

COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL – September 2019
PARISH REPORT/NEWSLETTER

I post all of these items on the @ErminWard Facebook page
Please could you mention this in your Parish News and Village Website.

Cllr Julia Judd
Ermin Ward District Councillor
julia.judd@cotswold.gov.uk
07853 383874



@ErminWard

The Ermin Ward Facebook page is apolitical and contains information for Ermin Ward and occasionally the wider community. It is not a 'vanity' page, although occasionally whimsical!

May I request that I present my report, hear Planning Applications and address any parish issues at the beginning or end of your meeting? This would enable you to do your housekeeping without me.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

Shape the future of your village and local area by creating a neighbourhood plan

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

- A document that sets out planning policies for the neighbourhood area – planning policies are used to decide whether to approve planning applications
- It is written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, rather than the Local Planning Authority
- A Neighbourhood Plan is a powerful tool to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place

<https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/>

Community Activity Support Fund

'To support community groups wishing to develop community-based projects in Cotswold District which contribute to the quality of community life.'

This is a new grant scheme for 2019-20, designed to support community groups wishing to develop community-based projects in Cotswold District which contribute to the quality of community life.

- Funding is locally focused with each single member ward having an allocation of £2,500 available. The scheme can support a wide range of activity, so long as it is promoted by a not for private profit organization, and benefits local people. Activity is not limited to one age group.
- Grant funding is primarily available for activity, not equipment. Applications for the purchase of capital items, such as street furniture, are not eligible.
- Decision making will be with the Cabinet.

An application form must be completed. There will be 3 deadlines

- 19th June 2019 – postponed until 1 July
- 14th October 2019
- 13th January 2020.

All applications must arrive at the Cotswold District Council offices by 12 noon on the deadline.

Joseph Walker – joseph.walker@publicagroup.uk

Tel: 01285 623146

Heather McCulloch – heather.mcculloch@publicagroup.uk

Tel: 01285 623405

General enquiries - leisureandcommunities@cotswold.gov.uk

Community Projects fund

Capital grants for village and community halls and other community facilities such as children's play areas.

Grants will be awarded between £1,000 and £10,000, up to 25% of a project's total cost. Applicants are expected to raise the remainder from other sources, including at least a 10% contribution from the local area, and to work closely with their local district councillor(s).

For further information please see the criteria for applicants below. After reading the criteria, if you believe your project could be eligible, please contact us using the details below to discuss what information we will require (this could be quotes for building work/supplies, planning permission, evidence of contributions from other parties, etc. and will differ on a project by project basis.)

CIL - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

CIL is a TAX on development to contribute towards local infrastructure. Introduced by central government and adopted by CDC from 1 June 2019. It does not replace Section 106 which applies to large scale development (in some cases both can be charged).

PARISHES

- 25% is paid to the Parish Council if they have a Neighbourhood Plan. This is reduced to 15% if there is no Neighbourhood Plan.
- It must be spent within 5 years and reported what it has been spent on but reporting to CDC and on Parish Website. If there is no need for the funds then Parishes can ask the District or Council Councils to spend it for them.
- Parishes are advised to draw up a wish list e.g. play park, school, village hall, playgroup, tree maintenance, EVCPs or your Neighbourhood Plan etc.
- It could take up to 3 years before Parishes see regular CIL payments whilst the scheme progresses.

APPLICANTS/OWNERS/AGENTS

“Following the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) all applicants for full planning permission, including householder applications and reserved matters following an outline planning permission, and applicants for lawful development certificates are required to provide the following information...”

- CIL is payable on development which creates net additional floor space, where the gross internal area of new build exceeds 100 sq.m. and all new dwellings (no matter what size) Conversions can net off existing floor area.
- £80 per square metre on net additional (internal) residential floorspace
- It is due when the development starts and can be paid in instalments based on TIME. It is very important to follow the procedures correctly at the right time. It is triggered by the first application so the commencement form needs to be submitted before then. If the rules are not followed then there will be a surcharge.
- It is index linked
- The landowner is responsible for paying it due on a time basis.
- There are statutory reliefs:
 - Minor development under 100 sqm unless dwelling/s- reg. 42
 - Residential annexes or extensions – reg. 42A, b & C

- Charity relief- reg. 43
- Social housing Relief – reg. 49
- Self build housing reg. 54A, B, C & D
- The application form is very informative, e.g. instance DO NOT demolish an existing building before confirmation of receipt of the CIL application, or the net off relief will not apply.
- CIL is a tax so if there is a default it will have to be paid in full.
- Exemptions might include: Self build scheme. But for example, if the property is put up to let or for sale within 3 years, CIL will be charged plus a surcharge.

Danger CIL Bureaucracy

- Make sure you complete all the forms and submit them at the right time and in the right order
- Submit your commencement form - at least 1 day before commencement
- Applying for relief - Make sure you have a response from the Council
- Do not change your development and carry on building *changes in new draft regulations
- Don't start demolition or any part of the development without having submitted a commencement notice – it will be expensive
- If a material operation takes place without submitting a commencement notice - the new regulations stipulate that a surcharge equal to 20 per cent of the notional chargeable amount, or £2,500, whichever is the lower, will be charged if a commencement notice is not submitted.
- This is a tax it is NOT FLEXIBLE

FORM ZERO Will be required on all applications – or it will not be validated.

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/residents/planning-building/planning-policy/cil/cil-process-and-forms/>

jasper.lamoen@cotswold.gov.uk

COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING

Community-led Housing is a way for communities to provide affordable housing for younger people or those who wish to downsize. It is an alternative to developer-led housing.

There is no 'one size fits all' silver bullet to solve this issue in the Cotswolds but here are some examples:

- Providing homes for the long term benefit of the community say from income from rents or homes for sale kept at affordable prices.
- Creating affordable homes for rent, sale or shared ownership.
- Ensuring key decisions are made by the community.
- Community Land Trust – Land and buildings 'Asset Locked' for the community. This can also include village shops.
- Co-operative Housing – A mutual – i.e. the tenant is also a member.
- Mutual-home ownership
- Self-build schemes – often individuals but also a Community-Led Housing group. Usually some contractors are also involved.
- Almshouses – charities run by trustees where property is gifted by a patron.

To drive forward a Community-Led Housing proposal you will need enthusiasm, time and support from the wider community. A successful scheme has been created by the Eastington Community Land Trust.

The Cotswolds Community Housing Fund has been allocated £820,000 by the central government but further funds and support are available from other organisations such as Homes England (fund closes March 2020), a Housing Association, Help to Buy, Home Seekers Plus (for rented).

If you are interested and would like some advice on how to get started, please contact:

colin.mcdonald@publicagroup.uk 01285 623248

<http://ruralhousingalliance.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/ParishCouncilGuideFullReport.pdf>

A417

On 13 June I attended a presentation by Mike Goddard of Highways England. He is clearly dedicated and keen to deliver the best possible outcome for this complicated project. We were handed this booklet to support the presentation and I share with you below some points of interest.

https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a417-missing-link/results/a417_pra_leaflet_digital_final.pdf

2019 SEPT/OCT Statutory Consultation – appropriate time to voice your concerns
2020 Spring DCO Submission i.e. How the project is to be delivered
2021 Summer DCO Decision
2021 Late Start of work
2024 Spring Road opening

The commitment to proceed with the building of the A417 has to be approved by the Secretary of State. This project has cross-party approval and will probably fall within RIS2, the Government's 2nd road strategy plan which is likely to be this Autumn. £23 billion will be set aside for road projects within this plan and those approved are set for 5 years, irrespective of a General Election and change of Government.

STATS

- Currently, about 37,000 vehicles travel the route daily, 10% of these being HGVs
- There have been 13 deaths in the last 6 years on this stretch of road
- The new road going up the hill will have 3 lanes going up and 2 lanes down, same alignment as present
- The link road from Shab Hill has not yet been finalized, there are benefits/disadvantages to all three. Option 1 is the existing road, Option 2 would be cheap and easy to deliver as it runs alongside the proposed new A417 and Option 3 is the best for traffic
- The Cowley underpass will remain and the existing road from Birdlip to The Golden Heart proposed as a green lane
- Rat running is estimated to be reduced by 50%
- Animal corridors, footpaths, and watercourses will all be taken into consideration during and after construction
- National Speed Limit will apply and there will be no gantry's or electronic signage in respect of the AONB

When the date for the public consultation is published, I will, of course, let you know. Meanwhile, their email is:

A417MissingLink@highwaysengland.co.uk

Electric Vehicle Charging Points

CDC are currently procuring a Framework agreement for Electric Vehicle Charging Points. The Framework will have suppliers appointed under three different Lots which will enable us to install different types of chargers under different types of financial and partnership arrangements, according to the circumstance and funding we may have available.

Once the procurement is complete we will be taking a report to Cabinet seeking the allocation of funding for the installation of EVCPs. As we do not yet know how much the EVCPs will be or how much funding the Council can make available we do not know how many we will be able to install or where they will be placed.

They need to see what comes back from the procurement (i.e the cost) and get Cabinet to take a decision on which procurement option to take; there is only relatively limited funding allocated currently.

EVCPs are likely to be installed on Council owned land or possibly land owned by Town and Parish Councils, it's unlikely the Council will install for private landowners at this stage.

It has been confirmed that CIL payments can be put towards the cost of installing superfast EVCPs in say Parish Hall car parks.

RE-CYCLING

Tesco's Metro and Extra stores in Cirencester and its Superstore in Tetbury are all taking part in a trial with the recycling specialist, Recycling Technologies, to collect the hardest to recycle plastics such as crisp packets and turn them into an oil. The oil, Plaxx, will then be used to make new plastic.

Collection booths are located at the stores and will take:

- Crisp packets
- Sweet wrappers
- Plastic film
- Pet food pouches
- Any plastic bag

Food Safety

Standards of food safety in the Cotswolds has risen for a fifth consecutive year.

Following a visit from an officer, each premises receives a food hygiene star rating – ranging from 0 stars for the poorest to 5 stars for the best performing. Since 2015 the number of fully compliant 5 star premises in the District has increased from 46% to 71%, whilst the number of poorer performing (0 to 2 star) premises has reduced from 10% to 4%.

CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY DECLARED BY CDC

The measure was unanimously supported by councilors at a meeting on Wednesday, July 3, where they agreed a wide range of actions to protect the environment.

As part of the declaration, the authority has pledged to do more to tackle climate change locally, and will work towards being a carbon neutral organisation by 2045.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CLIMATE CHANGE 2019 – RESIDENTS SURVEY

In May 2019 the county council declared a 'climate emergency' and committed to holding a public consultation on climate change this summer.

They are now ready to ask for feedback from residents in Gloucestershire on this important issue. DEADLINE 23 September 2019.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/.../gloucestershire-clima.../>

CAR PARKING

On Thursday 18 July I helped man a drop-in at The Fleece Hotel in the Market Place where a public consultation presentation has been held to unveil three wrap designs of the proposed decked Waterloo Car Park project. At present there are 223 spaces, if built a further 250 spaces will be provided at a cost of £10m. If the scheme gets planning permission it is hoped that building will start in July 2020 and should take 10 months. During that time extra parking will be made available at the Rugby Club and there are plans to provide further parking at The Old Kennels and the Memorial Hospital.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1SnW7FJcMXdlpEYSyJQ-3Xb8AT-6l2rQa>

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NHS FOUNDATION HOSPITAL TRUST

Anne Davies (elected Public Governor Cotswolds)
seabran@gmx.com 07759 222775

The MIU at Cirencester hospital is going to be upgraded to an Urgent Treatment Centre.

I would like to reassure you that Health organisations in Gloucestershire are aiming high and want all of us to have access to the very best healthcare and as such are committed to engaging with members of the public to hear more about what is important to us, especially when it comes to local services. It is therefore a source of huge regret that misinformation about the future of Cheltenham's A&E service is currently circulating which runs the risk of undermining important engagement activities to which our local NHS is committed to. The re-opening of the newly refurbished and expanded A&E department at Cheltenham should, I hope, reassure you that walk-in, same day urgent care services 24/7 will remain an important and valued service at Cheltenham General Hospital.

Further reassurance, should you want it, comes from the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (GCCG) which is a clinically led membership organisation responsible for commissioning (buying) local NHS services to meet the needs of local people. These services include emergency care services, operations or treatments that can be planned in advance, community services and mental health services. Yesterday GCCG published a statement on their Facebook page with the key message that: -

The period of engagement on community urgent care and specialist hospital services is an open dialogue. It is an opportunity to discuss ideas and involve people in developing potential solutions to meet future health and care needs. What this means is that despite recent reports, no decisions have been made about the level of care or range of services to be provided at Cheltenham General Hospital in the future.

Many opportunities for public engagement will be up-coming in the next few months as part of an engagement period running over the summer and autumn months (not just August as suggested in the recent misinformation). These will include a survey, drop in events, workshops, an Engagement Hearing and a Citizens' Jury. For more information about how to get involved in these important conversations visit www.onegloucestershire.net which will be launched in August. As I receive more information, I will pass this on to you.

In the meantime, I hope you will join us at the trust's Annual Members' Meeting on Thursday 12 September 2019 at Sandford Education Centre, Keynsham Road, Cheltenham (next to Cheltenham General Hospital). At this meeting you will

hear more about our ambitious vision for the future of specialist hospital services which we call our *centres of excellence*. Come along and hear directly from the clinicians and other health professionals directly involved in ensuring we all have access to the very best healthcare the NHS has to offer and discover more about how your hospitals' services could be organised in the future. The afternoon will start at 4.30pm with interesting stalls and light refreshments and the formal session starts at 6.00pm – 7.30pm. You can book by emailing ght-tr.corporategovernance@nhs.net or by calling 0300 422 2932.. Please come and if you are not already a member, please join.

Finally, a piece of news which is particularly important for me is that we have just launched a youth group within the trust to ensure that the voice of young people is heard. I feel passionately that this is vital and have been working for over a year to get this established, I am so excited that it now it coming to fruition. The group is open to young people from 11-18 years of age and will be led by them with help when they want it from trust staff and governors. I would be delighted if anyone interested were to contact me at anne.davies11@nhs.net

GLOUCESTERSHIRE POLICE

New PCSO For the Cirencester Rural North – 10 Sept 2019

Andy Biddell will be taking over from PCSO Charlie Pascoe-Watson who is going into the Police as a PC.

Andrew.biddell@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk.

If you are reporting an incident please ring it in on 101.

PCSO Andy Biddell
Gloucestershire Constabulary

PC Neil Lightfoot and
Assisted by
PCSO 9302 Zee Bulbul

Office: 01452 907171
Non Emergency 101
Zee Mobile: 07966 882358

Zaheer.bulbul@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

<https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/>

PARISHES – What are your policing needs? Speed Watch – Neighbourhood Watch

If you see a pattern, give them notice and they will be there. When identifying suspicious activities, use your common sense and get in touch. Intelligence lead policing is the most effective - PCSOs have to prioritise.

Village shops burglaries prevalent at present – cigarettes

Neighbourhood Coordination Group (NCG) Who would like to be on list for future NCG 6 monthly meetings? Last one held in Winstone 15 August 2019

DOG FOULING SOLUTIONS

If you walk a dog, even one belonging to someone else, you are responsible for clearing up after it.

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/residents/environment/environmental-health/animal-control-welfare/dog-fouling/>

Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act of 1996, anybody who lets their dog foul land open to public access and does not clear up afterwards can be given a fixed penalty notice. If you get such a notice, you have to pay a £75 fine within 14 days. Otherwise, you could be prosecuted and might be fined up to £1,000.

It can also be an offence under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to allow large amounts of dog faeces to build up in your garden.

Dog faeces can cause problems and nobody likes it left outside their home. It can also carry diseases including Toxocarasis, which can lead to serious illness, including blindness. This can be a particular risk for children.

Parish Councils decide if your village needs a **dog waste bin**, however the absence of one is not an excuse to leave your dog's waste behind. Please take your dog waste home.

How to dispose of dog waste? As a rule, it is always better to dispose of your dog's waste at home:

- In your domestic waste bin (black bin). Biodegradable dog waste bags are available from some retailers and provide a more environmentally friendly alternative to plastic bags
- Dog waste decomposer, or similar 'dog toilet' which can be bought from some pet supplies retailers and set up in your garden

Dog waste can also be disposed of using a litter bin or dog waste bin while you are out, but if you cannot find one you must take your waste home.

You should **never leave dog waste bags on the ground, or hanging on a fence or trees**. As well as being unpleasant for other people, this is littering and you could incur a fine.

To reduce the need to pick up dog waste during walks, you could try training your dog to go at home and walking him before meals so that there is less to pick up.

Please apply through CDC customer services for dog waste bins. They will assess the need, siting etc. CDC will collect the waste and will assess how regularly it needs to be emptied. If ever it fills up before that time, just put in a call to them and they will arrange to collect on the next round.

On a lighter note, and if you have time, do watch this! A crappy business: Brian Harper, inventor of the UK's first dog-poo powered streetlamp.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_kdrk3O5VI

NEW WASTE SERVICE POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH 2020

The new service will include:

- Separate food and garden waste collection
- Weekly food waste collection
- Fortnightly garden waste service
- Fortnightly dry recycling collection
- Fortnightly refuse collection
- More materials recycled at the kerbside (small electricals, textiles, batteries)
- New recycling sacks for cardboard and additional larger food waste caddies.

Councillors decided in September 2019 that the new service will begin at the end of March 2020 instead of November 2019. The new administration has concluded there was a high risk that the date would not be achieved.

A successful launch was endangered by a number of issues - particularly that new vehicles would not be delivered and ready in time for the November date.

Weekly garden waste service will continue until then.

The new service will be more environmentally friendly and allow residents to recycle more.

Residents can have as many green bins as they like, the council will provide the actual bins but each one will require its own licence. At the time of writing this is £30 p.a. but this is likely to increase in 2020.