

Minutes of Farncombe Initiative 16 Jan 2019 – Godalming Tennis Club

Meeting started 20.00

Attending: Shirley Purchase; Damian Wheeler; Matt O'Donoghue; Sue Petty; Martyn Sandford; Tom Hawksley; Paul Devereux; Sheila Smith, Suzie Gortler; and Dan Davies.

Apologies~; Anne Gray; Heather Hullah, Steve Cosser; Nick Williams; John Petty; Nick Marshall; and, John Blades.

Minutes of the last meeting – all correct. Sheila – quick comment – that is a very measured response we received last week ref: Swift boxes.

1. Station Project Update

Suzie: Martyn, Paul, Steve and Suzie met at the station some time ago. This has all been agreed, well before the Christmas lights switch on. Not heard anything since. Panels have all been priced up.

Martyn: my view three things: station project, artwork, planting and station access (disability access). Martyn reminded group of station proposal. Back page shows the 'artwork' element. Three images of the station – have now replaced 'dog' with two other options. This was handed around the group.

Action: Tuesday 29 January, Suzie and Martyn to meet the Station Access Manager from SW Trains. To review ideas from the working party that visited a few years ago. Will review whether they will honour the ideas from FI in their seven year franchise. Can we identify where the problem is and where the solutions may be to help and make it happen?

Sheila: When the lines were painted they missed a white line to stop danger of gates, but not on the other side near the flats. Sheila pointed this out to the workmen at the time. **Action:** Perhaps this could be mentioned during the above meeting with SW Trains? Plus safety of the corner (raised by Paul)

2. Street Art Project

Tom: Skillway have come back to say they can't be involved. Tom has now contacted DT at Charterhouse. They know quite a bit about public space and public art. Not known if this is James Daly or James Davy. He wrote back – waiting for further feedback. Is this something we wish to pursue? Dan – contact Anne Gray to find Ben's contact at Charterhouse.

Martyn: Went to Holyrood in holiday and saw sculptures and tiles which were beautiful. Has some pictures. Charting the history of the estates. Has been up for ten years and yet has not been vandalised.

Suzie thanked Martyn and Paul for their time at the museum looking at pictures for this.

Action: Martyn to pass contact to Tom so that he can see how their project in Southampton worked – a councillor, originally responsible.

3. Balconies Update

Any improvement? Some seen by members of the FI.

Suzie: 8 Jan 2019 email received – they are serving a notice on the remaining balconies which have not yet been painted. This is from the Officer at Planning Enforcement at Waverley Borough.

Action: Please keep Suzie informed of any progress on these. Wants to keep the pressure on. Suzie will follow up if nothing is furthered by Friday next week.

4. Oak Boards

Paul: would like to promote information on the history of the area (cricket, Marshall - Broadwater, Baden Powell, Jack Phillips etc).

Action: Paul to meet the Ann Hayward (Officer for Parks and Leisure) to see into adding these details to the oak boards in Broadwater Park. Paul welcome to ring Suzie in the interim to discuss.

5. Signal Box

Damien: found an article (distributed to meeting) about signal box in Haslemere. DID applied to have it listed but it failed.

Suzie: spoke to Town Clerk but he says there would have to be a proposal for use. A proposal has to go to GTC full Council if it is for purely historic interest. Applying for 'Designated Heritage'.

Action: someone has to head up a group to do this work because it would be a lot of work to apply for this. Either what we want to use it for or why we feel it should be considered for heritage.

Action: Damien to go to see Alison Pattison at Godalming Museum. Dan and Nick to look at the Designated Heritage application.

Tom: would the museum be interested in taking on a Farncombe site?

Sheila: very historic place, because it links to the original route of the railway. Is it possible to make a link with the Watercress Line?

Suzie: There would need to be a long term maintenance plan etc. We are going through with the station adoption so it may fit with this.

Action: Suzie to speak to property manager about the signal box generally.

6. Youth Engagement

Suzie: GTC is currently working on youth engagement but it has to be strategically thought through, there are no quick fixes. Godalming is looking at this subject so we are leaving this item for now, until Godalming has something to report. A practice lead in Waverley has responsibility for looking at youth work and GTC is due to meet with this lead. Suzie will feedback.

Martyn: churches have these people too, who may well be useful.

Sheila: Julian Lewry was/is the contact in the church - TTT. Can make a difference in the long term – had experience at an art project at church, with whom it made a great difference and they remembered this for a long time. They still have the panel that was worked on in the church rooms.

7. Matters arising from last meeting, not already covered in this agenda

Martyn – **Broadwater Park – plans to fence** (Herras fencing 6 foot 6 high) in a third of the park for the golf course? Martyn has contacted County and Penny Rivers has picked this up. Martyn waiting to hear about this – if it comes up on the County agenda. Penny has said she has been in contact with planning. There seems to be general agreement about the work they want to do, except for the fencing. Nick Williams is also taking this up.

Action: Martyn to continue to chase this.

Martyn: **Halow Project** was mentioned last meeting for students with learning disabilities. Interested in making connection between what we want to do and what they want to do. They seem an example of a group we can partner with. For instance could a group progressively go around working on street signs? Or help with the maintenance on a rota of projects we have worked on before – planting etc.

Suzie: FI need to speak to the group and then pass to GTC or Halow to sign off the risk assessment. Suzie unable to take this on without direction from GTC. Also, why not make contact with The Meath and their Changing Perceptions shop? Suzie suggested more local than The Halow– which is in Guildford. TH said they could clean the road signs. Waverley may be worried about their signs being worked on. Anne has emailed to say that the Green Lane project would need Spring Maintenance – is this something that they could help with?

Action: Martyn to ‘sound them out’ to get them lined up for help with future projects. A list of projects they could and couldn’t help with.

Martyn: **Swift Boxes** – eight boxes have been delivered and waiting to be put up. They are available for anyone with a donation.

Action: Martyn to write a two liner for Suzie to put on social media platforms.

Tom: was asked to contact BT about the **telephone box** at the end of Spring Grove – Scott Gilbert early box, which has been vandalised and is a sad story. You can adopt a kiosk for one pound. Tom emailed Steve and he is concerned about maintenance. Tom has been seeing if any other body would take charge of it.

Action: Godalming Community Interest Group could be approached. Tom to take some pictures of Compton and other adopted boxes. Or possibly Spring Grove residents – what would they like to do with it and taking responsibility for it. Write to GTC to see if they would be prepared to adopt – send this to the Town Clerk. Suzie will happily look at this application before it goes to the Town Clerk, can’t promise it would get through. Or designated as a historical asset.

Sheila: The Archers use it as a village information booth.

1. A.O.B.

Tom: Pavements in Spring Grove are a national disgrace. His mother in law has just fallen, but not on this property. Why has Twycross road been done, but not other streets?

Sheila: It’s due to the boundary between Farncombe and Godalming.

Action: Tom also needs to continue to discuss this with Penny Rivers.

Suzie: email from Sue Manuel about trees.

Action: Suzie to speak to SW Trains about her concerns or find link.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20 March – TBC – hoping to ask John Blade to come that meeting

Meeting closed 21.17