



FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 2014

Mayor's Introduction



Cllr Caroline
Mumford
Fairford Town
Mayor
Tel 01285
712702

First of all, can I express my sympathy with everyone affected by flooding over the Christmas and New Year period. The Town Council will press the appropriate authorities to take steps to minimise the chance of this happening again – and will point out once more that these issues need to be resolved before any further development is permitted in the town.

On a brighter note, I hope you will agree that the Christmas lights and Christmas tree looked better than ever this year. Many thanks to everyone involved in installing and taking down the decorations, including the Retained Fire Service.

Last time I wrote, I said that the Town Council, with help from some non-Councillors, is currently considering whether to prepare a town plan for Fairford. At this stage, we have decided to update the existing Fairford Horizons document to form a Community Plan, and a brief questionnaire is enclosed with this Newsletter. Please do respond with your views.

After the success of the Italian Market last autumn, a French Market will be held in the Market Place on Saturday 29th March from 9.00am to 5.00pm. We hope that you will come along.

Best wishes for 2014

Caroline Mumford

CONTENTS

Page 2:

Planning update

Page 4:

Sewage & flooding

Page 8:

Dial a Ride timetable

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 11th February** and **Tuesday 11th March** at 7pm in the Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre.

Highways

Our thanks must go to Fairford Town Charity for generously donating two new notice boards for the town. One will be put up by the Fire Station, and the other on the green opposite Coln House School.

Cllr Stephen Boulton, Chair, 07767 445857

Planning

As you will now be aware the application by Kensington and Edinburgh for outline planning permission to build 120 houses at the London Road site was rejected by CDC. CDC's deliberation was lengthy and it was heartening to hear the strength of feeling from the majority of the CDC Committee in support of local communities under threat from developers given the "presumption in favour of sustainable development." Please be assured that our representations to the Committee very strongly resisted the application on the grounds that our town infrastructure needs to be tested once the properties at Cirencester Road are occupied. The Planning Officers, Thames Water and the Highways Agency were all strongly supportive of the application.

Immediately following the meeting the Planning Inspectorate issued a decision allowing development at Bourton-on-the Water. The CDC Planning Officer's have taken the view that there are issues in that

decision which affect the soundness of the Committee's rejection and are therefore have referred the application back to the February meeting for reconsideration. Apparently no Committee decision is binding until the Decision Notice is issued and it happens that the Bourton decision was received before this occurred.

In the meantime, and particularly in the light of the further flooding that so many of you experienced recently, we cannot agree that Fairford is sustainable for immediate further development. We will continue to strongly represent your views and, with that in mind, please can I ask that you actively participate by completing the questionnaire to inform the continuing development of our town's Community Plan.

Cllr Jonathan Cumpstey, Chair, 712116

Facilities

Would you like to know more about Town Crying? Then here is your chance! We are looking for someone to shadow our very own Town Crier, Maurice Jones, for a short time to learn from 'the master'. If you are interested, please get in touch with the Town Council.

A French Market will be held in the Market Place on Saturday 29th March from 9.00am—5.00pm. Please do come along and support this new event.

Once again the Festive Market was a great success, and although we had less stalls than previous years, a good time was had by all. We are always looking for ways to make our events the very best they can be, and would be grateful for any suggestions as to how the Festive Market could be improved. The Town Council would like to thank the Co-op and Londis for their generous sponsorship, and would like to especially thank the Post Office team for the excellent grotto. It was fantastic.

Cllr Martin Harwood, Chair, 712597

Sewage and Flooding in Fairford

Recently parts of Fairford have suffered further incidents of sewage flooding. The pumping stations failed due to the volume of water ingress into the system. The problems have been logged and reported to Thames Water, the Environment Agency, CDC's principal engineer, CDC's Flood Resilience Officer, the CDC Public Protection Team (includes Environmental Health), Gloucestershire County Council and our local MP who has promised to ask pertinent questions of the Agencies involved about recent events and the proposed new developments which can only serve to exacerbate the problem.

The incidents at the end of 2013 have once again proved that Fairford's sewage infrastructure is at full capacity even before the Bloor and Linden homes are occupied. Thames Water has acknowledged this suggesting a full study of infrastructure requirements is carried out. Accordingly the Town Council has requested that the Kensington & Edinburgh planning application is refused or at least determination deferred, until the results of this study are known and vital improvements identified.

Please notify the Town Council of all sewage flooding issues reported directly to Thames Water or other Agencies. These will also be sent to the EA. You can also log an incident directly with the EA's team on 0800 807060.

In an emergency outside Council Office hours, contact the Fairford Emergency Action Group on 01285 711122 or 07866 450416.

Grants for Youth Organisations in Fairford

If there are any youth organisations in the Town that require funding for youth projects for ages 11 – 18 years, please contact District Councillor Mark Wardle by email: mark.wardle@cotswold.gov.uk or County & District Councillor Ray Theodoulou by email: Raymond.theodoulou@cotswold.gov.uk

Fairford Library

Thursday 6th February 2014 6 – 6.30pm Bedtime Stories at Fairford Library

Is your teddy ready? Come in your pyjamas and bring him or her along for some bedtime stories at the Library! For pre-school and primary school age children. No need to book.

Monday 3rd February 2014 2 – 4 pm at Fairford Library Gloucestershire Remembers WW1

Who were the soldiers who fought for Fairford? How did the war affect Fairford and the surrounding area?

FREE workshop to introduce WW1 resources relating to Gloucestershire and how to make the most of them. Drop-in, no need to book!

Gloucestershire Remembers WW1 can help you learn more and share what you find with your community and others.

Download our free research toolkits and resources at: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives/ww1

For more information, please call into the library or telephone. 0845 230 5420 or visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives/ww1

Thursday 20th February 2014 10 – 11 am

Free half term event : "Zoo! "

Booktime and craft at Fairford Library for pre-school children – 11 years.

Listen to the stories, then have a go at some "Zoo" themed crafts. Places must be booked as numbers are limited.

"Coffee, biscuits and the chance to meet"

Family Focus - Drop in to Fairford Library on

Thursday 20th February 2014 10.30 – 12 noon,

for free refreshments (donations welcome) and meet representatives of a variety of organisations with a family focus – young and old. Find out what they do and how they might be able to help you.

Fairford Community Centre

The Community Centre was busy throughout the Christmas period, and in particular on Christmas Day. Around twenty-two local residents who might otherwise have spent Christmas day alone, enjoyed each other's company and a delicious and traditional home-cooked turkey lunch at the Fairford Community Centre, thanks to Amanda and Mervyn Cully. Nothing had been forgotten! There were cheerful, festive decorations on the tables and around the Farmor Room, and after a lot of I.T. wizardry (thanks also to Piers Hobson for his assistance), Mervyn made sure that the Queen's speech was enjoyed alongside the coffee and mince-pies to round everything off. Delicious Christmas puddings for those who had room (many thanks to Tricia Middleton) and for those who were too full already - a wonderful fruit salad! Thank you Amanda and Mervyn (and all who helped) for your hard work and generosity, and for donating £100 to the Cirencester Food Bank, and not least for reminding us just what the Christmas spirit is truly all about.

Office Space

We have a number of meeting / conference rooms of various sizes available to hire, all with WiFi available. We can also offer modern audio and visual equipment for use in the centre (PA system, projectors, TV / DVD player, hearing loop system etc).

If you would like further details regarding any of the above then please call the FCC office on 01285 711571, email bookings@fccentre.co.uk, visit our website www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org or call in and see us.

Grants Available for community groups

Periodically, Fairford Town Council offers small grants to local community organisations. The Finance Committee consider all applications at the end of the financial year.

We would be pleased to receive any applications for consideration from local groups. Applications should be made in writing and must include the amount applied for, the reason for the application and a full set of accounts.

Please send applications to the Town Council Office marked for the attention of the Finance Committee.

Palmer Hall

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

Forthcoming films for the Palmer Hall Cinema:

Wednesday 19th February - Hyde Park on Hudson

Wednesday 19th March - Le Weekend

Citizen & young citizen of the year

Fairford Town Council is asking for nominations for the 2014 Citizen of the Year Award and the Geoff Chick Young Citizen of the Year Award.

If you know of anyone who has carried out good work for the local community and deserves recognition, please write to the Town Clerk with further details.

Please write in with your nominations by Friday 28th March. The winners receive a money prize and all nominees receive a Fairford Town Badge or Medal. The results will be announced at the Annual Town Meeting.

Dial a Ride timetable – February/March

Cirencester every Thursday departing Fairford 8.30am returning 11.15am *also departing 9.30 return 12.15 cost £3.40*

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>DEPART FAIRFORD</u>	<u>RETURN</u>	<u>COST</u>
TUESDAY 4 th	SWINDON ORBITAL	10.00AM	2.00PM	£5.00
FRIDAY 7 th	WITNEY	9.00AM	1.00PM	£6.00
FRIDAY 14 th	CHELTENHAM	9.00AM	1.00PM	£7.50
WEDNESDAY 19 th	FAIRFORD MARKET - VILLAGES	10.00AM	12.15PM	variable
WEDNESDAY 26 th	LECHLADE GARDEN CENTRE	10.00AM	12.30PM	£3.00
FRIDAY 28 th	CHELTENHAM	9.00AM	1.00PM	£7.50
<u>MARCH</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>DEPART FAIRFORD</u>	<u>RETURN</u>	<u>COST</u>
TUESDAY 4 th	SWINDON ORBITAL	10.00AM	2.00PM	£5.00
WEDNESDAY 5 th	BLUNSDON MARKET	10.00AM	12.15PM	£4.50
FRIDAY 7 th	WITNEY	9.00AM	1.00PM	£6.00
TUESDAY 11 th	MARLBOROUGH	9.00AM	2.00PM	£8.20
WEDNESDAY 19 th	FAIRFORD MARKET - VILLAGES	10.00AM	12.15PM	variable
MONDAY 24 th	CENTRAL SWINDON/OUTLET	9.00AM	12.30PM	£5.00
FRIDAY 28 th	CHELTENHAM	9.00AM	1.00PM	£6.00
FRIDAY 28 th	LECHLADE GARDEN CENTRE (Food Fayre)	10.00AM	12.30PM	£3.00

All departure times are approximate and at the drivers discretion. To book a seat or for more information call on 01285 713852 Jill/Clive

Or call in at the office 1st floor of the Community Centre Monday through to Friday 9.00 – 12.30

ALL DEPARTURE TIMES ARE THE TIME THE BUS LEAVES FAIRFORD FIRE STATION NOT THE TIME IT REACHES YOUR HOME