



FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

FAIRFORD TOWN
COUNCIL

Cllr Jennie
Sanford

Fairford Town
Mayor

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Mayor's Introduction

This will be my final report as Mayor. My term of office has come to an end and the new Mayor, Councillor Stephen Boulton, will be taking up the reins. I would like to thank all those that have supported me over the past two years and to wish Steve good luck.

Over the past year, one of the Council's tasks was to complete the Fairford Neighbourhood Development plan, which was submitted to the examiner in April. Thanks must go to the Steering Group for all their hard work.

We have also been able to give some of the equipment in the playground an uplift with re-painting the skate ramp, refurbishing the small slide and have also installed a portaloos, on a trial basis, to cover the period April to October. If this proves successful, we will be looking to make this a more permanent fixture.

The Queens 90th birthday was celebrated with a Picnic in the Park in June and the Council provided music from the Chedworth Silver Band, face painting and children's entertainment. The weather was kind to us and everyone enjoyed the day.

In April we had a clean-up day in the town. Volunteers helped with this task. Many bags of rubbish were collected and it is hoped that this exercise can be carried out twice a year. Many thanks to those who gave up their time.

As you know, Lloyds Bank closed its doors in Fairford in November. We fought very hard to keep the branch open, but to no avail. However, they have recently introduced a mobile banking unit, which visits Fairford three times a week.

Work to provide new facilities and improve existing facilities is, as always the focus of the Council. Our new Groundsman/Handyman, Norman Brown, has brought many skills to the Council enabling us to carry out improvements without having to outsource to contractors.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that also helped throughout the year to keep Fairford looking at its best.

Cllr Jennie Sanford

Town Councillors 2016-17

Mayor: Cllr Jennie Sanford	Deputy Mayor: Cllr Barry Fenby (May 2015 – March 2016) Cllr Mark Dudley
Cllr Stephen Boulton	Cllr Trevor Hing MBE
Cllr Janet Bowen	Cllr Jon Hill (from May 2016)
Cllr Johnny Dallow	Cllr Robert Lear (Oct 2015 – Oct 2016)
Cllr Andrew Doherty (from Sept 2016)	Cllr David McKinley
Cllr Colin Foxall CBE (from Jan 2017)	Cllr Robert Rao (May 2015 - May 2016)
Cllr Richard Harrison	Cllr Christine Roberts MBE
	Cllr Robert Winney

Councillor Attendance at Meetings 2016-17

Committees	Full Council	Works & Community	Planning	Finance
Meetings in the year	14	12	25	6
Councillors				
J Sanford (Chair)	12	10	21	6
M Dudley (Deputy)	11	5	13	4
S Boulton	12	8		6
J Bowen	10	10	2/2	4
J Dallow	11		19	3
A Doherty *	8/8	5/8		4/5
C Foxall CBE*	3/3		4/8	
R Harrison	14	4/4	24	
J Hill	10		20	
T Hing MBE	12			5
D McKinley	1/1			
C Roberts MBE	11	10		
R Winney	8			
*joined in the year				

Councillors who resigned during the year:-

Cllr Barry Fenby

Cllr Rob Rao

Cllr Bob Lear

Works & Community Committee 2016-17**Committee Members: Councillors:- S Boulton (Chair), C Roberts, J Bowen, J Sanford, M Dudley, A Doherty (part), R. Harrison (part)**

The Committee has, once again, had a busy year, and I would like to thank all the members for their hard work, in particular for supporting me when I was incapacitated. The path on Lovers Lane has been resurfaced, with the help of the Ernest Cook Trust.

The Walnut Tree Field has received the following improvements this year:

Installation of an outdoor table tennis table; thanks to LR Engineering the slide was refurbished and reinstated and the netting was replaced on the climbing frame.

The Allotment plots at Fairford Gate are up and running and being well used.

Two new notice boards have been purchased and installed, one on Horcott Road and the other on the Milking Path at Fairford Gate.

The Council hosted various events during the year, including an Italian Market; the Picnic in the Park for HRH Queen Elizabeth II's birthday, and the Festive Market in December. The Council, along with other organisations, sponsored a Hare as part of the Cotswold-wide Hare Trail 2017. We are delighted with "Maurice", who was painted beautifully by renowned artist, Jake Sutton.

Following the sudden departure of APL Travel, Stagecoach took on the bus routes that service Fairford and the surrounding villages, on a much reduced timetable. As a result of continued lobbying from the Council and with the help of residents, a more useful timetable was introduced.

Whilst I was using a mobility scooter, I carried out a survey of all the crossing points and dropped kerbs in Fairford. This survey has been passed to Gloucestershire Highways and we hope that improvements to many crossings in Fairford will be made over the next 12 - 24 months.

In anticipation of a 24hr ATM being installed at Londis, the Council has invested in additional CCTV along London Street.

And lastly, as part of a nationwide scheme, the Council has adopted the payphone on Milton Street with a view to installing a defibrillator.

Cllr Stephen Boulton

Planning Committee 2016-17

Committee Members: Councillors:- J. Dallow (Chair), J Sanford, R Harrison, J Hill, M Dudley, C Foxall (part)

The Planning Committee have reviewed and commented on 57 planning applications during the past year. The most notable of which has been the Gladman proposal to build 92 houses on the land West of Horcott road. This application has been rigorously contested by the Council, it was reviewed by the Planning Inspectorate in March of this year and now awaits a ruling by the Secretary of State. The decision will be promulgated in August this year.

In tandem with our objection has been the work on the Neighbourhood Development Plan. This is reported on elsewhere. Suffice to say that the Planning Committee acknowledges the tremendous efforts by the team and in particular the work of Cllr Richard Harrison and Cllr Jennie Sanford. In addition mention must be made of the Deputy Clerk, Roz Capps for the considerable administrative support to the compilation of the Plan.

The Committee has consistently raised compliance issues, with particular regard to new developments in the matters of drainage, sewerage and rights of way. We have been particularly frustrated by the 'laissez faire' attitude of CDC towards planning condition enforcement.

We have also pursued the development of a 'drainage strategy' for Fairford with Thames Water. Some limited progress has been made in regard to drain cleaning and gully clearing, our thanks go to Cllr Jon Hill in this regard.

Finally we have corresponded with Ministers, Cotswold MP, and other Councils on planning policy and other matters pertinent to planning. My thanks to the members of the Committee for their work to maintain Fairford as a premier town in which to work & live and play.

Cllr J Dallow

Finance Committee 2016-17

Committee Members: Councillors:- M Dudley (Chair), T Hing, J Dallow, J Sanford, S Boulton, J Bowen, A Doherty (part)

The Council has again been mindful of spending over the past year which has included a full year cost of the staff pension scheme that we are obliged to offer. One of the priorities was to ensure that that Neighbourhood Development Plan was covered to ensure the best possible outcome for the benefit of the residents of Fairford. To that end, we have invested in the services of a professional consultant. Major expenditure in 2016-17 has included

Finance - cont'd

the Lovers Lane footpath resurfacing, as part of the safer route to school's project.

We have also been able to grant Awards as described later in this Report.

The Committee have also sanctioned other smaller amounts such as for the Hare as part of the 'Hare Trail', which it was felt would benefit the Town by encouraging Tourism.

The Internal Audit took place in April and the un-audited accounts can be found later in this Report.

All matters relating to Accounting Governance have been complied with and signed off by the Internal Auditor. The final approved Annual Return will be available later in the year after the External Auditors have carried out their checks.

Our Precept request for 2017-18 to CDC has been reduced very slightly this year, in terms of percentage difference.

Cllr M Dudley

Grants Awarded 2016-17

Community Project Fund

Fairford Cricket Club	£4000
Fairford Primary School	£5000
Fairford Pre-School	£2500
Fairford Festival	£1088
Fairford Primary School PTA	£1736

Annual End of Year Grants

Fairford & District U3A	£500
Fairford Art Society	£185
CAB	£500
Great Western Ambulance	£500
Fairford Festival	£500

Summary of Income & Payments 2016 -17

Summary of Income & Payments	Last year ended 31/3/2016	Current year ended 31/3/2017
Income		
Income	0	104683
Administration	117996	16997
Staffing expenses	0	95
Community Centre	7408	6322
Security	0	1400
Promotion	1255	2476
Community	57	80
Churchyard	3077	4810
Environment	3534	1540
Planning	5680	3320
VAT Data	16650	14635
Total Receipts	155657	156358
Administration	48520	51016
Staffing Expenses	39285	48708
Community Centre	12320	15411
Communications	734	943
Promotion	5209	8172
Community	1395	6518
Projects	35515	13363
Churchyard	3651	3569
Environment	16566	29234
Planning	7958	19250
VAT Data	11371	16166
Total Payments	182525	212350
Receipts & payments summary		
Opening Balance	361079	334210
Add total receipts	155656	156358
Less total payments	182525	212350
Closing Balance	334210	278218

County Councillors Report 2016 -17

Annual report on CDC and GCC 2017

CDC has continued to look for joint working opportunities with neighbouring authorities so as to reduce administrative costs e.g. in back office, accounting and waste collection.

Planning department has been very busy with new schemes in housing but also with extensions and modification of existing housing stock. The latter has been influenced by the rising costs of moving especially the cost of stamp duty.

In finance, the CDC grant from central government continued to shrink but this was more than offset by efficiency savings. Thus council tax remained unchanged. In future the government will cease the grant system but allow authorities to retain the growth in business rates collected in their areas. Scheme details have not yet been announced.

GCC has experienced a challenging year. But there are some good things happening. We have continued to roll out broadband to the whole of Gloucestershire. We were awarded £9m from a national fund set up to deal with local road maintenance—code for potholes. Our lobbying for a solution to the bottleneck known as The Air Balloon is making headway with the Government recognition that this is a major regional project of high priority now backed by £230m finance.

Construction has commenced on the energy from waste project at Javelin Park: this provides Gloucestershire with a long term, clean ,economic ,sustainable and socially valuable alternative to landfilling non-recyclable, non-reusable waste. This year we also started gasifying our food waste through a new plant commissioned in Bishops Cleeve. The gas produced goes straight into the national grid system.

The financial challenge has been to make sufficient savings to replace the reduction in direct grant from HMG. This has been achieved by cutting administrative costs; by moving staff out of leased into owned property and disposing of £20m surplus assets.

However we have two major statutory responsibilities:

Care of elderly vulnerable residents [including social care] and Care of vulnerable young people.

These two budgets account for 56% of the total County budget and are growing. They represent the most significant financial challenges for the County in the coming years.

In the light of the financial issues facing us GCC fixed a council tax increase for 2017/18 at 1.99% plus the 2% social levy.

County Councillor Raymond Theodoulou

District Councillors Report 2016-17

Background

Since February 2017 Andy Docherty has been District Councillor for North Fairford; Sue is cabinet member for the Environment and on the Planning and Licensing Committee; Andy and I are on the Planning and Licensing Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The latter allows us to seek to ensure that services provided by the Council meet peoples needs as efficiently as possible.

District Responsibility

The main areas of direct concern that are a District Council responsibility include:

Planning: Within Fairford Town, planning has been a key issue with the completion or near completion of some 450 houses and applications being made for more. The Local Plan has been through a period of consultation and is on track to be submitted for formal approval late this coming summer.

The Local Plan does identify some limited development sites and these are under review with the FTC as part of the examination of the FNP.

Horcott 92 – Awaiting a decision from the SoS.

Flooding: The flood alleviation scheme for Fairford has been substantially completed but further work is being undertaken to ensure that more is learnt about the Dudgrove Catchment and Coln river.]

Waste Collection: The cost of the green bin collection has been held unchanged.

The changeover of collection days went very smoothly and residents are thanked for their role in that smooth change-over

Finance: The CDC proportion of Council Tax has been held for the coming year. All households should have received a booklet explaining how the Council Tax is made up.

The District Council has achieved this through continuing to work with other councils on shared services. This is something that continues with Publica (Previously Project 2020) which is working to extend the option of sharing services with other Councils.

Community Funding: Funding has been allocated this year to assist with the purchase of further Community Public Access Defibrillators and discussions have started with the Town Council over what might be achieved under this programme.

The TS Raleigh has received financial support from the funds allocated to Councillors.

District Cllr Stephen Andrews

Patients Participation Group (PPG) Report 2016-17

What we do: The Government requires every surgery to have a PPG and there has been one at Fairford for a number of years. We are required to act as a 'critical friend' to the Practice and to make them aware of issues of a general nature that patients raise and to make patients aware of changes in the NHS and the local Practice and run Health Events which give useful advice on health matters.

What we do not do: We do not answer questions from patients which relate solely to them – it is for the individual to raise these with the Surgery. In all cases we preserve patient confidentiality.

Who we are : We have a talented committee which meets regularly with members of the Practice. The committee includes members with a medical background, Town and District Councilors and the Chair of the League of Friends. We also have a number of Friends who receive via email copies of minutes of our meetings and other information and who are able to use this facility to raise issues with us.

What we have done over the last year: We have continued to monitor the performance of Boots Pharmacy which, with the Town Council, we got urgent action by Boots management to improve the fulfilling of prescriptions.

We had a successful Kidney Health Event which was well attended. An event featuring Dementia is scheduled for 29 June 2017.

We have issued guidance on keeping a Healthy Heart.

We have attended a number of village coffee morning and heard patients views of the Surgery and forwarded any issues they have raised and recruited new Friends.

We have had presentations from Telecare, and the Social Prescribers and Frailty teams.

We have attended a number of meetings of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Gloucestershire HealthWatch and the South Cotswolds PPG Cluster Group

We have worked alongside the Practice staff on developments in the following areas:-

The Appointments System: we are working the Practice to improve this.

Coping with the extra patients coming from the new housing developments: The Surgery assures us that they have the space to cope with this and will engage more medical staff as needed.

Ear syringing: Currently Fairford is not commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to provide this service but the CCG are currently reviewing and liaising with ENT specialists to decide what is the most appropriate solution for primary care (micro-suction versus ear syringing or offering both) and what this means for GP practices. Any future service is not likely to commence until April 2018 and at this point we do not know what this will be or where it will be located.

A prescribing pharmacist: Fairford will share one with two other practices which should ease the doctors' workload by not having to review repeat prescriptions.

Gluten free food: Fairford reviews patients' needs on a case by case basis.

The telephone system. This is under active consideration.

We have agreed our Action Plan for 2017/8 with the Practice.

John Read , Chair Fairford PPG

Palmer Hall Report 2016-17

I can report another successful year with much being achieved. The one negative was a break in on New Years Eve which unfortunately left the hall with extensive damage to doors and cupboards. Nothing of great value or cash is left in the building.

We have held a number of successful fundraising events and promoting a wider community use. The Elvis night, Steam talk and our first Christmas Arts and Crafts Fayre were hugely supported and will be repeated this year.

We still need to look to future events to secure funding to undertake major refurbishing, to include, disabled facilities, new toilets and decorating.

The hall was closed for one week in September for asbestos removal. There are still issues with the overgrown Ivy on the wall belonging to Walls Cottage. This must be resolved due to security and Health and Safety.

All of our regular lettings remain very good and continued popularity for private bookings. The cinema is proving to be very popular with a regular audience every month. A new notice board was purchased with help from the Town Charity.

The 100 Club still remains our main fundraiser. Thank you to Phil Trickett. Phil has decided to step down this summer from running the club. Huge thanks for funds raised for many years. We have been fortunate to find someone to take over the reins so please continue to support us.

Thank you to all of our loyal supporters. Let's keep this iconic hall open.

Sue Crowley, Chairman

Walkers are Welcome 2016-17

'Walkers are Welcome' is a nationwide initiative, launched in 2007, to encourage towns and villages to be 'welcoming to walkers'. The network now has over 100 locations across the UK which benefit from 'Walkers are Welcome' accreditation and promotion through the 'Walkers are Welcome' website.

The aims of 'Walkers are Welcome' are to encourage and support towns and villages to:

- Be attractive destinations for walkers with top quality information on local walks
- Offer local people and visitors excellent walking opportunities within their areas
- Ensure that footpaths and facilities for walkers are maintained, improved and well signposted
- Contribute to local tourism plans and regeneration strategies
- Promote the health benefits of walking and increase participation
- Encourage the use of public transport

Through Fairford Community Voice, Fairford has recently applied for accreditation to 'Walkers are Welcome'. Together with Fairford Town Council, new initiatives are now being planned to upgrade the town's walking maps, signposting, conditions of the walks and promotion of these walks.

Malcolm Cutler, Chairman

Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016-17

Fairford Town Council (FTC) has submitted the Fairford Neighbourhood Development Plan (FNP) to the Cotswold District Council (CDC) and comments from the CDC and other consultees were received by 11th April. The FNP is now being assessed by an independent examiner to ensure that it meets the legal requirements. The examiner subsequently called for a meeting (10th May) between FTC/FNP and CDC to seek further clarification on parts of the FNP (Sustainability Appraisal), to ensure that it meets the statutory requirements of a Neighbourhood Plan.

Malcolm Cutler, Chairman

Drainage & surface water update

During the year Fairford Town Council has continued to put pressure on Thames Water and Gloucestershire Highways to resolve the frequent flooding problems in East End and along London Road. As a result several drains have been cleared and many properties are now less likely to be flooded.

Cllr Jon Hill

Speed Watch

Following the highly successful initiative taken by the community of Southrop to reduce vehicle speeds through their village, Fairford Town Council, supported by Quenington Parish Council, has been successful in enlisting and training around 30 volunteers to support a Community Speed Watch scheme in Fairford and the villages of Quenington and Honeycombe Leaze.

Gloucestershire Police with the support of these local communities has specified and approved for speed monitoring several locations that are areas where vehicle speeds are often perceived as being excessive.

The aim of the Community Speed Watch team is not to catch as many people speeding as possible, but to let as many people as possible that drive through the town and villages know that speed monitoring will be taking place on a regular basis at these police-approved locations in order to give everyone a chance to slow down and drive within the speed limits. It is all about education and encouraging motorists to respect the legal speed limits designated and show consideration for the community by doing so.

Teams of three volunteers have been out regularly over the past few months – even the coldest of days. They wear high visibility jackets and position themselves safely to be clearly visible to approaching vehicles. The speeds are recorded together with vehicle registration numbers, make and model of the vehicle and time and date of the monitoring. This is then passed to the police who determine what, if any, action should be taken against speeding offenders.

The scheme in Quenington and Honeycombe Leaze has been working very well with local volunteers using the speed monitoring device owned by Fairford Town Council to monitor speeds in two locations in each village. However, in Fairford, it has been extremely difficult getting three volunteers to offer their time “on the rota” on suggested days and times. Several pre-arranged rotas have had to be cancelled in Fairford because of the lack of support. In Fairford, there are five specified and police-approved areas and another three problem areas awaiting approval, but because of the lack of support, only two sites have so far been monitored.

The Community Speed Watch team would really urge the trained

volunteers to put themselves forward more often to help monitor vehicle speeds in Fairford. So many people in the community have been in touch to point out where the problem areas are and to ask for the Speed Watch teams to monitor those areas. It would be really helpful if those people could offer to become trained volunteers. Training takes just one hour at Cirencester Police Station and then the commitment to be on the monitor rota is just one or maybe two hours per month.

If you would like to help, please contact Cllr Chris Roberts on 01285 712150, chris@cotswoldwireless.co.uk.

Cllr Chris Roberts MBE

League of Friends 2016-17

We are a local charity run by volunteers providing health related support to the patients of our two GP Practices in Fairford and Lechlade. We are totally focussed on the local community and spend over £70,000 per year supporting their needs. We succeed through the generosity, support and commitment received from our local community.

We have provided community support over the last 12 months through:

Our Home Nursing Team. The Team supplements the care provided by the local GPs and District Nurses and helps patients to remain at home when they are very ill. They have nursed 36 new patients in the last 12 months with the majority being nursed to the end of their life.

Our contract with Prospect Hospice at Wroughton was renewed in 2016 enabling the Fairford and Lechlade GP Practices to refer their patients to the Hospice. This means that the patients and their families can benefit from the Hospice's full range of services.

Voluntary Car Service – The team of volunteer drivers carried out over 750 journeys in the last year for people in the community who have difficulty getting to their GP and hospital appointments.

Student Counselling – We continued to help fund the student counselling service at Farmor's School which is essential to the health and wellbeing of those in need of support counselling. This helped provide in excess of 650 counselling appointments in the last 12 months helping over 80 students.

Cont'd overleaf

Family funding support – We have provided funding for health care support and short term respite care to four families with children who are in need of additional support. This has provided additional hours at specialist respite centres for children and young adults,

Edna Dawes Lunch Club – We have continued to organise and provide this Lunch Club for around 30 frail and elderly people on Mondays and Wednesdays every week to socialise and enjoy a lunch.

Young at Heart Lunch Club - We have renewed funding for this monthly Lunch Club that provides social activity and lunch for people with memory problems and their carers.

Foot Care Clinic - This is held every Monday at Fairford Hospital for those who have difficulty with nail cutting and this has helped over 150 patients in the last 12 months.

Can you help? In order to help us continue with providing our support to people in the local community we do need more volunteers. We need:

- Drivers to help with our Volunteers Drivers Scheme.
- Charity Shop volunteers who can donate 3 hours of their time a week in our Lechlade Shop. Lunch Club minibus drivers to help on Monday's or Wednesday's once a month.
- Trustees to help us run and manage the Charity.

If you think you can help or for further information please contact our Administrator on 07767 408409, or email fairford.lof@hotmail.co.uk, or refer to our website www.friendsoffairford.org.uk.

Graham Hewitt, Chairman

Community Centre Report 2016-17

The Centre continues to serve the local community. It has been a good year, bookings are up and we have been very busy at times. As well as church activities, it is a popular venue for meetings, parties, classes, coffee mornings, funeral wakes etc. There are more than 20 regular activities including Art classes, Ballet dancing, Bingo, Bridge club, Country market, Children's activities, Exercise and fitness classes, Gardener's Club, History Society, Mother and Baby groups, Walking group, Weight Watchers, Yoga and Youth club, plus many different U3A activities including Bridge, Needlework, Scrabble, Table tennis and Recorder music. There is also a Police Point, and we act as a Polling station.

The Community Christmas dinner was again very successful and we thank Andy Wilkinson and her many volunteer helpers for providing this.

We continue with our maintenance and improvement programme with more exterior painting. This year we have installed acoustic panels to improve the sound quality in the Barker room and added extra emergency lighting and CCTV covering the outside of the building, as well as an additional baby-changing unit.

The Centre is a community building, a non-profit-making organisation and a registered charity. Our aim is to provide good accommodation at reasonable cost and accessible to all the community, and to make sure the building is well looked-after and pays its way. There are 4 rooms available for hire, of various sizes. They can be booked by the hour, the day, or for longer periods, with reasonable rates varying from £4.50 to around £14 per hour, with concessions for regular bookings. Full details are available from the office or web site, www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org with downloadable booking forms. We need your help in making sure that you book rooms in good time and leave them clean and tidy as you would wish to find them, checking that lights are turned off, chairs put away and doors closed.

Our users are important to us and we welcome ideas and suggestions. Anyone interested in the Community Centre is invited to join us and become a member of FCC Ltd. There is no joining or membership fee, just a general meeting once a year, when we report on the year's activities. The next annual meeting will be on Thursday, 29th June and all are welcome. If you are interested in becoming a FCC Ltd member or would like some further information, please contact the office, or look at our web site

We express our grateful thanks to the FCC Trustees for all their hard work, to Sadie and Eric, our Centre managers, who keep things running smoothly, and to all the people who have helped in many different ways to give us a very successful year.

For further information contact FCC Office :-

Tel : 01285 711571 Email: bookings@fccentre.co.uk

Margaret Bishop

Community First Responders Report 2016-17

At the end of 2016, our responder group celebrated our 10th anniversary.

Back in 2006 we started with 18 members of which 4 are still active. It is hard to put an exact figure on the total hours volunteered and patients visited, but it must be close to 80,000 hours on duty and more 1000 patients visited. This service has been recognised by our local ambulance service, South Western Ambulance, with an award of "Community First Responder Group" for 2016 for the whole of the South Western region.

But none of this would have happened without the support of Fairford from the beginning. The initial investment of £22,000 from the L of F allowed the purchase of our defibrillators and other equipment. This support continues today and for this we are extremely grateful.

Initially CFRs only attended Adults that were deemed to have life threatening conditions, but now we attend children of all ages and a much wider range of adult medical patients. This provides not only support to patients but reassurance to relatives. We now can assess patients better by measuring blood pressure and oxygen levels in blood. Also when carrying out CPR we now use the same equipment and procedures as used by a paramedic.

Our Ambulance Service now invest more in CFRs with more training and the provision of AirWave two way Pagers at a cost of £600 each. Also over the past few years we have started the Community Access Defibrillator Programme. With the support of the local community, 4 defibrillators have been installed and we are currently investigating some six more locations in and around Fairford.

We also now provide Farmor School with Basic Life Support awareness sessions for all sixth formers; over the past 2 years we have trained more than 300 pupils, practically, this training is now becoming part of their curriculum.

In the past year our group has increased to 16, importantly, most of these members being from a younger cohort. We are still looking for more members, so if you are interested please come to one of our monthly meetings. (Age is not a bar!)

During the past year the transfer of members from St John Ambulance membership to direct employment by South Western Ambulance has taken place. While still volunteers we now benefit from being part of the South Western Ambulance team with improved training, regular shifts with ambulance crews and appropriate uniforms.

Stephen Andrews

Community First Responder
Fairford and Lechlade First Responder Group

Police Report for Fairford 2016-17

INTRODUCTION

There were **84** substantiated crimes reported between 1st May 2016 to 1st May 2017, this compares to **77** for the same period of 2015 – 2016.

CRIME BREAKDOWN

- There was **15** recorded crime of **VIOLENCE**, compared to **23** the previous year.
- **1** recorded crime of **SEXUAL ASSAULT** in 2016-2017 compared to **1** in 2015- 2016
- **0** recorded crime of **ROBBERY** in 2016 -2017, compared to **1** in 2015 -2016
- **20** recorded crimes of **BURGLARY**, **3** Dwelling & **14** Non Dwelling incidents, **1** Burglary – Business and Community & **2** Attempted Burglary 2016 -2017. Compared to **12** Overall in 2015— 2016
- **34** recorded crimes of **THEFT** 2016 -2017 compared, **24** in 2015-2016
- **9** recorded crimes of **CRIMINAL DAMAGE** 2016 -2017, **6** in 2015-2016
- **4 DRUG** related crimes in 2016-2017, **8** in 2015-2016
- **1** recorded crime of **FRAUD in 2016 -2017**, compared to **1** in 2015 -2016

SUMMARY

There has been an increase in reported crime by 9% in Fairford since last year's meeting.

Firstly, there has been an increase in vehicles leaving the local Petrol station without paying for their fuel. We work closely with the station to ensure that they are fully trained and are aware of any suspicious vehicles or persons in the area. Their CCTV is of high quality and we are usually able to locate the offenders. Secondly, theft from vehicles has increased; this was a spate of vehicles being broken into a few months ago. To our knowledge this has now stopped and investigations are on-going.

Last year a new Community Speed Watch group was set up in Fairford and they regularly go out to conduct speed checks. We have had lots of positive feedback and receive information about speeding vehicles which we follow up.

We continue to work closely with the Parish of Fairford and consistently patrol the area.

If you would like to contact your local Policing team, please email one of the following;

PCSO Callaway Green 9267

Bethan.Callaway-Green@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Butcher 9098

Gemma.Butcher@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

PC 2381

Stewart.Liddle-Peters@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Bethan Callaway- Green

RAF Fairford

RAF Fairford has been very busy in the last year, with two exercises taking place in May and September 2016.

RIAT was also very successful in 2016 with the F35 making it's first appearance.

RAF Fairford continues to provide support to RAF Brize Norton. The quarters at RAF Fairford being occupied by RAF personnel. The current lease with the USAF expires in 2019.

It is expected that 2017 will also prove to be a very busy year with an increase in US personnel from May to September.

Over the past year, we have held many joint US & British events and with the expected increase in US personnel, more events are planned with the next event, a Cricket match, taking place on the 8th June 2017.

Sqn. Ldr. Jayne Robertson— RAF Fairford

Citizen Awards 2017

These awards are presented for the work individuals have done over the past year. The nominees are as follows:-

Malcolm Cutler - Chair of Classic Car Club, Chair for Fairford Community Voice, Chair of Walkers are Welcome Group and Chair of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Geoff Hawkes - Founder member of the History Society, latterly Chairman. Former Governor of Coln House School, member of Friends of Fairford Church, member of St. Mary's Church choir and Choral Society, organiser of Glos. Historic Churches Trust Annual Ride and Stride and many other voluntary organisations.

Kate Lee - For her work in running a voluntary meal service called Little Bundles for new families in Fairford, she also helps at Tiny Tots playgroup and has set up a new group for families who have experienced a loss of a child or miscarriage.

Sonia McDermott - Has lived in Fairford for 50 years. She has been a shopper for many elderly people over the years. She has run the local Rainbows group, Girl Guides and Rangers. She is now running a scheme for taking unused bicycles to Tetbury where they are re-conditioned and sent to the Gambia.

Irene Nicholls - For her continued presence in clearing up the Walnut Tree Field every day, come rain or shine.

Kerrie-Ann Payne - For her work with the Fairford Festival.

No nominations were received for either the Albert Alder Award or the Young Citizen of the Year Award.

THE WINNER OF THE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD 2017

KERRIE-ANN PAYNE