

**St Martha Parish Council**  
**Parish Council Meeting Thursday 12 March 2026**

**Chairman's Report**

**Upgrades to the North Downs Line Tangley Crossing**

There is a meeting at 5pm on Friday 13 March at Chilworth Village Hall, arranged by one of the residents of New Road Chilworth, to meet Sir Jeremy Hunt MP and Councillor Bob Hughes, to discuss the impact of the upgrades at the Tangley Rail Crossing. Several St Martha Parish Councillors will be attending.

**North Downs Line Steering Group AGM**

The AGM of the North Downs Line Steering Group, arranged by the Community Rail Partnership, is being held on Thursday 12 March and I will report on this at the Parish Council Meeting in the evening.

**Platform Planters at Chilworth Station**

I thanked Melissa Smith of the Alliance for Natural Health for looking after the planters on the Station platforms and gave her a small gift to show our appreciation and wish her well for the future. Calli Dracos, of Dorking Road Chilworth, has very kindly agreed to take over looking after the planters and 'thank you', Rosemary Lemon for giving me her name. Calli needs to undertake safety training by GWR before she can commence this volunteering on the railway platforms. In the meantime, the planters have had new plants added and are looking good for the spring.

**Open Day at the Gunpowder Mills Site on Saturday 5 September**

By the time of the Parish Council Meeting, Debbie Toyne and I will have met to discuss plans for an event on 5 September at the Gunpowder Mills Site. This is part of celebrating 400 years of the Mills.

**Chilworth Rail to Ramble Podcast by Whistlestop Arts**

The podcast will soon be ready. It will be widely promoted, including along the North Downs Line, Chilworth Station and on the Surrey Hills website. I have offered to put up posters on our Parish notice boards.

**Farnborough Airport latest planning application**

A new Planning Application, including a proposed increase in the number of weekend and public flights at the airport, was expected to be considered at the March Development Management Committee of Rushmore Borough Council. However, given the complexities of the process, with a number of clarification points raised by the Planning Officers and statutory consultees, this is still being considered and a new Committee date has not yet been agreed. The forthcoming local election period also has to be taken into account.