



Supporting Our Community

OUR LATEST NEWS



New Programme Confirmed 2019-2023

At the Full Council meeting in September, Godalming Town Council adopted a programme which sets out the Council's aims and objectives for the next four years.

The programme not only takes into account the Neighbourhood Plan's vision for Godalming and Farncombe but also provides direction and focus for future Council strategies.

The programme informs Members, staff and the community how Godalming Town Council plans to give best value to all who live and work in the town

as well as those who use the Town Council's services. Objectives within the programme cover environment, heritage, community and infrastructure, the economy, transport and housing.

Within these objectives Councillors are keen to investigate and explore opportunities for youth provision, community safety and continued community engagement whilst ensuring equality, diversity, inclusion, health & wellbeing and continued support for local businesses. The strong focus in the programme on the environment, is in line with the Council's aims of being carbon neutral by 2030.

For a full copy of the programme please visit:

<https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/godalming-town-council-programme-2019-2023-2/>

More Council Grants Benefitting the Community

In the last round of Grant Funding approved at the Policy & Management Committee meeting in October, grants were awarded to assist community organisations whose work benefits the residents of the town.

From the Council Community Grant Fund, £500 was provided to assist with the initial set up costs of the Surrey Hills to South Downs Community Rail Partnership (CRP). The CRP is a growing movement delivering a range of activities that bring people together and help communities to get the most from their railways.



SURREY HILLS TO SOUTH DOWNS COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP
Farncombe • Godalming • Milford • Witley • Haslemere

The Council also granted £500 each to the Rotary Kids Out Charity to assist with running a free day out for local disadvantaged children and to the On-Street Engagement team in Farncombe. This grant will assist the Trinity Trust Team to provide volunteers with equipment including high-viz vests, torches, first aid kits, litter picking kit, water and suitable backpacks to carry equipment whilst working in the community.

From the Town Council's General Grant Fund, the 2nd Godalming Scout Group was awarded £2,750 to assist with set up costs for a new Scout Troop, Godalming Baptist Church received £1,500 to assist with the purchase of washable replacement flooring in their activities room and Loseley Fields Primary School benefits from £4,000 to support the provision of outdoor education facilities to support the school, local community groups and charities.

Further Grant Aid in Kind for the use of the Wilfrid Noyce Centre to provide community benefit was awarded to Godalming Film Society and Godalming Dementia Action Alliance. The Grant Aid in Kind will enable them to offer more relaxed screenings in 2020 for those who find the regular cinema going experience challenging.

For more information on the type of grants available and how to apply please visit <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/grants/>



New Environment and Planning Committee

In line with the Council's new programme, the Climate Emergency & Biodiversity motion passed by the Council in July and the Council's quest for carbon neutrality, a new Environment and Planning Committee has been formed.

The committee will address and where appropriate, formulate policy for consideration by the Council and to discharge the Council's functions relating to the local environment and infrastructure. Functions will include identifying key environment and planning issues whilst taking into account the natural and built environment.

The first meeting is planned for January 2020. Visit <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/event/environment-and-planning-committee-2020-2/> for more details.

Blooming Marvellous Awards For Godalming Town Centre And Nightingale Cemetery

Having in 2019, for the first time ever, entered into the South & South East in Bloom (SSEIB) competition, Godalming Town Council was delighted, in early July, to welcome the competition judges when they toured the town and looked at the town centre Floral Godalming displays, the Godalming Museum garden and the approaches to Boarden Bridge planting area as well as Nightingale Cemetery. The SSEIB awards ceremony was



held on Friday, 13 September and Mayor of Godalming Cllr Penny Rivers was delighted to receive a Silver Gilt Award on behalf of the Council, presented by BBC Radio Surrey Gardening expert Joe Talbot for the small cemeteries category for Nightingale cemetery.

The cemetery, managed by the Town Council on behalf of the Godalming Joint Burial Committee, scored near maximum points for 'Pride of Place' for the local environmental quality of the cemetery, the judges were especially impressed with the 'Wilding' areas that had been allowed to grow to encourage native species, wildflowers and bees. The judges also commended the Memorial Garden designed by Michele Clackson to commemorate the 281 men who died in the Great War.

The Council picked up a second award, this time a Silver Award for the town centre. The judges said they enjoyed walking through the town centre on judging day and noted that Floral Godalming's displays were well planted, maintained and "made the area more inviting". They were also encouraged by the level of support from local businesses who have this year sponsored the troughs, planters and hanging baskets as well as the businesses and outlets who participated in helping to create some extremely good displays around the centre

The Godalming Museum garden received commendable comments and the judges were impressed with the sustainable planting and high standard of maintenance. New planting at the approach to Boarden Bridge received favourable comments from the judges who were pleased to note the planting had been well executed and was thriving despite shady conditions. Godalming Town Council is grateful to the many volunteers who helped to achieve this much appreciated award for the town centre.

Special thanks go to The Peter Caudle Memorial Trust for its support in initiating this project in 2018 and to the sponsors and the many volunteers who have helped sustain it in 2019.

Godalming Town Council is on the Move

With the decision of the Racquet Shop, after 30 years of trading in the town that it is time to move on to pastures new. Work will begin in the New Year on 107/109 High Street, which with the exception of the Parish Church is the oldest building in Godalming, to convert it into accessible offices and to become the new Town Council



building. The move will allow the Town Council to work more closely with the Godalming Museum and the new offices will allow the Council to welcome all residents and visitors irrespective of mobility.

Godalming Town Centre and High Street Accessibility Guide

A free accessibility guide aimed at assisting those with mobility issues, especially wheelchair users has been researched, compiled and created over a number of years by Andrew Crawte, a wheelchair user who has visited each business within the guide. The guide covers accessibility for premises in Godalming Town Centre and is offered as a practical guide for those with restricted mobility and especially for wheelchair users.

The guide covers over 100 premises is available on line at <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/accessibility-guide/> with hard copies available from Godalming Museum Visitor Information Point, Godalming Library and Godalming Town Council offices. Thanks go to all those who assisted with bringing the guide to fruition and to Craddocks Printers for providing the guide free of charge.

Godalming Flood Alleviation Barrier

A special ceremony was held in October to mark the completion of the Godalming Flood Defence Barrier. Godalming Town Council, Waverley Borough Council, Surrey County Council, Members of the Flood Defence Group, Residents and Allotment holders were in

attendance and were thanked for their support in delivering this major project for the benefit of the community. The Mayor of Waverley, Councillor Mary Forszewska, watched by members of the various groups involved including the Environment Agency, cut a cake in celebration of the completion of the new flood barrier.



The completed barrier and special ceremony

Godalming Town Council Consultation & Listening Events

The Council wants to hear your views. Pop into the Oglethorpe Hall at the Wilfrid Noyce Centre on Saturday 21 December, 12-2.30pm and meet your council representatives from Binscombe, Central & Ockford, Charterhouse, Farncombe & Catteshall and Holloway Wards.

Vegan Pop-Up



Godalming Town Council's Vegan Pop Up will take place every 2nd Saturday of the month. Please see the dates below.

For more information please visit <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/godalming-vegan-pop-up/> or please contact the Event Manager on Community@godalming-tc.gov.uk.

Friday Pop Up – every Friday – Crown Court

Vegan Pop Up

Sat 14 Dec, Sat 11 Jan, Sat 8 Feb, Sat 14 March, Sat 11 April

Spring Festival

Sat 4 April



Town Dates
for your diary...

YOUR GODALMING TOWN COUNCILLORS



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