



# FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL

OCTOBER 2013

## Mayor's Introduction



Cllr Caroline  
Mumford  
Fairford Town  
Mayor  
Tel 01285  
712702

A fair amount of the Town Council's time in the past two months has been taken up in considering how to respond to the planning application by Gladman for development on land south of Cirencester Road. The Council appointed planning consultants to prepare a formal response on planning issues, and this has now been submitted to Cotswold District Council. A further public meeting was held on 22nd August, again well attended. We are now aiming to update the Fairford Horizon's document prepared in 2011, to set out aspirations for the town over the next five to ten years.

A group of local residents has formed Fairford Planning Watch. This is an independent organisation which aims to monitor new planning developments in the town and to work with Fairford Town Council and others to ensure new planning applications are appropriate and sustainable, and that there is adequate infrastructure in place before any new developments are allowed. If you would like to get involved, please contact [info@fairfordplanningwatch.org.uk](mailto:info@fairfordplanningwatch.org.uk)

On other matters, the Town Council has arranged for matting to be installed at the foot of the basketball net in the Walnut Tree Field to provide a better surface, and has repainted the skate ramp. We have also purchased a shed to store grit ready for the winter, and are continuing to work on proposals for resurfacing the car park.

Finally, some dates for your diary.

Italian Market: Sunday 27th October 2013

Festive Market: Friday 6th December 2013

French Market: Saturday 29th March 2014

Best wishes Caroline Mumford

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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 8th October** and **Tuesday 12th November** at 7pm in the Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre.

## Highways

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Highways Committee would like to remind cyclists that cycling is not permitted along the footpath from Gas Lane to Dilly's Bridge. The committee is looking into installing barriers along the footpath to ensure that cyclists have to dismount, but will still allow buggies, wheel chairs and mobility scooters to pass freely.

The defunct bus shelter on Milton Street has been repaired and made safe.

We have commissioned a survey to count the number of pedestrians crossing the A417 at East End/Keble Alley in order to ascertain if a formal pedestrian crossing at that site is viable.

Cllr Stephen Boulton, Chair, 07767 445857

## Planning

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You may not be aware that the Planning Committee meets twice each month. However, if we did not usually, we certainly would at the moment to keep on top of the proposed developments around the Town! Since the last Newsletter, we have held a further Public Meeting which introduced the Planning Consultants engaged to assist with

the preparation of the Council's response to the Gladman application. This has now been submitted making the strong argument that the development is inappropriate at this time.

The application for a housing development at Cinder lane has also been submitted. *Outline application for a mixed use development comprising up to 120 dwellings, community facilities [GP/Medical Centre 1000sq m+] open space, landscaping, highway improvements and associated works at Land at London Road, Fairford.*

You can view the application on [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk) using the reference number **13/03793/OUT**.

We have also taken a number of steps which we hope should allow us to keep a clear direction for Fairford. The first step in the application process for the production of a Neighbourhood Plan has been completed. Secondly we have formed a Sub-Committee to review and update Horizon 2016. This will comprise both Councillors and residents and we will keep you posted on progress.

Aside from the above, normal Committee activity continues!

Cllr Jonathan Cumpstey, Chair, 712116

## Facilities

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### FAIRFORD AIMS TO BOOST VISITORS

In an effort to build up the profile of Fairford to increase the footfall of visitors to the town, Fairford Town Council is sponsoring a series of meetings with traders and organisations in the town with a view to capitalise on the present attractions and provide new ones that will appeal to tourists.

A meeting has already taken place at which those present, representing the Council, Fairford and Lechlade Business Club and the Community Centre have discussed the town's strengths and its weaknesses and it was agreed its membership should be broadened for the next meeting in October, when an Action Plan can be prepared.

The Facilities Committee has been approached about the level of litter in the town. A local farmer is particularly concerned for his cattle, which are in danger of eating some of the packaging that is thrown down, which can prove fatal.

The Committee has resolved to redouble its efforts to educate culprits on the effects of their thoughtless actions. The Committee is also concerned about the amount of dog muck found on the Walnut Tree Field and has appealed to dog owners to clear up after their pets.

Plans are in hand to enhance the display of Christmas lights in the town. Improvements include a new ornament for the street light at the top of the High Street, an illuminated star for the top of the Christmas tree and extra string lights to wrap round the small trees which are mounted on brackets through the centre of town and to boost decorations in London Street.

Plans for an enhanced skate ramp for the Walnut Tree Field have been revived following receipt of a letter from a local youngster. The Council has agreed to consider the matter again – but only if a group of young people come forward to help plan the project.

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

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The year end figures for CDC show an under spend against the budget of £365,000. The largest part of this saving was generated through the change in service provider for waste collection to Ubico, the jointly-owned company established by CDC and Cheltenham Borough Council. In producing this result Ubico has maintained the service levels previously achieved by SITA as well as introducing the plastics kerbside collection. The disruption to service in January has been reviewed and measures put in place to improve future performance during periods of bad weather.

There are currently two consultations which may well be of interest to Fairford residents. Both can be accessed via the CDC website.

CDC's Draft Housing Allocation policy consultation closes on 4<sup>th</sup> October. The questions asked seek views on access to social sector rented housing, including income levels and local connection. It is intended that a new policy will be in place from January 2014 and given the new building taking place in Fairford it is important local residents respond.

The second consultation addresses the Council Tax Support scheme. This is also intended to lead to policy implementation in January '14.

The Coalition Government has reduced the level of support grant to all Councils with the apparent intention that all residents except those in excluded groups will make some contribution to local Council Tax. Again, views of local people would be welcomed.

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

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

Tel: 07887 707483

## **Vacancy on the Town Council**

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Due to a resignation, there is currently one vacancy for the office of Councillor.

Requests, in writing, from TEN electors from Fairford are required by 10th October in order for an election to be called. These should be submitted to the Returning Officer at Cotswold District. If they do not receive the required number of requests, the position will be filled by co-option. If an election is called, it will take place not later than 12th December, 2013.

### **Why become a Councillor?**

Are there aspects of Fairford that you would like to see improved? Are there things that you would like to see changed? Become a Councillor and help to make things happen.

Fairford Town Council needs active, interested and committed people to get involved and make a difference to our community. This is your chance to do something positive and to make a difference by influencing decisions that affect your community.

The task of a Councillor is to bring local issues to the attention of the Council and help it make decisions on behalf of the local community.

You will be given training and guidance to enable you to succeed, and become part of a supportive and dedicated team of Town Councillors.

### **Want to know more?**

Please come into the Council office in the Community Centre and talk to the Clerks, or talk to one of your Councillors.

## **Meet your new Councillors**

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### **Jonathan Cumpstey—Chair of Planning Committee**

Tina and I moved to Fairford in 2010 having lived in the Cotswolds for some years searching for the place that suited us best. Our impression of the Town was that it was right for us and every morning as I walk our two cocker spaniels, Archie and Boris, around the square and across the Mill Pond proves that we were right. By profession I am a commercial lawyer (but don't hold that against me).

Why did I want to join the Council? In honesty I had never thought about the role but was motivated mainly by the number of developers looking to change the fabric of the town so quickly and wanted to do what I could to assist in the one chance we have to be heard. In the short term this remains a significant objective. However, now I am here I am realising how important the Council is in ensuring good governance of our resources and facilities as well providing an accessible buffer between us all, as residents, and the more remote authorities responsible for controlling our services and infrastructure. I hope to be able to offer a different perspective to the issues that face the town, including healthy challenge to the Council and third parties when required. Please say "hello" either to Tina, myself, or Archie and Boris!

### **Johnny Dallow—Planning & Finance Committee**

I have now had the privilege of living in Fairford for six years. Having recently retired from full time employment, I am now in a position to give something back to society. I believe that one of the ways in which I can achieve this is by offering to undertake public service.

I am fortunate to have a wide range of experience having operated at board level of a major tourist organisation to running my own company. I was a soldier for twenty six years retiring as a lieutenant colonel after commanding my battalion and serving in the Ministry of Defence. I was subsequently Chief Executive of an engineering company, Security Advisor to a major airline for the build of a new international airport in Malaysia and then Deputy Governor of HM Tower of London. My last appointment was Club and Company Secretary of a highly prestigious car club with over five thousand members in 36 countries.

I am a fairly regular worshiper at St Mary's church and served on the summer fete committee for three years. I have supported the Fairford Environmental Society and the Friends of Fairford Hospital. I am currently on the Gloucestershire Committee of the ABF The Soldiers Charity. My wife has been a classroom assistant and is a 'buddy reader' at Fairford Primary School.

My interests include heritage, country pursuits, photography and dry stone walling.

A 'people person' by nature I take a common sense approach to issues. I am prepared to argue forcibly when appropriate but I will always listen to the views of others. A generalist by my background I have a wide range of knowledge and experience that I bring to the Council and the community.

## **Fairford Festive Market**

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Fairford Festive Market has become a regular event in the town calendar and is attended by hundreds of people to carry out their Christmas shopping. This year the **Fairford Festive Market** will take place at **6.30pm** on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013**, in Fairford Market Place. There will also be Street Entertainment such as Carol Singers, Fairground Rides and Santa's Grotto.

Would you like to have a stall at the Festive Market? The charge per stall is £25.00 (+£5 if you require electricity). Book your place soon, there are a limited number of stall available. If you would like to join us at this festive event, get in touch with the Clerks for further information.

## **Invitation to tender for resurfacing the town car park**

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Fairford Town Council is inviting contractors interested in tendering for re-surfacing of the town car park to contact us by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013 to obtain a specification of the works.

Contact the Council office on: 01285 713326/712344 or e-mail: clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk.

## **Flood Alleviation Works**

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Work on the bund behind Milton Street has now been successfully completed by the appointed contractor. The fencing in place at the moment is a mixture of temporary fencing to protect the bund until the grass and vegetation has grown and permanent fencing to secure the cattle. The walling at White Hart Court has been completed to a high standard but it has been agreed that the walling between the Town Bridge and the Tap Cottage, whilst fully functional as a flood defence, it will be increased in height and improved aesthetically later in the year to ensure it is in keeping with its surroundings.

Work continues to agree and schedule the remaining planned works. We are looking to complete these as soon as possible.

**Cllr Trevor Hing 711122**



## Palmer Hall

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If you are looking for somewhere to hold a fairly large event, such as a wedding reception, anniversary 'do', birthday bash or staging a play then consider the Palmer Hall, London Street, Fairford. (See pictures on our web site). 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 16<sup>th</sup> October – Life of Pi**

## Dial a Ride/Cotswold Volunteers

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Haven't we had the most gorgeous summer, and NO threat of a drought either! Hooray!! I have to say our garden is beginning to look a bit end of summerish but never mind I'm sure there will be some glorious Autumn colours this year to look forward to.

All of our usual trips will be running (weather permitting) over the next two months plus:

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October Dobbies Garden centre,

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November Swindon Outlet shopping,

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November Bourton on the Water & Burford,

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November Fosseyway Garden centre,

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November Lechlade Garden Centre and the Friday Food Fayre, lots of opportunity for Christmas shopping!

Just to inform you Derek and I have decided to retire from the Volunteer Centre at the end of October. I am pleased to say that the Dial a Ride bus service will continue in the same and who knows maybe a better way. Please continue to support this valuable community service. Contact details will remain the same, Office tel no: 01285 713852 or call in at first floor of the Community Centre to book a seat or for more information.

## Fairford Library

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### **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October: 6 – 6.30pm**

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.

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October: Community Drop-in morning 11a.m – 12 noon.**

Call in to Fairford Library today for refreshments and find out more about your local Village Agent who will be there to have a chat, along with representatives from the British Legion, the Fairford and Lechlade Business Club and Town Council.

### **Regular events:**

#### **Toddler Time: Every Monday 10 – 10.30am**

Have fun with songs, rhymes and stories. For pre-school children aged approximately 2 years – school age and their grown ups.

#### **Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time: Every Wednesday 10.30am – 11am**

Sing along, wiggle and jiggle. For babies up to 2 years and their grown ups.

#### **Library Club: Every third Thursday 11am – 12 noon.**

#### **Next on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

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.

#### **Free computer instruction**

#### **Now available Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday**

We offer free basic computer tuition with our "computer buddy" volunteers at Fairford Library.

#### **Family history/ancestry buddy:**

Have you always wanted to know more about your family history, but would like some help in how to go about the research? We can help with free basic tuition with our "ancestry buddy" volunteer at Fairford Library.

**Tel: 01285 712599      [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries)**

## Waste collections during Christmas & New Year

Week commencing Monday 23rd December 2013

Mon 23rd Dec	No change
Tues 24th Dec	No change
<b>Weds 25th Dec</b>	<b>No collection</b>
<b>Thurs 26th Dec</b>	<b>No collection</b>
Friday 27th Dec	Weds 25th Dec collection
Sat 28th Dec	Thurs 26th Dec collection
<b>Sun 29th Dec</b>	<b>No collection</b>
Mon 30th Dec	Friday 27th Dec collection
Tues 31st Dec	Monday 30th Dec collection
<b>Weds 1st Jan '14</b>	<b>No collection</b>
Thurs 2nd Jan	Tues 31st Dec collection
Friday 3rd Jan	Weds 1st Jan collection
Sat 4th Jan	Thurs 2nd Jan collection
Mon 6th Jan	Friday 3rd Jan collection
Tues 7th Jan	Monday 6th Jan collection
Weds 8th Jan	Tues 7th Jan collection
Thurs 9th Jan	Weds 8th Jan collection
Friday 10th Jan	Thurs 9th Jan collection
Sat 11th Jan	Friday 10th Jan collection

Collection schedule will return to normal on the week beginning Monday 13th Jan 2014

## 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.