



# Godalming

Town Council

**Annual Report  
2019-20**





## MAYORAL REVIEW



It is an honour and a privilege to be Town Mayor of Godalming. What a difference a year makes! This time last year, I and many of my Councillor colleagues hadn't yet been elected. I take this opportunity to thank Andrew Bolton, who had been nominated the Mayor Elect. He has been gracious with his help and support, especially during the annual Town Carol Service.

Behind every Mayor there is an assistant, and in my case it is the very kind, capable and efficient Lynne Purnell. My thanks to her and to all the officers of Godalming Town Council for supporting me during this Civic Year and for all that they do for our Town.

So, for me, without the benefit of prior preparation afforded to most mayors, it was a standing start yet the Mayoral year began with a run. The Godalming Run, expertly arranged by Sport Godalming, Waverley

Harriers, The Charterhouse Club and Godalming Town Council and run by very many hundreds including councillors past and present and the Headmaster of Charterhouse. The Parkrun during Staycation, too, was a safe, happy family event and one that this Council is hoping will be the first of many regular Parkruns. We are fortunate to have so many sporting opportunities in Godalming – football, hockey, and bowls to mention just three.

The annual Town Show enjoyed a hot, hot day – perfect for a colourful carnival. Copious thanks must go to our very own Knights of the Round Table.

Past Mayor, Jane Thomson started Staycation in 2010 and it is now firmly established as a summer event. There is a vast cornucopia of delights to try - dance, drums, football, swimming, canoes, ballet and bingo. In the Bandstand – the venue for many fine performances, our very own Town Band gave children the chance to try out an instrument. And, what can I say about the awesome Staycation Live? If you have never been – go!

The year has been somewhat marred by anti-social behaviour, and I chaired a public meeting giving residents a chance to speak about the problem and to offer some answers. We must recognise that the vast majority of our younger residents are law-abiding and are good citizens.

It has been an absolute pleasure to visit our local schools and meet the students and see their work. Godalming College art and crafts is brilliant beyond imagining and we were blown away by the merry murderesses in “Chicago” at Priorsfield. At Broadwater School we saw the romantic tragedy “West Side Story”, where “a miracle happened, the world went away”, and I was not the only Mayor to be reduced to tears.

Thank you all for the music! Encore to the many Bandstand concerts, A Touch of Musicality, the Jazz Choir, the Godalming Community Gospel Choir, the Rock Choir, Godalming Choral Society, Godalming Operatic Society, Godalming Town Band, and the Tilford Bach Society. And not forgetting the Film Society and Godalming Theatre Group – Cinderella was the belle

of the ball, as will be High Society. Who needs the West End when we have our very own constellation of stars?!

Music and the arts both still us and transport us and they are vital to our well-being.

Godalming Town always marks Remembrance Sunday in a most respectful manner and this year was no exception. It is a particular honour to lay the poppy wreath to the fallen, on behalf of the citizens of Godalming. On Remembrance Day itself we held the silence with students of Godalming College who have re-instated their own memorial to past students who died in war.

Christmas is a season of light and we now have two well-established switch-ons in Godalming town and in Farncombe village and the season is further enhanced by the “In Memory” tree in Crown Court.

An absolute highlight of Christmas was to attend the service in aid of The Meath at St Clement Danes’ Church in London. The Meath is close to my heart and I highly recommend a visit to Changing Perceptions in the High Street. The coffee, cake and craftwork are all exceptional.

Our volunteers do not stop – even on Christmas Day there is a lunch at Queen Street Baptist Church for those who would otherwise be on their own, organised by Churches Together, sponsored by Waitrose – working together is a gift that keeps on giving. I am glad that the Volunteer’s Award I started in 2005 continues to recognise such generous works of kindness.

Godalming is indeed fortunate, and I am pleased, too, to show that we have Pride in Godalming – with the Mayor of Waverley, Mary Forsyszewski, we raised the rainbow flag in support of our LGBT+ community. Godalming Town Council represents everyone and that absolutely includes our LGBT+ brothers and sisters. The Godalming motto is, “Libera deinde fidelis - Faithful because free” - free to be who we are and free to love those we love.



The Civic Year allows Mayors to lend additional support to their chosen good causes. There are so many good causes and choosing is always a challenge. I selected The Meath, Skillway and the Trinity Trust Team.

- The Meath supports, cares for and protects the physical and mental health of those who live with epilepsy and associated learning and physical disabilities.
- Skillway motivates and instils confidence in disadvantaged and disengaged young people by teaching practical workshop skills.
- The Trinity Trust Team works with young people in schools and the community helping them to realise their potential.

Our civic links extend beyond our Town. We are part of Waverley Borough and Surrey County, but our links of friendship are also with Joigny and Mayen and we were very pleased

to refresh these civic friendship links through the exchange of gifts from the Council and also from The Meath, Skillway and The Trinity Trust Team.

We are living in uncertain and challenging times – Brexit, austerity, climate change and Coronavirus. We have experienced floods, anti-social behaviour, we see homeless people and we donate to food banks. The Citizens' Advice Waverley, The Cellar, our churches, Trinity Trust Team, Skillway, and so many agencies are to be thanked for what they do for those in need. Ours is a real community made up of many and of much and I hope that this review of the 2019-2020 mayoral year shows that there is plenty to celebrate and enjoy in our Town. Our volunteers and organisations and shops connect us one to each other. That is community – that is Team Godalming. Join us and help us continue to make it better. 😊

Councillor Penny Rivers  
Mayor of Godalming 2019/20

## Introduction

Godalming Town Council provides a range of services to the town's residents including its flagship town centre venue the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, Broadwater Park Community Centre in Farncombe and the town's iconic Pepperpot. It also funds the Godalming Museum, public toilets in Godalming and Farncombe, two cemeteries, sixteen acres of allotment sites, Floral Godalming flower displays in the town centre, Christmas Lights in Farncombe and Godalming retail centres and a range of festivals and markets. The Council also runs the Staycation holiday programme, the town's annual Remembrance Parade and assists in the management of the monthly Farmers' Markets. As well as supporting the Godalming Dementia Action Alliance, the Town Council also supports a number of events run by community organisations such as Sport Godalming's Community Run, the Round Table's Town Show and Churches Together's Christmas events, all of which help make Godalming such a vibrant community.

The May 2019 local elections saw a significant change for Godalming Town Council, with four existing councillors being re-elected and five former councillors returning to the chamber along with 11 first time councillors making up the elected representatives of our community. The political make-up of the Council is now 10 Liberal Democrats, 4 Green Party, 3 Conservative Party, 2 Labour Party and 1 Independent Member, meaning that no one group has overall control. However, the Council is operating on a collaborative basis with Cllr Follows (LibDem) Chair of the Policy & Management Committee (P&M) elected as the Leader of the Council and Cllr Williams (Green Party) elected as Deputy Chair of P&M.

Members elected as a Chair/Vice Chair of Council Committees are:

### Policy & Management:

Chair: Cllr Paul Follows (LD)



Vice Chair: Cllr Williams (Grn)

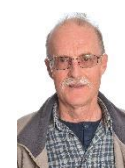


### Environment & Planning:

Chair: Cllr Paul Rivers (LD)



Vice Chair: Cllr Crooks (Grn)



### Staffing:

Chair: Cllr Hullah (LD)



Vice Chair: Cllr Duce (LD)





## Mayoralty:

Chair: Cllr Cosser (Con)



Vice Chair: Cllr Rosoman (LD)

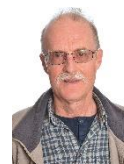


## Audit:

Chair: Cllr Heagin (LD)



Vice Chair: Cllr Crooks (Grn)



## Joint Burial Committee:

Chair: Cllr Steel (LD)



Vice Chair: Cllr Purvis (Grn)



With the exception of the Fireworks Display, throughout 2019/20 Godalming Town Council continued to deliver its existing programme of community events and activities, whilst also working to develop new opportunities and facilities for the town.

## Quality Council Award

**Godalming Town Council, First Local Council in Surrey to Win the Quality Award Accreditation**



A pleasant early Christmas present for the Town Council arrived on Thursday, 19 December 2019, when Mrs Susan Lochner, Deputy Lieutenant of Surrey accompanied by Mrs Anne Bott, Deputy Chief Executive of the Surrey & Sussex Association of Local Councils presented Godalming Town Council

with the Award of Quality Council, which recognises the very best of Local Councils. In receiving the award on behalf of the Council, the Mayor expressed her delighted that Godalming had become the first Local Council in Surrey to be accredited with the Quality Award Level under the Local Council Award Scheme and congratulated everyone who had worked so hard over the last 18 months to achieve the award, the Council staff and current and former Members of the Council.

In presenting the award, Mrs Lochner said "In earning this Award, Godalming Town Council has demonstrated the importance of good governance, with strong financial control, excellent documentation and administration, coupled with a determination not only to embrace, but to take the lead in best practice. More crucially, this Award recognises that the Council, while setting such high standards in the conduct of its business, has succeeded in engaging and working with the community at all levels and encouraging it to flourish.

Having such a strong business approach meant that the Neighbourhood Plan was from the very start a community-led process, and this has been a major factor in its success. Without this approach, Staycation would not be the envy of other much larger places, the town's green spaces would not be havens for residents and nature alike, and the Council would not have been able to support significant infrastructure projects, such as the Flood Alleviation Scheme and the refurbishment of its community buildings."

## **Efficient Delivery of Services**

Having welcomed two new members to the staff team, a buildings maintenance and a grounds maintenance operative, Godalming Town Council continues to deliver services as efficiently and effectively as possible within its available resource. In order to help focus service delivery, the Council quickly established its aims and objectives and set them out as a delivery programme to cover the administration period 2019-2023. The objectives set out in the programme are shown below, the full document can be found at <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/council-policies-procedures/>



	Achieved		Progressing
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GTC Objective	Status	Plan implementation Date	Notes
<b>Environment and Planning (encompassing NP Objectives for Environment, Housing and Transport)</b>			
<b>Activities</b>			
Establish GTC Environment & Planning Committee.		Jan 2020	Agreed by FC 26 Sept
Commit to becoming a carbon-neutral organisation by 2030, to cover scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, including an earlier target of 2025 for all scope 1 and 2 emissions.		Jan 2025/ 2030	Commitment made by GTC 25 July 2019
Conduct annual carbon audits to establish and subsequently monitor the Council's carbon footprint.		Annual	Next Audit due May 2020 for period 2018/19
Establish a budget for environmental grants to encourage and enable carbon-reduction and mitigation schemes to improve bio-diversity within Godalming.		25 July 2019	2019/20 funded from Emerging projects fund 2020 onwards as base budget item
Establish criteria for the award of environmental grants.		March 2020	To be worked up by E&P committee and adopted by FC 23 April 2020
Establish the protocols for reporting environmental implications of recommendations in Officer reports alongside legal, financial and equality implications. Where appropriate these will include the impact of recommendations on CO <sup>2</sup> emissions as well as any other relevant environmental factors.		TBC	To be included as on E&P work programme
Seek ways to facilitate and encourage our community to reduce direct and indirect CO <sup>2</sup> emissions, to conserve and enhance biodiversity and to become resilient to changes caused by the changing climate.		Ongoing	To be included as part of E&P work programme

Take active steps where possible to encourage: a) increased use of sustainable transport; b) reductions in energy use in homes, shops, businesses and elsewhere and a public education campaign in order to facilitate this; c) organisations undertaking construction and building works to adopt sustainable building practices and to provide sustainable developments that minimise carbon emissions; d) development and use of renewable energy sources; e) production, sale and consumption of locally sourced and sustainably produced food; f) adoption of wildlife friendly land and water management practices; g) any other sustainable methods and steps for achieving the Neighbourhood Plan objectives.		TBC	To be included as on E&P work programme
Develop, adopt, maintain and review annually a Carbon Reduction Plan.		Annual	Next Audit due May 2020 for period 2018/19
Improve public participation in planning.		Ongoing	Formation of E&P committee and Council Listening Events
Where practicable, work with WBC to develop, maintain and run social housing.	Cllr Boyle Cllr Rosoman		
Support Waverley Borough Council in improving the provision of affordable housing.	G Boyle Cllr Rosoman		
Oppose development of fossil fuel mineral extraction.	Cllr Williams		
Discourage single use plastics and promote deposit schemes for plastic bottles.		Ongoing	Introduction of free public water bottle refill and water fountain Support of Plastic Free Godalming Campaign
Protect natural habitats and biodiversity.		Ongoing	Management of green spaces, limited use of pesticides and herbicides

Where practicable provide support for rewilding projects.		Ongoing	JBC rewilding at Eashing Cemetery, rewilding of grass verges i.e Wharf Nursery/Flambards Way
Promote strategies for reducing and reusing materials as much as recycling.	Cllr Purvis		
Provide an information hub to promote understanding of individuals' and communities' impacts on climate change.		Ongoing	Planned information point at 'new' GTC offices
Work with community groups and statutory bodies to improve cycling environment, safety, infrastructure and facilities.		Ongoing	GTC work with Godalming Cycling Campaign, SCC and other partners regarding cycling environment
To provide, maintain and operate public drinking water fountains/bottle refill points.		Ongoing	1 <sup>st</sup> water foundation approved by Council 5 Sept, installation by April 2020
Work with local organisations to promote the transfer from incandescent lighting to LED lighting systems and where appropriate provide LED lamps for vulnerable members of the community.		Ongoing	Discussions with CAW and other Community Groups for volunteer base to promote
Where appropriate, utilise Council maintenance staff in support of the Council's environmental objectives.		Ongoing	GTC Staff to be utilised where appropriate and within resource
<b>Community Safety</b>			
Liaise with police and community groups and identify the resources required to promote schemes aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour and crime.		Ongoing	ASB meeting held at Farncombe, GTC working with Police and other agencies to identify issues and investigate preventative measures

Promote traffic slowing schemes such as Twenty's Plenty and safer walking routes to school.	Cllr Ashworth Cllr Purvis Cllr Adam		
Seek to create a more pedestrian friendly environment through increased pedestrianisation and residential parking schemes.	Cllr Ashworth Cllr Crooks		
<b>Youth Provision</b>			
Promote engagement with voluntary and statutory providers of youth services to determine how the Council can support increased provision and access to youth provision, support and services within Godalming.		Ongoing	Youth Provision Working Group established, working with local stakeholders to identify practice and sustainable areas which GTC can assist.
Develop and support youth engagement in the democratic process.	Cllr Duce		Actions to be determined by outcomes of Youth Provision Working Group
Develop and support youth engagement programmes and activities aimed at raising awareness of environmental issues.	Cllr Duce Cllr Williams		Actions to be determined by outcomes of Youth Provision Working Group
<b>Support Local Business</b>			
Work with local business organisations, Waverley Borough Council, the Godalming and District Chamber of Commerce and other organisations to promote Godalming as a retail and business centre.		Established and ongoing	GTC work with the Chamber of Commerce and WBC economic development team to promote Godalming and Farncombe.

Work with local stakeholders to organise, manage and promote community events including town festivals, national celebrations and commemorations, markets, Staycation and other activities that enhance and support the vitality and vibrancy of the town, its retail centres, businesses and community.		Established and ongoing	GTC supports a full programme of Community events both annual and individual national celebratory events. Farmers Markets, Friday Pop-Up, Saturday Pop-Up (Vegan), Remembrance Day Parade, Godalming Christmas Festival & Lights Switch On, Santa Grotto, Farncombe Christmas Lights, Town Day, Spring Festival, Godalming Community Run, St John's Spring Fair, The Town Show, The Spring Festival, The Food Festival, Staycation and for 2020 the VE75 Commemorations
Use and support ethical, local, Fair Trade and Tax Mark compliant suppliers.	Cllr Wardell	Ongoing	GTC supports the Fair Trade campaign and local producers and suppliers.
Support the protection of local sustainable office and work spaces via an Article 4 Direction Order(s) for key sites in the town.		Notice Served 14 Feb 2020	GTC submitted an Article 4 Direction Order request, with supporting evidence to WBC. Legal Order made by WBC in November 2019
Work with local business organisations and other stakeholders; promote sustainable and regenerative business models.	Cllr Purvis Cllr Wardell	Ongoing	GTC agreed Motion to form a Godalming Climate Forum

<b>Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing</b>			
The Council is fully committed to the elimination of unlawful and unfair discrimination and will endeavour to support all groups within our community.		Ongoing	GTC adopts and implements policies to ensure equality of access to its services and facilities and that all people within our community are treated equally.
Work with stakeholder groups to support the establishment of the Godalming Parkrun.		Ongoing	GTC passed a motion in support of the ParkRun, has lobbied WBC on behalf of the ParkRun Startup Group and demonstrated the viability of the Broadwater ParkRun route during Staycation 2019.
Support groups, organisations and projects aimed at reducing loneliness and isolation within our community including specific support for those living with or supporting others with mental health issues.		Ongoing	GTC supports the work of the CAW and Farncombe Day Centre through the provision SLA's, provides Grant Aid in Kind for the Godalming Good Neighbours Scheme and supports mental health organisations through provision of its community spaces.
Work with local organisations to support and promote events and activities that inform and engage residents in creating a sense of community, safe spaces, openness and accessibility for all residents and visitors.		Ongoing	GTC supports the work of local charities such as the Cellar Café, The Godalming Dementia Action Alliance and Day Centres



<b>Community Engagement</b>			
Relocation of Godalming Town Council administrative offices to more suitable premises that will enable full access to Council services by all members of our community.		Ongoing	Planned for 2020
Support monthly Council Consultation & Listening Events.		Ongoing	1 <sup>st</sup> event held 21 September
Use “listening exercises” to support consultation for key issues.		Ongoing	Listening events established, key issues to be identified
Engagement with residents via traditional and social media.		Ongoing	As per GTC Press, Communications and Community Engagement Policies
Actively disseminate information on Councillor attendance, voting record etc.		Ongoing	Members attendance recorded and published on GTC Website GTC Standing Orders state voting is by show of hands unless a recorded vote is requested by a Member. Outcomes of votes and recorded votes are detailed in the official minutes of the Council
Establish a large Town Hall Meeting once a year.		Ongoing	GTC required by the LGA 1972 to hold an annual meeting of the parish. The LGA states restrictions on the timing of the meeting but not of its format.

Engage residents in developing priorities for how to spend Community Infrastructure Levy funds.	Chair, E&P Committee	Ongoing	Working groups established on 13 Feb to determine criteria for developing, adopting and prioritising CIL funds
<b>Council Staffing</b>			
Recruit Direct Work Force to reduce and eventually replace use of contractors.		1 Oct 2019	GTC direct maintenance work force recruited, areas identified for specialist contractors, i.e gas safety inspections and electrical installations.
Provide appropriate staffing resource to meet the aims and objectives of the Council.		Ongoing	GTC currently resourced to requirement, requirement to be monitored and reviewed as necessary.
Provide appropriate training to support implementation of the Council's aims, objectives and delivery programme.		Ongoing	Training commitment set out in Council's Training Statement of Intent.

## Climate Emergency Motion

On Thursday, 25 July 2019, local residents in the Council Chamber's Public Gallery clapped and cheered as Godalming Town Council passed a Motion declaring a Climate Change Emergency.

In recognising the climate change emergency, the Council resolved to work to reduce carbon emissions and become a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 with an earlier target for carbon neutrality in scope 1 and scope 2 emissions by 2025. The Council agreed to audit its carbon emissions to enable it to monitor progress and also to create a budget to provide grants to support and encourage carbon reduction and mitigation schemes within Godalming and projects to encourage the community to reduce direct CO<sup>2</sup> emissions and to conserve and enhance the bio-diversity of our town.

In supporting the motion, Members agreed on an action plan to ensure that the Council transfers to green energy providers, reduces its reliance on gas heating, has carbon offsetting arrangements in place and will ensure that its vehicles are electric powered by 2030. The Council's action plan aims to achieve carbon neutral status without incurring extra operating costs or financial penalties. The Town Council has examined all its existing energy supplies and has transferred 5 out of its 6 contracts to a green energy provider, with the final transfer due to take place as soon as the existing fixed term expires. This is a simple step that residents, businesses and organisations in the town could take that would make a tangible reduction in CO<sup>2</sup> emissions.

Members also recognised the need to encourage bio-diversity by agreeing to explore options for creating areas of wildflower meadows within the Town boundaries.



## Grants

The Town Council provided grants to a variety of community organisations and projects with the main beneficiaries, Citizens' Advice Waverley, The Hoppa Community Transport and the Farncombe Day Centre receiving £33,000. Although Godalming Town Council has supported these organisations for many years, the level of grants were decided on an annual basis. Whilst always appreciative of the support provided by the Council, the year by year nature of the funding made financial planning by these organisations challenging.

In order to allow for much needed financial security, Councillors were delighted to approve the terms for funding agreements of £158,000 for three organisations who provide much needed local services that benefit the Godalming community. The Service Level Agreements (SLA) agreed by the Town Council guarantees financial support over the next four years. Such arrangements allow the service provider the financial security to invest in the service and provides the Council with measurable outcomes for the support provided.

The Council's funding of £20,000 over the next four years, will ensure that the Hospital Hoppa Service continues to provide an accessible, door-to-door, non-emergency patient transport service to the Royal Surrey County Hospital, as well as all other health facilities between Haslemere and Guildford, for the residents of Godalming and surrounding villages who do not qualify for free NHS transport.

Over the same period, Citizens' Advice Waverley will receive £112,000. The Town Council has supported the Citizens' Advice service for many years, but moving from yearly grants to a 4-year agreement means that Citizens' Advice Waverley has much more certainty in providing a 5-day a week, locally available, independent, high quality advice service to Godalming residents. .



The final organisation to be supported with a funding agreement is the Farncombe Day Centre which will receive £20,000 of assistance over four years to operate a minibus to provide a vital transport service from a client's home to the day centre and return.

At a lower, but equally important level, the Council also awarded grants to many other local organisations including a £500 grant to assist with running the Surrey Fire & Rescue Service - Safe Drive Stay Alive performances. Safe Drive Stay Alive is a road safety initiative that aims to highlight to all young people their responsibilities whilst being in a car, as a driver or passenger, as well as the consequences should these responsibilities not be taken seriously. Godalming sends more young people to this event than any other town in the County.

Please see page 37 for the full list of organisations and groups supported by the Council's Grant budget.



**Safe Drive Stay Alive**

## New Council Offices

Many residents have commented on the window vinyls displayed in the old Racquet Shop windows encouraging residents to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, but they may not be aware of their connection with the Town Council.



After 30 years of trading in the town at 107-109 High Street, The Racquet Shop decided to move on to pastures new. Therefore, the first item of non-procedural business considered by the newly formed council was to decide whether or not to buy out the lease so that the Town Council could move from its present cramped offices. A key deciding factor was the ability to ensure that the Council has a DDA compliant office into which we can welcome those with mobility issues. The location alongside the Godalming Museum and opposite The Peppercot also creates a civic hub which will improve the Town Council's visibility.

Having decided that the move would provide long term benefits and allow the Town Council to work not only more closely with the Godalming Museum but also welcome all residents and visitors to its office accommodation irrespective of mobility, the Council put up the vinyls to promote positive actions, which can help to reduce CO<sup>2</sup>, and also to maintain a sense of vibrancy at the upper end of the High Street, which currently has a concentration of the few vacant retail units in the town.



## **Godalming & Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan (GoFarNP)**

Following many years of hard work and detailed discussions by an army of dedicated volunteers, The Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan won a 91.5% majority when put to the electorate on Tuesday 9 July. The plan was subsequently 'made' (adopted) by Waverley on 13 August 2019 and has become part of the statutory development plan for Godalming and Farncombe.

Godalming Town Council as the qualifying body prepared the neighbourhood development plan with the help of the local community. The plan covers the period from 2017 to 2032 and sets out a vision for the future of the parish and planning policies that will be used to determine planning applications locally.

The aim of the Godalming & Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan is to:

- protect our environment;
- support our local shops and businesses;
- provide housing needed for a sustainable community;
- provide safe pedestrian and cycle links;
- safeguard air quality;
- improve play facilities; and
- ensure more CIL funds are available for local infrastructure.

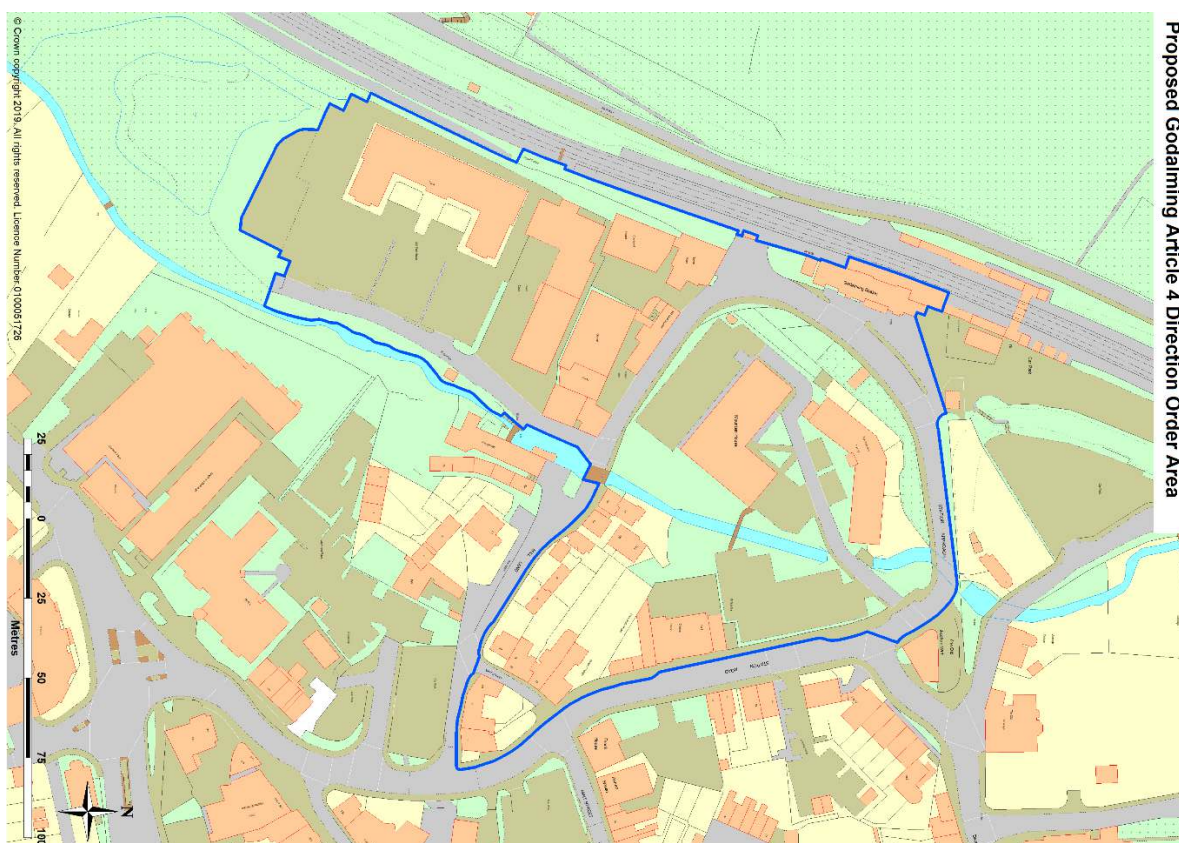
The adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan has given the local community a greater say over the future of the area in which they live and has already influenced planning observations made by Godalming Town Council and importantly planning decisions made by the Local Planning Authority.

The Town Council would like to record its thanks to the many dedicated volunteers who worked on the Neighbourhood Plan.



## Article 4 Direction

Godalming Town Council has consistently raised concerns about the changes in Permitted Development Rights that have allowed the conversion of office space to residential dwellings without the need to have it considered by the Local Planning Authority. Following continued lobbying by the Town Council, the Local Planning Authority have made an Article 4 Direction Order covering the area surrounding the Godalming Railway Station which removes this automatic right. This order means that any developer wishing to convert an office space to residential within the designated area would have to make a planning application, which could then be considered by the local community and the Planning Authority.



## Environment & Planning Committee

The Council agreed to the formation of a new Environment & Planning Committee to drive forward initiatives to meet the goal of carbon neutrality by 2030, which is at the heart of the Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Motion. The Committee met for the first time on 23 January 2020.

The purpose of the Environment & Planning Committee is to 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. The Committee's functions include identifying key environment and planning issues whilst taking into account the natural and built environment. The Environment & Planning Committee will also consider issues relating to local and regional plans or other planning and highway matters brought to the Town Council's attention.

Members will make decisions on applications made to the Council by local organisations for funding from the Council's new Carbon-Reduction & Mitigation Grant Scheme, which it is hoped will encourage and enable carbon reduction within Godalming.

When considering planning applications the Committee will seek to ensure compliance with policies set out in the Godalming & Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan.

## Plastic Free Godalming



At the Council's Environment & Planning Committee meeting held on 13 February 2020, Members resolved to recommend that Godalming Town Council support the Plastic Free Godalming Campaign, which is part of the Surfers Against Sewage – Plastic Free Communities Initiative. In showing its support, Godalming Town Council joins with over 669 other local councils and communities who are committed to reducing the amount of single use plastic used in our society, much of which ends up polluting our oceans and waterways.

Becoming a Plastic Free Community needs the support of both residents and the business community. In resolving to support the Plastic Free Godalming Campaign, Councillors agreed to appoint a representative to the Campaign, encourage plastic free initiatives and importantly lead by example. In collaboration with event partners, the Town Council has already taken steps to reduce single use plastic at town events, including discontinuing single use plastic water bottles at the water stations at the annual Godalming Community Run. Introduction of a drink container deposit scheme at the Staycation Live Music Festival last year drastically reduced the waste generated from the event and will be repeated at the 2020 festival.

## Godalming Climate Forum



Although it was only its second meeting, on 13 February the Environment & Planning Committee agreed to establish a Godalming Climate Forum (GCF). The Climate Forum is in keeping with the Council's aims and objectives as well as its declaration of a Climate Emergency. The GCF will aim to seek ways to facilitate and encourage our community to reduce direct and indirect CO<sup>2</sup> emissions as well as the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. The GCF will seek to protect natural habitats, promote strategies to reduce, reuse and recycle waste, and to provide information to promote understanding of our individual and community impacts on climate change.

The Council nominated Cllr Jo Purvis and Cllr Shirley Wardell as group co-ordinators. It is hoped that the GCF, which will meet quarterly to share ideas, goals, knowledge and expertise will be an umbrella group attended by representatives from local environmentally concerned groups. The GCF will aim to bring together the sharing of ideas together with the opportunity for joint funding applications for environmental projects. The GCF will also look at regenerative business ideas and widen the opportunity for public awareness events on environmental matters. The GCF will liaise with Waverley Borough Council and other town and parish councils across the borough who are committed to carbon reducing strategies and biodiversity improvement ideas across a wider community area.



## Councillors' Robes

Whilst the Council is always looking to add value and benefit for the community, it also sometimes has to make difficult decisions on how its limited resources are used. On 25 July the Council received recommendations from the Mayoralty Committee regarding the replacement and repair of Councillors' robes, which traditionally have been worn by all Members of the Council at council meetings and civic events. With the cost of replacement robes in excess of £10,000, Members agreed that in future only the Mayor of the Town would indicate their office by the wearing of robes. Members acknowledged that the cessation of the wearing of civic robes by Councillors would be missed by many within the community, but also expressed the belief that others would not consider the cost of replacing Councillors' robes a priority for a forward thinking Council.

In making this decision the Council recognised that the position of the Mayor needed to be considered separately from other councillors, which is why the Mayor will continue to wear the traditional red mayoral robe.

## Community Events

The Council organises and supports a range of community events throughout the year and whilst the level of support and resource provided varies between events, the Council believes that its support or involvement is a positive factor. The Council believes that events



Phot courtesy Phil Kemp

in the town play an important part of community life, however, it is equally important that the resource provided by the Town Council is proportionate to the community benefit. In response to resident's comments and suggestions, 2019 saw Godalming Town Council introduce some new events as well as update others. Community events and community support form a significant part of the services provided by the Council for its residents, businesses and visitors alike. In October the Council set up a

working group to look at all aspects of the Councils involvement in community events and activities and also to explore adding to the range of events currently provided.

## Godalming Pop-Up Events and Farmers' Markets



Over the summer of 2019 Godalming Town Council took over the management of the pedestrianised area of Crown Court in central Godalming. This allowed the Council to add to the vibrancy of the town centre by offering additional street market events without the need to close the High Street.

The Town Council has worked with the South West Surrey Farmers Market Co-operative for over 6 years to offer a monthly Farmers' Market within the Town Centre. The Farmers' Markets offer residents and visitors the opportunity to shop sustainably by supporting local businesses, growers and producers. By making use of the Crown Court area, the Council has been able to increase the monthly Farmers' Markets from 8 to 10 times a year and to bring all the stalls together into one area.



The Council knows that it is not just the Farmers' Markets that residents enjoy, but that a lot of the community wanted the Friday Market to come back to the town. With the old marketplace no



longer being available, the Town Council looked at how it could facilitate a new Friday Market, and whilst not the same as before, the new weekly Godalming Friday Pop-Up allows traders to operate in Crown Court and the Council is delighted that 'Phil the Flower' with his plants and shrubs and Household Heaven are the 'anchors' of the Friday Pop-up.

The Pop-up events have also proved popular on the second Saturday of the month for the Godalming Vegan Pop-up, which adds to the retail range and diversity of the town.



If you would like trade at a Godalming Pop-up event please contact our Community Officer, Suzie Gortler, email [community@godalming-tc.gov.uk](mailto:community@godalming-tc.gov.uk)

## Godalming Park Run

In July 2019, Godalming Town Council passed a resolution in support of the idea of a Parkrun in the town and wrote to the Head of Commercial Services at Waverley Borough Council, who has responsibility for Leisure and Parks & Countryside, to express GTC's support for a Godalming Park Run and to



identify where the Town Council might be able to provide assistance or support.

Working with the Godalming Parkrun Steering Group, during Staycation week the Council held a successful 'Park Fun Run' at Broadwater Park on a route proposed by the Parkrun Steering Group.



## Staycation

Residents of Godalming were kept busy at Godalming Town Council's Staycation week (3-11 August). Staycation Live Music Festival opened the week of activities in and around the town with visitors enjoying the glorious weather whilst listening to some eclectic bands and performers down by the river.





Throughout Staycation week there were many new activities as well as old favourites for residents to enjoy. Guildford Escape Rooms bought the “Osiris Chest” to Godalming and intrepid explorers were kept busy trying to discover the hidden “gold”. A Godalming Staycation “Park Fun Run” was held with over 100 runners turning up to run around Broadwater Park and Lake. A day of drumming workshops was introduced, a photographic workshop helped people to make the most of mobile

phone cameras and a parent and baby choir sang rock, pop and musical theatre songs. Several new types of dance classes were introduced including Silver Swans ballet for the more mature and Acro-Dance where younger participants did gym tricks, flicks, twirls and more. Residents could be found enjoying and making new things including how to use a sewing machine and a variety of craft workshops.

Staycation favourites returned including learning to play a brass instrument, ukulele playing, tennis, fun cookery classes, football, cricket, tennis, bowling, swimming, Baby Ballet and Street Dance.



The canoeing on the River Wey recorded record



numbers across the week and a second successful intergenerational afternoon where seniors and young people got together to play traditional games and enjoy each other’s company was held at Broadwater Park Community Centre.

Godalming Town Council is one of the few local councils in the UK to organise such an extensive Staycation programme for its residents. Over the last 9 years, the community has



supported Staycation and this year was no exception. One resident said: “I just wanted to say a huge thank you for organising Staycation. This week saw me having a go at bowling at Holloway Hill Bowling Club – I met some lovely people, who were clearly thrilled with the interest! And on Tuesday I took my two boys and their friends to play the Escape Room game, put on by Guildford Escape Room. They really loved it and I was so impressed it was completely free! That afternoon the four boys went swimming at Charterhouse for £2 each, making it affordable for me to treat them. Please pass on my thanks to the organisers, it’s a fantastic scheme, I’d like to say a massive thank you for Staycation!!”



If you would like be part of Staycation and offer an event or activity please contact our Community Officer, Suzie Gortler, email [community@godalming-tc.gov.uk](mailto:community@godalming-tc.gov.uk)

## Localism – Working with Surrey County Council

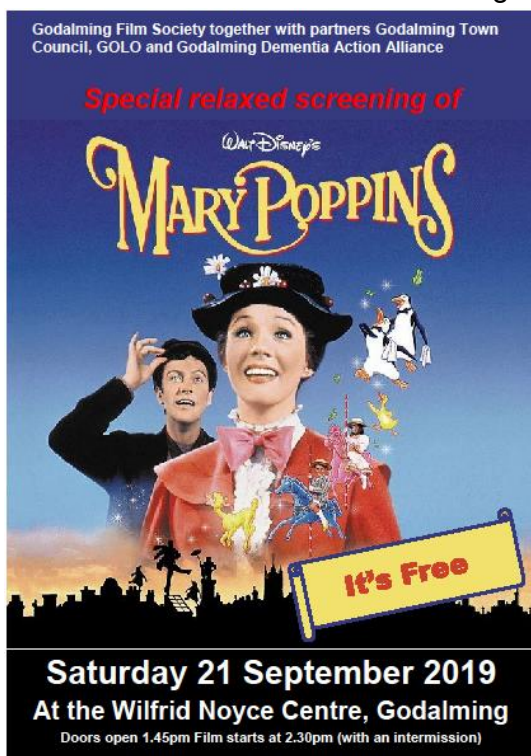
Godalming Town Council continues to work with the Waverley area Surrey Highways team to identify issues relating to footpaths, alleyways, culverts and land drainage, which have concerned local residents. Being more local and utilising its own workforce, Godalming Town Council has been able to undertake some of this work more effectively and at a lower cost than Surrey County Council, which, in turn, has meant that more areas of concern have been addressed.

One of the more prominent areas where Godalming Town Council has worked in collaboration with Surrey County Council was in the rejuvenation of the footpath running between Church Street and Moss Lane which passes alongside the Burys allotments. This was achieved using part of Councillor Rivers' Local Fund Allocation from SCC, enabling them to re-lay this path, which is used by hundreds of people including children travelling to and from Moss Lane School. Godalming Town Council took the opportunity to incorporate environmental enhancements to open up the area and install new attractive fencing at the allotments. Working together the two Councils have transformed an area which previously had a potholed path which was covered in overhanging vegetation.



## Dementia Friendly Relaxed Screenings

A visit to the cinema for those living with dementia or other conditions which cause anxiety and stress can be a challenging experience. People affected often have to give up the things they love due to inaccessible and unsupportive environments, which can include visiting the cinema. By allowing people living with dementia to continue to see films, cinemas have an important part to play in tackling the social impact of dementia.



As part of Godalming Town Council's commitment to achieving a dementia friendly community, the Council partnered with the Godalming Film Society and Godalming Dementia Action Alliance to host four screenings, which having proved to be extremely popular and well received. This has led to an agreement between the partner organisations to commit to hold regular screening throughout 2020. Coming to a Town Council Community Centre near you (The Wilfrid Noyce Centre) 26 May - Mamma Mia, 18 July – Once and 27 October – Grease. In addition on 19 December Gigi will be shown at the Borough Hall.



## Christmas Festival & Lights Switch On

Godalming's Christmas Festival & Lights Switch On is always special but this year our icicle lights theme was enhanced by the addition of traditional Christmas trees as replacements for the Antari decorations on the buildings along the High Street and the 'Floating Stars' between The Pepperpot and the Museum building. In keeping with the 'Reuse' theme, the Antari decorations were upcycled to be hung in trees along the High Street. 2019 also saw the introduction of two traditional Christmas Trees in the Town. The first was located by the Richmond Arms as a 'Welcome to our Town' symbol with the larger of the two trees at just short of 30ft being placed at the High Street entrance to Crown Court. This tree, provided by the Town Council and supported by Godalming Woolsack Rotary and The Cellar Café, acted as an 'In Memory Tree' allowing those who wished to place a memory label on the tree an opportunity to do so. Over 300 residents placed a 'Memory' on the tree.



## Community Buildings – Broadwater Park

Over the Christmas period, the Council's maintenance staff were busy redecorating one of the two halls at Broadwater Park Community Centre. Broadwater Park Community Centre is beautifully located on the edge of the park close to the Godalming Leisure Centre. With two halls and a kitchen adjoining a safe enclosed garden space surrounded by the historic 'Crinkle Crankle Wall', Broadwater is an ideal location for children's birthday parties.



Having refurbished one of the halls, the maintenance team will be working their way around the centre over the coming year to refresh the other hall, kitchen and toilet facilities.

If you wish to hire one of the Council's Community Buildings – Broadwater Park, The Wilfrid Noyce Centre or The Pepperpot, for either a one off event or as a regular user, please contact Karen on 01483 523112 or email [operations@godalming-tc.gov.uk](mailto:operations@godalming-tc.gov.uk).

## South East in Bloom

2019 was the first time ever that Godalming Town Council entered the South & South East in Bloom (SSEIB) competition. We were excited 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 the Boarden Bridge planting area as well as Nightingale Cemetery.

As first time entrants, expectations were not high, which is why, at the SSEIB awards ceremony held on Friday, 13 September, Mayor of Godalming Cllr Penny Rivers was so delighted when the BBC Radio Surrey Gardening expert Joe Talbot presented her with a Silver Gilt Award in the small cemeteries category for Nightingale Cemetery.



The cemetery, which is managed by the Town Council on behalf of the Godalming Joint Burial Committee, scored near maximum points for 'Pride of Place' in the local environmental quality of the cemetery, with the judges being especially impressed with the 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 judges praised the high standard of maintenance and judged that a lovely area had

been created to sit in quiet contemplation and for visitors to enjoy the colour and interest it had added to the cemetery.

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 and 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. Of particular note were the displays at The Sun Public House.



The Godalming Museum garden received commendable comments and the judges were impressed with the sustainable planting and high standard of maintenance in the garden. The new planting at the approach to the Boarden Bridge also 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 and congratulations 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.

## Flood Alleviation Scheme

Whilst storm Ciara and Dennis wreaked havoc across the country in February it brought back traumatic memories of the similar devastating floods experienced by residents of Catteshall Road, Meadow, Wey Court and nearby roads in December 2012 & January 2013. Thanks to the efforts of the Godalming Flood Alleviation Scheme Group this scene was not repeated in Godalming.



Catteshall Road December 2013

For the third time since the Flood Alleviation Scheme was officially 'opened' in October 2019, the fixed wall held back waters overbanking from Hell Ditch and the flooded Catteshall and Almshouse Lammas Meadows, with Sunday 16 February seeing the removable section that closes off Catteshall Road deployed for the first time.

During storm Dennis, the new flood defences held back over a metre of water, which it is estimated would have flooded 66 properties in Catteshall, Meadow and beyond.

The Godalming Flood Alleviation Scheme Group was a committee that brought together all interested groups including, Godalming Town, Waverley Borough and Surrey County Councils, the Environment Agency, the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal team, Thames Water, and local politicians. The Group worked with local residents to design the scheme, and raise the £4.5M funding needed for the scheme and then saw it built, which took nearly 6 years.



Godalming Flood Defenses Viewed from Catteshall Road Bridge February 2020

As with any project of this nature there are still a few issues to resolve. Since the removal of the work compound in October 2019 the weather has been too wet to be able to do the required restoration work on the Catteshall and Meadow Lammas Meadows, and waterlogging issues relating to the Catteshall Allotments also need to be resolved. In relation to the deployment of the Catteshall Bridge barriers, which cut off Catteshall from Meadow, residents have informed the Council of the need to set out additional signage so that pedestrians as well as motorists are aware that Catteshall has become a no through road to or from Meadow.



# JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE

## Godalming Joint Burial Committee

Although Godalming's public cemeteries date back to 1857, the Godalming Joint Burial Committee is committed to developing its cemeteries to meet the needs of a 21<sup>st</sup> century town. The ability for the residents of Godalming to select from a choice of burial options is key to the Committee's development plans. Two of the most significant developments for the future of burials in Godalming have been the creation of a Natural Burial site at Eashing Cemetery and the research and planning works to allow for the renewal of Grave spaces within Nightingale Cemetery.

Natural Burials are designed to speed up the process of returning the body and its nutrients to the soil and to reduce the amount of artificial and toxic materials introduced into the ground. With views across the Surrey Hills, Eashing Cemetery already has a rural feel, which makes it an ideal location for a natural burial ground. Eashing Cemetery has 172 plots in a half an acre of land bounded on two sides by agricultural land and located in the furthest reaches of the cemetery. As part of the design, burial plots are arranged in clusters located off of a meandering grass path. Each grave may have an associated tree sapling (of native plants like hawthorn, birch, hazel, mountain ash) planted within the burial area.



For many years there were no plots available for purchase at Nightingale Cemetery; although burials continued in grave spaces that had been previously purchased. However, following alterations to the grounds completed in 2010, a limited number of new grave spaces were made available for burials. These spaces have now all been used or reserved. In order to continue to provide Nightingale Cemetery as an option for residents of Godalming and Busbridge civic parishes, an additional 20 spaces have been identified, which will meet three years' requirement. This time will allow the Committee to continue with the project it began in 2018/19 to work towards the renewal of nearly 200 grave spaces within the cemetery which should meet a 25-year requirement.

In October 2019, Godalming Town Council introduced a direct Grounds Maintenance Team, which as well as maintaining GTC's open grounds and buildings is also supporting the Joint Burial Committee in the maintenance and development of Godalming's cemeteries.

Currently, an area of sward runs around three sides of Eashing Cemetery, beyond the formal graves' area. It is proposed to return some of this area to wildflower meadows. The initial phase of re-wilding would include two principle areas on opposite sides of the cemetery.

This work will be undertaken by Godalming Town Council's Grounds Maintenance Team supported by Waverley Borough Council. As part of the project it is hoped that progress and changes in biodiversity will be monitored as part of a programme supported by Surrey University. This programme would record and monitor the gradual transformation of these wildflower meadows.

Work is also being conducted on the cemetery's Garden of Remembrance, this work includes laurel hedge reduction, semi-formal border planting and some small scale hard landscaping (paths). It is also proposed to include an area of wildflower meadow adjacent to the garden.

## Thank You

Godalming Town Council wishes to thank the many wonderful organisations, individuals and volunteers who give freely of their resources to the Council and their community.



Music in the Park  
Godalming



With thanks to the Peter Caudle Memorial Trust



# AWARDS

## Awards



Godalming  
Town Council

*[Signature]*  
Local Panel Chairman

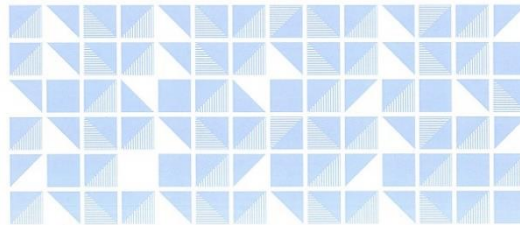
06/2019 The Quality Award demonstrates that  
a council achieves good practice in  
governance, community engagement  
and council improvement.  
Start date  
06/2023  
Valid until

**nalc**  
National Association  
of Local Councils

**Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government**

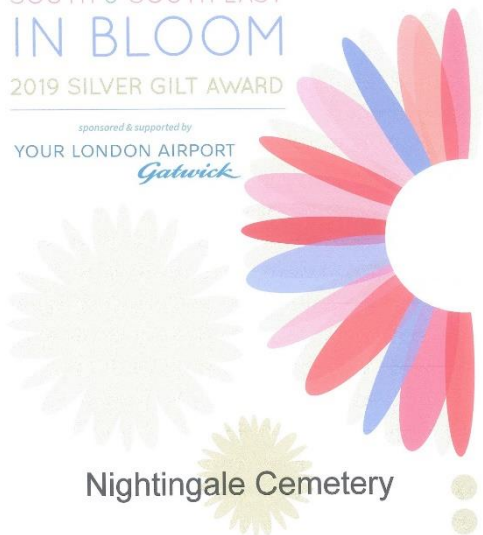
**Local  
Government  
Association**

**SLCC**  
South London  
Councils' Committee



SOUTH & SOUTH EAST  
**IN BLOOM**  
2019 SILVER GILT AWARD

sponsored & supported by  
YOUR LONDON AIRPORT  
*Galwick*



Nightingale Cemetery



*[Signature]*  
Chairman S&SEIB

south east water

SOUTH & SOUTH EAST  
**IN BLOOM**  
2019 SILVER AWARD

sponsored & supported by  
YOUR LONDON AIRPORT  
*Galwick*



Godalming Town Council



*[Signature]*  
Chairman S&SEIB

south east water



## Godalming Museum

### Review of Progress and Achievements 2019-2020

At the end of March 2019 the Museum Trustees were thrilled to hear that the Museum had been awarded Heritage Lottery funding for a project with the National Trust and the Surrey County Archaeology Unit (SCAU) to investigate the First and Second World War Army Camps on Witley Common. Over the summer SCAU carried out surveys and excavations on the common with teams of volunteers (and an audience of fascinated dog walkers). Since then there have been finds processing days at the museum, at Combat Stress and at the Surrey History Centre and research and preparation for publications, school loan boxes and an exhibition and display at the museum. The project will continue into next year, culminating with an open day in August 2020.

In June, a party was held in the museum garden for all those involved in the work on the new local history galleries, which were opened in October by Michael More-Molyneux, HM Lord Lieutenant of Surrey (and Museum Trustee). Feedback on the new displays has been very positive and the space gained in the store by putting nearly all the Social History collection on display is also being put to good use. The galleries were a final museum project for the Museum's wonderful volunteer Building Manager, John Young, who, now in his 90s, has decided to retire. As well as keeping the museum's 600-year-old building going and managing numerous projects over the years, John has a vast store of Godalming knowledge which is always at the disposal of researchers.

Sadly, Michael Edwards, the architect who created the museum garden and designed the 1990s extension to the museum building, died this year. An expert in Gertrude Jekyll and Sir Edwin Lutyens and a long-term supporter and friend of the museum, he will be sadly missed. His garden at the museum won an award from Godalming in Bloom this year and contributed to Godalming being awarded a silver in its first ever entry in South East in Bloom.

Godalming Town Council has given the museum the use of the newly refurbished Pepperpot for school groups on Wednesdays and this year many local children enjoyed the opportunity to see inside this iconic local building, as well as the excellent facilities. The museum created a display, a Godalming timeline illustrated with objects and images, for the old show cases which line the Pepperpot's main room. Many of the objects were returning to their former home, as these cases housed the displays when the museum was in the Pepperpot (1921-1987).

After over a century in the Municipal Buildings in Bridge Street, Godalming Town Council are moving to share the museum building. Work began on the new offices on the ground floor this year. The museum's entrance will be enlarged and improved by this change and its visibility enhanced by a High Street window.

## Collections

523 accessions (22 books for the local studies library, 61 photographs, 119 objects and 321 archival records) were added to the museum collection in 2019. Among items transferred to the collection from the Town Council, prior to their move, were a postcard from Jack Phillips and a copy of Jennie Stedman's well-known photograph. The museum was also delighted to receive two postcards sent by Jack Phillips to his family in Farncombe, from Corke and from Portland, Maine. Other items added to the collections during the year included: autographs of the 1953 Everest Expedition collected by a schoolboy in Delhi; an

album of photographs, mainly from the 1950s, of what is now Godalming Junior School; a brass fire fighter's helmet, a pair for the silver fire captain's helmet already in the collection, and an impressive Art Deco-style trophy won by the Godalming Steamer in 1908; and a collection of over 70 postcards, a barbed wire holder and a mortar fin relating to the First World War Army Camps on Witley Common. Among digital donations were a series of 20 drawings of local buildings by Godalming artist, and former museum volunteer, Henry Collen. Collections volunteer, Jan Frankcom added many of the oral history interviews and digital photographs collected during the Keeping Memories Alive project to the Past Perfect catalogue. Indexing training sessions were held for volunteers and we now have a small team carrying out this work.

The museum is very grateful to all of those who have donated items to the collection and to the volunteers who have worked so hard and so skillfully on the collections over the year.

## Education

366 school children visited the Museum in 12 groups. A further 722 children enjoyed workshops in schools. An estimated 275 students made use of the Museum's loan boxes. 28 different schools used the museum's education services. None of this would have been possible without the dedicated work of the Museum's education volunteer, Anne Concanen, who led sessions on Jack Phillips and the Titanic, on Gertrude Jekyll (in costume) and on the Romans.

Comments from teachers have included:-

"We have been thrilled with how our visits have gone and how accommodating you have been with our requests"

"I just wanted to write and thank you for all your help with the visit to the museum. The children really enjoyed it and it was noticeable how much they had remembered when we went to write our fact files the next day. Please thank your assistant for doing a great impersonation of Gertrude Jekyll, and bringing her to life, one or two children believed that they met the real lady herself! It was also really helpful to have the use of the Pepper Pot."

And from students:-

"I had a wonderful day, an amazing day of facts. Thank you for having us"

"My favourite fact was that God-helm-ing was founded by the Saxons and that Farncome was called Fern-combe. I did not know that the biggest [Saxon] spearhead was found in Farncombe. This is totally epic"

"My favourite activity was the board game, it was fun learning whilst playing"

"We thought the trip was very exciting because we got to see the different landmarks and learnt about how different roads got their names! The maps were fascinating as we got to see what our town used to look like. As well as this, we really enjoyed hearing about the old Llanaway house and seeing the pictures of the Hallam sisters, they sounded like such lovely ladies"

"I loved going to Godalming Museum. I loved making a snail. I didn't know that there were hot colours and cool colours"

"I really enjoyed the trip and I had never been in the upstairs of the Pepperpot"

The Museum has also provided work experience and volunteering opportunities for school, college and university students

## Events

The Museum organised a programme of events and lectures, which were promoted to the general public as well as to members of the Museum Trust and the Godalming Trust. In addition museum volunteers and the Curator have given talks to groups and led guided tours of the Museum and town. This year additional events were organised to help boost the museum's fundraising and attract more visitors, a very grateful thanks goes to the volunteers who organised gallery talks, took the museum café out to the High Street and helped with the museum quiz.

May	Flag Day on the High Street and at Secrett's farm shop
Jun	Gallery Talk: Art and Society in Edo Period Japan, by James Hammond Antiques Valuation Day at the Museum, by Ewbank Auctioneers
Jul	Summer lunch at Jordans, Eashing by kind permission of Anthony and Jenny Isaacs Gallery Talk: Dr Wilfrid Fox and Winkworth Arboretum, by Peter Herring Museum café beneath the Pepperpot
Aug	Flag day, Waitrose
Sep	As usual, the Museum supported Heritage Open Days, handling the ticketing for those properties where numbers were restricted and opening additionally on the Sunday.
Oct	Museum Trust & Godalming Trust lecture: Town and Gown, Godalming and Charterhouse, by Catherine Smith, Charterhouse Archivist Friends' party at the Museum and formal opening of new Social History Galleries
Nov	Museum Trust & Godalming Trust lecture: Darwin and Huxley's Dilemma, by Dr John Bennett Stall at Christmas Lights switch on. The Museum also hosted this year's celebrity guest, Peppa Pig
Dec	Stall at Churches Together Christmas Fair Stall at the Mayor's Christmas Fair Flag day at Secrett's Farm Shop
Jan	Museum Trust & Godalming Trust lecture: The Silk Road, by Alan Bott (a last minute replacement for Professor Fernie's talk on Winchester Cathedral and Norman Architecture in England, which had to be postponed due to illness) Gallery Talk: The Woodlands behind my Music by Mervyn Mewis
Feb	Museum Quiz Gallery Talk: Music from the Landscape by Jez Smith
Mar	Museum Trust & Godalming Trust lecture: Saxon Life and Death, a Unique Cemetery in Godalming, by Rob Poulton, Senior Archaeologist, Surrey County Archaeology Unit and Dr Lia Betti, Senior Lecturer in Evolutionary Anthropology, University of Roehampton

## Exhibitions

Apr	<b>The March of the Women, Surrey's Road to the Vote</b> , Surrey Heritage travelling exhibition <b>Mayford Art Group</b> exhibition <b>Phyllis Tuckwell</b> travelling exhibition
May	<b>A Sense of Place</b> , watercolours by Sue Colyer
Jun	<b>Compton Artists</b> exhibition <b>Godalming Around and About</b> , paintings by Nancy Wilks <b>I Create Art</b> exhibition by a children's after school art club <b>Copper, Wax and Acid</b> , the museum's exhibition about artist Percy Robertson was displayed at Charterhouse
Jul	<b>Godalming Photographic Club</b> summer exhibition
Aug	<b>Seldom Seen – Discover the Secrets hidden in Stained Glass</b> , Michael Sleigh, with associated children's craft activities and secrets trail (the museum's contribution to Godalming Staycation) <b>Hands-on archaeology</b> , processing finds from Witley Common in the museum garden
Sep	<b>Studio 12</b> art exhibition <b>Arthur Halcrow Verstage and the Town Hall that never was</b> , one day pop-up exhibition for Heritage Weekend <b>Broadwater Artists</b> exhibition
Oct-Dec	<b>Cards for Good Causes</b>
Jan	<b>Stone and Wood</b> , works by Simon Keeley and Mervyn Mewis
Feb	<b>Compton Artists</b> exhibition
Mar	<b>Guildford One Two Three</b> , art exhibition by Martin Jones, Beth Osler and Owen Osler

## Governance and Management

The Collections, Events, Health and Safety, Library and Shop committees met regularly through the year. The Museum Management Committee met every three months and the Trustees in July and January. Long-serving secretary to the Museum Management Committee, Peter Thomas decided to retire this year following illness. We will miss his competent, concise, and occasionally wry minutes and are very grateful for all his work over the years. Happily he is remaining a museum volunteer in other capacities. We were grateful to Richard Clist for acting as temporary secretary and to John Bennett for taking on the role.

## Marketing and Publicity

The Museum is grateful to all the volunteers who help with marketing and publicity: issuing regular press releases; keeping the website up to date; editing and producing the newsletter and designing and typesetting the spring and summer exhibition brochures. This year we also produced a leaflet to promote membership of the Friends of the Museum.

## Shop

The shop continued to provide valuable support to the work of the Museum, both financially and as a visitor service, with the shop team putting in a great deal of hard work to stock and staff museum stalls at town events and to make sure that suitable stock was available for group and school visits.

## Staff

Curator:	Alison Pattison
Volunteer Coordinator:	Angela Terelak
Archivist:	Shirley Dixon
Cleaners:	RKF Cleaning

For all other aspects of its work, the Museum depends on, and is deeply grateful for, the hard work and good will of its team of 70 volunteers who generously give their time and expertise to facilitate the practical day-to-day operation of the Museum, to develop and deliver its services and to keep it financially viable.

Three volunteer training sessions were held during the year.

## Visitors and Service Users

The Museum counted 14,775 service users in 2019-20, compared to 16,558 in 2018-19. The drop in the number of visitors is concerning. While museum events have been well attended and education services well used, “drop-in” visits to the museum have declined.

Comments from visitors this year have included:-

“Have just visited Godalming museum. What a lovely museum, it’s not big but it’s packed with very interesting artefacts, housed in a charming 15th century property which makes all the more quirky and a real insight into the past.” Comment on Trip Advisor Nov 2019 (The museum has 59 reviews on Trip Advisor and a 4.5 rating)

“I did not know Godalming had a museum, I came here just to kill time, but I am so glad I stayed! The museum is well organised, presented nicely, has lovely staff who took me round and showed me the true history of the museum. I could not get enough of the social history displays – they were the best part of the museum.” Visitor from Haslemere

“Fab staff supporting a very interesting museum. Coffee good too!” Unattributed comment

“Fascinating museum, photos and archaeological activity, thank you” Visitors from Paris

“I loved the exhibition about Gertrude Jekyll. I’ve always admired her garden designs and it was great to see her paintings and objects belonging to her” Visitor from Herefordshire

“Excellent museum with great detailed information about local history. Great educational area for children.” Visitors from Aberdeen

“What a gem. One of the most interesting museums I have visited. Pity it is tucked away and likely to be missed by many people” unattributed comment

In conclusion, the Trustees wish to thank Godalming Town Council, Waverley Borough Council, the Friends and Patrons of the Museum, our volunteers and other supporters for their continuing help. Our task would have been much more difficult without their financial and other contributions. The repetition of these words each year should not be taken to

mean that the Trustees' thanks are in any way formulaic or less than heartfelt. It simply reflects the ongoing partnership between all these people and organisations, which makes the provision of a museum service for Godalming and the surrounding area possible.

As stated earlier in the report, Godalming Town Council has supported a wide range of organisations in the town with a year to date grant aid totalling £57,470. This is an important part of the Town Council's work recognising the huge contribution that these organisations make to the quality of life in our community.

In 2019/20 the largest of these grants was to the Citizens Advice Waverley (CAW) to ensure the continued provision of a CAW service in Godalming. This Council has provided a significant grant to the CAW for more than decade.

As well as monetary grants, a number of organisations were also given grant aid in the form of free use of one of the Town Council's buildings for meetings or to facilitate an event (those grants are included below and a cash value put on the grant so that the support is properly accounted for).

Other grants in 2019/20 included a payment to Farncombe Day Centre to assist with the running of its minibus, which is a vital lifeline for the many elderly residents who use it. Loseley Field Primary School was supported with a grant of £4,000.00 towards the provision of outdoor education facilities for the pupils and the community. Working with Surrey Wildlife Trust, the school plans to provide a wildlife outdoor training area, a pond area and a wildlife meadow which also meets the Council's biodiversity aims and objectives.

Below is a full list of all grants awarded by Godalming Town Council in the financial year 2019/20 and the collective total of Grant Aid in Kind\* (use of venues).

Citizens Advice Waverley	28,000.00
Waverley Hoppa Community Transport	5,000.00
Farncombe Day Centre	5,000.00
Godalming in Bloom	500.00
Godalming Town Football Club	3,000.00
Huckleberries Nurture Farm CIC	600.00
Surrey Association for Visual Impairment (Sight for Surrey)	500.00
Waverley Borough Council	500.00
The Brigitte Trust	500.00
The Godalming District Scout Council	500.00
The Cellar Café	850.00
Godalming Branch of Extinction Rebellion	500.00
Godalming Scouts & Guides HQ, The Burys	500.00
Safe Drive, Stay Alive	500.00
Surrey Hills to South Downs Community Rail Partnership	500.00
Kids Out	500.00
Trinity Trust Team	500.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Godalming Scout Group	2,570.00
Godalming Baptist Church	1,500.00
Loseley Fields Primary School	4,000.00
Go Godalming Youth Canoe Club	500.00
Waverley Borough Council	500.00
Grant Aid in Kind	450.00
	<hr/>
	57,470.00

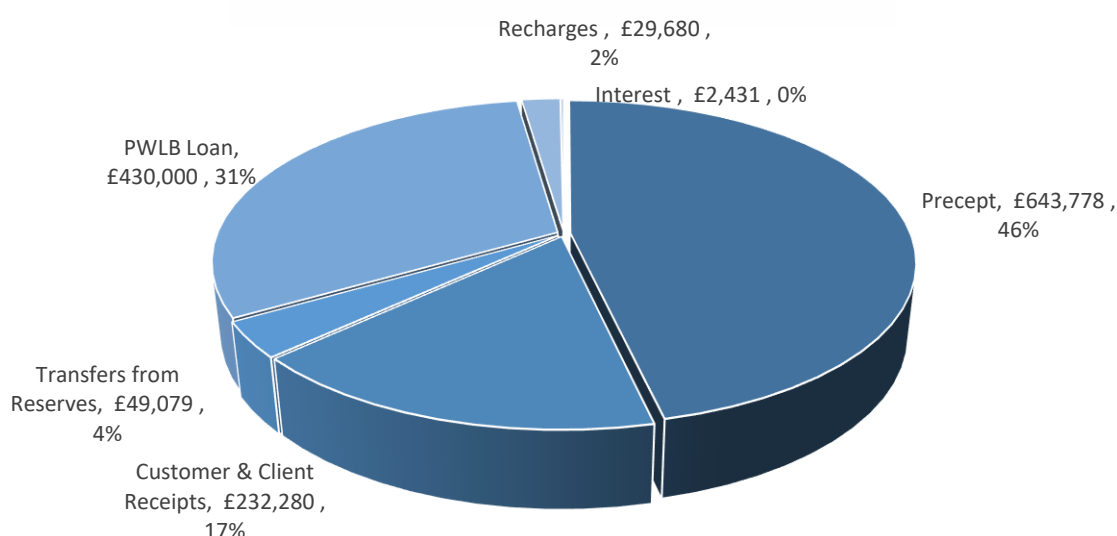


## Annual Accounts 2019/20

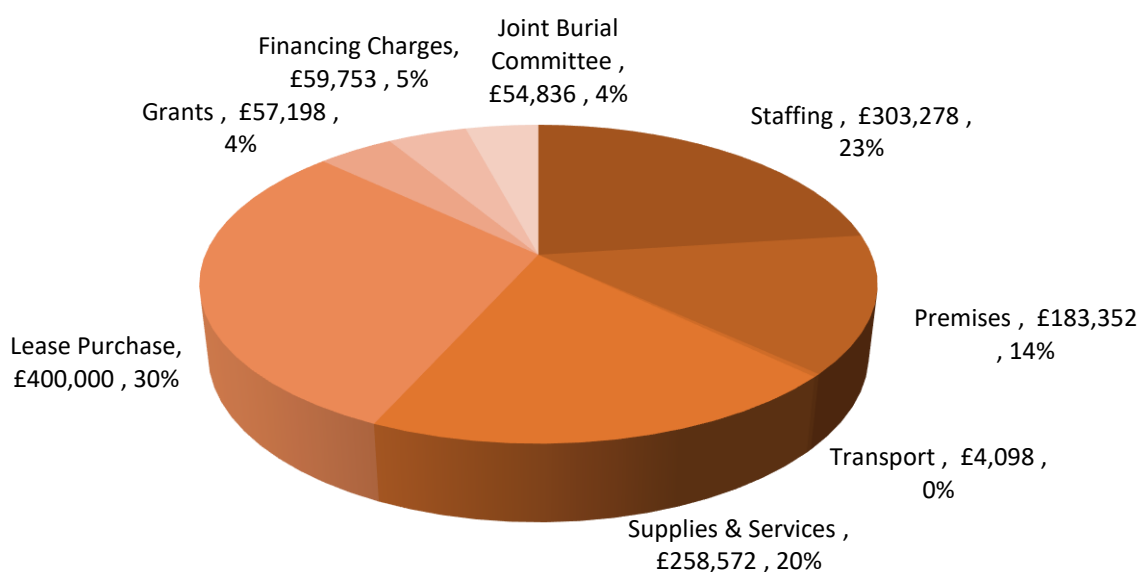
The Council's accounts are prepared in accordance with the Account & Audit Regulations 2015. They are subject to internal audit (by an independent auditor appointed by the Town Council) and to external audit (by a different auditor appointed by the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd). Every year local government electors are given an opportunity to examine the Council's accounts and financial records and the accounts will also be published on the Town Council's website.

Below is a summary of how the Council's budget (including overheads) was spent in 2019/20. Note that these figures are based on the most up to date actual figures available at the time of writing (29 February 2020) and will be subject to change because the 2019/20 accounts have not yet been finalised.

### Where the Money Came From



### Where the Money Went



Godalming Town Council  
Municipal Buildings  
Bridge Street  
Godalming  
Surrey GU7 1HT

Tel: **01483 523575**  
E-Mail: **office@godalming-tc.gov.uk**  
Web: **www.godalming-tc.gov.uk**

## BINSCOMBE WARD

Cllr G Boyle  
Cllr H Hullah  
Cllr Jo Purvis  
\*Cllr PS Rivers

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heather.hullah@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
jo.purvis@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
paul.rivers@godalming-tc.gov.uk

## CENTRAL & OCKFORD WARD

Cllr RP Ashworth  
Cllr AW Duce  
\*Cllr PD Follows  
\*Cllr AM Rosoman

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adam.duce@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
paul.follows@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
anne-marie.rosoman@godalming-tc.gov.uk

## CHARTERHOUSE WARD

\*Cllr SW Cosser  
Cllr C Neill  
Cllr ML Steel  
\*Cllr S Williams

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chris.neill@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
michael.steel@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
steve.williams@godalming-tc.gov.uk

## FARNCOMBE & CATTESHALL WARD

Cllr A Adam  
0\*Cllr PMA Rivers  
Cllr SA Wardell  
Cllr RA Welland

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penny.rivers@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
shirley.wardell@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
ross.welland@godalming-tc.gov.uk

## HOLLOWAY WARD

Cllr B Crooks  
\*Cllr JC Heagin  
0\*Cllr PJ Martin  
Cllr MJ Stubbs

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joan.heagin@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
peter.martin@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
michael.stubbs@godalming-tc.gov.uk

\*Waverley Members

<sup>0</sup>Surrey County Council Members

## Town Council Staff:

Andy Jeffery	Town Clerk
Rita Tong	Responsible Finance Officer
Lynne Purnell	Support Services Executive
Suzie Gortler	Community & Communications Officer
Karen Warner	Facilities Supervisor
Alison Pattison	Godalming Museum Curator
Angela Terelak	Museum Volunteer Co-ordinator
Darren Jones	Buildings Maintenance Operative
Jason Hunter	Grounds Maintenance Operative
Vacant	Weekend Caretaker

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museum.volunteers@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
maintenance@godalming-tc.gov.uk  
grounds@godalming-tc.gov.uk