



**A Christmas message from
The Town Mayor &
Fordingbridge Town Council**



www.fordingbridge.gov.uk

Following the wonderful Christmas Lights switch on last weekend in Fordingbridge I thought it would be good to let you all know what else we have been doing during a busy year for Fordingbridge Town Council.

Back in May local elections were held in Fordingbridge and a new Town Council was duly elected to serve our local community.

Since then & over the past 7 months your new Town Council have:

- Supported various groups that benefit the local community with financial contributions.
- Considered and commented on new planning applications with feedback provided to NFDC with the best interest for our Town always being taken into account.
- Opened a Community Orchard in the heart of the town for all to enjoy.
- Worked with Fordingbridge Events Group to put on a celebration of the King's Coronation at the Recreation Ground.
- Worked with Wessex Water and the Fordingbridge Avon Bathing (FAB) Group to apply for Bathing Water Status in the River Avon.
- Worked alongside the Fordingbridge Events group to actively support a production from the Scratchworks Theatre Company in the Town Hall supporting the local Culture in Common programme.
- Engaged with the Burgate School and the pupils in terms of what younger children would like to have available in our town.
- Supported the Avon Valley Men's Shed in providing use of the Town Hall for their weekly meetings.
- Set up a working group to look at improving the Recreation Ground to include a circular pathway accessible to all, new improved play equipment, improvements to the riverbanks and hopefully the introduction of a weekly Saturday Park Run in the medium term.
- Met with NFDC to look at implementing new CCTV within the Town to improve security for all.
- Began a project to look at enhancing the Town Centre and improve the look of our current High Street.
- Established a joint working group with the Fordingbridge Events Group, Fordingbridge Rotary Club and the Town Council to plan and implement the Fordingbridge Christmas Lights event. We are also working on the summer festival for next year and something to mark the 80th D-Day anniversary in 2024.

As we approach the end of this busy year I, and all the Town Councillors, would like to wish you all a safe and Happy Christmas in Fordingbridge. We are all looking forward to serving you throughout 2024. Anyone can attend all our open meetings at the Town Hall on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. We would welcome you to come and see what we do. If you have any ideas about initiatives the Town Council can get involved with then please let us know.

Very Best Wishes

Pete White

Fordingbridge Town Mayor

