

Cllrs Lucy Edwards and Bethia Thomas

As always, we have been working for residents and communities in Faringdon and like to keep town members informed; if you have any questions or would like to meet with us, please get in touch. Our contact details are at the bottom of this report. Our Councillor surgeries are running as normal also – every second Saturday in the library from 10am – 11am.

Round-Up of Local Issues

Not all items are covered here, with a selection of the main updates listed below. Please get in touch for further details on these or other items.

- **Damaged Wall, Stanford Road:** We are delighted to report that the work has now been completed, we are aware of the wall that has fallen also on Stanford Road.
- **Playground, Marlborough Gardens:** Play equipment replacement – finalising CIL application ICMD for accessible swings.
- **New Equipment, FLC** – 15 new spin bikes have been purchased by the Vale of Whitehorse District Council.
- **Decarbonisation, FLC** – Works ongoing as SSE have admitted errors that the current substation size was insufficient to house the 500kva substation and have agreed to pay all legal costs related to the Deed of Easement changes. We are awaiting revised programme of works for final completion.
- **Artificial Turf Pitch, FLC:** A Delegated Authority has been signed off with the Faringdon Learning Trust (FLT). Anticipated commencement of the project to be within 6 months and overall delivery 12-16 weeks to practical completion. Currently officers are exploring Football Foundation Grant to support the delivery of this project.
- **Wessex Leisure Funding** – No further news to report but we are pursuing this behind the scenes to sure up funding agreements with Oxfordshire County Council.
- **Lighting, Gloucester Street Car Park** – We are seeking confirmation that this has been permanently repaired since a temporary fix was put in place late last year. Awaiting update from officers.
- **A420 Crossing & Fernham Road Improvements** – The crossing island works are now completed and the pathway adopted at Fernham Road.
- **Fernhill Gardens to Belmont Estate** – We are pursuing this matter, but as you know as an enforcement matter, we may not be able to disclose any details until the case is resolved.
- **Wicklesham Farm** – Still waiting on a date Oxfordshire County Council’s planning committee.
- **SEND School Application** – There have been a number of amendments submitted.
- **Canada Lane Potholes** – These have now been filled in by Thames Water.

District Update

Compost Giveaway

Preparations are underway for our the very popular compost giveaway. There will be two giveaway locations (one in each district) and officers will be on hand for advice on what happens to garden waste after it is collected, alternatives to having a brown bin and information on all of the collection services. More information will be announced closer to the date.

Litter Picking

The Great British Spring Clean dates have been announced for the 15 – 31 March. Residents, local groups, and parish councils wishing to borrow our litter picking equipment are encouraged to sign up early and avoid disappointment. This can be by email to waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk or by going onto the councils websites and searching “litter picks”.

Garden Waste Scheme

Work is progressing to develop the customer service system to improve the customer service and payment system for garden waste collection.

Joint Local Plan

Following South and Vale Cabinet approval for the next stage of consultation on the Joint Local Plan (Preferred Options) the plan has been submitted to inspectors. It is recommended that Faringdon Town Council review Neighbourhood Plan once the JLP is adopted. The planning team are happy to assist.

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