## **GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL**



## PRESS RELEASE

## **GODALMING ARTISTS REPRIEVED**

Thanks to Godalming Town Council and Waverley Borough Council, Godalming-based artists will be able to remain in the town. Their new home will be Godalming Town Council's Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre.

The Old Fire Station located in Queen Street, Godalming, had been used by local artists and others as affordable studio space for a number of years. Unfortunately, for safety reasons it has not been possible for this arrangement to continue, and whilst the majority of users have managed to relocate to alternative studio space, two Godalming-based artists had been unable to find a new home. Fortunately Surrey County Council were able to offer a short extension of the tenancy agreement to allow time for a solution to be found.

Godalming Town Council, in partnership with Waverley Borough Council explored a number of options for the provision of affordable studio space for Godalming-based textile artists Gina McAdam and Sculptor & Animator Will Bishop-Stephens.

On Thursday 25 April Waverley Borough Council's Asset Advisor Group and Godalming Town Council's Policy & Management Committee gave the go ahead for the artists to be able to move into studio space within the Wilfrid Noyce Community Centre located in Crown Court Car Park, Godalming. Cllr Tom Martin, Chairman of Godalming Town Council's Policy & Management Committee said "I am absolutely delighted that Godalming Town Council and Waverley Borough Council have been able to work together to find a solution that allows Godalming artists to remain in Godalming. The use of space in the Wilfie that was under-utilised is in keeping with the community use of the centre and meets the aims of both councils to support local groups when possible. We hope that these artists will be able to help nurture new talent through learning workshops at the centre."

## **Ends**

In case of query please contact:

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Gina McAdam – 07866 847523 Will Bishop-Stephens – 07870 138748 Release Date 29 April 2013