

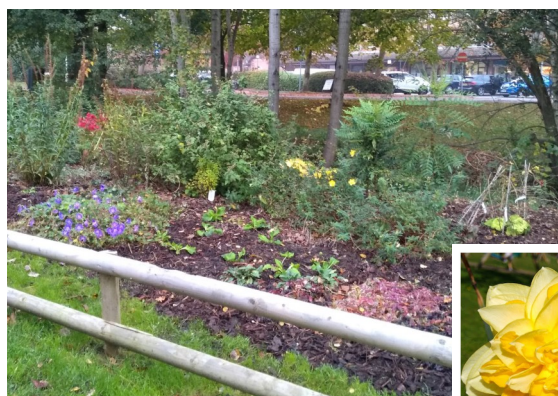


Who are the Friends of Ancells Farm?

Friends of Ancells Farm was founded in December 2010 by local residents who were concerned about the awful condition of the children's play park. Working with the newly-formed Fleet Town Council, we created a wonderful new play area.

Since then, we have held lots of fun events, planted hedges & lots of plants, provided seating areas, information boards, a nature trail, play equipment, bridges & bike racks. We have also agreed a Development Plan with Fleet Town Council to ensure that any changes made to the park are done in an agreed, appropriate manner, including input from our local community.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and catching up on what we've been doing in your local community. Please do contact us and join in!



Planting to make our park beautiful

Thank you to all of our volunteers who have helped plant our entrance area & hundreds of bulbs in the park. The plants are looking wonderful.

We have also planted tree saplings to fill in some of the hedge breaks on Farm Drive and extend the variety of wildlife friendly plants in the hedge.

We have planned and fundraised for another planted area to be created this year, so watch out for more details for our next planting day!

We're 10 this year!

To mark our anniversary we're planning an event for later in the year.

Watch out for more information & come and join in the fun!



Tesco Bags of Help — Great News!

Thank you to everyone who voted for Friends of Ancells Farm in the Tesco Bags of Help earlier this year. We have been awarded £1,166! This money will go towards our project which includes replacing & extending the 30 year old under 5's play area fence as well as extending the path around the woods end of the playing field.

Our thanks go to all our local residents who voted for us and also to Tesco.





Our Nature Trail

We have installed 6 brass rubbing posts in the park and woods so that children can explore and have some fun. Please go and look for them—can you find all 6? They all contain wildlife that can be seen in and around the park.

Our Scavenger Hunt

We were sadly unable to hold our annual Easter Egg Trail this year, so instead we held a Scavenger Hunt. Children could find lots of treasure! Prizes were awarded for the best entries and lots of fun was had! Our thanks go to Magda Pascoe who created the hunt.



Early Polo on one of the Fleet Grounds. (From a photo taken at the beginning of April).

History of Ancells Farm

We are fortunate to have the support of other local groups, including Fleet & Crookham Local History Group. Working with Phyl Ralton we have created a section of our website and an information board in the park both dedicated to the history of Ancells Farm.

Do take a moment to have a look—and if you have any more information or photos, please do send them in to committee@ancellsfarm.org.uk so we can share them with other residents.

Our Woodland

Our park has some beautiful old woodland which we have been working to open up to make it an integral & much loved part of our park.

So far we have made progress by clearing the main paths & installing a bridge over the ditch to make access easier. Our local experts have explained that if we have one or two easily accessible paths, this not only makes access easier, but deters people from walking elsewhere in the woods — so is much better for local wildlife. The biodiversity is already good, but can be much better with more active management.

If you know anything about woodland, or have an interest in helping with this goal please contact us at committee@ancellsfarm.org.uk.



Join us — have fun helping your community

Friends of Ancells Farm couldn't do all this without the help of our local community, who have worked together to make Ancells Farm one of the most popular places in Fleet. There are lots of ways that you can help:

- ◆ Become a member, or renew your membership—it's ONLY £5 per household per year, a small annual contribution towards your local neighbourhood
- ◆ Come and join in our events—even one hour each year makes such a difference
- ◆ Join our committee—it's a great way to do something worthwhile, whilst having fun! Our Committee is a small group and we need more helpers & volunteers to help organise community events. It's a great way to network with other families on the estate.

We choose our projects ensuring that they must benefit the local community, provide maximum impact for our efforts, promote community spirit, have longevity, work in line with our agreed Development Plan... and be fun!



How to join or renew your membership — it's so easy!

Thank you to all the members who have renewed their membership again—many of you have been members since we started in 2010 and we really value your continued support.

For those of you who have yet to join or renew your membership, the good news is that it's very quick and easy to do!

There are a number of payment options for your convenience:

- £ Standing Order—simply set this up with your online banking, or fill in the form & send it back (email us for the form & return address).
- £ On line via our website at www.ancellsfarm.org.uk, just click on 'membership' and fill in the on line form. You can pay via Paypal or card.
- £ By cheque—just email us and we'll send you a paper form.
- £ Join us at one of our monthly meetings, or come along to one of our events. Then you can pay in person by cash!

Enquiries regarding membership should be sent to membership@ancellsfarm.org.uk.

Please remember that without your support we can't do any of the fantastic work that we do to improve your local area—so go on, join us or renew today!

Hedgehog Street Around Fleet

Hedgehogs travel up to one mile each night looking for food and to find mates. Friends of Ancells Farm support the Hedgehog Street campaign to try to improve the lives of our local hedgehogs.

All you need to do to join in is to create small gaps at the base your garden fence or hedge (ask your neighbours first!). They need to be about 15cm in height and width.

If people across Fleet all do this, then it will create a network of routes for hedgehogs to roam and will hopefully keep them safe from the roads and help them find food.

You can find out more about Hedgehog Street on the official website www.hedgehogstreet.org.



Local News:

Find out more about other Ancells Farm social networks:

- Facebook: Ancells Farm Residents
- Nextdoor Ancells <https://nextdoor.co.uk/>

Our Committee!

We always need more help —please come and join in! No experience necessary, just enthusiasm and a wish to do good.

Hart Lottery

Hart Lottery benefits good causes in Hart by providing a great way to raise additional funds. Friends of Ancells Farm has been a member since its launch in 2017 and it has raised over **£1,000** towards our projects.

Tickets cost just £1 each and about 60% goes back to local good causes. The remaining 40% goes back into the prize fund & pays running costs.

Players can nominate a specific good cause & each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize every week. This includes an incredible £25,000 jackpot prize if all six numbers are matched, as well as various other cash prizes.

We encourage you all to join in the Hart Lottery & nominate Friends of Ancells Farm as your chosen good cause.

Further information can be found at

<https://www.hartlottery.co.uk/>.



Friends of Ancells Farm, improving your community



www.ancellsfarm.org.uk



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