



FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL

AUGUST 2013

Mayor's Introduction



Cllr Caroline
Mumford

Fairford Town
Mayor

Tel 01285
712702

I would like to welcome three new councillors to Fairford Town Council: Cllr Jonathan Cumpstey (who will join the Planning and Procedures committees), Cllr Jonny Dallow (Planning and Finance) and Cllr Geof Willis (Facilities). Contact details will be found within the newsletter. Although an election was to be held on 11 July, one of the original four candidates withdrew, so that the three remaining were elected unopposed. I look forward to working with them.

Thank you to everyone who attended the public meeting on 4 July to express their views on the two further proposed developments in Fairford. It was good to see so many people taking an interest in issues that concern the town. We will take your views into account in responses that the Town Council makes to the developers and to Cotswold District Council.

Fairford Town Council has now asked Gloucestershire County Council to consult on whether to formally remove all parking restrictions from the east side of High Street and the Market Place (next to the shops). This consultation will probably take place during the autumn, and the Town Council will publicise it once we know more. Please look out for that, and make your views known. This will be our last chance to influence parking here for many years.

Finally, may I wish you all a very good summer.

Best wishes

Caroline Mumford

CONTENTS

Page 2:
Council news

Page 6:
Grants available for youth groups

Page 8:
Community Centre news

LARGE PRINT VERSIONS OF THE NEWSLETTER CAN BE REQUESTED

COUNCIL NEWS

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

Tel: 01285 713326/712344 Email: clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk

Website: www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Council Meetings

The next two Full Town Council Meetings will be on **Tuesday 13th August** and **Tuesday 10th September** at 7pm in the Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre.

Highways

The Highways Committee would like to ask the residents of Fairford for their patience, with regards to the parking situation in the town centre. We have asked Gloucestershire Highways to formally consult on removing all restrictions. This is a statutory process, and one that the Town Council has no control over. We hope the consultation will begin later this year and would urge all residents to respond to the consultation when it begins. There will be notices in the local paper, on the Town Council website and possibly a leaflet drop too, informing residents when the consultation has begun.

The Highways Committee is about to put out tenders for resurfacing the town car park. We would like, again, to ask for your patience whilst this takes place. We hope the new surface will be more user friendly than the present.

Cllr Stephen Boulton, Chair, 07767 445857

Planning

We would like to thank everyone who attended the town meeting on 4th July concerning the potential building developments in and around Fairford. Notes of the meeting are available in the Council Offices if anyone making a personal response to the proposals wishes to consult them.

Cllr Jonathan Cumpstey, 01285 712116 Cumpstey@me.com

Facilities

Concerns expressed by members of the public about perceived anti-social behaviour in The Croft have led to the installation of CCTV near the hospital, by the Police, to deter further offending. The council is considering providing somewhere that teenagers can meet without affecting the community at large. One solution being considered is a youth shelter in the Walnut Tree Field, which the committee is looking into. Feedback from members of the community would be welcomed, especially from the youngsters themselves.

Another feature to be added to the Walnut Tree field is new surfacing around the basketball net.

One or two volunteers have come forward expressing interest in helping secure the future of the town's youth club. More would be welcome. It's only by providing activities for youngsters that we can begin to satisfy their youthful enthusiasm.

The council has allocated a budget of £2,000 towards the further improvement of the town's Christmas lights. The first meeting of the working party set up to come up with proposals on what needs to be done has taken place. We have approximately 189 metres of 240v blue Christmas lights that we wish to sell in 3 metre and 10 metre lengths and would welcome any reasonable offers. Please contact the Clerk on 01285 713326.

The committee is always open to suggestions from the public and would welcome more people getting involved.

Cllr Martin Harwood, 01285 712597

Cotswold District Council (CDC)

CDC Planning Committee has now approved the Reserved Matters application relating to the holiday development at Lakes 103,103a, 104 and Milestone House. However, there are important points to note regarding the decision.

Firstly, before any work is carried out on the site, the developer must submit detailed designs for the proposed sustainable drainage system which is required to protect both the development itself and adjoining land from potential flooding. The scheme must be signed off by both the Environment Agency and CDC.

Secondly, details of the promised circular path/cycle way around the lake were not as indicated in the original application. The ward councillors were able to highlight this to officers and the permission was only granted subject to amendment of the plans ensuring that when the path is built it is wide enough to accommodate access for people with disabilities as well as cycle use and pedestrians. This was an important point as the multi-use path was originally presented by the developers as a key benefit to the community.

Many people were concerned to learn that Thames Water has now conceded that the sewerage system in the east of Fairford does not have the capacity to cope with potential storm flows arising from the development. As Thames Water is legally obliged to make connections to the system they are in discussions with the developer regarding improvements that will be required before or during construction.

Most residents will now be aware of the two new major planning proposals which were presented at recent exhibitions. Fairford is not the only town in the Cotswolds, or indeed in the country, to be the focus of multiple large applications. Introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework means all local councils are under huge pressure to approve planning applications. The absence of a completed Local Plan with designated housing allocations could well mean more developers coming forward with further applications. Please let me know your views on this important issue for Fairford. If you have any questions regarding the issues reported here or on any other matter relating to CDC I can be contacted by e-mail or phone as listed below.

Mark Wardle 07887 707483 e-mail: Mark.Wardle@cotswold.gov.uk

Palmer Hall

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

Forthcoming films for the Palmer Hall Cinema:

NO August film

Dial a Ride/Cotswold Volunteers

Well folks, we have had the summer solstice I wonder how many of you went to Stone Henge?! Is it downhill or uphill to winter I'm not sure, but every day is a gift so let's enjoy them.

All of our usual trips will be running throughout August and September plus a few extra's;

August 14th Marlborough,

August 23rd Banbury,

September 20th Milletts Farm.

To book a seat or for more information call in at the office (1st floor Community Centre) or ring Ann or Derek on 01285 713852. Our service is door to door and all are welcome to use it.

Police

The Police will be attending the Wednesday Market on:

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

Work on the long awaited flood alleviation scheme has finally commenced and subject to weather the project is on schedule for completion by the end of September. It would be greatly appreciated if all queries are directed through me and not directly to the on-site project manager or contractor.

Trevor J Hing, MBE

Flood Alleviation Project Board Member

01285 711122

Grants available

Gloucestershire County Councillor, Ray Theodoulou has grant funding available for:

Youth facilities — any youth group can apply. Total grant fund of £1200.

Public Health facilities — this grant is available for groups with links to sport or public health, e.g. Memory club. Funds are available for fixed assets, e.g. building improvements, or purchasing equipment. Not for running costs.

Any group interested in applying for either grant should contact Cllr Theodoulou by email on

raymond.theodoulou@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Fairford Library

Thursday 1st August 2013 6 – 6.30 p.m.

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

Free event

Saturday 10th August 2013 10.30 – 11.30 a.m.

"Creepy Crawlies: Life in the Rainforest"

Come and meet some real life creepy crawlies!

Paul from Life in the Rainforest will be bringing insects, tarantulas, arachnids, amphibians and reptiles to Fairford Library, telling us about them, about the sights and sounds of the rainforest, and the amazing creatures that live there.

Tickets: £4 per child. Please book your tickets in advance at the library .

Wednesday 14th August 11 – 12 a.m. "Dig it! Roman remains, creepy skeletons and all that"

Find out about archaeology, how it is done and even make some Roman remains

Talk and activity with Chedworth Roman Villa staff

For ages 6 – 12 years. Tickets: £2 per child donation to help with upkeep of the Roman Villa. Please book your tickets in advance at the library.

Thursday 29th August 2013 10.30 – 11.30 a.m.

"Creepy House Bats in the Belfry!"

Do bats have knees? Can bats fly backwards? Are bats really blind? Come along and find out about these amazing creatures which live around the Cotswold Water Park -

we are lucky to have 14 out of the 17 UK species of bat living and feeding right here in your neighbourhood. Games, activities and crafts to help shed some light on these mysterious creatures of the night!

Learn all about the bats and batty goings on in our area and make something batty! With staff from Cotswold Water Park Trust.

For ages 4 – 12 years

Tickets : £2 per child donation to Cotswold Water Park Trust to help with their costs. Please book your tickets at the library.

Fairford Community Centre

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.

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

Tel : 01285 711571

Email: bookings@fccentre.co.uk

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