

Farnham Community Play

Meeting of the research Group Monday 27 September 2010

Present:

Janet Martin (Steering Group Chairman), Brian Martin, Anne Cooper, Jenny Bray, Gill Cox, Gina Lawrie, John Price, Jo Huddleston, Di Huddleston, Abigail Mc Kern, Giga Phillips, David Wylde, Joe Michel, Richard Sandars, Celia Sandars, Jon Oram, Liz Carter.

1.	MINUTES Minutes of the meeting of the full group on Monday 16 August had been circulated	
2	UPDATE As agreed at the 16 August meeting (item 5) a Pre- Application for the Parallel Heritage project – a Museum of Youth - had been submitted. However, the parameters for funding had recently changed so the application would be resubmitted, addressing revised requirements.	JO
3	SUBJECT MATTER FOR THE PLAY AND EXHIBITION	
3.1	Suggested that a community play works best when combining a contemporary theme with parallel or similar themes and events from the past. The experiences of youth, then (over 8/9 decades) and now, should play an important part (16 August Minutes: item 5) "Take you back however young you might be". The experiences and frustrations of youngsters living in a quiet market town present a constant theme across time.	
3.2	Activities to include an exhibition, art work, a series of workshops, intergenerational projects. It was agreed that the experiences of those whose lives have been spent in the Farnham area and those who came from elsewhere are of equal significance.	
4.	RESEARCH THEMES Some members had already given Janet suggested themes which were fed into the general discussion on possible topics and were recorded on a flip chart, with members of the group then voting for those they considered most interesting or which they would like to research. It was likely that material relating to women and children would be in shorter supply although the cast would probably include significantly more women than men. A wide range of themes was identified, although there was the opportunity to bring several of these together under broader headings at a later stage. Themes included:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wheel in the history of Farnham • Cross roads and the convergence of six main routes: South Street re-routed. East Street as a 'cross roads' • Farnham and the Oak (Westminster Hall and timber for the navy) • Insubordination, riots and rebels (Civil War, farm workers, hop pickers, theatre troupes: Fireworks' Night the C19th.) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths • People – Cobbett, Swift, Nightingale, Scott, Barrie, Sullivan, Knight, Charles I and Nell Gwynne, Lady Hamilton, Sturt, Falkner, Lutyens, Roland Penrose (working on camouflage at Farnham Castle) Bishops of Winchester. • Children and work • Ghosts • Long established local families • Art School / university. <p>The full list of themes to be co-ordinated under headings and placed on the Community Play website (www.ourfarnham.org.uk) by Joe Michel. Members of the Research Group will be invited to comment on the web blog site and undertake research on areas which particularly interest them. You will need to liaise on these with Janet Martin.</p>	Joe M
5	<p>DIARY DATES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Next Research Group Mon1 November 2. Visit to Community Play at East Grinstead. (Coach to be available?) Sat 4 December 3. Community Board Game event (Minutes 16 August item 7.2) to be deferred to. Sat 22 January 2011 – St. Martin's Hall, The Bourne 11.30 – 2.30 	All