



# Godalming

Town Council

**Annual Report  
2024-25**

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2025



## MAYORAL REVIEW



It was on 16 May last year that Councillor Charlotte Downey and Councillor Adam Duce proposed me to be Town Mayor for the 2024-2025 civic year. What a privilege to be proposed for this role by the new generation of young Councillors, truly for the under 40's to propose this old man Rivers is a memory to cherish. Indeed, last year's Town Mayor, young Cllr Duce, has been a tough act to follow.

I have been proud to support The Meath and Skillway charities and I thank everyone who has supported the fund-raising events (and fun-raising events) on their behalf.

Skillway operates from the chapels in Nightingale cemetery making use of what was empty space. Skillway supports young people by teaching crafts and life skills. The Meath is home for those living with complex epilepsy.

We are lucky to live in a beautiful part of the country and to have good schools, churches,

shops, businesses and especially voluntary organisations. Of course, this has nothing to do with luck! We are a safe community because we have good policing. We have good schools because we have skilled and hard-working teachers, and we are blessed with many volunteers. Even on Christmas day there is a festive lunch for those who would otherwise be on their own. Churches Together in Godalming started this in the year 2000 to mark the Millenium – what a gift!

There are peak seasons in the civic year – summer is one filled with Godalming in Bloom and Staycation as well as Music in the Park. It was a particular pleasure to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Quiet Garden in Farncombe.

The community of Godalming is blessed with much music – thanks to Suzanne Cacciottolo (Conservatoire Concerts), Godalming Choral Society, Godalming Operatic Society, Godalming Band and Youth Band, ChoirBLAST, Staycation Live, all the concerts on the Bandstand and to the stars of Godalming Theatre Group whose pantomime was side-splitting, raucous, over-the-top fun from beginning to end. They are all just great and all would give you a warm welcome



The town marks Remembrance with care and respect and sadly we have, over the last three years, also stood in solidarity and flown the flag for Ukraine, and with those who have found sanctuary in our community.



Christmas time in Godalming is fun and filled with our beautiful, silvery, starry lights. Penny and I enjoyed many events including the Lights in Godalming and Farncombe. We attended The Meath carol service in St Clement Dane's in London and it was simply joyous to hear their choir – tears were shed. Tears were also shed at the Godalming Band's performance of "The Snowman" with a choir of students from Godalming Junior School.

We enjoyed lunch at the Farncombe Day Centre and this year also at Charterhouse School. During those dark days when Godalming had no water, Broadwater Lodge helped the school with washing-up facilities. To repay that favour Charterhouse invited 100 OAPs to lunch with entertainment.

Godalming is the community that we make; and we all play a part in it. We are connected to one another. Everything we say and do, wherever we happen to be, can build up or pull down our community. I wish to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to take a moment and reflect on just what it is that we value in our community. Then we may appreciate more fully the efforts given by our service and voluntary organisations that contribute so much to our sense of well-being and paraphrasing JFK's words, "Ask not what Godalming can do for you—ask what you can do for Godalming".



*Paul Rivers*

Councillor Paul Rivers  
Mayor of Godalming 2024/25

## Godalming Town Council

This Annual Report provides a flavour of the many activities, events, work and actions organised or undertaken by Godalming Town Council (GTC) during the 2024 civic year. Full details of the Town Council's services, its meetings, policies, procedures and financial arrangements can be found at [www.godalming-tc.gov.uk](http://www.godalming-tc.gov.uk)

GTC is one of the largest town councils in the county, being in the upper quartile of local councils nationally. It is a member of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) network for super councils.

[Godalming Town Councillors](#) represent the community on a voluntary basis. Members are not paid a salary for being a councillor nor for the work they undertake on behalf of the community. GTC consists of 18 councillors representing 5 town wards.

Ward	Councillors Per Ward
Binscombe	3
Charterhouse	3
Farncombe & Catteshall	4
Holloway	4
Central & Ockford	4
<b>Total No Cllrs</b>	<b>18</b>

GTC is completely independent of both Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council. This is important at a time when the outcomes of the English Devolution White Paper, published in December 2024, are unknown. There are certain to be impacts for the town council once the changes to the local government structure at Waverley and Surrey are crystallised.

At present, GTC is responsible for delivering a range of quality-of-life services and community activities that include its town centre venue the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, Broadwater Youth & Community Centre and the town's iconic Pepperpot. The Town Council also funds the Godalming Youth Service, Godalming Museum, public toilets in Godalming and Farncombe, two cemeteries, sixteen acres of allotment sites, Floral Godalming flower displays, Christmas Lights in Farncombe and Godalming retail centres and a range of festivals and markets held in the town.

The Council also runs the Staycation holiday programme, the town's annual Remembrance Parade and assists in the management of the markets held both in Godalming and Farncombe. The Town Council supports several events run by community organisations such as Sport Godalming's Community Run and the Round Table's Town Show, all of which help make Godalming such a vibrant community.









2024 saw GTC carry out an extensive refurbishment of the public toilets in Crown Court, which are now brighter, cleaner and much more pleasant and hygienic than before. Importantly, the refurbishment was financed by external grants and as such did not have to be funded from council tax.



GTC continues to support local organisations with community grants, and in 2024, over 26 individual grants totalling £64,522 were awarded to 22 different community groups. The council administered payment of £181,351, awarded to earlier projects from the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy Scheme. Further awards of £26,836 in new project funding will see more community benefits delivered in 2025. (see [CIL](#) section).

GTC continues to operate on a collaborative basis between the Liberal Democrats (9), Green Party (4), Labour (3) making up an administrative group of 16 plus 2 Conservative Members.

Cllr Paul Follows (LibDem) is the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Policy & Management Committee (P&M) with Cllr Clare Weightman (Green) elected as Deputy Chair of P&M. The full list of Members elected as Chair/Vice Chair of council committees is shown below:

<b>Policy &amp; Management:</b>			
Chair: Cllr Follows (LD)		Vice Chair: Cllr Weightman (G)	
<b>Environment &amp; Planning:</b>			
Chair: Cllr Kiehl (LD)		Vice Chair: Cllr Crooks (G)	
<b>Staffing:</b>			
Chair: Cllr Heagin (LD)		Vice Chair: Cllr S Downey (L)	
<b>Audit:</b>			
Chair: Cllr Crooks (G)		Vice Chair: Cllr Thomson (LD)	

## The Council

Much of the work of the council is undertaken in committees, which either make a report to the Full Council on activities managed under delegated authority of the Full Council or they make recommendations to the Full Council where a decision must be made by the council as a whole.

The Full Council is responsible for authorising the use of Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding. 2024 also saw the Council award new CIL funding for the installation of new bus shelters at Franklyn Road and Eashing Lane and to St John's Church, Farncombe to support the installation of an emergency and escape lighting system. It also administered the distribution of funding agreed previously. Payments can only be made as the projects are actually delivered (See [CIL](#) section).

May is always a busy time for the council and in a non-election year there are usually two Full Council meetings. In addition to the normal financial governance that is conducted by Full Council, the early May meeting also saw the council:

- publicly affirm its commitment to incorporate equality into its core objectives, making every effort to eliminate discrimination, create equal opportunities and develop good working relationships between people;
- award the contract for the reconfiguration and refurbishment of the Crown Court public toilets;
- agree the purchase of an electric van to replace an existing diesel vehicle which had reached the end of its useful life;
- agree to new welfare, workshop and ancillary facilities at Eashing Cemetery to support the Maintenance Team;
- approve the provision of a new poly tunnel at Eashing Cemetery to enhance the grounds team's ability to grow stock from seed/cutting and/or grow on plugs which will help to reduce the level of 'brought-in' plants.

The later May meeting is the statutory Annual Meeting of the council, often called 'Mayor Making'. It was at this meeting Cllr Paul Rivers was elected as the Town Mayor of Godalming for the civic year 2024/25, and Cllr Nina Clayton was elected as the Deputy Mayor.

During the year the council also:

- approved a new Lease and Management Agreement with the Godalming Museum Trust, which secures the future of the Godalming Museum at its current premises at 109a High Street;
- awarded the contract for the external re-decoration of The Pepperpot;
- approved the nomination of Mr Alan Bott for the award of Honorary Freedom of the Town of Godalming;
- agreed to the lease of a replacement tractor for the grounds team, which will allow them to undertake additional work within the town;
- agreed to submit Expressions of Interest to Waverley Borough Council to begin negotiations for the transfer of the following assets from Waverley to Godalming Town Council:
  - Land known as Lammas Land adjacent to Bridge Gate House
  - Canon Bowring Field
  - Land known as Charterhouse Green
  - The Burys Field
- adopted a policy for the management of the council's reserves;
- agreed a budget for the 2025/26 financial year;
- agreed support and funding to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE and VJ days;
- approved the transfer of the former Carla Homes sales building to GTC for use as the Ockford & Aarons Hill Hub.

The Parish Precept element of your Council Tax supports the work of Godalming Town Council, who provide services that support residents of Godalming and Farncombe.

## WHAT YOUR PARISH PRECEPT SUPPORTS

**Supporting Young People** **Community Buildings** **Christmas Lights** **Community Store** **Climate Emergency** **Pandemic Business Improvement**

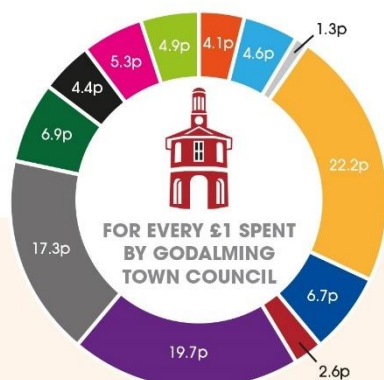
**Allotments** **Farmers Markets** **Museum** **Youth Centre** **Public Toilets** **Carbon Reduction** **Grants**

**Public Realm** **Staycation** **Floral Godalming** **Remembrance Day**

Godalming Town Council provides a range of services to support residents, some of which are shown on this page. Each year the Council publishes an Annual Report that details the work of the Council, the 2024/25 report can be found at [godalming-tc.gov.uk/annual-reports](http://godalming-tc.gov.uk/annual-reports). Information about the 2025 Godalming Parish Precept is shown on overleaf.

## THIS YEAR THE GODALMING SHARE OF THE COUNCIL TAX INCREASES BY 1.6p PER DAY\*

\*for a Band D council tax payer



Godalming Town Council is committed to delivering services as efficiently and effectively as possible to make every penny count.

Inflation continues to affect the council's budget, as does increased costs of utilities, property maintenance and insurance. Decisions by National Government have increased the Council's Employer's National Insurance Contributions by 11.6%. However, through careful use of reserves, improved returns on investments and continued income generation Godalming Town Council has been able to keep its share of the 2025/26 Council Tax increase to less than 1.6p per day for a Band D property.

2025, has not only seen the Town Council open the Ockford & Aarons Hill Community Hub, a new community venue acquired from the developers of the Ockford Park estate, but will also see the council continue to maintain the land and property it looks after on residents behalf, including the Pepperpot which will undergo external renovation during the first half of the year.

Godalming Town Council's stewardship of the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) fund continues to benefit local projects, with £437,000 of support provided so far. The Town Council continues to work to identify local projects that could benefit from CIL support.

With the publication of the English Devolution White Paper, the future shape of the Borough and County Council structure in Surrey remains uncertain. However, Godalming Town Council will continue to provide community services. These include the Youth Service, Museum Service, Festivals & Events, Cemeteries and Open Spaces, Floral Displays, Allotments, Community Buildings and Venues, Public Toilets and Bus Shelters. As the shape of devolution becomes clearer, the Town Council will work with the Borough & County Councils to ensure Godalming's community assets remain close to the community. The Town Council has started this process by submitting Expressions of Interest for The Burys Field and Canon Bowings recreation ground to be transferred to the Town Council.

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Community Grants                       | Cemeteries, Open Spaces & Allotments |
| Festival Markets, Events & Decorations | Support & Central Services           |
| Democratic & Civic Costs               | Compliance & Risk Management         |
| Youth Service                          | IT & Communications                  |
| Community Spaces & Maintenance         | Museum Services                      |
| Public Toilets                         | Capital Financing                    |

For further information visit: [godalming-tc.gov.uk](http://godalming-tc.gov.uk)



## Environment & Planning Committee

The role of the Environment & Planning Committee (E&P) 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. This includes identifying key environment and planning issues whilst considering the natural and built environment. The Environment & Planning Committee also considers issues relating to local and regional plans or other planning and highway matters brought to the town council's attention.

E&P also scrutinises applications made to the council by local organisations for funding from the [Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy \(CIL\)](#) Fund.

The regulations that govern how CIL is spent require that GTC utilises the Neighbourhood CIL allocated towards either:

- the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure, or
- anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places upon Godalming.

These definitions allow GTC and the local community to consider quite broadly what is needed to help to mitigate the impacts of development in Godalming. The definition of infrastructure is broad and includes roads and other transport infrastructure, schools and other educational facilities, medical facilities, sporting and recreational facilities and open spaces.

If satisfied that an application meets the required eligibility, benefits residents of Godalming and is considered value for money, the E&P Committee makes appropriate recommendations to the Full Council for the final decision on the level of any award.

Since April 2024 E&P has considered 284 planning applications, listed building consent applications, Tree Preservation Orders, Permitted Development Prior Notification Notices and Certificates of Lawfulness. When considering planning applications, the Committee seeks to ensure compliance with policies set out in the Godalming & Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan.

### **Public Footpaths**

Shortly after the 2024 Annual Town Meeting E&P gave approval for the council's directly-employed maintenance staff to provide an enhanced service for residents by undertaking additional maintenance visits to the footpaths and alleyways indicated below:

Footpath 9	(River Walk Thackery Way to Peperharow Road)
Footpath 11	(Deanery Road – Chalk Road)
Footpath 12	(Deanery Road to Shadyhanger)
Footpath 15	(Farncombe Street – George Road)
Footpath 13	(Upper Manor Road – Ballfield Road)
Footpath 17	(Fern Road – Meadow)
Footpath 26	(Croft Road – Summerhouse Road, inc. St Edmund's Steps)
Footpath 42	(Perrior Road – Tudor Circle – More Road)
Steps	from Cliffe Rise – Coopers Rise
Footpath	from Eashing Lane – Ockford Ridge

## **Heritage Features**

July saw councillors out and about with clipboards searching out heritage features listed on the Buildings of Local Merit and Heritage Features database held by Waverley Borough Council. The local knowledge provided by the town councillors was used to assist officers from Waverley accurately update the database.

## **Climate Emergency**

Godalming Town Council continues to strive to reduce its carbon footprint. Despite increased activity and the inclusion of new buildings and additional vehicles, for the period 2023/24, the last full year figures are currently available for, the council the council's carbon footprint was 28% less than in 2018/19 when it agreed its starting datum point. This reduction continues to show the council's commitment towards becoming a net zero energy consumer.

Decarbonisation and sustainability lie at the heart of the council's work to achieve its net zero goals. As part of its invest-to-save capital works programme the council has installed solar panels on the roof of the Broadwater Youth & Community Centre. 2024 was the first full year of the solar panels being activated and it is pleasing to see that over the course of the year 67% of the building's electricity requirements have been generated by the solar panels, which is by far the most cost-efficient way to power the building. The graphic below shows the energy generated and used by the system along with the environmental benefits.

## **Climate Response of the Year Award**

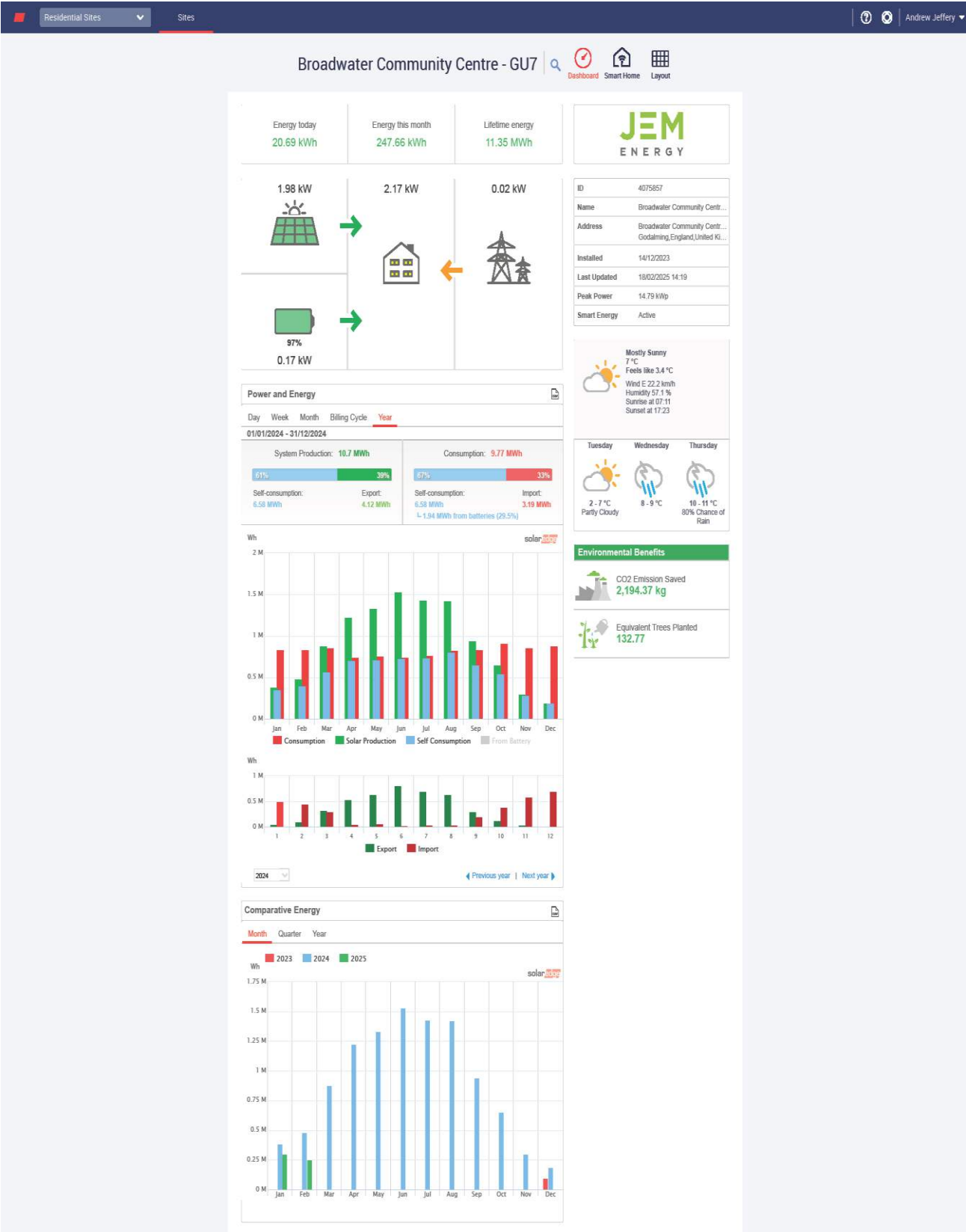
Godalming Town Council was recognised as a finalist in the 'Climate Response of the Year' category at the NALC Star Council Awards in 2024. This prestigious award celebrates the innovative projects and initiatives that demonstrate an understanding of climate change and how its impact is being mitigated locally.

The council's efforts in promoting sustainability, renewable energy and community engagement in environmental projects have been acknowledged as exemplary. The initiatives have made a significant impact on the local community, showcasing the council's commitment to addressing climate change and enhancing community resilience.

Although Godalming Town Council is disappointed not to win this year, it would like to send its congratulations to Exmouth Town Council for its success.

*The winner of the award was announced at a parliamentary reception at the House of Lords on 25 February 2025.*

Solar Power Generation and Consumption in February at Broadwater Youth & Community Centre



## **Climate & Nature Action Plans**

Along with a small number of other local councils, GTC has become a 'pilot' council to work with Surrey County Council's Greener Future Group to create a 'Toolkit' to support Surrey's parishes in creating Climate Action & Nature Plans appropriate for their area. E&P formed a Biodiversity Duty Task & Finish Group which is using the toolkit to create a Climate & Nature Action Plan that not only builds upon the work of the council thus far but will also incorporate the aims and objectives set out in the council's Corporate Plan and the Farncombe Village & Binscombe Community Vision document.

## **Policy & Management Committee**

The Policy & Management Committee (P&M) is the main business and scrutiny committee of the Council, chaired by the Leader of the Council. In addition to the work already mentioned under the Full Council report, during 2024 P&M:

- agreed funding to replace the gas boiler at The Pepperpot with an all-electric system, thereby, fully decarbonising The Pepperpot for Scope 1 & 2 emissions;
- awarded grants to support local organisations and community groups (see [Grants](#));
- scrutinised accounts paid and schedule of payments and monitored the approved budget throughout the year;
- reviewed Council documents, [policies and procedures](#);
- supported Staycation Live 2024;
- supported ChoirBLAST 2024;
- agreed fees and charges for council services for the coming year;
- agreed funding to provide for administrative and finance support during the recruitment process for the council's Finance Officer.

## **Staffing Committee & Audit Committee**

The roles of these committees are an important part of good governance and instrumental in Godalming Town Council being a "Quality Council".

The work of the Staffing Committee ensures that GTC remains a good employer, which meets its obligations to staff, whilst also ensuring that the correct policies and procedures are in place for staff to provide the best service they can for the council and the community. The Staffing Committee also works to ensure that the staffing structure of the council is as efficient and effective as possible for the delivery of services.

The Audit Committee ensures that good financial governance and risk management are always to the fore of the council's work.

The work of both committees can be seen through their agenda and minute papers, which can be found on the [Town Council's website](#).



## Godalming Youth Services

[Godalming Youth Services](#) exists to provide high-quality youth work for the young people of Godalming. It is a universal service – any young person can join; the only criterion is that they are in the correct age bracket. The Youth Team seeks to respond to young people's interests and passions, supporting them to discover and achieve their potential.

This year, the youth service has continued to provide a wide range of activities and services for young people in Godalming, including:

- After-School Drop-In, with themes and activities that are co-developed with young people
- Girls' Group that provides issued-based youth programmes for young women
- Music and Virtual Reality night that seeks to involve young people in digital creativity
- Our Juniors' group that provides young people with support in transitioning into secondary school
- Boys' Group providing issued-based work with young men
- Fri-Yays Youth Café, our Friday night programme that provides activities and a cooked meal

The team prides itself on being able to offer support to young people facing challenging situations and backgrounds. Several young people with special educational needs, or emotional needs such as anxiety and behavioural issues attend projects at the youth centre. The team has been able to play a key role by providing positive activities for these young people, which helped boost their confidence and enabled them to enact change in other parts of their lives.

During term-time, there are two sessions per day. An after-school drop-in between 3:00-5:00pm with a different theme each day, such as creative arts, music, board games and others, followed by focused group-work between 6:30-8:30pm, such as a Girls' Night, Boys' Night, and several themed evenings. Additionally, the team works collaboratively with local schools.

A range of activities is also provided throughout the school holidays. Godalming Youth Services partners with Active Surrey to deliver the Club4 Scheme for young people in Godalming; a scheme that primarily supports young people in receipt of Free School Meals but can also be used to support other young people that are deemed to need school holiday support.

In all the team's work, they seek to be led by the young people as the main stakeholders, developing opportunities that are aligned to their interests and bringing them enrichment in all areas. [The Town Council's Youth Services](#) seeks to inspire young people to make a difference and bring change by providing high-quality youth work.

### **United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)**

The youth service has benefitted over the last few years from UKSPF funding, which allowed the Godalming Youth Services to expand its service to include a mobile youth service provision. The UKSPF allowed the Youth Services to purchase a minibus and two activity vehicles that they are able to use in different areas around Godalming. Although the UKSPF funding finishes at the end of March 2025, GTC will continue to support the opportunities created by the fund.

## **Community Support for the Youth Services**

The Youth Centre would not be the success it is without the support of the community, the young people who use the centre, their parents and carers and the many local community groups who work so hard to support the centre to make a difference.

Special thanks must go to Rotary in Godalming, Angus Secrett of Secrett Garden Landscapes, Tom Allen of ALCO properties, RHS Wisley, The Dan Eley Foundation, Godalming Round Table, St John's Farncombe and the many volunteers who support the staff and young people.



## **Youth Services' Report**

Godalming Youth Services has experienced a year of significant growth and success, evidenced by increased membership and session attendance. Further information can be found in the Youth Services' Annual Report that highlights its work over the previous 12-months. The latest report is available on the [Town Council's website](#).

### **Youth Service Data 1 April 2024-19 February 2025**

- 362 young people registered with Godalming Youth Services, 214 of these being new registrations during 2024.
- Whilst not all attendees are from Broadwater School, the Membership of the Youth Services equates to 52.4% of Broadwater's school roll.
- 5,346 session attendances in 2024/25:
  - 2,631 After-School Drop-In Session
  - 1,057 Mobile and Detached Youth Work
  - 984 Evening Groups.
- 562 Holiday Activity Sessions, the majority funded by HAF grants.
- 112 unique or one-off events, such as Challenge Week.

### **After-School Drop-In**

262 after-school drop-in sessions, with an average 25-35 attendees each session, were held during 2024/25. The programme shifted to youth-led, flexible activities rather than set 'themes', allowing young people to shape the session's focus week-to-week.



*Rachel often arrives after school feeling exhausted. The creative activities provide a relaxing, pressure-free environment for her to decompress and discuss her day. Rachel has demonstrated increased confidence, actively seeking out staff interaction. She has also shown significant improvement in her drawing skills, willingly displaying her artwork.*

<b>BROADWATER YOUTH CENTRE</b>			
<b>FEB 24TH - MAR 28TH TERM TIMETABLE</b>			
<b>MON</b>	3PM - 5PM	DROP-IN	CREATIVE DROP-IN
	6PM - 7:30	GIRL'S NIGHT	GIRL'S ONLY
<b>TUES</b>	3PM - 5PM	DROP-IN (YEAR 9+ ONLY)	OLDER YOUNG PEOPLE
	6PM - 8PM	BOY'S NIGHT	BOYS ONLY
<b>WEDS</b>	3PM - 5PM	DROP-IN	ARCADE AND BOARD GAMING
	5:45 - 6:45	JUNIORS 1	YEAR 7 GROUP (SIGN-UP)
	7:15 - 8:15	JUNIORS 2	YEAR 8 GROUP (SIGN-UP)
<b>THURS</b>	3PM - 5PM	DROP-IN	CARD & BOARD GAMES
	6PM - 7:30PM	STEERING GROUP	YOUTH COMMITTEE
<b>FRI</b>	3PM - 5PM	DROP-IN	FRIDAY FUN
	6PM - 8PM	YOUTH CLUB NIGHT	EVENING YOUTH CLUB

Broadwater Youth Centre is for young people to have fun in a supportive environment. It is free for young people of secondary school age residing in Godalming.

Register using the link below. Girl's Night, Juniors & Steering Group have 'closed groups' with allocated places. Places can be requested on our website below

**Register or find out more here:** [www.godalmingyouth.uk](http://www.godalmingyouth.uk)  
**Phone:** 07706 342513 **Email:** [info@godalmingyouth.uk](mailto:info@godalmingyouth.uk)

**Above:** An Example of a Term-Time Programme for Broadwater Youth Centre

### Evening Groups

A total of 211 evening groups were delivered this year. Based on young people's input, transitioning into emphasising smaller, curated sessions that cultivated deep trust and meaningful connections. These programmes—Girl's Night, Junior's groups, Boy's Night, Youth Committee and Friday Youth Club—are well-attended and valued by participants.

*Hugh has shown significant positive change. He Initially exhibiting behavioural challenges at school and in the community, including incidents involving the police. These were due to others exploiting his vulnerability to suggestion. He now regularly attends sessions at the youth centre and has found a positive peer group. He engages in meaningful conversations with staff including health, lifestyle, and future goals. He has shown a marked increase in confidence since first attending the centre, and the negative incidents have decreased.*

## Mobile Youth Service

The UKSPF-funded Mobile Youth Service continued to provide flexible and accessible support, dynamically adapting its locations—including Burton Pavilion, Aaron's Hill, Busbridge, Binscombe, outside Broadwater School—to meet evolving youth needs. The team is also providing lunch-time sessions in schools to widen the service's reach.

*A parent provided this testimonial: Emily is struggling with her mental health and can't wait to see you guys again to speak to you. She even asked when does the school term start so she can see you in the van. You have given me the ability to be happy with my disability. I can speak to my daughter about her day instead of our usual jigsaws. It's invaluable to us.*

## Holiday Programmes

During school holidays, 34 impactful sessions were delivered, primarily funded by Surrey County Council grants. The Dan Eley Foundation also funded half-term activities. These sessions provided an extensive and diverse range of experiences, encompassing both enriching off-site excursions and engaging, unique centre-based activities.

*Wayne first joined us on our holiday activities, and he is now a regular participant. Wayne, who has ASD, now feels confident attending independently. He interacts positively with other young people and has built strong relationships with staff. He especially enjoys the Wednesday arcade machine sessions as it provides an outlet for his special interests.*

## Next Steps

In conclusion, Godalming Youth Services has flourished over the year, achieving significant growth in membership and attendance while profoundly impacting the lives of young people. To ensure long-term sustainability we are adding to the management team, which will allow the service to consolidate, ensuring that the successes outlined above can continue.

## **Community Events**

### **Report from Godalming Town Council's Community & Communications Officer**

#### **Godalming Spring Festival**



The Spring Festival marks the start of the Town's annual events' calendar and gives visitors a chance to stroll amongst stalls in the retail centre enjoying an array of food, drink and craft stalls and a Cider Festival. Circo Rum Ba Ba entertained everyone with their hilarious antics. Entertainment from local artistes centered around The Pepperpot and children enjoyed free Punch & Judy Shows.

Morris dancing is an important ingredient of the Spring Festival and visitors enjoyed performances during the day from Godalming's Fleur De Lys Dancers.



*Fleur De Lys Dancers*

Thank you to Surrey & Hants Property Agents for sponsoring the event's advertising boards which benefit local charities.

*Spring Festival 2025 takes place on Saturday, 5 April*



## **Godalming Staycation 2024**

Godalming Town Council is one of the few local councils in the UK to organise an extensive Staycation programme for residents to enjoy during the first week in August helping residents to 'holiday at home'. Staycation events and activities are suitable for individuals, families, and groups of all ages. They can be enjoyed by anyone living in Godalming and surrounding villages. With the notable exception of 2020, there has been a Staycation programme every year since it was launched in 2010. The week started with the popular TST Staycation Music Festival, with a variety of bands, music, festival vibes and food, and drink stalls at the Phillips Memorial Park.

The Staycation Programme 2024 saw the return of some old favourites and some new things for residents to try; tennis, bowls, a special morning of football coaching at Godalming Town Football Club, the Park Run, swimming at the Charterhouse Club and Godalming Leisure Centre, a range of canoeing, kayaking and



*The Mayor & Consort  
strum their stuff!*

paddleboarding activities, handbell ringing, children's ballet and musical theatre. Ladywell Convent welcomed visitors back for a tour followed by a



*The Mayor & Consort at  
Ladywell Convent*

delicious afternoon tea. Residents also had the opportunity to try fishing, a brass instrument, enjoy a foraging walk, dance, exercise, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, laughing yoga, and tree trail walks throughout the week. Crafts activities at the library, singing, and a visit to Godalming Fire Station were also on offer as part of the week-long programme.



*Families board the hovercraft  
to the Isle of Wight*

A Travel with Confidence day trip by rail, a complementary day trip opportunity courtesy of SWR, saw 5 families some with young children learn how to travel with confidence by train and Hovertravel from Godalming to Portsmouth and onward to the Isle of Wight.

Another Staycation highlight was delivered by the Escape Room experts, Paradox Parlours Escape Rooms, who

brought a bespoke Secret Escapes Activity to Godalming called Puzzle Trail. Over one hundred participants followed a map to find clues to crack the puzzle.

Staycation would not be possible without the generous support of the many organisations and individuals who provide these activities. It enhances the summer for those who choose to stay at home during August.



*The Mayor preparing to kayak on  
the River Wey*

*Staycation 2025 takes place from 2-10 August*

## **Remembrance in Godalming**



Remembrance Sunday is one of the most important events in the civic year, which GTC organises.

The Act of Remembrance including a two-minute silence took place at the War Memorial in the Phillips Memorial Ground. Wreaths were laid at the War Memorial by representatives from the town's civic and political leaders, service organisations, youth groups, faith groups and other community organisations.

As always, service personnel and veterans from the armed forces, along with the emergency services, and the town's youth organisations paraded at the event, being led by the Godalming Band. The Mayor of Godalming was joined by the Deputy Mayor of Waverley to take the salute in the high street.



*Remembrance Sunday 2025 is on 9 November*

## **Godalming Fireworks**



Godalming Town Council, partnered with the Rugby Club, saw the return of Godalming's Fireworks. The event took place at the Rugby Club on Friday, 1 November with a torch parade, food concessions and warm hospitality offered by the Club.



*The 2025 Godalming Firework Display will be held on Friday, 7 November.*

## **Godalming Pop-Up Events and Markets**



The Friday Market at Crown Court, the Pepperpot undercroft market stalls and the themed street markets continue to flourish. Anchors of the Friday pop-up are: 'Phil the Flower' with his plants and shrubs, Household Heaven and The Watch Stall, who have been joined throughout the year by a range of other offerings.

Crown Court has also played host to a Ukrainian Independence Day and charity event, as well as being used by a number of charities who wished to raise their profile. The Pepperpot undercroft continues to be used by Danny's fruit and veg market plus other sellers throughout the year.

2024 saw The Plant-Based & Artisan Market including vegan food, drinks, and crafts held on 4 Saturdays throughout the year. For 2025 there are plans to hold a new Antiques & Vintage Market.

*The Antiques & Vintage Market will be held on Saturdays, 1 March and 9 August. The Plant-Based & Artisan Markets will be held on Saturday, 3 May and 1 November.*



## **Farncombe Station Market**

Working with South-Western Railway, as part of GTC's involvement with the Hills to Harbour Community Rail Partnership, four markets were held at the Farncombe Railway Station car park, including a Christmas market that was held on Saturday, 14 December, having had to be rescheduled because of Storm Darragh the week before.

Thank you to South-Western Railway for allowing permission to bring the markets to Farncombe.

*Farncombe Station Markets will be held throughout 2025, lookout for the banners advertising the dates.*

Godalming Town Council continues to support *Godalming Rotary (Spring Fair and Duck Race), Godalming Round Table (Town Carnival) and ChoirBLAST.*



*Farncombe Station Market*

## **Christmas In Godalming**

### **Godalming Christmas Lights Switch-on**

Godalming Town Council introduced a new Christmas Light Procession for 2024.

Following a dedication service led by the Mayor of Godalming at the Memory Tree in Crown Court, the



Godalming Band, Godalming Rock Choir, Godalming Theatre Group and local dance schools joined the Godalming Round Table's Santa's



Sleigh, the Ice Prince and Princess and members of the community (suitably lit up with Christmas lights and sparkly jumpers) to process along the High Street to

Church Street. Residents were warmly invited to join a short carol service at the Minster Church of St Peter & St Paul. Thanks to Mark Carter from BBC Radio Surrey who helped MC the festivities.

### **Godalming Christmas Festival Market**

The Town Council's Christmas Festival Market took place on the Saturday following the Lights Switch-on. Festive stalls with artisan food and drink, crafts and gifts were situated in the High Street, Church Street and Crown Court. The Pepperpot played host to a packed programme of seasonal entertainment including Godalming's Rock Choir led by Tom George, Moss Lane School and children from the Wharf Nursery delighted the crowd with their festive singing, MbM Contemporary Choir and Music Kids also performed and special guest, Paddington Bear, delighted young children at meet and greet sessions.



The Town Council's Santa's grotto was held at Godalming Museum and visiting families were able to say hello to Santa and encouraged to write letters that were then posted to the North Pole. Santa's Sleigh, courtesy of Godalming Round Table, was parked outside of the Museum.

Thank you to Surrey & Hants Property Agents for supporting Paddington's visit. Thank you too, to Priory Antiques and The Peter Caudle Memorial Trust for providing the selection boxes children received at Santa's Grotto.

*Christmas in Godalming 2025 starts on Sunday, 23 November with a light-parade and Lights Switch-On in the town centre. The Godalming Christmas Market takes place on Saturday, 29 November, with Farncombe Christmas Lights Switch-on being held at the Farncombe Day Centre on Friday, 5 December and Saturday, 6 December will see the return of the Farncombe Christmas Market at the Station car park.*

### **Farncombe Christmas Lights Switch-On**



Farncombe Christmas Lights switch-on, organised by the Town Council and hosted by Farncombe Day Centre, held on the first Friday in December, saw the crowd delighted by a performance from Farncombe Infant School who sang some Christmas songs. A rousing performance from You Uke's singing their own brand of Christmas songs and Santa on his illuminated sleigh, courtesy of the Godalming's Round Table, created a most enjoyable event for all ages. Reverend James Rattue, Rector of St John's Farncombe was in

attendance and together with the Mayor of Godalming, Councillor Paul Rivers, and You Ukes led everyone in some rousing carols after the lights were switched-on at 5pm. The wonderful staff at Farncombe Day Centre provided refreshments for everyone.

*Farncombe Christmas Lights Switch-on 2025 will take place on Friday, 5 December.*

## **Supporting Business and Local Charities**

Although GTC does not receive any funding from local businesses, it recognises that strong, vibrant retail centres in Godalming and Farncombe are important to residents. Events organised and supported by GTC support local businesses by attracting more visitors to Godalming & Farncombe.

The Godalming Business Improvement District (BID), which was launched in 2024 to support town centre business, has taken over from GTC the measuring and recording of footfall within the town centre. Footfall figures for Godalming show that the town is performing better than both the South-East and UK average.

In analysing the footfall figures for the Godalming Christmas events, which 2024 saw it for the first time since 2009 held separately from the Christmas Festival Market, the BID stated that the footfall for the Christmas Lights Switch-on was +35% up on the previous Sunday.



In looking at the Christmas Lights Switch-on event, The BID highlighted a massive/significant/impressive change in total % of day visitors present in the town centre at 5pm on the Sunday of the Christmas Lights Switch on. This increase in visitors continued into the evening, which indicates that people stayed on after the event to eat or drink. This is a massive uplift for the hospitality sector and was the equivalent of an extra 323 tables of four.

The Christmas Festival Market day was held on the following Saturday and saw a 41% increase on the previous Saturday. The footfall for the Christmas Festival Market was also +2% up on the previous year when the Christmas Lights and Market was a combined event.

The footfall figures clearly show the importance of GTC events to the economic wellbeing of the town centre.

In addition to the grants provided each year to local charities and organisations, GTC organised events support local charities. Since 2019, 19 different local charities received a share of the £19,590 generated by the Estate Agent advertising boards promoting events organised or supported by the Council. Nine charities have also been able to attend events free of charge to help raise awareness and funds. Local charities wishing to benefit from GTC events should contact [community@godalming-tc.gov.uk](mailto:community@godalming-tc.gov.uk)

## Maintenance

### Through the seasons with the Maintenance Team

The Council's Maintenance Team is established to be four strong. The team have ensured that the council's buildings and open spaces were maintained to a high standard, despite being one member down for the majority of the year. It also supported 80 burials at Eashing and Nightingale Cemeteries.

The Maintenance Team are key facilitators for activities and events held across the town including events at the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, the Godalming Run, Godalming Fireworks, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas in Godalming & Farncombe activities.

The sustainability of the annual flower displays remains an important consideration for the council and the Maintenance Team is delighted that the new polytunnel at Eashing Cemetery will allow it to increase the range of 'from-seed' planting they achieve, which will continue to reduce the carbon footprint of Floral Godalming.

Whilst the council does not take part in 'No Mow May', it does manage its grassed land areas throughout the year and ensures as much as possible is left to grow undisturbed for as long as possible to allow feeding insects to capitalise on any available flowers.

As always, the end of the nesting season saw the team busy with hedge trimming and clearing vegetation from pathways. From April onwards, the team have also been looking after a number of footpaths, despite this being an SCC responsibility. In 2025 it will be looking to increase how many they can maintain, to enable safe access for residents.



For the second year running at Eashing Cemetery, September saw the team 'bring in the harvest' by mowing the long meadow swards and wildflower meadows. The harvest they were collecting was the wildflower seeds, which are then used to propagate new areas.

### **South & South-East in Bloom**

South & South-East in Bloom (SSEIB) is part of Britain in Bloom and runs annual competitions across the counties of Kent, Surrey, East & West Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, East & North Dorset and East Wiltshire. The award system recognises entrants' efforts in improving their local environment and awards are based on the standard achieved.

Each year entries are made by villages, parishes, towns, cities, coastal towns, town & city centres, urban communities and business improvement districts. Judges/assessors visit communities and awards are presented to recognise the entries' achievements. Bloom judges visited Godalming in July. The Town Council entered three Categories:

### **Town Centre – The In-Bloom Judges awarded a Gold Award – Excellent**



Godalming Town Council, supported by The Peter Caudle Memorial Trust, introduced Floral Godalming into the retail centre in 2018, which adds colour and vibrancy to the town. The blooms are in place from May to September each year and we are grateful to our sponsors of the troughs and baskets for Floral Godalming. This year Godalming Town Council won the gold award as part of the South & South-East in Bloom competition for the town centre floral displays. If you would like to find out how to sponsor Floral Godalming, please visit: <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/floral-godalming/>

In making the award the SSEIB judges noted that:

*“Throughout the main thoroughfares of the town are exuberantly planted flower troughs, hanging baskets and bollard planters - highly colourful and beautifully maintained by the council's team of two passionate gardeners - Adam and Holly. The museum garden was delightful - a hidden gem, as were some of the public highway plantings which have an excellent choice of interesting plants. There is a sense of passion and pride not only for the horticulture but also for the town itself which is exemplary.”*



**Small Cemetery Category – Nightingale – The In-Bloom Judges awarded a Gold “Excellent”**

Once again Nightingale Cemetery was awarded Gold by the South & South-East in Bloom judges who said that:

*“Nightingale Cemetery is situated on an impressive slope above Godalming town. At the front there is an attractive memorial garden designed by Michelle Clackson with established perennials. This garden honours the 281 men from Godalming who lost their lives in the Great War.*



*Nightingale Cemetery Memorial Garden*



*There is attractive seating built into the garden which makes it a calm spot to sit and enjoy the surroundings. Graves are well maintained. A 5-year programme to replace some of the yew trees with more diverse stock has started. Continuing with the replacement of the yew trees will be a positive addition to the biodiversity encouraging more birds into the centre of the space. Signage is very good providing visitors with leaflets including map and history details. This cemetery is an asset to the local area providing a calm space for visitors.”*

**Large Cemetery Category – Eashing – The In-Bloom Judges awarded a Gold, “Excellent”**

Despite being one of the busiest cemeteries in the area, Eashing Cemetery is extremely well maintained by the maintenance team. For the 6<sup>th</sup> straight year, they have been awarded a Gold standard. The team have achieved a balance of manicured beauty and natural splendour, which has supported not only the people who visit Eashing cemetery, but also the wildlife that live there. In awarding Eashing Cemetery Gold – Excellent points, the SSEIB judges commented that:

*Eashing Cemetery which first open for burials in 1900 is on a large open site with colourful flower beds greeting visitors as they walk through the gates. A long drive leads to two chapels, directly behind there is a beautiful wildflower section planted by the maintenance team. This complements the other wildflower flowers sections which are being developed with cut and collect programme and seeds have been collected and stored for the following year. The staff are clearly enthusiastic and passionate about horticulture with the addition of a new polytunnel so that new plants can be grown and propagated. Volunteers from the Eashing Cemetery Community Garden work hard to enhance this space for all to enjoy, looking after the Garden of Remembrance with the help of local organisations such as Brownies, Scouts and local school involved too. Fruit trees are planted all around the boundary a meter or so from the boundary, these were in the early stages of producing fruit. The additions of trees on the site will provide future habitats for birds. Brambles and long sections of grass are kept where possible to improve biodiversity.*

# Buildings & Public Realm

## Crown Court Public Toilets

As mentioned in the 2023/24 annual report, having made a strong, evidence-based funding application GTC received an award of just under £195,000 from the UK Governments Community Ownership Fund. This meant that along with a £56,702 award from the neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy fund, Crown Court public toilets could be fully renovated at no direct cost to the Council.

The renovation started on Monday, 3 June, and was completed on time with the official re-opening of the new public toilet facilities held on 19 September 2024, where the Mayor of Godalming, Cllr Paul Rivers treated everyone to a pun-filled speech.



*The Mayor, Councillors with Folake Ekundayo at the opening of Crown Court Public Toilets*

Our thanks go to Folake Ekundayo of Drake & Kannemeyer LLP for her design and management of the renovation project, which has transformed the old, tired and quite unpleasant toilets into modern, hygienic, public toilet facility that includes disability-accessible and dedicated baby-changing facilities. These improved facilities have enhanced the town centre as a welcoming, safe environment for all. In ending his speech the Mayor said, "It is gratifying to know that these toilets will provide convenient facilities for residents and visitors to Godalming for years to come."

## Bus Shelters



*Replacement bus shelter in Eashing Lane*

In June 2024, Godalming Town Council completed a project to replace the derelict bus shelter on Eashing Lane and to install a new shelter in Franklyn Road. Godalming Town Council also agreed that to work with Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council for the upgrading and future maintenance of the bus shelters in Godalming.



*New bus shelter in Franklyn Road*

## Museum Report

Godalming Museum is your friendly, local museum run by the Godalming Museum Trust in partnership with Godalming Town Council. The museum's small team works hard to:

- ensure that there is an ever-changing selection of temporary exhibitions
- create a welcoming space for over 12,000 visitors per year
- raise funds to allow them to continue their work
- support local history researchers
- protect and expand the unique collection of locally and nationally significant objects and records in the museum's care.

In addition, the museum provides a popular education and outreach programme, which includes school workshops (in the museum and offsite), self-led tours, school loan boxes, family activities and trails, talks and lectures, events, museum coffee club, and adult



education workshops. Nearly 4,000 people of all ages have engaged with the education and outreach programmes this year.

Some recent successes at the Museum include:

- receiving external funding for a temporary Education Intern which allowed for the review of the loan boxes and development of new content;
- increased sales from the museum shop;
- launch of a new, more streamlined, website which attracts more than 14,000 visitors each year;
- submission of our application for re-accreditation with Arts Council England; a prestigious award that recognises the highest standards of work in museums; and
- loan of our painting, South Border at Munstead Wood by Helen Allingham to an impressive temporary exhibition at Compton Verney, where it was seen by more than 12,000 visitors.

## Honorary Freedom of Godalming Town

### **Honorary Freeman Citation – Mr Alan Bott OBE**

Mr Alan Bott OBE became the third person to receive the freedom of Godalming and the title of Honorary Freeman of Godalming Town; he was presented with his award at a ceremony at Godalming Museum on Sunday, 22 September 2024.

Godalming owes a great debt of gratitude to those who in the early 1980's recognised that the town's existing museum was "quite inadequate and unsuitable" and had a vision for a new Museum that would become a focal point to promote the enjoyment and understanding of the heritage of the town and its surrounding villages, and to support and encourage lifelong learning.

The Godalming Museum Trust, which was established to bring this vision to life, required people with the dedication, determination and the skills needed to overcome the many challenges faced in turning the near derelict building at 109a High Street into the welcoming and vibrant place that is now the home of the Godalming Museum.

With his extensive knowledge and enthusiasm for the town's history, warden of the ancient parish church of St Peter & St Paul, Bodley Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, historian, extra-mural lecturer on the History of Architecture for the Universities of London and Surrey and director of P&O containers, Alan Bott was ideally suited to be recruited as one of the initial trustees of the newly formed Godalming Museum Trust.

Whilst, along the way, there have been many supporters of the museum, few, if any, have been as dedicated and determined as Alan. For 40 years, 30 years of which he served as the Chair of Trustees, Alan had been instrumental in creating the environment and ethos in which the museum and those who support it could flourish. From directing the Trust's energies, skills, and resources, to raising the funds needed to sustain the vision, Alan had been pivotal in securing the future of Godalming Museum, its collections, and its place as a centre of learning within the community.



Through his work with the Godalming Museum Trust, and as an author of many books and pamphlets detailing the history of the area, Alan has made a truly outstanding contribution to the cultural life of our community and has, without doubt, made an exceptional personal contribution to the promotion of the museum and the history of the town.

The council was delighted to invite Alan Bott to accept the title of **Honorary Freeman of the Town of Godalming** for his generosity of skills, knowledge, and support to Godalming Museum, which has benefitted past, present, and will continue to benefit future Godhelmians.

## Grants

GTC has supported a wide range of organisations in the town with grant aid totalling £64,522 in 2024/25. 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.

The largest of these grants was to Citizens' Advice South-West Surrey to ensure the continued provision of a citizens' advice service in Godalming. Other organisations supported by Service Level Agreements (SLAs) in 2024/25 were the Farncombe Day Centre and The Wharf Nursery receiving £10,500 between them per annum. This funding is linked to the provision of services that benefits residents of Godalming,

At a lower, but equally important level, the council also awarded grants to many other local organisations through its General Grants and Community Grants Funds. As well as monetary grants, several organisations were also given grant aid in kind in the form of free use of town council buildings for meetings or to facilitate an event (those grants have a cash value put on the grant so that the support is properly accounted for).

Below is a full list of all grants awarded by GTC in the financial year 2024/25 including Grant Aid in Kind (GAiK) for use of venues.

2024/25	£
<b>Service Level Agreements</b>	
Citizens' Advice South-West Surrey	35,000.00
Farncombe Day Centre	7,500.00
The Wharf Nursery Group	3,000.00
<b>General &amp; Community Grants</b>	
ChoirBLAST	1,000.00
The River Wey Trust	1,000.00
Farncombe & District Allotment Association (GAiK)	36.00
Godalming Round Table (GAiK)	213.00
Go Godalming Association (GAiK)	54.00
Go Godalming Association (GAiK)	223.00
Godalming Run (GAiK)	80.00
Godalming Film Society (GAiK)	840.00
ChoirBLAST (GAiK)	240.00
Godalming BID (GAiK)	180.00
Godalming & District Chamber of Commerce (GAiK)	180.00
Godalming Town FC	1,500.00
ROAR Outdoor	600.00
Home-Start Waverley	1,500.00
Joyfull Greens CIC	1,500.00
The Burys Scout & Guide HQ	1,500.00
The Meath Epilepsy Charity	1,500.00

Godalming Junior School	1,030.00
Green Hub Project for Teens	1,500.00
St Marks & All Saints Primary School	308.00
1254 (Godalming) Air Cadet Squadron	1,500.00
Farncombe Infants School	1,085.00
St Marks & All Saints Primary School	1,453.00
<b>TOTAL GRANT FUNDING</b>	<b>£64,522.00</b>

## Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Fund

CIL allows Waverley Borough Council (WBC) to raise funds from some forms of new development to help fund the infrastructure needed to mitigate the impacts of new development. CIL funds are used for either infrastructure or wider strategic benefit to the borough, including local infrastructure.

The regulations that govern how CIL is spent require that Godalming Town Council utilises the Neighbourhood element of CIL allocated towards either:

- the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure, or
- anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on Godalming.

These definitions allow Godalming Town Council and the local community to consider quite broadly what is needed to help to mitigate the impacts of development in Godalming. The definition of infrastructure includes roads and other transport infrastructure, schools and other educational facilities, medical facilities, sporting and recreational facilities and open spaces.

Godalming Town Council works closely with the local community and infrastructure providers to identify potential improvement schemes, encouraging and, if applicable, sponsoring applications put forward.

The level of CIL receipts available for funding CIL projects is dependent upon the level of development and will not be a constant or continuous funding source.

### **CIL Awarded in 2024/25**

£23,199 was awarded for the installation of new bus shelters at Eashing Lane and Franklyn Road.

£26,836.00 was awarded to St John's Farncombe for the installation of emergency and escape lighting.

### **Completed CIL Projects**

£23,199 awarded for the installation of new bus shelters at Eashing Lane and Franklyn Road saw the new shelters arrive within weeks of the order being made and were ready for use before the end of the summer.

£35,000 was awarded to the Farncombe Cricket Club for the internal refurbishment and enlargement of the existing changing facilities to provide umpire changing facilities, improved changing facilities suitable for the female teams, storage space for junior sections' training and playing equipment.

£108,890 funded the Broadwater School Outside Recreational Garden Project and specifically the 'The Canopy Garden' which provides much needed additional seating for

pupils at breaktimes and performance space, with planting and new trees creating a more relaxing environment.

£13,580, supported the Farncombe Community Garden Project for the construction of accessible pathways throughout the garden, which will make the garden accessible and safe to the public and enable us to open the garden to everyone in the community.

£83,548 funded the construction of new offices at the Youth Centre to support Godalming's youth workers at Broadwater Youth & Community Centre.

£51,306 was allocated as the community's contribution to the Crown Court Public Toilets renovation project.

£125,000 helped create Busbridge Junior School's new Multi Games Activity Area which will be used by school and community groups.

£23,000 enabled Godalming Junior School's to refurbish its existing all-weather play area.

## **Annual Accounts 2024/25**

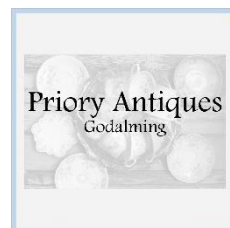
The council's accounts are prepared in accordance with the Account & Audit Regulations 2015. They are subject to internal audit (by an independent auditor appointed by Godalming Town Council) and to external audit (by a different auditor appointed by the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd). 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 GTC's website.

## 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





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\*Waverley Members

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

Contact details for Godalming Town Council staff can be found on the [Council's website](http://www.godalming-tc.gov.uk).