services, Elvetham Heath Parish Council, Church Crookham Parish Council and several members of the public. A special thank you to Elvetham Heath Parish Council for allowing us to use the Community Centre for the Christmas Eve food preparations.

Christmas high-LIGHTS

Of all the projects Fleet Town Council manage throughout the year, the Fleet Christmas lights and tree in Gurkha Square must be one of our favourites, adding a festive sparkle to the town centre. Fleet's Christmas tree provided the perfect backdrop to the choirs singing in Gurkha Square as part of Fleet Town Council's contribution to Fleet Christmas Festival on 22 November. We were so pleased to receive lovely feedback from residents about this year's Christmas lights.

Remembrance Sunday

It is always an honour to play a part in Fleet's Act of Remembrance each November, and 2023 was no exception. After the parade, and wreath laying by local dignitaries and groups in Gurkha Square, we were happy to welcome around 300 people who came to The Harlington, where we served refreshments.



The Harlington update



From Cllr Bob Schofield

We are keeping our fingers crossed that 2024 is the year that Fleet Town Council secures a long-term lease over The Harlington, meaning we can start essential renovation work to the building and, importantly, increase its

flexibility of use. The first priority is to bring it up to present day building standards with new mechanical and electrical systems and adding insulation to reduce its carbon footprint.

As a new Harlington building is now financially out of reach, we will do what we can to significantly improve the current building and your experience of using it.

Edenbrook Play Areas revamped

Fleet Town Council is renovating the two play areas we are responsible for in Edenbrook, and we would love to get your input to make sure we're providing what the community really wants. Please use the QR code to complete our survey:



Spring into ACTION - join us

Fleet Town Council Action Day - 18 May

To support our local community and keep Fleet looking its best, we are inviting local residents to volunteer at our annual Action Day. Meeting outside The Harlington at 9.30am, activities will include painting railings, refurbishing benches, and litter-picking. For details call 01252 625246 or email info@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Looking forward

to exciting events and initiatives in 2024

Fleet's first music festival



From Cllr Sue Tilley

We are in the early stages of planning something completely new for 2024 – MOTV (Music On The Views) – Fleet's first ever music festival!

Subject to securing funding, MOTV will take place on The Views on Sunday, 25 August 2024, and we're hoping it will be a fabulous one-day family event of music and entertainment.

A small, local volunteer group has joined together, in partnership with Fleet Town Council, to plan and promote the event, so look out for more information in the coming months and keep everything crossed we can secure sufficient funding for the event to go ahead. You heard it here first!

NEW-LOOK WEBSITES

We're excited to announce that we will be launching new websites for Fleet Town Council and The Harlington in late spring. Both sites will be mobile friendly and meet accessibility standards.

Town Council information will be much easier to find, and our news feature and community calendar will keep you up to date. The Harlington has seen its ticket sales shift predominantly online over the last four

years, and a more responsive, user-friendly website will be more accessible for all customers.

Once we launch the new sites some of the web links in this newsletter may no longer work. Don't worry though, the main domain will remain the same: www.fleet-tc.gov.uk for Fleet Town Council and www.theharlington.co.uk for The Harlington.

The Harlington is home to, and supports a wide variety of organisations, activities and events for the benefit of the Community. These include:

- Various music, drama, dance and fitness classes for a range of ages including: *Monkey Music, Rock Choir, Ceroc, Funtime Dance & Drama, Rebecca Fraiz Classical Ballet, Salsa Steps, Bodyline Aerobics, Over 50's Aerobics* and *Vicky Ewen Fitness*. More details can be found at www.theharlington.co.uk/courses_and_classes
- **NHS Baby Weighing Clinic** Book in service (most Tuesdays) - Tel: 01252 813842 or Email: hp-tr.fleetandyateley@nhs.net
- **National Blood Donors** Upcoming sessions are: March 12th, April 23rd, May 7th & June 4th 2024. You can check your eligibility and register to give blood at myblood.co.uk
- Clubs/lectures such as: **Fleet Townswomen's Guild** (www.the-tg.com) held every 1st Wednesday of the month
- **The Arts Society** (www.tas-hart.org.uk) every 2nd Wednesday of the month
- **U3A** (<https://flu3aweb.wixsite.com/fleetu3a>) every 3rd Wednesday of the month
- **Sasha's Project** is a drop-in crisis centre for young people who are struggling with their mental health Tel: 07741 117655 or Email: angela.forster@sashasproject.charity
- **Fleet Phoenix** A local charity that co-ordinates music projects, youth clubs and mentoring projects as well as community outreach programmes to youths within Hart. Tel: 01252 812308 or Email: info@fleetphoenix.co.uk
- Not for profit, committee run events such as **Fleet Film Club** and **Fleet Jazz Club** (more information on these below)



Fleet Jazz Club
Various artists
3rd Tuesday of the month
8.00pm

Fleet Jazz Club holds monthly jazz performances from some of the UK's finest jazz musicians on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, in a "jazz club" environment at The Harlington in Fleet. The club has an enthusiastic and growing membership since it started in January 2013, and we are always very happy to see new people too.



Fleet Film
Mon: Mar 11th & 25th, Apr 8th & 22nd, May 13th, Jun 3rd & 17th, Jul 1st at 8.00pm

Fleet Film is an award-winning film society serving Fleet and district with a unique programme of films from around the world, including many acclaimed films that rarely reach mainstream cinemas. We also show short films, annually present awards to local film students and have other special events, including outdoor cinema. Why not come along and see how different we are from the average cinema?



DIFFERENT SIZED ROOMS FOR A RANGE OF USES:

Meetings | Conferences | Productions | Classes | Rehearsals | Training
Networking | Private parties | Recording | Promotional shoots

FACILITIES INCLUDE:

Wifi | Licensed bars Stage sound & lighting Production assistance*
Up to 7 camera recording/live streaming system | Technical support
Entertainment booking service | Projection | Full size cinema screen | Helpful & friendly team

*our technical team can work with you to create a bespoke package to make your event run to plan



@theharlington



@theharlingtonfleet

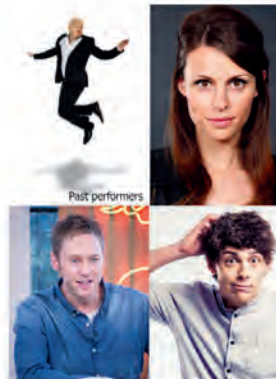


@theharlington



From Gold To Rio
Saturday 9th March
8.30pm

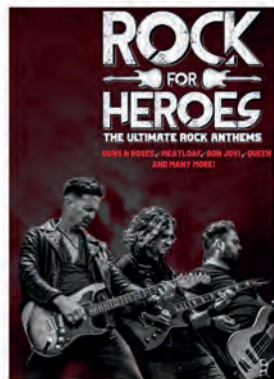
From Gold to Rio will take you on a nostalgic journey back to the New Romantic era which ruled the charts for over a decade. For the very first time the music from two of the UK's most iconic bands will be celebrated in one power packed show! With over 20 top 10 hits, the show will feature 2 hours of non-stop, classics including Gold, Rio, True, The Reflex, Through the Barricades, Save A Prayer, Lifeline, Girls on Film, to name a few!



Stand Up for Saturday Comedy Club
Saturdays: Feb 17th, Mar 16th, Apr 20th, May 18th and Jun 15th
at 8.30pm

Coming to The Harlington each month (excluding August), Stand up for Saturday Comedy Club is a fantastic night of live comedy entertainment. With new guest stars each month the show is a massive hit and often sells out in advance - so be sure to purchase your tickets early!

Acts subject to change



Rock For Heroes
Friday 22nd March
8.30pm

All the ingredients that make up the phenomenal, 'Rock for Heroes'! Performed by a superb 7-piece band, the show breathes new life into the music of Guns 'N' Roses, Bon Jovi, Van Halen, Dire Straits, Fleetwood Mac, Queen and more! You'd be 'Livin' on a Prayer' if you miss it!

A show for all the family and a must see for any rock fan!



The Ultimate Tribute Show
Saturday 23rd March
8.00pm

With Pop Gods of the 80s & 90s. First half with singalong classics from Cyndi Lauper, Madonna, Wham, A-Ha, Whitney, Bananarama, Queen, Bon Jovi and many more. Second half with the biggest anthems of the 90s from 2 Unlimited, Snap, Gala, N-Trance and Robin S. Sing your head off to the music of Spice Girls, Britney, Shania, Vengaboys, S Club, Steps and B*Witched. Sing-along with the hits of Take That, Boyzone & Backstreet Boys.



The ABBA Tribute - Fever
Friday 26th April
8.30pm

Abba Fever is one of the most successful touring live Abba productions in the UK and Europe!

This 5 piece live band, with 5 part harmonies, stunning musicianship, authentic costumes and exciting choreography will transport you back to the 70's through the biggest hits of the world's favourite band, A spectacular show which guarantees to have audiences on their feet night after night.



The Jam'd
Saturday 27th April
8.30pm

The Jam'd are now the UK's best known and most popular tribute to the live performance and sound of The Jam, and are totally committed to giving an unforgettable, authentic performance with all the energy, passion and style of the Woking 3. They put on a performance from the heart and soul, drawing on all their memories, experiences and love of what was the country's biggest band in their day.



John Lydon
Sunday 5th May
7.30pm

He's a legend and an icon, a revolutionary and an immortal. John Lydon - aka Johnny Rotten - changed the face of music and sparked a cultural revolution. In his spoken word show, I Could Be Wrong, I Could Be Right, Lydon is touring the UK. He will talk about how he sees life, along with his unique and extraordinary career, and take audience questions during a pyrotechnic, one-off tour. Lydon will be sharing his thoughts with audiences.



R.E.M. by Stipe
Saturday 11th May
8.30pm

Stipe bring you all the top songs from these icons including "Losing My Religion", and "Man on the Moon" and with all the atmosphere, attitude, emotion, and energy you'd expect. Stipe will provide the same cagey mix of attitude, poetry and idiosyncratic sound built around jangling guitars and hazy vocals of frontman Michael Stipe. They bring R.E.M. to life on stage - the contrasts and the magic; that direct connection to the music.



@theharlington



@theharlingtonfleet



@theharlington



Which Council to contact



0300 555 1375

www.hants.gov.uk

- Adult and Childrens Services
- Bus permits
- Blue badges
- Education
- Highways and pavements
- Libraries
- Street lighting
- Trading Standards
- Transport
- Waste and recycling



01252 622122

enquiries@hart.gov.uk

www.hart.gov.uk

- Abandoned vehicles
- Bin collections, fly tipping & street cleaning
- Car parks and parking fines
- Council Tax
- Electoral registration
- Environmental Health
- Hart Leisure Centre
- Housing
- Planning consent and building control



01252 625246

info@fleet-tc.gov.uk

www.fleet-tc.gov.uk

- Ancells Farm Community Centre
- Christmas lights
- Community grants
- Fleet Cemetery and burials
- Floral displays
- The Harlington events and hire
- Neighbourhood planning and statutory planning consultee
- Playgrounds, parks, pitches, courts and pavilions at: Ancells Farm, Basingbourne, Calthorpe, Oakley, Edenbrook and The Views

Fleet Phoenix: Awards for young people in Hart



After the success of the Hart Youth Achievement Awards in 2023, Fleet Phoenix are again teaming up with local organisations to host the 2024 awards in October. The young people of Hart deserve to be recognised for their hard work and achievements in areas such as courage, volunteering, fundraising and more and we are hoping for even more nominations this year.

Nominations will open in mid-April, so please keep an eye on social media and emails. To sign up to emails, please visit www.fleetphoenix.co.uk.

Please see the important consultation from Hampshire County Council:

Future Services Consultation

Tell us your views on ideas for changes to some local services

Hampshire County Council Making the most of your money

Have your say by 31 March 2024

Visit hants.gov.uk/future-services-consultation or scan the QR code to find out more.



Key diary dates

9 March Greening Fleet Launch Event
18 March Annual Residents' Meeting
6 April Repair Café launch
14-19 April Display your Greening Fleet challenge card
18 May Action Day, 9.30am - all welcome
25 August MOTV Music Festival

For Town Council meeting dates visit
www.fleet-tc.gov.uk

Contact us

Details of your Town Council
Chairmen below:

Cllr Bob Schofield
Council Chairman
Development Control Chairman
01252 621373
bob.schofield@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Paul Einchcomb
Vice Chairman
RLA Committee Chairman
01252 662720
paul.einchcomb@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr Leslie Holt
Policy & Finance Committee Chairman
01252 624814
leslie.holt@fleet-tc.gov.uk

Cllr George Woods
Establishment Committee Chairman
07966 138416
george.woods@fleet-tc.gov.uk

For the full listing of your Town
Councillors by Ward visit
www.fleet-tc.gov.uk

How to find us

Fleet Town Council, The Harlington,
236 Fleet Road, Fleet, GU51 4BY

search 'Fleet Town Council'

@fleettowncouncil

@FleetCouncil

Published by Fleet Town Council.
Photography: Ana Peiro Munoz /
Aldershot, Farnham & Fleet Camera Club