# Welcome to Fairford Horizon 2016

#### What we aim to achieve

Fairford is loved and admired by everyone who lives here. Fairford Horizon, the Town's new Community Plan, seeks to build on the work done by Fairford Forward to maintain and enhance the town's attractiveness and improve its amenities.

#### The plan sets out three goals:

- Goal 1: Maintain Fairford as a shopping and tourist destination;
- Goal 2: Ensure that Fairford has appropriate community facilities and other services;
  Goal 3: Ensure that Fairford is an attractive place to live and work.

These goals are very much in line with Cotswold District Council's strategy for Fairford.



Twenty eight projects have been identified:-

# Project 1: Increase the number of visitors to Fairford and their length of stay

- Produce, early each year, an annual summary of events in the town and publicise this on the Town Council website, in local Tourist Information Offices and in the Cotswold Water Park visitor/ second home accommodation;
- Produce and publicise a comprehensive list of B&B's, hotels, campsites and self-catering accommodation in and around the town:
- Review the "Fairford Welcomes You" leaflet and make it widely available to residents and visitors:
- Work with the Fairford & Lechlade Business Club to promote the town as a visitor centre;
- Improve visibility and access to the Information Office
- Identify additional locations for the display of tourist information leaflets, such as St Mary's

Church, the Bull Hotel and local shops, and keep these locations well stocked with up-to-date information; and, where possible display 'Tourist Information' signs:

- Prepare information for visitors to the Royal International Air Tattoo and Steam Rally to encourage additional, longer visits;
- Consider the feasibility of employing professional PR help to publicise the town;
- Support the establishment of a 'Walkers are Welcome' group.

#### Project 2: Improve Fairford's commercial potential

Continue to promote Fairford and Lechlade Business Club's Food and Drink Festival, Fairford Festival; Wednesday weekly markets and Christmas Market.

### Project 3: Maintain Fairford's long term prosperity

- Set up a system to monitor the likely impact on the local economy of reduced activity at Fairford RAF base;
- Encourage Cotswold District Council, through the Local Development Framework, to pursue opportunities to provide additional employment sites and accommodation in Fairford, particularly for skilled occupations;
- Lobby Cotswold District Council to ensure small businesses are encouraged to develop in the town:
- Encourage a 'Shop Local' campaign.

# Project 4: Maintain the balance between sustainable economic development and conservation of the natural and historic built environment.

- Work with Cotswold District Council to ensure that the Council keeps the economic/ environment balance in mind when planning applications are being considered;
- Work with Cotswold District Council to include the economic/environment balance and the results of other planning/ biodiversity and environmental consultations in the emerging Local Development Framework;
- Work with Cotswold District Council to ensure that nature conservation issues are borne in mind when the District Council monitors applications and responds to consultations;
- Support Fairford Environmental Society's promotion of the national '10-10 Campaign' to reduce carbon emissions by shopping locally and other actions:
- Work with the Cotswold Water Park Society to produce a successful bid for a Heritage Landscape Lottery grant.

### Project 5: Provide new site for allotments

 Continue to seek offers of land for this purpose and work to explore the possibility of joint provision;  Work with Cotswold District Council to have land allocated for allotments as a planning condition of any appropriate large-scale development;

Encourage a garden share scheme.

### Project 6: Reduce the amount of litter in the town

- Support the 'Recycle week campaign' in local schools;
- Continue to press for a campaign to extend kerbside recycling;
- Invite the Business Club to encourage members to control the issue of plastic bags;
- Investigate the feasibility and cost of launching a local litter recycling campaign;
- Encourage more groups to join in litter picks in the town.

# Project 7: Update the town's closed circuit TV system

 In order that Fairford residents have confidence in the new CCTV system, to maintain a fully functioning, up-to-date CCTV system, compliant with recent legislation, and that it is sensibly extended where required.

#### Project 8: Improve pedestrian safety in the town

 Lobby the Highway authority, County Councillors and District Councillors to have a scheme of safer road crossings designed and implemented in the town.

# Project 9: Take steps to minimize the risk of flooding in the south of the town

 In association with the Fairford Emergency Action Group, maintain pressure on the Environment Agency to carry out the necessary flood alleviation work to prevent further inundations and to support this with match funding if possible.

# Project 10: Support the long term development and retention of Fairford Pre-School, Primary School and Farmor's School

 Through the planning process, support the long-term balanced development of the town.

# Project 11: Develop a Community Cohesion Programme with Farmor's School

 Involve community professionals in running/taking part in inter-curricular activities.

### Project 12: Develop Adult Education Opportunities.

Initiate discussion with Farmors about potential courses that could be provided if funding could be made available.

 Work with the U3A to ensure a continuation of its work with older residents.

# Project 13: Reduce the number of HGVs passing through Fairford

 Lobby the County Highways Authority, the Chief Constable, County Councillors and District Councillors to have a comprehensive traffic survey undertaken and traffic management scheme designed and implemented in Fairford which will divert HGVs from using the town centre as a through route.

# Project 14: Review parking provision in the town centre

- Monitor the situation arising out of the trial period during which no restrictions apply.
- Seek to improve the surface of the free car park.

## **Project 15: Footpath improvements**

 Continue to bring issues to the attention of the County Highways Department requesting that they be addressed as soon as possible.

# Project 16: Reduce conflict between cars and pedestrians

 Discuss with the Highways Authority and the Ernest Cook Trust the possibility of increasing the use of the access road behind the Sports Centre.

# Project 17: Support for Fairford / Lechlade cycle path

 Continue to support local efforts to progress a Fairford to Lechlade multi-use cycle/ footpath.

# Project 18: Provision of additional affordable / social housing

- Encourage Cotswold District Council through the Local Development Framework to ensure that affordable/social housing continues to be available in Fairford, in turn ensuring support for local schools:
- Continue to press for more such accommodation, publicising the need and lobbying by all available means;
- Actively maintain pressure on Cotswold District Council to ensure that any future development includes affordable and social housing.

### Project 19: Palmer Hall

Fairford Town Council will:

 Provide financial support to help funding applications by the Hall charity.

## **Project 20: Fairford Community Centre maintenance**

Allocate for unexpected maintenance costs for the Community Centre in its budgeting.

#### Project 21: New burial ground

 Keep its options open with the Ernest Cook Trust to obtain a site for a new burial ground.

#### Project 22: Public involvement in council affairs

Investigate additional ways in which it can involve the community in its affairs including:

- Maintaining and developing the Council's publicity outlets such as the Newsletter and the web site;
- Inviting non-councillors to take part in some of its committees or sub-committees such as a new Playing Fields Committee;
  Establishing a Junior Parish Council to meet at regular intervals and make suggestions to the Council.

## Project 23: Improve street furniture

 Carry out an audit of all street furniture and arrange a costed programme for repairs and improvements over the next two years.

## Project 24: Walnut Tree Field playground

Fairford Town Council will:

- Undertake regular safety checks of the equipment and make repairs where appropriate;
- Encourage parents and other members of the community to help with the maintenance of the playground and fund-raise for new equipment;
- Ensure the playground is a bright, welcoming environment for children.

### Project 25: Improvements to public transport

- Investigate the possibility of advertising the free travel scheme to encourage greater use and ensure more services are not lost to all age-groups.
- Lobby the bus operators to provide buses at sensible times to enable workers travelling to Swindon and Cirencester to use them; continue to lobby for a bus route into Horcott.

### Project 26: Improve community health

 Support the conclusions of the Fairford Hospital League of Friends health needs review and any actions that flow from it; Support the partnership between Cotswold District Council, Farmor's School and the efforts of U3A and investigate the possibility of

- working with 'Walkers are Welcome' to develop lower level exercise activities.
- Encourage the formation of a Fairford group to become members of the Walkers are Welcome organisation.

### Project 27: Improve proactive youth provision

- Seek the support and involvement of all agencies and young people themselves in research to identify the recreational and activity needs of young people in Fairford;
- Remain proactive in the community drive to preserve and enhance facilities available to young people in the town.

# Project 28: Support for the efforts of local sporting clubs to develop their facilities

- Encourage efforts to bring about a closer relationship between the town's sporting clubs;
- Encourage new playing areas and joint clubhouse/ changing facilities available for use by sports clubs not having or unable to continue supporting their own independent facilities;
- Continue to support Fairford Rugby Club's efforts to develop a permanent site;
- Continue to support the principle of the development of a 'Sports Arena' within the town to provide facilities for clubs without access to their own.

Please return this form to Fairford Town Council, The Community Centre, High Street, Fairford or email: <a href="mailto:clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk">clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk</a> with any comments you wish to make.

#### **Comments**

Name:

Address: Contact D		
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