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Harlington

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The Harlington

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Local Council



The Harlington Renovation Where are we at...

Our architects created renovation design options for The Harlington, shared with residents for public voting. A Feasibility Study, Business Plan and surveys shaped these plans. Find out more about the project and what The Harlington brings to our town on pages 4-6...



The Views Update on new Skatepark...

The Skatepark at The Views is a much-loved community space, and we're excited to make it even better. Earlier this year, local youths shared their ideas, a tender was published, and a contractor has been appointed. More on page 3...

Welcome from The Chairman: What We're Improving and Why It Matters



Welcome to your Community Newsletter. Fleet Town Council serves as your local voice, working directly within our community to enhance the environment we live in, celebrate the events that bring us together, and support the people who make Fleet special. We are responsible for maintaining our parks and community facilities and influencing local planning matters.

Exciting renovations are underway across Fleet, as we balance our commitment to preserving cherished services and modernising those that need rejuvenating. We are committed to transparent communication and sharing information to ensure you stay informed about Council decisions that affect your daily life.

Ancells Farm Sinkhole

As you may know, the Council were locked in a battle with Thames Water, who after months of frustration and denying responsibility, found a hole in their foul water sewer which has since been repaired. Thames Water have also conducted some repairs to the footpath caused by the sinkhole.



Modernised Systems

Fleet Town Council and The Harlington's new websites are live! More user friendly and accessible than before, we hope residents' can easily navigate them to find the information they need. The Council also invested in new systems such as Hallmaster, an online booking system - you can now book rooms at The Harlington, Ancells Farm Community Centre and hire the parks via an online bookings calendar.

Thinking Back

to Highlights and Progress



Signing The Harlington Lease

In early March, we reached an important milestone with the signing of a long-term lease with Hart District Council for The Harlington. This agreement marked a significant step forward in securing the venue's future and provided the foundation to begin planning essential renovation work.

The lease enabled us to look ahead with confidence, ensuring The Harlington could continue to serve as a centre for community-focused activities and a varied programme of entertainment, while also enhancing the experience of all who use it

We remain grateful to everyone who supported us throughout this journey. Their encouragement made this achievement possible and signalled the beginning of an important new chapter for The Harlington and the community it serves.



Celebrating Dedication

Councillor Sue Tilley's passion and commitment to both Fleet Town Council and the wider community have been recognised with the highest honour from the Lions — the Melvin Jones Fellowship, presented by Lion President Mike.

Beyond her council role, Sue has been a driving force behind much-loved community events including Fleet's Christmas Festival and Music on The Views, which will return for its 3rd year in 2026 with tickets going live in time for Christmas gifting.



Events to Remember

The VE Day Celebrations on 8th May were a great success, with a day packed full of historic vehicles, laying of wreaths, children's activities and live music, not forgetting the lighting of the beacon as the day came to a close. Two new memorial benches donated by Fleet Lions were also unveiled; located on the War Memorial they will provide seating to anyone wanting a quiet moment's reflection.



Christmas Lunch

Fleet Town Council invites anyone in Fleet, Elvetham Heath, or Church Crookham who would otherwise be alone to a free Christmas Day Lunch at The Harlington, 25th December 12noon - 4pm, with transport available. To join, email info@fleet-tc.gov.uk or call 01252 625246.

Fleet Christmas tree

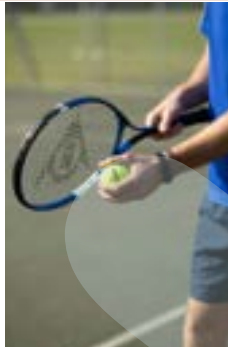
Special thanks to **Natta** for sponsoring this year's Christmas tree in Gurkha Square, and to **Cedardale Arboricultural Specialists** and **Buckland Farming and Contracting** for their professional service and installation.

NATTA
modern thinking traditional values



The Gift of Tennis

Play as much as you like for £42 per year! The membership fee entitles each household to a code that can be used to access the courts after making a reservation online. Pay to play, £6.67 per court per hour, is also available! To book, visit: clubspark.lta.org.uk/Calthorpeparktennis



Local Government Reorganisation

Local government re-organisation involves simplifying the structure of local government by replacing existing two-tier systems (county and district councils) with a single, unitary council for a given area. This aims to improve service delivery, potentially reduce costs, and strengthen local leadership. See the News section on our website for more information on what the plans are for Fleet!

Looking Forward

to Exciting Projects and Events

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

26th November, Fleet Town Centre, 2pm-9pm

- ★ Christmas Market, 2pm-9pm, Fleet Highstreet.
- ★ Fleet BID Santa's Post Office, 4pm-7pm, Hart Shopping Centre.
- ★ Community Stalls, Live Nativity and Farm, 2pm-9pm, Gurkha Square.
- ★ Community Choirs, from 4pm, Gurkha Square.
- ★ Kidszone, 2pm-9pm and Santa's Grotto, 2pm-6.45pm, The Harlington.
- ★ Christmas light switch on, 6.30pm, Gurkha Square.

For more information visit: www.fleetchristmasfestival.org



THE VIEWS SKATEPARK RENOVATION

The much-loved Skatepark at The Views, already planned for renovation, was closed and decommissioned following a safety inspection, marking the start of an exciting new chapter.

Earlier this year, consultations with young residents took place, with a big thank you to Fleet Phoenix for their collaboration and support. The tender process then followed, and the panel – including Fleet Phoenix, user representatives, Fleet Town Council Clerk, and councillors – met to review the bids. Contractor Fearless Ramps has been selected and we are waiting for the Public Works Loan Board to approve the loan before commencing work.

We appreciate your patience - and we're committed to delivering a fantastic new Skatepark for all to enjoy. For the latest updates, please visit:

www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/project/views-skatepark



THE HEART OF THE HARLINGTON

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND REGULAR HIRES:

The Harlington is a hub for Fleet's community, offering spaces for performances, classes and social events. With its auditorium, studios and function rooms, it supports local groups, clubs and activities - including NHS services - while providing technical help, refreshments and bar facilities. It remains a place where people can come together to enjoy culture, creativity and connection.



Volunteer-run society screening world cinema and classics every fortnight at The Harlington, giving audiences films beyond the mainstream.



Live jazz in a cabaret setting, featuring top UK musicians. Evening concerts and lunchtime sessions bring quality music to Fleet.



Sue's over 60's Aerobics a weekly Wednesday class offering gentle exercise to music, combining activity with a friendly social atmosphere.

Hosted by The Harlington

Fitness

- Sue's over 60's Aerobics
- Vicky Ewen Fitness Exercise
- Free Spiritz Yoga with Denise Cook
- Salsa Steps
- Bodyline Aerobics
- Pilates with Sarah

Monthly Community Events

- Fleet Film
- Fleet Jazz
- Disco Skate
- Fleet Repair Cafe

Community Events

- Hart Voluntary Action
- Fleet Lions Beerfest
- Starburst Foundation
- Santa's Grotto

Dance Showcases

- Funtime Dance
- LT Dance
- Q Dance
- MK Dance
- Tudor Rose Dance Festival

Community Meetings

- The Arts Society Hart
- Fleet & District U3A
- Annual Residents' Meeting
- Councillors' Coffee Meeting
- Greening Fleet
- CPR Training SJA

NHS

- Baby Weighing Clinic
- Blood Donation Sessions

Music / Dance

- Ceroc Fleet
- Funtime Dance and Drama
- Rebecca Fraiz Ballet
- Monkey Music Fleet
- Band Video Shoots
- Vivace Music School

Conferences

- True Life Conferences
- CV Library



Alongside these activities, The Harlington also houses key local services. Fleet Town Council's offices are based here, giving residents direct access to council staff in the town centre. Within The Point, youth charities Fleet Phoenix and Sasha's Project provide vital support: Fleet Phoenix runs youth clubs, mentoring and creative projects for young people, while Sasha's Project offers a late-night crisis centre for those facing mental health struggles.

"Having support right on our doorstep was invaluable" - Baby Clinic

As The Harlington undergoes renovation, plans are being developed for a temporary location to host a reduced programme of its existing offer. This will help ensure that community groups, services and facilities can continue to run during the transition, keeping the spirit of The Harlington alive until the new space is ready.

You can find out more about community services on offer at www.theharlington.co.uk/events, and for the latest updates on the renovation and temporary facility plans please visit www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/project/harlington-development.

FUTURE OF THE HARLINGTON

WHAT'S NEXT

Thank you to all residents and users of The Harlington who have contributed to this important project so far. Following public and user engagement, our architects developed three design options for the renovation.

In October, these options were shared for public voting. By the end of November, the results will be in and the final design will have been selected — an exciting milestone for the project!

To view the final design and find out more about the renovation plans, please keep checking our website or scan the QR code below.



THE HARLINGTON RENOVATION – AT A GLANCE

Q: Why now?

A: The building is ageing with leaks, poor insulation and outdated systems. Renovation will keep it safe, usable and energy-efficient for years to come.

Q: What's the benefit?

A: Modern, comfortable facilities, lower energy use and costs, better events and audience experience, and a smaller carbon footprint.

Q: Who's responsible?

A: Fleet Town Council manages and maintains The Harlington under a long-term lease from Hart District Council.

Q: How have residents been involved?

A: Resident feedback is guiding the project. Voting slips were posted in October to all households, with regular updates shared on our website, social media and noticeboards.

WHY AND WHEN?

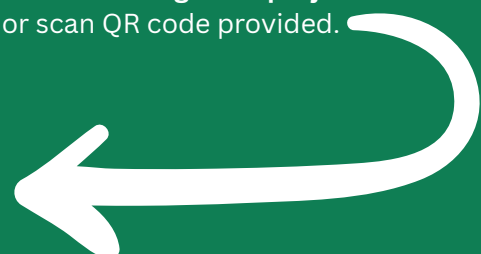
While plans have not yet been finalised, the current estimated timeline sets the new and improved Harlington for completion in early 2028.

It will include improved access, upgraded toilets and bar facilities, and comfier seating; including a balcony to increase ticket sales and draw in bigger acts.

New mechanical and electrical infrastructure will be installed, including a eco friendly air source heat pump, double glazing, insulation and solar panels, to help reduce emissions and lower bills.



Visit our Harlington Project page at www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/projects or scan QR code provided.



ENTERTAINMENT AT THE HARLINGTON



Ultimate Elton & The Rocket Band Friday 21 November 8.30pm

Some tribute artists look like their idol, some sound like their idol. Paul Bacon as Sir Elton John does both! Close your eyes and you won't believe your ears, open your eyes and you won't believe them either! You simply won't find a closer tribute to Sir Elton John.

Rapidly established as the foremost Elton John tribute act in the UK, Ultimate Elton and The Rocket Band present an uncannily accurate reproduction of the classic live shows of one of pop music's most successful and best-loved artists.



Dom Martin & Blue Nation Tour Saturday 22 November 7.30pm

Set to be THE UK show of 2025, multi award winning Irish artist Dom Martin teams up with the riff based melodic blues rockers from Birmingham, Blue Nation, to play an unprecedented run of co-headline shows at venues in the UK and Ireland, including The Harlington!

Following on from their very successful 2024 tour together where the Brummie lads supported Dom and his band, it made perfect sense to up the ante in 2025 with a co-headline tour.

Christmas at The Harlington



Santa's Grotto

26th November - 2-6.45pm



80's Rewind: The Christmas Party

28th and 29th November - 8.30pm



Fleet Jazz Club: Christmas Special

2nd December - 8pm



Mainly Madness: Christmas Party

5th December - 8.30pm



Santa's Grotto

Christmas Comedy Club

*6th December - Grotto 9am-3pm/
Comedy 8.30pm*



Santa's Grotto

13th December - 9am-3pm



Pantomime: Rapunzel

12th to 28th December - various times



VENUE HIRE

YOU CAN HIRE ANY OF OUR SPACES FOR YOUR EVENT!

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

www.theharlington.co.uk

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL



Get to know, your new councillor Janet Stanton

What motivated you to join the local council?

Fleet has been home to my family for many years, and we wouldn't want to be anywhere else! With great schools & beautiful parks, it's a fantastic community. But Fleet is evolving, and I want to help shape its future! My 8 years as Town Clerk & knowledge of local government will help make a difference.

Which local projects are you excited to work on?

I love Fleet's green spaces and visit playgrounds with my grandsons regularly. Upgrading them is key to keeping kids engaged outdoors! As Fleet grows, I want to help shape a future that meets the needs of our changing community. That's why I'm also excited to be part of the team working on a refurbished Harlington – a cultural hub for all ages!

What are some of your personal interests?

I'm big on sustainability! As part of Greening Fleet, I helped launch Fleet Repair Café, reducing CO2 & waste. I enjoy organising community events like Music on The Views and Fleet Christmas Festival and regularly volunteer to support local events such as Fleet Half Marathon, Funfest, Hype and Beerfest.

3 WAYS TO GET TO KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS:



Follow Fleet Town Council on Facebook or Instagram.



Visit www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/council-info/councillor-contacts



Come along to our Annual Meeting or Councillors' Coffee Mornings.



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

Local Groups & Services Fleet Town Council Support:



WORD SEARCH



Ancells Cemetery
Events
Flowers
Football
Grants
Harlington Lights
Parks
Planning
Playground
Tennis

Fleet Town Council look after:

- 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
- **Playparks**, pitches, courts and pavilions at: Ancells Farm, Basingbourne, Calthorpe, Oakley, Edenbrook and The Views

Hall Available to Hire

ANCELLS FARM COMMUNITY HALL

Ancells Farm, GU51 2FX



- 3 rooms to hire
- Free Parking
- Parade of shops
- Playground close
- Fleet Station less than 1 mile

CONTACT ✉ ancells@fleet-tc.gov.uk
 🌐 www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/ancells-room-bookings
 📞 The Harlington 01252 811009



Food Waste Bins

Hart District Council have been busy preparing for weekly food waste collections to start. By now our team should have delivered your food waste caddy, with collections starting in early October.

Find out how the service will work and lots more information at

www.hart.gov.uk/food-waste-collections



Key Diary Dates

19 November Public CPR Training
26 November Christmas Festival
6 December Repair Cafe (ongoing - first Saturday of every month)
12 December Basingbourne Park Carols
20 December Public CPR Training
22 December Basingbourne Park Quiz
25 December Christmas Day Lunch

2026

10 March Annual Residents' Meeting
29 March Fleet Half Marathon
7th May Local Elections

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
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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

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