



Supporting Our Community

Supporting Young People Festivals & Markets Youth Centre
 Biodiversity Gains **Climate Emergency** Green Spaces
 Partnership Working Public Toilets Allotments Community Buildings
 Wildlife Habitats Remembrance Day Parade Christmas Lights
Cemeteries Public Benches Staycation Live Music Community Grants
 Floral Godalming Defibrillators River Wey Quality Monitoring **Supporting Older People**
 Carbon Neutral Museum Events



DID YOU KNOW....?

- **GTC is a multi-award winner.** During 2024 our High Street, our Cemeteries and our Youth Service were all recognised for their excellence.
- **GTC organises 10 events annually and supports 5 more run by community groups.** These boost footfall in our retail centres and since 2019 have generated over £19,500 for local charities, through advertising boards.
- **GTC administers the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy, paid by developers.** Over £490,000 has been awarded to local projects.
- **GTC grants funding directly to local charities and community groups.** Over £64,000 was awarded in 2024 of which Citizens Advice received £35,000.

For more information about these and other achievements please read our Annual Report at: godalming-tc.gov.uk/annual-reports/

CLIMATE EMERGENCY: GTC's commitment to the climate emergency we all face was recognised in 2024 when, from over 10,000 Town and Parish Council's, Godalming was nominated as a finalist in the National Association of Local Council's Climate Response of the Year awards.

Decarbonisation and sustainability lie at the heart of the Council's work to achieve its net zero goals. GTC is delivering on its climate emergency declaration by upgrading its buildings with energy-efficient lighting, heating, and insulation and has begun installing solar panels to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Over 67% of the annual electricity requirement of the council's youth centre is now provided by the solar panels.



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Supporting Our Community



ALL CHANGE!

The Westminster Government is planning **significant changes** to how council services are delivered.

Surrey County Council will go and Waverley Borough Council will become part of a larger Unitary Authority serving a much wider area.

*This is the first stage of seeking residents' feedback about the principle of Godalming Town Council opening discussions with Waverley and any potential successor council about **keeping control** of our local assets at the local level.*



ALL CHANGE!

Throughout this Local Government Reorganisation, Godalming Town Council (GTC) remains **completely independent** of Waverley and Surrey. This is important at a time when the outcomes of the reorganisation, are unknown.



What is certain is that ownership and management of many assets in our town will be changing. Possibly to an as yet unknown unitary authority. Or, with residents' support, it may be possible to have that ownership and management transferred to GTC.

Another certainty is that the new unitary will have bigger issues to consider than the fate of beautiful open spaces or civic buildings in Godalming. They may even be facing such huge financial pressure that those beautiful open spaces may be seen as targets for sale and development by others.



WHAT ASSETS ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

See the list in the final section. Some of the names may surprise you because you thought GTC already owned them. Most in the list were once owned by Godalming Borough Council but transferred to Waverley when it was created in 1974.



This is the first stage of seeking residents' feedback about the principle of GTC opening discussions with Waverley and any potential successor council about keeping control of our local assets at the local level. It may not be possible, or when the full facts are known you may feel the cost is too high. That will be consulted upon.



OUR FEAR IS THAT IF WE DO NOT ACT NOW, IT MAY BE TOO LATE WHEN REORGANISATION IS COMPLETE.

Please place a tick next to the location if you think GTC should consider taking on the ownership, management and care of the following area:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aaron Hill recreation ground, play area and skateboard park | <input type="checkbox"/> Longbourne Green play area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Borough Hall | <input type="checkbox"/> Ockford Ridge play area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Broadwater Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Phillips Memorial Park & play area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canon Bowring's recreation ground & play area | <input type="checkbox"/> The Burys Field & skateboard park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coombe Road recreation ground & play area | <input type="checkbox"/> The Closed Church Yard of St Peter & St Paul |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crown Pits open space and play area | <input type="checkbox"/> The Closed Church Yard of St John's Farncombe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holloway Hill recreation and sports ground | |

Please let us know of any other community assets you feel GTC should look at as part of the Local Government Reorganisation process:

Whilst the views of visitors to the town is important, GTC's primary aim is to support residents of Godalming. To help us achieve this, it would be helpful and appreciated if you would let us know where you live.

I am a resident of Godalming & Farncombe:

My postcode is

My House Number is

Your data will be used solely to help Godalming Town Council improve services, your data will be anonymised and will not be shared with third parties, except as required by law. Godalming Town Council's data protection policies can be viewed at <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/data-protection/>

Please detach this page and return your response to:

Godalming Town Council, 107-109 High Street, Godalming, GU7 1AQ
email: to office@godalming-tc.gov.uk or complete the survey online at:
godalming-tc.gov.uk/consultation-local-government-reorganisation/

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