

Dear All,

Apologies for not getting something out before yesterday's board meeting but there is so much going on I am struggling to keep up with communicating as well as doing.

This was the last Farnham Board meeting before the work starts in earnest in the town centre.

You can watch the video of the meeting via the link below, sorry there are places where the sound quality isn't great - this has been previously raised with FTC. - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSKG87Ks98M>

You can find the papers - they are very limited via this link - [Agenda for Farnham Board on Friday, 17 January 2025, 10.00 am - Surrey County Council](#)

This is the link to the SCC website page for the project - [Farnham town centre improvement works - Surrey County Council](#), you can also use this link to sign up to a newsletter they are promising to issue monthly

They have also said that they want questions to go directly to them via email [Farnham.InfrastructureProgramme@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Farnham.InfrastructureProgramme@surreycc.gov.uk)

Below is a summary of the key issues that were raised, including those I raised.

The officer team are less and less receptive to doing what we as Councillors would like them to as we move into the construction phase, but that doesn't mean I won't keep trying.

If you would like to be removed from this distribution please do let me know.

Kind regards

Catherine

Key issues raised :

- Crest still haven't confirmed when they are going to remove the temporary construction bridge and install the permanent bridge. I raised concerns about conflicts with the Town Centre works and that there is no way that lane closures on the A31 for this should happen whilst roads in the town centre are closed for works - this is to be reviewed
- Water Lane - safety audit complete
- I again raised the on-going need for improvements to the crossing on the northern arm of the Water Lane Roundabout on the A325 and hope that the planning application for a new business park on Water Lane opposite Sainsbury's can address this.
- Upper Hale 20 mph complete but post installation safety audit pending
- Communication about the works
- Bus diversions during the works, I raised particularly concerns about the No. 5 bus that runs between Farnham Hospital and Sandy Hill as there have been discussions about using a diversion along the No. 4 route, which doesn't serve the hospital which I made clear isn't acceptable to me.
- There are currently no maps on the SCC Farnham town Centre works website because these would not be accessible to those with visual impairments, I pointed out that those without visual impairments could use maps to explain what is planned to those that do have visual impairments but the lack of

maps for walking, cycling, bus routes and divisions, car parks and road closures was unhelpful. - This is to be reviewed

- There is a meeting for business owners in the town centre to meet the contractor on the 27th of January
- Suggestion that the FIP team could attend Farnham Town Councils annual public meeting on the 24th of March - this is being reviewed.
- South street resurfacing will take place in Summer / Autumn this year - pulled forward from next year 😊
- Need for better enforcement of the HGV ban including fines now the six month just giving out warnings has passed.
- Ongoing concerns from the Farnham Society and other groups about the proposed relocation of ironstone on Castle Street. Interestingly, whilst the FIP team have refused on to consider changes in the scheme elsewhere they have agreed to have a site meeting on this.
- A31 - work is still on-going will include active travel, no commitment to share plans with Councillors or residents in the short term - looking to submit plans in August 2026.
- I raised again the importance of the North and South Farnham Studies previously promised pre works, now post works to mitigate the impacts of the town center works. They are still on the table but not in the near term
- Wrecclesham and Western Bypasses are also still on the table but not in the near term, they would likely need to be linked to large housing developments to the West of the town to attract funding.
- Next meeting is the 28th of March