

MAYOR'S INTRODUCTION

I am very pleased that on the 6th July 2020, we were able to officially open the playground and exercise equipment in the Walnut Tree Field. I would like to thank all my fellow Councillors for their hard work cleaning and sanitising the equipment. I hope that children and residents are enjoying the facilities again.

However, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that, to keep yourself and your children safe whilst using the playground, it is vital that you follow the advice given:

- Sanitise your hands before and after using each piece of play or exercise equipment
- Do not eat whilst using the play equipment, and be especially careful if using the benches as these are particularly high-risk areas
- Wash your hands as soon as you can after leaving the park
- Maintain a safe distance from others whilst in the park.
- Please put your litter in a bin, or take it home with you.

Fairford Town Council is continuing to hold committee meetings, via the Zoom app, and it has been very pleasing that residents have also been able to engage and have input during these different times. Please do take the opportunity to join one of the Council meetings – all meetings are open to the public and include a public question time, so you can have your say. I would love to hear from you.

Cllr James Nicholls, Mayor



Cllr James Nicholls

Fairford Town Mayor

james@fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

AUGUST 2020

CORONAVIRUS
SAFETY
INFORMATION



Maintain a 2m distance between yourself and others



Sanitise your hands before, during and after using the play park, especially after touching play equipment and access gates



Wash your hands thoroughly when you get home



If the play area is busy, please wait or come back at another time



No food or drink on the play equipment, and please put your litter in the bins

Please be patient and kind
We all deserve to play safely

PLEASE CALL FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL ON 01285 712344 OR EMAIL CLERKS@FAIRFORDTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK TO REPORT ANY ISSUES WITH THE PLAYGROUND.

WILD TOWNS UPDATE

Throughout the strange and unsettling last few months, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, our partners the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, South West (FWAG) and Fairford Town Council have been continuing to work in Fairford and across the county on the ERDF Wild Towns Project, as well as associated projects in Fairford. So far, the project has delivered the accessible riverside path from Dilly's Bridge (perhaps the best place in the county to see water voles) to Snake Lane, where FWAG and volunteers have installed a new hedge beside the path. FWAG and local volunteers have also carried out riverbank restoration work alongside the new riverside path, such as the installation of coconut fibre (coir) rolls, to prevent bank erosion and encourage colourful riverside vegetation. It would be much appreciated if those using the path could dismount from bikes, keep dogs on leads and out of the water, and take any litter home with you.

FWAG have held the first community consultation, as a Zoom conference, to gather ideas for the sensory garden to be created in the Walnut Tree Field in partnership with our friends at the Ernest Cook Trust and Fairford Town Council. FWAG will bring their expertise in both garden design and community engagement to make this a fully collaborative project. The garden will be designed to stimulate the senses through touch, smell, sound and of course visually - plants will be chosen which are bright, structural, colourful, and scented. This will also help pollinators in the area by providing an important nectar source. Further funding will be available for the sensory garden through Fairford Town Council and the ERDF project, so we are excited to see it develop and many thanks for the support of the Ernest Cook Trust, who own this land. If you wish to learn more about the sensory garden, please email dan.geerah@fwagsw.org.uk to subscribe to the mailing list.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH COUNCIL NEWS

Follow us on Twitter for up to date news and information from your Council. @fairfordcouncil Find us on Facebook - search for Fairford Town Council.

Fairford Town Council,
Community Centre,
High Street, Fairford,
GL7 4AF

Tel: 01285 713326/712344

If you would like to contact us then please email: clerks@fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Or visit our website: fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

NEXT MEETINGS

The next two Full Town Council Meetings will be on Tuesday 11th August and 8th Sept 7.00pm on Zoom – you are welcome to join us. Email the Council for an invitation to the meeting.



WILD TOWNS CONT'D

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and Ecosulis are also working with Fairford residents to create digital walking routes for people to download and explore the wild side of Fairford. The maps will have three routes of varying length, taking people round some of the best places to see wildlife in and around the town.

In the autumn we restored the ditch along Lover's Lane (off Leaffield Road) and down Hatherop Lane in order to divert floodwater away from the town more easily.

There's more to come, too. We have a variety bat boxes and an owl box to put up around the town, a wildflower area and sensory garden, as mentioned above, in the Walnut Tree Field, as well as further improvements along the riverside path along the Coln, where FWAG will be installing benches and carrying out habitat works to help wildlife such as water voles and kingfishers. New information boards will be going up along the path, plus a "wildlife spotting list", to celebrate the great biodiversity along the path, will be available from the Town Council. Bankside coppicing of willows on a tributary of the river will further reinforce this important water vole population through planting and promotion (by virtue of more light reaching the banks) of lush bankside vegetation. The final aspect will be the installation of collaboratively planned town centre 'greening' to bring further colour and wildlife interest to this beautiful town. This will be another area where we would like input from Fairford residents, so please contact grove.sykes@gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk with ideas and if you would like to be part of a panel to help ensure that we provide what the town wants.

Will Masefield, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust



FAIRFORD HISTORY SOCIETY

During lockdown FHS has kept in contact with its members by the issuing of regular online Newsletters full of interesting local and not so local Fairford history. They included a 'From the Newspapers' section of newspaper cuttings from the past, there were quite a lot of interesting crimes during the 18th and 19th centuries. Members have sent in articles and suggestions for inclusion, so we have been able to keep in contact. As you would expect FHS also has had local and family history enquiries from home and abroad during this time.

The next scheduled FHS meeting should take place on **Thursday September 17th** in the Farmor Room, Fairford Community Centre at 7.30pm. There will be a very short AGM followed by a speaker/presentation. However, due to the uncertainties of the situation a definite arrangement has not yet been made.

See

<https://www.fairfordhistory.org.uk/news/> for further details and the online Newsletters or contact enquiry@fairfordhistory.org.uk or 01285 711768

BUILDING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORT DURING COVID

Have you been helped by a neighbour/volunteer with shopping, collecting a prescription or just by them 'being there' during this challenging time? Or do you know of someone who has been helped?

To find out how support during COVID was organised so that we are better prepared for the future we are asking anyone who has received support to fill in a questionnaire about the help they received.

Some of you may have access to the internet and if so **copy and paste this Survey Link (<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/B7YVRHK>) into your internet browser to complete the survey.**

Alternatively, if you do not have internet access or don't feel comfortable using this method, you can contact our nominated research volunteer, **Henry Vass on 07794 007867** to undertake a confidential telephone interview.

All receivers of support who fill in the survey will be invited to enter a free draw with a £50 cash prize.

This work is being supported by Cotswold District Council, the Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities, Fairford and Lechlade Town Councils.

Your response will help shape our community now and in the future.

24HR ACCESSIBLE DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS:

There are 5 publicly accessible defibrillators in Fairford. These are at the following locations:

- Fairford Fire Station, Hatherop Road.
 - The Bull Hotel, Market Place.
 - Fairford Youth Football Club, Horcott Road.
 - The Old Phone Box, Milton Street.
 - NEW! Bowls Club, East End.
- Other defibrillators are available during operating hours at:
- Fairford Community Centre;
 - Hilary Cottage Surgery;
 - Fairford Town Football Club &
 - White Cottage Dental Practice.

