



FAIRFORD COMMUNITY PLAN 2014

22 July 2014



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MAYOR'S STATEMENT

In 2011 – 2012, Fairford Town Council and others prepared a Community Plan, known as Fairford Horizons 2011 – 2016. This set out the vision for the town's future prosperity and provided Fairford Town Council with a programme for further service provision. Many of the projects identified then have been achieved, and a summary is included in Appendix B of this plan.

Since Fairford Horizons 2011 – 2016 was adopted in early 2012, Fairford has been the subject of many planning applications for substantial residential developments, which will cause the town to grow by approximately 30% once complete. It is therefore appropriate to update the Community Plan to take account of the current planning environment, and to reiterate the local vision for the town.

As part of this process, a questionnaire was delivered to every household in February 2014, and consultation sessions, in the form of workshops / small group discussions, were held in the Community Centre in April 2014. Responses (summarised in Appendices B and C) were taken into account in the preparation of the draft Community Plan, which was published for comment in June 2014. The final version of the Community Plan was approved by Fairford Town Council in July 2014.

The Vision for Fairford remains the same as in 2011 – 2012:

"Fairford will continue to be a working community that recognizes the distinctiveness of the people who live, work in or visit the area. Fairford Community Plan aims to conserve Fairford's attractive environment and heritage while providing jobs, accessibility and facilities for all."

The Community Plan 2014 sets out the background under a number of policy headings, and identifies the direction that the Town Council and residents would like the town to take. In addition to the normal activities of the Town Council, which will include many of the actions set out within the text of the Community Plan, the Council has identified a number of more strategic projects which it would like to implement over the next few years but which are likely to require additional funding. These are listed in Appendix A, in no particular order of priority. It is expected that further projects will be identified over the life of the Community Plan, particularly as new residential development is occupied.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the preparation of the Community Plan 2014, and look forward to working towards achieving its aims.

Caroline Mumford

Mayor

July 2014

INTRODUCTION

Summary of the Plan

This Community Plan updates Fairford Horizons 2011-16, adopted in January 2012, in which the Town Council sought to articulate the aims and aspirations for the management and development of the town.

As with many rural communities, Fairford has been the subject of many planning applications for development of new properties during the two years since this Plan was last updated, which will cause the town to grow by approximately 30% once complete. Substantial developments totalling over 160 homes commenced building during 2013 and further developments totalling 147 homes to the east and north of the town have recently been approved or are pending approval subject to meeting certain conditions. This will significantly change the dynamics of the town and the demands upon the infrastructure.



St Mary's Church

The Council believes that more detailed studies should be completed and any impacts identified before further growth is considered sustainable. Fairford is a town of considerable heritage with the centre being mainly populated by listed properties that have grown around the historic church and Market Place and a broader conservation area. The Council believes that these aspects of the town, and the entry to it, require a rural setting to preserve the character and historical importance.

Many residents describe the town as having a "village feel" which is largely contributed to by the market square and the rural aspect when arriving from either the west or the east.

Overall the Town Council welcomes change but only if it will improve the environment and facilities for new and existing residents. Whilst recognising the

need to grow, such development must be sustainable and not put undue strain on the services available to existing residents. This plan sets out these views in detail and also provides an indication of the medium to long term aspirations for the town.

The views of the town have been sought in preparing this update including questionnaire and consultation. Responses can be found in Appendices A and B to this document. The Council has also commenced the process for development of a Neighbourhood Plan. In time the vision and aims from this Community Plan will be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan after full consultation with residents.



Town Council Vision for Fairford

"Fairford will continue to be a working community that recognizes the distinctiveness of the people who live, work in or visit the area. Fairford Community Plan aims to conserve Fairford's attractive environment and heritage while providing jobs, accessibility and facilities for all."

Aims of the Plan to support the Vision

To facilitate the Vision the Council has identified three key aims:

1. To maintain and manage the town in accordance with the wishes of residents and so ensure it remains an attractive place to live and work.
2. To protect the town from any unwanted or unsustainable form and scale of development which may damage its heritage and historical significance and features, wildlife and green environment
3. To take an active part in determining how the town should develop and ensure that there are appropriate community facilities and services

The text of the plan includes a number of actions that the Town Council intends to take, and Appendix A identifies more strategic projects which the Council would currently like to achieve. This is however a living document which is expected to evolve over time, and projects are expected to be added and amended accordingly.

POLICY AREAS

Housing

Fairford is a small rural market town with a thriving lively community, situated where the ancient route from Wales to London crosses the River Coln. Many of its finest buildings date from the 15th Century. The whole of the town centre is a conservation area and there are 206 listed buildings, most notably St. Mary's church, the Mill and the Oxpens.



The Oxpens

Fairford is on the edge of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and within the Cotswold Water Park, with links to the Thames Path. It is surrounded by agricultural land with the flood plain and river to the south, and lakes formed from former gravel beds to the east, all of which are an important natural habitat. The majority of the land to the north belongs to the Ernest Cook Trust and is a special landscape area. The close proximity of Fairford Park gives the town a distinctive quality, and the trees, riverside and lakeside walks and footpath links are highly valued. The Town Council sees development of tourism as important for Fairford's future, and this requires that the attractive layout of the town and its green envelope must be maintained. This will organically develop local business and therefore jobs for local residents.

It is important to the community that Fairford retains its green character and that the built and natural environment are preserved and enhanced wherever possible. Any future development must be managed sensitively, be sustainable, appropriate to the needs of the town, within its limitations of infrastructure and in keeping with the town's rural location. The emerging Cotswold District Council Local Plan (2014) suggests a total of 260 additional houses for Fairford between 2011 and 2031 and this is generally accepted. Some 161 are already under construction on the western edge of the town, including 70 affordable houses, and these will satisfy Fairford's present housing needs.



'Fairford Gate' – new housing under construction, 2014

A further two developments totalling 147 houses have either been approved in outline or are pending approval and the impact of all this development on the existing infrastructure will take several years to identify.

However because of the national housing shortage, land outside the development boundary has been under attack from speculative developers. Applications continue to be made and, if refused, taken to Appeal.

Development has run ahead of infrastructure and facilities. This has already affected local services with significant flooding and sewerage issues having been experienced in the winter of 2013-2014. There is a danger that Fairford will become a dormitory town, with increased traffic congestion and pollution and weakened community cohesion.

The Council believes that the town has historical significance and many features which reflect the heritage of the region. Fairford must retain its rural aspect, with safe links to the riverside, the local footpath/cycle path network, and with Lechlade and the RAF base. The town centre must also remain the focus of local retail and service provision, accessible to all local residents. In terms of local business, the Town Council is keen to ensure that services are retained and regenerated to serve the community.

For the town to thrive, young people and families need to be able to afford to live here. The prosperity of the town is closely linked to the local economy and the Council is keen to ensure that the expenditure of local residents benefits the town and the town's businesses rather than other centres. On this basis housing for existing local residents is preferred to the development of commuter or landlord owned properties, the residents of which might have no bond to the town and its economy.

It is acknowledged that over time some further housing will be needed to allow the community to grow sufficiently to help maintain and develop local services and facilities, and also to enable affordable housing to continue to be provided.

Results from the recent (February 2014) questionnaire showed that 92% considered it very important that the growth of housing should be carefully controlled, to allow the existing new build developments to settle before new planning applications are considered, and that 90% considered it very important that any development should be consistent with Fairford's character as a small market town and its location in the South Cotswolds. There is generally a preference for small scale development integrated within the town, rather than large estates added onto the edge and extending into the countryside.

Environment and Heritage

Fairford Town Council aims to maintain the balance between sustainable economic development and conservation of the natural and historic built environment, preserving and enhancing the environment and links to the countryside and protecting the rural setting of the town.

The Town Council will therefore work with Cotswold District Council to ensure that CDC protects and maintains the natural and historic built environment when planning applications are being considered, and includes the economy/built development/environment balance and the results of other planning/ biodiversity and environmental consultations in the emerging Local Plan.



The River Walk

The Town Council recognises the importance of preserving and enhancing Fairford's green envelope and local wildlife habitats, and providing safe links to

the riverside and lakes, the local footpath/cycle path network, and the RAF base. Links with Lechlade, Thames Path, and a cycle link to Lechlade will also be developed. Local residents should have improved access, such as footpaths and cycle paths, to enjoy leisure opportunities within Cotswold Water Park. To this end, Fairford Town Council will:

- Work with organisations such as Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust to preserve and enhance flora, fauna and landscapes, and enhance the environment and develop wildlife corridors for water voles, otters, wildfowl and other birds.
- Continue to support local efforts to progress a Fairford to Lechlade multi-use cycle/ footpath.
- Work with the CDC footpaths officer to protect the environment of public rights of way, particularly where these are being affected by new developments.
- Encourage and support 'Walkers are Welcome' activities, promoting Fairford as a good place for walking activities with river and lakeside paths and links to the Thames path and Coln valley walks.
- Work with the Cotswold Water Park authorities to improve access to leisure facilities and the countryside, including those based around the lakes in the area, and promote Fairford as part of the Cotswold Water Park.
- Promote and support the Heritage Trail of Fairford's important buildings provided by Fairford History Society.
- Work with the Fairford Preservation Society to encourage their activities to make Fairford greener by providing a number of ornamental street trees, providing shade and replacing and renewing worn out trees and in their vision for a community orchard.

Business and Employment

Employment had decreased in Fairford with the operational stand-down of the air base and the economic downturn, but there are signs of recovery and a number of new businesses have opened recently.



Businesses in the Market Place

The 2011 census figures show that unemployment was less than half the national average and the proportion of residents in managerial, professional or technical occupations was above the national average. Of the 1,939 residents aged 16 to 74 in employment, 14.7% were employed in Wholesale and Retail trade, 11.9% in Manufacturing, 10.8 % in Education, 9.5% in Human Health and Social work, 9.3% in Construction, and 7.4% in Professional, Scientific and Technical activities(2011 census). The proportion in sales and services, including tourism, was below the Cotswold average.

Fairford has a low employment density ratio of 0.6, which means that the area has a poor balance of jobs to workers, and its self-containment level (the percentage of travel to work journeys that start and finish in the Ward) is 42%. This means the level of out-commuting is high. The principal destination is Swindon, with more remote commuting to Oxford, Reading and Bristol. Unfortunately this type of residency brings little economically or culturally to the town itself.

Occupation of the 161 houses under construction on the north side of the Cirencester Road is likely to generate around 200 to 300 more residents needing employment. Similar numbers will apply to other residential sites which are approved or pending approval. If housing development continues without increasing employment there is a danger of Fairford becoming a dormitory town. However, more residents will compensate for the decrease in Fairford's existing economically active population caused by the age structure.

Fairford is an historic market town with 206 listed buildings including a church of national importance. There is very little capacity in the town centre to accommodate new development, but there is a good level of convenience retail and service businesses and the Town Council is committed to encouraging the retention and improvement of the existing services and facilities. The Town

Council will encourage residents to shop locally to keep local businesses viable and to reduce carbon emissions from car travel.

Fairford has a weekly market in the Market Place, and a Country Market in the Community Centre. The Town Council runs a very popular annual Festive Market in early December, and has recently introduced French and Italian Markets, which it is planned should take place approximately every six months.



RIAT 2014

Attractions, such as the annual Royal International Air Tattoo, the Fairford Festival and the Food and Drink Festival, bring visitors to the town. The fact that fewer than the Cotswold average are employed in the service industries indicates that there may be scope for improvement by supporting the provision and expansion of tourist and visitor facilities and extending the length of time visitors stay in the town. In order to achieve this it is important that the town's character, heritage, green envelope and river and lakeside walks are maintained and enhanced as described above.

Fairford is situated in the Cotswold Water Park and improved links between the east and west areas of the Cotswold Water Park are needed, including footpath links to the Thames path and the canal and the reinstatement of the canal route. This would support tourism and also enable local residents to have improved access to enjoy the leisure opportunities at the Water Park.

Education

There are four schools in Fairford, three located at the Fairford Park campus to the north. Coln House School, for students with special needs, is situated at the western end of the town. It is vital that any future development of the town is commensurate with the capacity of the Fairford Park schools in particular, which are limited in terms of the ability to grow.

The schools are:

- **Fairford Pre-School** - an independently run school which relies on raising funds locally. Over the past few years it has expanded its facilities but further improvements will depend on fund raising.
- **Fairford C of E Primary School** - most primary age children in Fairford attend this school and progress to Farmor's School for their secondary education. Children also attend from the adjacent Pre-School. The current school building is celebrating its Jubilee this year. Previously it was a 1.5 form entry school but this was reduced to 1 form entry a few years ago. Measures are constantly being taken to ensure that the school can cope with any increase in the number of children from the Fairford area requiring a place at the school. The school is rated good by OfSTED and aspires to become outstanding, so when looking at future capacity, the school is also looking at enhancing the facilities to provide an excellent education for the children of Fairford.
- **Farmor's School** – serving Fairford, Lechlade and surrounding villages, Farmor's School is an Academy with high demand from the catchment area. There is currently a waiting list for Year 7. The school has a flourishing 6th form which is also in high demand, and a new 6th form building was opened recently. Specialist School Status for Business Studies and Science has enabled the school to obtain funding for improved buildings and infrastructure to support these subjects. The remaining buildings and infrastructure need attention. The school has recently taken over the running of Fairford Leisure Centre, but lacks a multi-use games area (MUGA).
- **Coln House School** is the only residential special school in Gloucestershire, providing weekly and weekend provision for up to 35 students who have complex needs, including behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. The school provides a stable, caring, consistent learning environment through the 24 hours of day and night. All pupils have a broad and balanced care plan, relevant to their individual needs, which together with the school curriculum aims to prepare them for the experiences, opportunities and responsibilities of adult life.

Health

Fairford is a ward containing around 4,000 residents, of whom some 3,000 claimed to be in good health at the time of the 2011 Census, leaving 1,000 in fairly good health or not good health. 560 residents are living with a Limiting Long-Term illness, 14% of the total. 385 residents are providing unpaid care for others, and over 50 of those are doing so for over 50 hours each week. 75 residents are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance.

While the residents of Fairford are a little healthier than those elsewhere in Gloucestershire, many people are living with significant problems. The Fairford Hospital League of Friends conducted a health needs review with GPs, nurses and users in 2006 / 2007 which resulted in the identification of foot care and palliative care as important needs, which have been subsequently provided. There is however a need to keep the health needs of the population under review.

Fairford Leisure Centre provides indoor sport activities and includes a gym. A healthy living programme is run in conjunction with Fairford Surgery. There is a 'health walk' (not more than two miles) every Monday morning, the U3A also has an easy walking group and there are remedial and healthy living exercise classes weekly in the Community Centre.

Fairford has a GP Surgery, although residents' perception is that it can be difficult to obtain appointments, and parking is limited.

A range of clinics is offered at Fairford Community Hospital, although it no longer caters for in-patients and does not provide accident and emergency services.

There is a dental surgery; however NHS dentistry is available for children only.

Fairford has an optician offering NHS eye tests.

Community Facilities

Community Centre



Commemorative Plaque on the Community Centre

As part owners of Fairford Community Centre, the Town Council has a responsibility for maintaining the fabric of the building, and also wants to ensure its long-term success for community activities. Part of the building serves as Council and Parish offices, and part provides Village Hall facilities. Fairford Community Centre Ltd., a registered charity, manages the lettable space in the building for community activities with special regard to the needs of the young, the elderly, the disadvantaged and the disabled. A Management Committee has been appointed to supervise maintenance and allocate costs between users and includes Town Council representatives. However, the building is Grade 2 listed

and it is important that the council remains prepared for exceptional maintenance costs.

Palmer Hall

Fairford has a second community hall, the Palmer Hall, which includes a small stage for theatrical productions, and is run by a committee. It is not a new building, and does require regular upkeep and improvement. Fairford Town Council has regularly provided grants to the Palmer Hall and will continue to do so for appropriate projects.

Walnut Tree Field

Fairford Town Council took over responsibility for running the play area in the Walnut Tree Field in the centre of the town in May 2010, and has repaired and replaced a number of items and introduced new equipment including a basket ball net and area of playing surface. The land is leased from the Ernest Cook Trust. The Council will seek to maintain it as a safe play area with a bright, welcoming environment in which children can play safely.

The Town Council is aware that young people would like to see an improved skate ramp, and a number of people that adult fitness equipment would be a welcome addition.

Parents and other members of the community will be encouraged to help with the maintenance of the playground and fund-raise for new equipment.

It would be helpful to provide toilet facilities in the Walnut Tree Field to widen its use; the only public toilets in the town are in the High Street next to the Community Centre. The provision of a water supply and electricity supply to the Walnut Tree Field would be of assistance in enabling events to take place here.

Sports Facilities

Fairford Leisure Centre

The running of Fairford Leisure Centre was recently taken over from Cotswold District Council by Farmor's School. The facilities include a gym, indoor sports hall and tennis courts, all available to the public when not in use by the school. Fairford Town Council will liaise with the school to ensure that this continues to be the case.

Sports Clubs

Fairford's flourishing sporting clubs were invited to contribute to the Community Plan exercise and painted a picture of commendable self-help achieved largely without direct financial help from the Town Council. As a matter of principle, the Council will continue to support the efforts of local sporting clubs to develop their facilities.

Fairford Town Football Club

The club provides football in the community by way of competition in the Hellenic League for the first team and reserves. It is also home to Swindon Town Ladies FC, together with two Swindon Sunday League sides. Its training facilities are made available to local teams of various age groups including Fairford Youth Football Club. The Football Association regularly requires facilities to be upgraded and existing facilities need constant monitoring and maintenance to ensure compliance with FA ground grading standards. Over the last few years the club has focused on community use which includes Irish Dancing, Skittles, Darts and many other social activities across a wide age range. The club, when finances are available, continues to improve the availability and standards on offer. Ultimately the club seeks the provision of an all-weather surface which would provide virtually continuous availability for multi-sport use.

Fairford Rugby Club

Fairford Rugby Club has developed substantially since its inception in 1997 and the senior team continues to be very successful. The Club runs a rapidly expanding and successful junior section providing coaching and match experience to youngsters in the area. The Club does not have a permanent home and relies on the good offices of Coln House School (seniors) and Farmor's School (juniors) for pitch and changing facilities, although it is now developing its own pitch on the west side of Leafield Road.

Fairford Tennis Club

Fairford Tennis Club has continued to expand since it resurfaced its courts in 2009 and now has about 130 members with an active tennis coaching programme catering for both juniors and adults and teams in local leagues as well as regular social tennis throughout the year.

In late 2013 the tennis club successfully applied for a funding award from Sport England's 'Inspired Facilities' programme for the provision of a power supply and installation of floodlights on its two courts in the Walnut Tree Field, for which planning consent has now been obtained (May 2014). It is planned to complete this project before the winter 2014/5, enabling junior coaching and social and competitive tennis to continue in the evenings all year round and making this an increasingly valuable sporting/recreational facility for the local community.

The current phase of expansion of Fairford gives new importance to such local facilities and is likely to place increasing pressure on them in terms of usage. The club already makes some use of courts at Fairford Sports Centre as an 'overflow' and for Mini tennis coaching during the winter and this is likely to continue, but in view of the very attractive central location of the site in the Walnut Tree Field the club is already considering (and has had discussions with the landlord about) the possibility of extending this with a third court alongside

in the future, in addition to upgrading of the clubhouse facilities. This would allow other tennis usage to take place in parallel with coaching or league matches and help reduce the need for local inhabitants to travel by car to other facilities elsewhere in order to pursue a healthy lifestyle.

Fairford Cricket Club

Fairford Cricket Club is one of the oldest in the county having been formed in 1889. The club has two Saturday league sides: One playing in Division Two of the Gloucestershire County Cricket League; the other competing in Division Two of the Cotswold District Cricket League in 2014 after becoming Division Three champions in 2013. The club also has a team playing in the CDCA Midweek T20 Cup Competition and a Friendly XI playing on Sunday afternoons.

There is a developing junior section whose members are coached every week during the summer – teenagers on Tuesday evenings and younger boys and girls on Friday evenings. Teams play in the Cotswold District Junior Cricket Leagues. Under-9s, Under-11s, Under-11 Girls and Under-13 Girls play Sunday mornings; Under-13s play Thursday evenings; Under-15s playing evenings vary. There are plenty of opportunities for teenagers to play for the adult teams on Saturday and Sunday afternoons including our women's team which, in 2013, came second in the newly formed Cotswold District Women's League.

Social events are high on the club's agenda which take advantage of a well-stocked, very reasonably priced bar in the pavilion. Events that take place include barbeques, quizzes, and, of course, the annual awards' evening where presentations are made to the season's high-flyers. The club also organizes 6-a-side competitions every year where local pubs and clubs are encouraged to chance their arms at a shortened version of the game.

The Club is always looking for new members, young or old, and all abilities will be catered for. The club is extremely keen to invite boys and girls in School Years 1 to 10 (inclusive) to join the club's junior section, where they will benefit from top coaching throughout the summer school term and may play competitively too if they wish.

Fairford Youth Football Club

Fairford Town Youth Football Club exists to provide and promote the playing of football for the youth of Fairford and surrounding towns and villages. We always welcome new players or adults who wish to help in the managing or coaching of teams.

Each year we have tried to improve the facilities, equipment and the quality of coaching at the club. We make certain that all coaches at FTYFC are qualified to FA coaching level 1 as a minimum and all are first aid trained, qualified in the safeguarding of children and all Managers coaches have an enhanced CRB check. We are a FA Charter Standard Development Club

Young People

Fairford offers a wide range of activities for young people through sports clubs and uniformed organisations. Sports Clubs offering coaching for young people include the youth football club, rugby, netball, tennis and cricket as well as dance. Uniformed organisations include the Scouts and Navy Cadets, Rainbows, Brownies and Beavers. The Town Council supports the work of these groups.

Provision of activities for young people interested in Music, Art or Drama is limited to facilities at Farmor's School. Mostly this is available through the school curriculum and within school hours.

Following the withdrawal by Gloucester County Council from the provision of youth services the town has lacked activities for those young people who have no particular interest in sports, culture or uniformed groups. We also lack any support service to provide information and guidance to young people with regard to sex and drug or substance use/abuse. This is especially so for those groups of young people who have no great attachment to the school.

The Town Council stepped in in an attempt to fill the gap left by GCC and has financially supported two Youth Groups for 11-18 year olds but of these only the sessions for young people up to the age of 13 are currently running. The provider of services to the older group (Young Gloucester) has indicated they cannot afford to continue services in the east of the county. Joint activity and funding with other towns and villages may offer a solution and should be pursued.

Further work needs to be done with young people to establish what activities and facilities they would wish to see in the town and how they can be more involved in providing these.

A Safer Community

A significant factor in the determination of community safety is the public perception of how safe people believe themselves to be. However, this perception is not necessarily a rational one based on the crime statistics.

On the whole, Fairford is fortunate to be statistically a safe place to live, without major crime or traffic-related incidents despite some busy roads. Law and order is however quite rightly a concern for many residents, who with a growing population will inevitably become increasingly concerned about the lack of dedicated police resource in the town. The Police Station has closed, and although there is a police point in the Community Centre this is not visible to the public and seldom used. Policing of the town is now run from Cirencester, although the police do make an effort to be present on Market Day once a

month. The Town Council is keen to work with the police to maintain a police presence and ensure that residents feel secure.

To improve public perception of safety, assured deterrents, safeguards and strategies can be employed which will have the real advantage of improving actual safety. The Town Council has installed CCTV at a number of locations, and will keep the level of cover under review.

The Council has noted concerns from existing residents in relation to the impact that the significant new developments and increased traffic will have.

Transport

Fairford straddles the A417, some 8 miles from Cirencester and 4.5 miles from Lechlade. Because of its position on the A417, transport issues are of particular importance to the town.

The 2011 Census shows that car ownership in Fairford is relatively high at 1.6 cars per household, compared with 1.5 per household for Cotswold District and 1.3 per household for the South West generally. (Source: www.neighbourhoodstatistics.gov.uk).

The A417 carried traffic flows of some 5,000 – 6,000 vehicles per average 24 hour weekday in 2013, including 450 – 550 goods vehicles. Of the goods vehicles, around 40 per day were large vehicles with 4 or more axles. During peak periods, traffic flows on the A417 are in the order of 450 – 550 vehicles per hour. (Source: Transport Assessments for Land off Cirencester Road, Fairford, Curtins Consulting, July 2013, and for London Road, Fairford, Corun, August 2013).

A 30mph speed limit applies within much of the built –up area. However, a 40mph speed limit is in place on the eastern (Lechlade) approach, and a Traffic Regulation Order is in progress to introduce a 40mph limit on the western (Cirencester) approach in conjunction with housing development here. Illuminated speed warning signs are in place at the start of the 30mph limit on the A417 approaching from both Lechlade and Cirencester. However a number of residents consider that speeds remain too high.



The A417 passing the Market Place

The section of the A417 between Coln House School and the former Police Station is effectively single lane for much of its length, in particular at the junction with the Market Place, over the town bridge, and where there is on-street parking outside Londis and on Milton Street. This is not regulated but works on an informal 'give and take' system. The nature of the properties adjoining this stretch of road gives no opportunity for widening, since it runs between listed buildings only 3 metres apart. Footpaths are very narrow in the section of A417 to the east of the Market Place and non-existent in a section to the west. There are no pedestrian crossings or pedestrian-only areas.

Records of collisions on the A417 through Fairford from the Marston Meysey turn in the west to the Shell garage in the east have been obtained from Gloucestershire County Council for the five year period to 31 August 2013. Thirteen collisions resulting in injury were recorded during this period, including a fatal accident between the turnings to Hatherop and Southrop in April 2013, and a serious injury accident at the entrance to the Shell garage in July 2009. Two of the thirteen accidents involved pedal cycles and one involved a motor cycle.

Car parking is available on-street on roads within the town, including the Market Place, High Street and A417. Some parking controls are in place. The procedure is currently in progress to amend the Traffic Regulation Order which applies to the east side of the High Street / Market Place to limit parking to 1 hour between the A417 and The Croft and allow unrestricted parking from The Croft to Park Street.

An off-street free public car park, operated by the Town Council, is located at the north end of the High Street. This currently has a deteriorating grasscrete surface, which the Town Council plans to replace with a mainly gravel surface plus paved footpaths during the summer of 2014. A number of residents have

commented that lighting of the car park also needs to be improved. This car park is signed from the Market Place, but is not always obvious to visitors.

Parking is of concern in a number of areas around the town, as identified in the responses to the questionnaire. These include the shortage of parking for the schools accessed from Leafield Road. The Town Council itself has concerns about the damage caused by parking on the verge on the A417 opposite Victory Villas on the eastern approach to Fairford, and would like to resolve this issue to provide a more attractive entry to the town here.

Fairford is served by the following bus routes:

Bus No.	Route	Weekday Frequency
74	Fairford – Lechlade - Swindon	3 per day
74	Swindon – Lechlade - Fairford	2 per day
77	Lechlade – Fairford - Cirencester	5 per day
77	Cirencester – Fairford - Lechlade	5 per day

This is not a frequent enough service to make public transport an option for many people to commute to work in Cirencester or Swindon.

There is a bookable dial-a-ride service between Fairford and Cirencester every Thursday; the community bus also provides a number of other trips through the month, to Swindon, Cheltenham, and Lechlade Garden Centre for example.

There are footways on one or both sides of most roads in the town, and footways are being extended to the development under construction to the west. An exception is Mill Lane, which connects West End to the town centre and is single lane for much of its length, with a discontinuous footway. The Town Council has for a long time had a wish to provide a 'safer route to school' along Mill Lane, in conjunction with the local land owner, the Ernest Cook Trust.

There are no controlled pedestrian crossings in Fairford; some but not all informal crossing points have dropped kerbs and tactile paving.

There is a network of other paths in and around Fairford, including public footpaths, permissive paths on Ernest Cook Trust land (closed on Tuesdays), and the Horcott Lakes path which is on a short term licence to Fairford Town Council. Public footpaths are maintained through Gloucestershire County Council and their contractors. Paths are indicated on maps available from the Town Council.

There are no off-road cycle routes; cyclists do use some of the public footpaths which is a concern to a number of residents.

Cycle parking within the town centre is limited, and not very visible.

Services

The Town Council's goal is for Fairford to be a vibrant and lively town with facilities and activities for all sections of the community. Several issues have been identified as directly affecting the well-being of the Fairford community, including flooding, the inadequacy of the infrastructure for further development and the need for continuing provision of affordable housing, protection of existing town centre shops and services, provision and improvement of public houses and eating facilities to support the community and help develop tourism, the future of the Palmer Hall and the Community Centre, and the Walnut Tree Field. A number of these are mentioned above.

One of the greatest concerns is the incidence of flooding and sewage flooding.

Flooding and Sewage Flooding

The severe flooding of 2007 has been remedied by the Flood Alleviation Scheme carried out in 2012/2013/2014. This was effective for river flooding but the significant risk of sewage flooding has not been addressed. Further housing development without sewer improvements has exacerbated the problem and during the wet winter of 2013/2014 Fairford suffered severe and prolonged sewage and surface water flooding. The town is situated in a river basin and the underlying geology for most of Fairford consists of gravel beds over Oxford clay. In dry conditions, there is rapid infiltration through the gravel, but water flow is very different in wet seasons, when the area fills up from the clay base and the groundwater level rises to the surface. Fairford has no separate surface water drainage system. When the ground is saturated, extra rainfall produces surface water which has nowhere to go but into sewers which back up and spill out at lower levels. There is a natural flow towards the lakes to the South East of the town, formed by gravel extraction, which act as flood reservoirs.

To avoid inappropriate development in areas of flood risk and ensure development does not increase risk elsewhere, there is a need for a comprehensive Coln River basin management plan, sewerage management plan, and surface water management plan based on accurate information for Fairford. These should then be used to ensure that local planning policy takes account of local flood risk, and any development will be safe and not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.

In this regard, Fairford Town Council will:

- Contact Gloucestershire County Council, the Lead Local Flood Authority, to make sure they are aware of local problems and press them to ensure that their agreed flood risk strategy is fully implemented in Fairford based on local information and local management plans.

- Work closely with County and District planners (including other organisations where relevant) to steer development to sustainable areas, to avoid inappropriate development in areas of flood risk and ensure development does not increase risk elsewhere.
- Map flood incidents and investigate incidents which are 'locally significant', and use this information to inform the 'Locally Agreed Surface Water Information' used by local planning authorities to support spatial planning.
- Aim to ensure local planning policy will take account of local flood risk, including surface water, in allocating development sites.
- Press Thames Water for the improvement of foul and surface water sewerage systems.
- Consult with local planning authorities to ensure the design, construction, operation and maintenance of Sustainable Drainage Systems in new developments and redevelopments meet national standards so that new developments will have adequate surface water drainage provision in place

Burial Ground

Fairford Town Council has responsibility for the town's burial ground. However, the time is approaching when the existing area will be full. Further space has been identified within the churchyard, which is the responsibility of St Mary's Church. However, the Town Council is conscious that to serve the needs of the increasing population it will be necessary to identify and develop land for a new burial ground, if this service is to continue to be provided.

Allotments

The Town Council has a responsibility to look for allotments if requested to do so. Up until recently, no land had been found. However, the Town Council has secured an area for allotments within the Fairford Gate development, although this has not yet been released, and there is already a waiting list. The Town Council will continue to seek land for allotments to accommodate demand.

Appendix A

Community Plan 2014 Projects

Introduction

In addition to the normal activities of the Town Council, which will include many of the actions set out within the text above, the Council has identified a number of more strategic projects which it would like to implement over the next few years but which are likely to require additional funding. These are listed below, in no particular order of priority. It is expected that further projects will be identified over the life of the Community Plan, particularly as new development is occupied.

1. Complete Traffic Regulation Order relating to parking on the east side of the High Street / Market Place.
2. Complete Traffic Regulation Order relating to 40mph speed limit on the A417 Cirencester approach.
3. Resurface the town car park and improve signing and lighting.
4. Keep the potential for controlled crossings of the A417 under review as development is occupied.
5. Achieve a solution to parking for Victory Villas and improve the eastern approach to Fairford, in consultation with Gloucestershire County Council.
6. Address access / parking for schools in Leafield Road, in association with the schools.
7. Pursue the Fairford – Lechlade multi-use path in association with neighbouring councils, developers and Sustrans.
8. Liaise with developers and Gloucestershire County Council (or their contractor) to achieve an attractive public footpath around Lake 104, and preserve lakeside paths open to the public generally.
9. Achieve a 'Safer Route to School' from the western end of Fairford in conjunction with the Ernest Cook Trust
10. Liaise with Ernest Cook Trust to achieve additional / improved paths in the Leafield Road area.
11. Review pedestrian routes from the east side of the town and upgrade as required
12. Consider whether any public footpaths can be upgraded to cycle paths and implement as appropriate.
13. Purchase a mobile speed detector for use in Fairford.
14. Introduce illuminated speed limit warning signs on other approaches to the town / improve existing signs as necessary.

- 15.Improve the layout of the Market Place, introducing car – free areas.
- 16.Provide secure cycle parking in the town centre
- 17.Continue to improve the Christmas lights in the town centre.
- 18.Purchase a new PA system to facilitate outdoor events
- 19.Purchase flags to display in the town centre during the summer, to avoid the need to borrow flags from RIAT.
- 20.Provide toilet facilities, a water supply and an electricity supply to the Walnut Tree Field.
- 21.Provide adult fitness equipment in the Walnut Tree Field
- 22.Improve the skate ramp facility in the Walnut Tree Field
- 23.Provide a youth shelter, possibly in the Walnut Tree Field
- 24.Find and develop a new burial ground
- 25.Provide allotments
- 26.Achieve a fully functioning sewerage system

Appendix B

Progress on Projects within Horizons 2011-16

Fairford Horizon 2011 – 16 PLANNING

Work with Cotswold District council to ensure that planners keep the economy/environmental balance in mind while considering applications	ONGOING	
Work with CDC to ensure nature conservation issues are borne in mind in considering applications	ONGOING	
Support Fairford Environmental Society's promotion of the '10-10' campaign to reduce carbon emissions by shopping locally and other actions	ONGOING	Funding for resurfacing the town car park has been sourced from developers, and work will commence in July 2014. It is hoped this will encourage more people to use local amenities.
Work with Cotswold Water Park Trust to obtain potential environmental grants	ONGOING	The Trust will be approached for funding to improve footpaths and the playground A grant was obtained to provide interpretation boards in June 2014.
Continue to seek offers of land for allotments, including measures through the planning process	ONGOING	Land West of Fairford housing development will provide 'grow patches' for local residents.

Green – completed

Orange- Ongoing

Red – No progress

Revised June 2014

Fairford Horizon 2011– 16 FACILITIES

Produce each year a summary of events and publicise this on the web site, in TICs, CWP information centres, and other outlets	Website upgrade completed	To be looked at by Tourist Group in due course
Produce and publicise list of hotels, B&Bs, camp sites and self-catering in the town	This has been done through the town map and is also available on the website.	To be looked at by Tourist Group in due course
Review the “Fairford welcomes you” leaflet and make it widely available	New document published 2012 and available to visitors, local businesses and organisations. A new edition to be produced for 2015	To be looked at by Tourist Group in due course
Identify more locations for display of tourist information such as the parish church, Bull Hotel and shops, where possible displaying tourist information signs	The Community Centre is now listed as a Tourist Information Point. We are looking for an additional site, possibly the Bull	To be looked at by Tourist Group in due course
Prepare information for visitors to RIAT and Fairford Festival	Steam Rally no longer in Fairford. RIAT leaflets June	To be looked at by Tourist Group in due course
Continue to promote local markets and Fairford and Lechlade Business Club’s Food Festival	Regular article in Ripples and newsletter	To be looked at by Tourist Group in due course
Work with schools to ensure full use is made of available facilities. Establish a Junior Town Council or similar involvement by young people in FTC affairs. Discuss with Farmors School potential Adult Education courses that could be provided, given sufficient funding	Discussions with Farmors regarding litter picking and youth has taken place. Continue to liaise with the school on other matters.	
Continue to support the development of Palmer Hall and Fairford Community Centre	Support in budget. Financial support allocated in budget.	
Maintain and develop the council’s publicity outlets such as the Newsletter and web site	Newsletter reviewed. Further review required to establish regular entries and special cases	
Consider inviting non-councillors to play a part in local activities and on some of committees. Encourage members of the community to help with maintenance and funding new equipment.	Progress started with WTF and youth facilities. Non councillor members need to be recruited to sub-committees.	

Undertake regular safety checks on WTF play equipment, making repairs where needed. Ensure the playground is a bright, welcoming environment in which children can play safely	Regular checks maintained. Upgrade on playground equipment completed.	
Support partnership between CDC, Farmors, U3A and Walkers are Welcome to develop lower-level exercise activities	Walkers are Welcome now in operation.	
Seek the support and involvement of all authorities and young people in satisfying the activity needs of youth in the town	Youth Club now running. More support still required to meet with young people.	
Continue to support the development of a Sports Arena with Astroturf pitch to provide playing areas and joint clubhouse facilities for sports clubs in Fairford.	Farmors School now responsible for the Sports Centre	
Support the long-term future of Fairford Hospital for medical purposes	ONGOING	

Green – completed

Orange- Ongoing

Red – No progress

Revised 3rd April 2014

Fairford Horizon 2011 – 16 HIGHWAYS

Project	Progress	Action
Lobby the Highways Authority, county councillors and district councillors to obtain a system of safer road crossings in the town. Press harder for a safe crossing of the A417.	New safe crossing points are planned as a result of the new housing developments	Amended
Lobby the Highways Authority, Chief Constable and councillors to secure a comprehensive traffic survey and traffic management scheme designed to reduce the overall level of traffic through the town.	In progress	Amended
Improve the surface of the free car park	Tenders invited from contractors. Work to start in 2014.	Complete
Encourage the schools to reassess their travel plans	FTC is working on a creating a safe route to school funded from the proposed new developments.	Amended
Continue to support efforts to progress a Fairford to Lechlade multi-use path Investigate alternative route for the path to the South	The path is now included in the emerging Local Plan. Phillip Duncan (Lakes by Yoo) has indicated that he is keen to assist.	Retain
Review and further publicise the bus timetables and lobby bus operators and the county council to provide buses at sensible times for workers to use them.	Ongoing.	Amended
Carry out an audit of seats, tourist signs, notice boards etc and arrange a costed programme for its repair and improvement	Ongoing	Amended
Encourage more groups to join in litter picks in the town	Fairford Environmental Society do an annual litter pick Other community groups contacted to ask if they will carry out a litter pick	Retain
Press Thames Water to improve the sewerage network so that it can better withstand flash flooding	Ongoing in conjunction with planning	Retain

Green – completed

Orange- Ongoing

Red – No progress

Revised June 2014

Appendix C

Summary of Questionnaire distributed to every household in Fairford February 2014

	General description	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not important	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not important
1	Any development should be consistent with Fairford's character as a small market town and its location in the South Cotswolds.	159	11	2	0	90%	6%	1%	0%
2	The growth of housing should be carefully controlled, to allow the existing new build developments to settle before new planning applications are considered.	162	7	2	1	92%	4%	1%	1%
3	Any housing development should include affordable housing to buy, rent and for shared ownership.	96	55	11	8	54%	31%	6%	5%
4	New development should be located:								
4a.	On infill sites within the town to be closer to facilities and to avoid spreading into the countryside.	80	32	11	11	45%	18%	6%	6%
4b	In the countryside on the edge of the town to preserve existing spaces within Fairford.	45	29	15	26	25%	16%	8%	15%
5	Health facilities (doctor, dentist) need to be increased before further development is allowed.	152	11	5	3	86%	6%	3%	2%
6	Employment is needed as well as new housing.	100	48	11	7	56%	27%	6%	4%
7	Existing issues with sewerage in Fairford should be resolved before further development is permitted.	172	3	0	1	97%	2%	0%	1%
8	All local children should be	142	26	2	2	80%	15%	1%	1%

	guaranteed a place in the schools within the town.								
9	Fairford should be promoted as a tourist destination to support local businesses and help improve facilities for both visitors and residents.	62	76	19	11				
						35%	43%	11%	6%
10	Fairford needs more family friendly establishments – cafes, restaurants, shops etc.	101	67	26	7				
						57%	38%	15%	4%
11	The following transport issues need to be addressed:								
11a.	Congestion	131	18	12	5	74%	10%	7%	3%
11b	Traffic speeds	122	37	14	1	69%	21%	8%	1%
11c	Routes for pedestrians and cyclists	96	56	15	2				
						54%	32%	8%	1%
11d.	Parking	117	43	10	1	66%	24%	6%	1%
11e	Bus services	93	66	7	3	53%	37%	4%	2%
11f.	Pedestrian Crossing(s) over the A417	77	56	26	7				
						44%	32%	15%	4%

Number of questionnaires received 177

Appendix D

Summary of feedback from Community Consultation 3rd & 5th April 2014 (25 attendees at each session)

Education & Youth

- Will developers money go directly and wholly to schools?
- Good – land is potentially available for expansion
- No- we don't need new primary school – too expensive. Improve old/existing primary school
- Good – secondary school on site & has 6th form
- In view of increasing population will provision be increased before number of pupils – especially primary school
- Can pupils from Fairford be given priority at schools?
- Bad – the primary school is full
- Good – youth sport is good
- Hope – a place for youth to hang around
- Bad – opportunities for youth apart from organised sport
- Jobs for young people needed locally – work experience links with local population?
- Additional pupil numbers will require more increased building – not merely classrooms but a bigger hall etc
- Meeting venue for youth
- Regular paid youth workers
- Do we need a second primary school at the west end of Fairford?
- Better communication between schools and local community
- Safe route to school for walking and cycling
- How far can schools be expanded (how big) without impacting their sense of community?
- Any plans must be realistic and honest about what is possible and the timeline
- Lack of interaction between Farmor's School and the community
- Good – primary school is on a site sufficiently large to offer all the curriculum & pre-school
- Farmor's excellent & provides education to surrounding areas & 6th form. Now at capacity
- More opportunities needed for young people to work here
- Farmor's has strong links with local business & ECT
- More activities for youngsters who are not sporty or do not want to belong to 'organised' clubs
- Proportion of pupils living away from Fairford impacts on extra-curricular activities & opportunities
- More meetings with school/sixth formers/ community leaders
- Schools should link more with community for musical performances etc.
- Vibrant youth club – but where? Need properly qualified youth workers.

Economy & Employment

- What can we do to persuade visitors to spend money?
- Is there anything we can do to increase job opportunities for the young?
- Are there businesses we can attract to Fairford?
- How to promote new shopping facilities in the light of the new developments?
- Can we promote working from home?
- FTC - promote negotiations with landlords over rent
- Sign posts

- Pedestrianise the market square
- There is not enough businesses to provide employment for people in Fairford
- Parking in poor and there are not enough shops
- Can we get locals to spend more money – better facilities
- Attract businesses – processes such as packaging
- Persuade people to make more of what we already have
- Need some new commercial premises (under different ownership from present)
- Stop commercial premises being sold as residential properties
- Should an industrial site be ear-marked for future employment?
- Could ECT do more to promote walks through their land?
- Ownership of commercial premises in Fairford – excessive rents
- Need a hardware shop
- Provision of shop, pub etc within the new large developments
- Do we want tourists? If so, what attractions do we have?
- Community focus – Fairford in Bloom, Cirencester Hares etc.
- Camping & Caravanning
- Who visits Fairford? Need high spending tourists
- Need diverse shops
- Scruffy shop windows
- Encourage art/craft business
- Get ECT on board
- Must keep the Wednesday Market
- Need a Tesco express or something – more like Tetbury
- French Market was excellent

Community & Health

- Youth shelter in the WTF – somewhere for them to go
- Something for the youth to do or somewhere to go – perhaps rural cinema once a month with a more youth orientated film?
- Surgery facilities & surgery parking
- Need another surgery
- Has anyone spoken to the Dr's about expanding into the cottage hospital to maintain that facility?
- Entertainment for all ages
- Who decided to classify Fairford as a "principal settlement?"
- Who gets the benefits of the markets?
- I love the fact that although Fairford is a town it has a village community feel and I would hate that to be lost
- I feel our hospital should be better utilised
- West End Surgery, pavement – surfaces
- Hospital should be used as a part-time GP surgery
- Now that a large number of cases are going to Glos Royal – we need a suitable bus service to get patients back in one day
- Dogs should not be allowed in the WTF. Very few people keep them on a lead and very few pick up after their dog.
- A doctor based part-time at the cottage hospital to attend minor illnesses and accidents
- Everyone should say 'good morning' to each other – especially to young people

- Larger community hall is needed – compare with Lechlade memorial hall
- Bring back our shops
- To inform the elderly of relevant flu injections
- Second surgery needed desperately
- Want & Need hospital to stay
- Parking for the GP surgery is very bad
- Hospital should be used more
- Not enough pursuits for children
- We need more activities for the 20-35 age group to encourage them to participate more in community life
- Minor injury unit needed
- Hospital bed provision – we need beds again, especially for the elderly
- Health services based on actual demand for services
- Day centre at Fairford Hospital – contact Care Services Trust
- How often are the police in Fairford?
- Football Club phase 2? 3G pitch/multi use/ all year
-

Transport and Parking

- The bus from Fairford to Cirencester is more important than from Fairford to Swindon
- Difficulty of getting to medical appointments – cost of car service – league of friends
- Parking on dropped kerb in the Croft
- White lines in the Croft to stop hospital parking across drives
- Vehicles park on pavements
- Poor visibility crossing Park Street from WTF to Leafield Road
- One-way / restricted parking in the Market Place
- Trouble in the Croft / Hospital
- Potholes.....
- Traders parking in the town centre
- Parking on double yellow lines outside Londis makes it difficult for 2-way traffic
- Number of HGVs passing through the town – possibility of downgrading A417 to a B road
- Large signs to indicate where free parking is – avoid congestion
- Lack of co-ordination of public transport/infrequency of buses
- Timing of refuse collection on Leafield Road clashing with School drop off
- Improve bus timetable accuracy & visibility
- No occupation of new homes until the footpath is in place
- Protect Mill Lane as it is
- Parking at schools
- Transport to schools?
- Informal arrangement at Market Place/A417 and over bridge won't work with new development
- More parking for Londis – on street? Outside library?
- Pedestrian issues crossing from Back Lane to Market Place
- Put weight restriction on lorries for town bridge
- Declassify A417
- Better signing for car park beyond the market place
- Parking on both sides of Coronation Street

- Raised table market Place / High Street
- Shorter stay parking in Market Place
- No traffic lights
- 20mps speed limit on High Street/Market Place & outside Londis
- Delivery parking outside shops, especially Co-op
- Lorries on the town bridge block the road
- Town square free of parking – nice area for sitting and meeting
- Safe cycle routes from new developments
- Intimidating behaviour in the car park – needs better lighting & policing
- Cycle parking for shopping
- Community bus – needs more drivers
- Trees across footpaths and footpath surfaces
- Search for additional car park location
- Housing development within walking distance of town centre facilities
- Parking outside the library?
- Insufficient parking generally – worse with developments
- We need a bus service
- We will need a local bus service to get from one end of the town to the other
- Delivery vehicles conflict with buses
- Path from West of Fairford to Mill lane
- Parking outside Londis & takeaways
- The road is unsuitable for such large lorries
- Parking on Coronation Street
- Parking outside the Primary School – Parents! Worse with new developments
- Crossing Horcott Road at A417 end
- Downgrade A road to B road
- Do we really need more car parking?
- Cycle route from Horcott to Back Lane
- More car parking
- Traffic issues with new development especially in the morning
- Traffic speeds
- Crossing from Back Lane to Market Place
- More parking needed especially with new developments
- Surface in car park is very poor
- Conflict at the Marston Meysey turn – roundabout?
- Enforcement of parking – warnings first?
- Resurfacing of car park is a good idea
- No traffic lights
- Bus to Cirencester to tie in with coaches
- Roundabout at Coln House corner - encourages give way
- Bus to Swindon – need to change at Lechlade – should tie in with train times
- People park inconsiderately
- Potholes – patching is no good
- State of the path around lake 104
- Problems on Mill Lane with new development – one way? Widen?
- Traffic calming is needed
- Ban lorries through Fairford
- Signs to Town Centre from A417 approaches
- Better lighting needed in the car park

- Footpath needed on Cider Lane side of A417
- Cost of public transport
- Pave the Market Square or remove parking on it
- Eastern Spine Road should have gone ahead

Housing, Environment & Heritage

- Developments are exceeding infrastructure capacity
- Housing targets based on unsubstantiated central government projections of population growths
- Sewerage system was not adequate in many areas of Fairford – the system cannot cope with such a huge amount of building
- Approach to Fairford will be ruined
- Parking will become an ongoing problem that will need to be addressed
- New development should have been in the field opposite the Primary School – entrance within walking distance
- New developments are encroaching on our rural walks – we need to protect the ones we have and get more
- New developments should be within walking distance from central town facilities
- Why the preoccupation with making new buildings look like old ones – no new inspirational building
- Building taking place on Cirencester Road is going to cause horrendous traffic problems especially in the morning when children are going to be taken to school
- Affordable housing or to rent
- We need to keep our ditches cleaned out. Roadside fly-tipping is quite bad, especially on the road to Honeycombe Leaze
- Time to assimilate new building before the next lot
- New development should be deferred if approved until adequate sewage system is in place
- Too much housing, too quickly
- We need to have our utilities improved before further housing can go ahead
- Danger of increased traffic from Milton Farm to Mill Pond with lack of footpath
- Improve surface of the footpaths
- Litter – keep the bins empty
- More housing is putting too much strain on roads, schools, doctors and drainage. It spoils the look of an historic town and damages tourism.
- Protect Horcott Lakes
- Losing village character
- Maintain footpaths & join them up for circular walks
- More whole community events
- Town museum?
- More 'green' sustainable consideration – wildlife corridors, joined up walking/cycling routes
- Identify and legally protect areas which have value for the community
- Walnut Tree Field should be a no dog area
- Flowers in Bloom competition in the town
- Better signage of footpaths
- Smarten up approach from Lechlade

- There is an overgrown hedge on London Road next to Quarry Alley
- The centre of Fairford needs a boost – strategy for the core