



# FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL

APRIL 2013

## Mayor's Introduction



Cllr Bob Winney  
Fairford Town  
Mayor  
Tel 01285  
712452

On Thursday 23rd May, 7.00pm, Fairford Town Council will be hosting the Annual Town Meeting in the Farmor Room at the Community Centre. I urge you all to come along.

It is an opportunity for you to find out not only what the Council has done, but also to hear from many of the organisations in Fairford, such as the Police and RAF Fairford. It is also *your chance* to hold us to account, ask us questions and tell us your ideas for the future of Fairford. Do come and get involved with your community and Council.

Refreshments are available!

We are very proud of our award winning playground, and we hope that the whole community continues to enjoy it. We are hoping to add some new equipment in the future and would like *your* input as to what you would like to see there. See page 4 for more details.



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LARGE PRINT VERSIONS OF THE NEWSLETTER CAN BE REQUESTED

## COUNCIL NEWS

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CONTACT DETAILS: Fairford Town Council, Community Centre, High Street, Fairford, GL7 4AF

Tel: 01285 713326/712344 Email: [clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk](mailto:clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk)

Website: [www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Town Council Meetings

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The next two Full Town Council Meetings will be on **Tuesday 9th April** followed by the Annual Meeting of the Town Council on **Tuesday 14th May** at 7pm in the Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre.

**The Annual Town Meeting** will be held on **Thursday 23rd May** at 7.00pm. Members of the public are invited to attend.

## Highways

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### Gritting

Following the recent spell of cold weather, Fairford Town Council are keen to hear from any residents who are interested in volunteering to grit the pavements in their local area. Please get in touch with the Clerk if you would like more information, or to volunteer your services to the local community.

### Litter picking

There is a litter pick organised by Fairford Environmental Society on Saturday April 6th at 2.00pm meeting at the Council offices. FES aim to work for about 2 hours but it's all very flexible. Anyone who is interested in taking part, please get in touch, or just turn up on the day. Bags and pickers are provided.

The Town Council has a supply of bags and litter pickers to lend to anyone who would like to do any litter picking in Fairford.

## **Bench**

A new bench has been installed at the junction of Hatherop Road and Churchill Place. The bench has been very generously part funded by Mrs Mary Luker and her son Fred, in memory of a much missed daughter and sister, Annie (1963-1981).

## **Dog Waste Bins**

New dog waste bins are being installed on Beaumont Place and Park Street. Please use them.

**Steve Boulton**, Chair of Highways 07767 445857

## **Planning**

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76 new affordable houses are scheduled to be built in Fairford in the near future. There will be different types of affordable housing available: rented houses and shared ownership. To be considered for one of the new homes households will have to be accepted on to the appropriate register.

Further information can be found on

**[www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk)** or by contacting one of the organisations below.

Gloucestershire Homeseeker (rented housing register enquiries):  
Cotswold District Council Housing Advice Team 01285 623300.

Shared ownership and property adverts: Southwest Homes Tel. No. 0300 100 0021, website address <http://www.southwesthomes.org.uk>

Housing Association shared ownership contact details:

- Jephson Housing Association Group: Katharine Pugh Tel. 01454 204034.
- GreenSquare Group: Hayley Ody Tel. 01793 602 806.
- The Guinness Partnership: Julie Stafford Tel: 01452 541852.

Housing development enquiries: Anne Powell (Cotswold District Council) 01285 623247.

**Suzanne Jones**, Chair of Planning, 01285 712003

## Facilities

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**Encouraging a healthy lifestyle:** The Town Council is giving consideration to the idea of providing open-air exercise equipment in the Walnut Tree Field. The Council feels it should play its part in encouraging healthy activity among all ages in the community. It would like to have ideas from the public on what would be the most useful piece of equipment. Flexibility & cardiovascular based equipment such as air walker, rower, elliptical cross trainer, bicycle and strength building equipment such as chin-up bars are also available along with many others.

Suggestions please, email [clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk](mailto:clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk) or telephone 712344.

**An unhealthy legacy:** The Council is again appealing to owners of dogs in the town to clean up after their pets if they foul public spaces. As well as being distasteful to the community, it can lead to serious health problems, particularly to children. Doggie bins are placed strategically throughout the town, and if there isn't one close at hand there is no objection to making use of the nearest litter bin, since their contents are emptied as part of the same collection. If people fail to observe this simple request the Council is asking that evidence about any transgressions is passed on to the Town Clerk or Cotswold District Council. It is a violation of the law and the Council is anxious to stamp out anti-social behaviour in all its forms.

**More attractions for Fairford?** As well as looking at plans to revamp the annual Festive Market in Fairford into a weekend event, the town Council is exploring the possibility of adding Continental shopping to the town's programme of events. It is having talks with a firm which provides a weekend French market and another selling Italian fare. Similar markets are proving successful elsewhere in the country.

The Council is also considering how it might boost its image and attract more visitors to the town.

**Accent on youth:** Anyone interested in helping Fairford Town Council maintain and boost youth activities in the town should make contact with the Town Clerk. The Council is hoping to form a sub-committee to manage youth work here and it feels non-councillors should be asked to take part too. There was an emergency response last year to Gloucestershire County Council's

decision to pull out of youth provision in the town and the management since has fallen to a handful of councillors working on an ad hoc basis. Now the Council is keen to set up a formal framework to ensure youth work continues well into the future.

**Martin Harwood**, Chair of Facilities, Tel 01285 712597

## **Cotswold District Council (CDC)**

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I managed to miss the worst of the winter weather in January as I was travelling abroad at the time. However I am very aware of the problems which occurred through the cancellation of waste collections due to the snow. A number of people have asked me why other authorities managed to keep going when our service was cancelled due to dangerous conditions. To answer this question and others the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, of which I am a member, has timetabled a formal review of the problems in order that lessons can be learnt for the future. This will take place in March and I hope to report back on the changes which will be made.

Whilst Fairford did not suffer too badly in the wet weather before Christmas, in part due to the swift actions of the Fairford Emergency Action Group, we are all aware of the problems which occurred in surrounding areas. The Leader of the Council has requested Gloucestershire County Council to carry out a public review of events and the perceived failure of Thames Water to react quickly enough to problems with the sewerage system. Cllr Stowe is also asking for examples where any Cotswold residents feel Thames Water has let them down on sewerage issues. If anyone would like to provide details I would be happy to pass them on.

At the February meeting CDC agreed both the Budget and Council Tax charge for the coming year. The good news, arising from an anticipated surplus in the Budget, is that CDC Council Tax will fall by nearly 5%. In addition to savings which have been made the Council has benefited from a large increase in the New Homes Bonus grant arising out of new housing completions, particularly at Kingshill. In addition to the reduction in Council Tax it was agreed to freeze charges for parking and green waste collection. Whilst charges are still higher than our neighbours in West Oxfordshire at least this is a

step in the right direction.

My suggestion to make further cost savings through reducing Councillor allowances by a modest amount was comprehensively rejected.

Last but not least, the detailed plans for a leisure development around Lakes 103, 103a, 104 and Milestone House are under consideration. Whilst the time frame for public comments has officially passed CDC do accept letters and e-mails right up to the date of the decision. I would encourage anyone with a view to write to or e-mail the Head of Planning as soon as possible.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the issues reported here or on any other matter relating to CDC.

### **Mark Wardle**

e-mail: [Mark.Wardle@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.Wardle@cotswold.gov.uk) Tel: 07887 707483

## **Palmer Hall**

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If you are looking for somewhere to hold a fairly large event, then consider the Palmer Hall, London Street, Fairford.

It has a fully fitted kitchen with optional use of crockery and cutlery at no extra cost.

There is a stage with new fully functional stage lighting and curtains; also a projector and a large screen for film/PowerPoint presentations.

Palmer Hall has a full drinks licence. It now has new and improved lighting.

To book telephone Steve on 712189 or Pam on 713087  
or visit our web site [www.thepalmerhall.org](http://www.thepalmerhall.org)

### **Forthcoming films for the Palmer Hall Cinema:**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April – James Bond: Skyfall**

**Wednesday 15th May - Ladies in Lavender**

Visit our web site for all you need to know about the Palmer Hall from film information to booking it as a venue and lots more!!!!

[www.thepalmerhall.org](http://www.thepalmerhall.org)

## Coln House School May Fayre

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**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 1 – 5pm**

Junior six-a-side tournament

Now is the time to get your plants for gardens and hanging baskets [hanging baskets are available to order]

Raffle – many prizes donated by local businesses

Face painting

Licensed bar

BBQ

Tug of war

Many games – catch a duck, loop the bottle, bottle stall, coconut shy, bowls, putting the golf ball, teddy bears birthday, tractor rides, cake stall. A good afternoon for the family, to soak up the sun, relax before the inevitable rain on the Bank Holiday Monday.....

For further information or if you are interested in supporting this good cause, contact 01285 712308.

## Fairford Food & Drink Festival

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On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May, the Fairford Food & Drink Festival will take place in Fairford Market Place.

Would residents and businesses please be aware that a **Road Closure Order** has been applied for, which will mean that the Market Place will be closed from one minute past midnight on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May until 6pm the same day. No vehicles should park in the Market Place during these times and any vehicle failing to comply with the order will be towed away.

Should you have any queries about this closure, please contact Chris Roberts on 712150.

## Police

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The Police will be attending the Wednesday Market on:

**17th April, 15th May, 19th June, 17th July, 14th August**

**18th Sept, 16th Oct, 13th Nov, 11th Dec**

The Police are there to give guidance on home security, for reporting crime or antisocial behaviour and much more. Please come along and have a chat.

## Flood Alleviation project

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The Environment Agency (EA) held a "drop in" exhibition in the Community Centre on Monday 4th March between 4pm and 8pm. The 30 or so residents that attended the session were able to see the proposed designs, to discuss the plans and any concerns that they may have regarding the proposals with the EA and their technical design consultants from Black & Veatch.

As a result of feedback from the "drop in", a number of design issues have since been reviewed and some changes proposed following consultation with the landowners. Potential technical design changes are being examined for Back Lane and the river walk area. Whilst such changes have yet to be fully assessed, agreed, confirmed and costed, if adopted, resultant delays may be expected. However, the project funding is secure with work now scheduled to commence in May with an anticipated completion date by the end of August (weather permitting!).

There is no doubt that the work done to the banking at Dilly's bridge was instrumental in preventing flooding over the Christmas and New Year period. This work together with the protective fencing will be completed soon.

Work on individual property level protection (PLP) measures will be completed by the end of March.

**Cllr Trevor T J Hing**

**Fairford Flood Alleviation Project Board**

# Fairford Library

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## **Easter booksale at Fairford Library**

**First week of April:** come along for great bargain books!

Prices from as little as 10p.

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2013 6 – 6.30 p.m.**

**Bedtime Stories** Come in your pyjamas for some springtime bedtime stories at the Library. Don't forget your teddy! For pre-school and primary school age children. **Free event.**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013 10.15 – 11.30 a.m.**

**Easter Booktime and Crafts** featuring Peter Rabbit and other bunnies! For pre-school and primary school age children.

The activity is **FREE** but must be booked. Please call in or phone the library to reserve your ticket. **01285 712599**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013 "The VIP Experience" 11 – 1 a.m. at Fairford Library**

Are you visually impaired or know someone who is? Come along and have a go at using computers and reading e-books with the help of Sue & Rob from Modern-eyes. Drop-In, **FREE** Event

**New "Library Club" starting at Fairford Library:**

**Every Third Thursday of the month 11 – 12 noon..**

Are you unable to get to the library, but would like to come to borrow books and have a cuppa and a chat at the same time? Or do you know of someone who is unable to get out and about and would like this service? Transport with disabled facilities is provided. If so, please contact us at Fairford Library 01285 712599

## Dial a Ride/Cotswold Volunteers

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Well folks, Spring is officially here! What a long, dark, cold winter it seems to have been. Let's hope for a bright Spring and an even brighter Summer. Our April/May timetable is now out. Extra trips include Milletts Farm on Friday April 19th and Fosseyway Garden Centre on Tuesday May 14th. You should be able to get all your Summer bedding plants and next Winter's veg sorted nicely. Also enjoy browsing the Garden Centre's shops and, of course, something nice in the restaurants. All our usual, regular trips will be running. So, come on - book yourself a seat and enjoy the company. For more information:

Ring Ann or Derek on 01285 713852 or call at the office 1st floor in the Community Centre.

**Ann & Derek Nicholls** 01285 713852

## Fairford Festival

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The Fairford Festival will take place between Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May and Sunday 2nd June. There are plans to hold the Ball again on the Friday evening (location yet to be confirmed) together with the usual popular events throughout the weekend. A full diary of events will be distributed shortly. Would residents and businesses please be aware that a **Road Closure Order** has been applied for, which will mean that Park Street and the upper High Street will be closed on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June from 9.45am to 12 noon for the 10k and 3k races. Anyone wishing to volunteer help as a race marshal should contact Trevor Hing on 01285 712681.

# Fairford Leisure Centre

## Easter Holiday Children's Activities

Monday 25th March - Friday 5th April 2013

Activity	Day	Time	Age Group
<b>Roller Skating</b>	Monday 25th	10:00am – 12noon	For all ages including parents
<b>Bouncy Castle &amp; Soft Play</b>	Tuesday 26th	10:00am – 12noon	Pre School – Year 2
<b>Dodgeball</b>	Wednesday 27th	9:30am –	Year 3 – Year 6
<b>Dodgeball</b>	Wednesday 27th	10:45am –	Year 7 – Year 11
<b>Bouncy Castle &amp; Soft Play</b>	Thursday 28th	10:00am – 12noon	Pre School – Year 2
<b>Roller Skating</b>	Tuesday 2nd April	10:00am – 12noon	For all ages including parents
<b>Bouncy Castle &amp; Soft Play</b>	Wednesday 3rd	10:00am – 12noon	Pre School – Year 2
<b>Dodgeball</b>	Thursday 4th	9:30am –	Year 3 – Year 6
<b>Dodgeball</b>	Thursday 4th	10:45am –	Year 7 – Year 11
<b>Bouncy Castle &amp; Soft Play</b>	Friday 5th	10:00am – 12noon	Pre School – Year 2

### Activity Information

All sessions are £3.00 members and £3.50 non members. Pre booking is not required

HALF PRICE Sports Hall Hire from 1pm–6pm  
(during the Easter school holidays)

Please contact the Sports Centre for further details about the children's activities or for the half price hall hire offer.

**Tel: 01285 713786** Email: [cotswoldleisurecentre@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:cotswoldleisurecentre@cotswold.gov.uk)

## Fairford Community Centre

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Fairford Community Centre continues to provide valuable space for the local community to meet and hold a whole range of interesting and exciting classes/activities.

Current regular events include art classes, rainbows, bridge club, khi chi, church activities, country market, various fitness classes for mixed abilities and ages, happy beans for young children, weight watchers, yoga, youth clubs (junior and senior), messy space for families, and various U3A activities (such as table tennis, bridge, needlework).

The centre is a hub of the community and is also home to the following organisations, Fairford Town Council, History Society, Police Point, St Marys Church Office, Cotswold Volunteer Services and has dedicated space available for use by the young people of Fairford.

We always welcome new groups and if you are thinking of starting up an activity /class in Fairford then we would like to hear from you. There are 6 rooms to let, catering for various sizes from small groups to more than 100, plus kitchen. Rooms can be booked by the hour, the day or for longer periods. Rates vary from a few £s to around £14 per hour with concessions for regular bookings.

Hopefully brighter and warmer weather is on its way and we can soon enjoy some sunshine, if you are planning a party and are short of entertaining space then the centre has a variety of rooms available to hire along with an elegant glass walkway and outside courtyard. We are also fully licensed for music and the sale of alcohol.

If you would like to know more about the community centre and would like to see what activities are on offer or would like to catch up on all the latest news, then please visit our new website:

[www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org](http://www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org)

Tel : 01285 711571

Email: [bookings@fccentre.co.uk](mailto:bookings@fccentre.co.uk)

You are most welcome to call in and look round  
any weekday morning