



FARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Helen Penney.

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The Annual Meeting of Farningham Parish Council took place on Wednesday, 14th May, in the Shand Hall at St Peter and St Paul's Church. In attendance were five Parish Councillors, Kent County Councillor Marc Logen, Sevenoaks District Councillors Laurence Ball and Alan White, one resident, and the Clerk, Helen Penney.

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council:

Cllr Burns was re-elected as Chair for the coming year. The Council also formally adopted the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Code of Conduct, Risk Assessment, and Scheme of Delegation.

Parish Council Vacancy:

We still have one vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you're interested or would like to know more about the role, please speak to any of our Parish Councillors who will be happy to help. For questions about the co-option process please contact the Clerk directly.

Neighbourhood Plan:

Thank you to everyone who attended our event at Farningham Village Hall on 2nd June and who came to speak to us at the village fete on 14th June.

The first meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will be held on Wednesday 25th June, 6:30pm in the Shand Hall. Residents are warmly invited to attend to learn more about the process, get involved or catch up if you missed the previous events.

Since our last report, Farningham and Eynsford Parish Councils have decided to develop individual Neighbourhood Plans. We will continue to share ideas, resources, and best practices where possible.

Kent County Councillor Marc Logen:

We welcomed our new Kent County Councillor Marc Logen, who introduced himself and engaged with us on several local matters. Cllr Logen is currently undergoing training and handovers for his new role but confirmed his commitment to supporting the Parish Council and local residents moving forward. We look forward to working with him.

Finance:

Our accounts for the 2024/25 financial year have been signed off by the Internal Auditor and are due for Council approval on 11th June.

Residents will be able to view the accounts during the Exercise of Public Rights period,

which runs from 16th June to 25th July 2025, by prior arrangement with the Clerk.

Family Fun Day:

Sevenoaks District Council's free family fun day is coming to Farningham on Wednesday, 20th August, 10:30 to 13:30. It will be held in Market Meadow, next to the Village Hall in the High Street, and will include crafts, games, sports and activities in a friendly and safe environment. Simply turn up on the day with waterproof clothing and/or sunscreen (this is during the great British summertime!) and your own refreshments.

SDC considers changes to recycling and waste collections:

SDC is reviewing its recycling and waste collection services with the aim of expanding recycling options and making the service more cost-effective and environmentally efficient.

A key proposal under consideration is the introduction of alternate weekly waste collections alongside weekly food waste collections, starting from 1 April 2026. These changes are designed to improve recycling rates and make it possible to introduce kerbside glass collections.

In addition, the proposed changes would bring SDC's waste services in line with neighbouring councils, ahead of a potential merger in April 2028. Aligning services now would help any future unitary council deliver waste services more efficiently and cost-effectively.

Please continue to read SDCs InShape magazine which is delivered to every house four times a year and contains important information directly from SDC.

Otford Road Closure:

Kent Highways has scheduled a closure of Station Road in Otford (from the train station to the duck pond roundabout) for 21st July to 25th August, due to gas works. Please plan ahead if you need to travel through Otford during this time as you will need to find an alternative route (unless the work is delayed to a later date).

Updates:

If you would like more frequent updates from Farningham Parish Council they are available on Facebook or by email. To receive email updates, please complete the sign up box at the foot of the home page www.farninghamparishcouncil.org

The Facebook link is www.facebook.com/farninghampc

Our next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday, 9th July 2025, 7pm in the Shand Hall.

There is an allocation of time for public participation and if you would like to attend, please contact the Clerk via the links at the head of this page.