

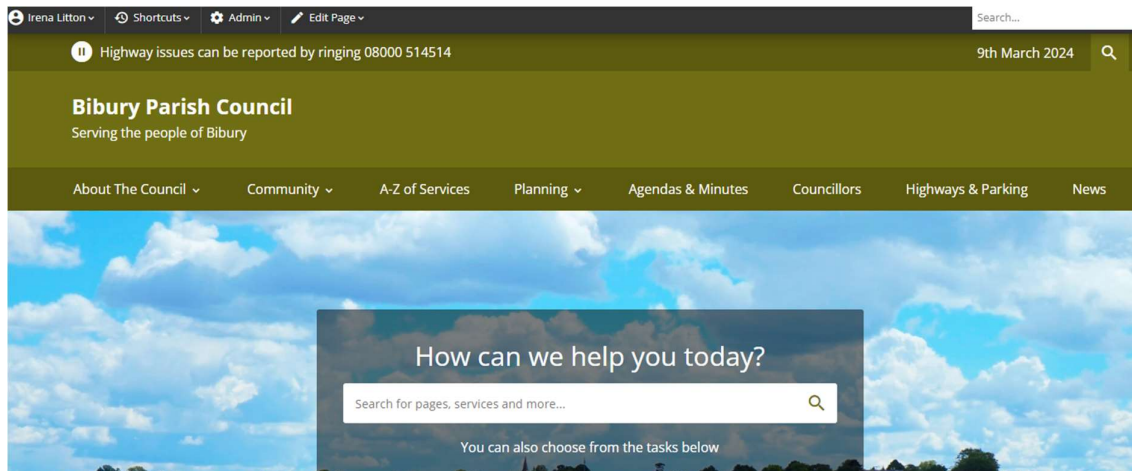
CLERKS REPORT – MARCH 2024

Councils' Website



Old version

The Councils website has now been updated to a more modern, cleaner design.



Vehicle Recording Camera – The Community Speedwatch Project Officer Kat Dean, has confirmed that she is working through her list. It was agreed that a VRC camera would be provided free of charge and it was also agreed with Gloucestershire Highways that they will install a pole outside Randalls Cottage for the camera to be mounted.

Post Box, Outside Glebe House. The damaged post box will not be repaired by Royal Mail, who confirmed that they no longer repair or replace boxes situated in walls. They are however, contacting the owner of the land in The Square to hopefully site a permanent Lamp Pedestal Box.

ROSPA Play Equipment Inspection – this has been booked in for April with Play Safety Limited.



Police and Crime Commissioner elections on 2 May

Voters across Cotswold District are being encouraged to make sure they are registered, have applied for postal voting, and applied for identification if needed ahead of the deadlines so that they can vote in the Police and Crime Commissioner elections on 2 May.

To take part in any election anyone over the age of 18 must be registered in the area they live in. Some people eligible to vote may not be registered and therefore will not be able to cast a vote. This may be because they have recently moved or are voting for the first time.

Residents can make an application to register to vote through the Government website which takes only five minutes to complete. They must register by 16 April and can do so at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

Some residents prefer to vote by post. By using a postal vote residents can make sure their voice is heard at the local elections from the safety of their home. Residents must apply to receive their vote by post, before the application deadline of 5pm on 17 April.

Anyone applying to vote by post will need to provide their national insurance number as part of the application. If you have an existing postal vote arrangement, you will not need to apply again.

Electors may also choose to vote by proxy - where another individual casts a vote on a registered voter's behalf when that individual cannot vote themselves. To be able to use a proxy vote, applications must be in by Tuesday 24 April by 5pm. Proxy voters will be required to show their own valid ID when voting on behalf of someone else.

Electors choosing to vote in person are being urged to make sure they are ready to vote in May by checking they have an accepted form of photographic ID.

Accepted forms of photographic ID include a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport; a UK, EEA or Commonwealth photocard driver's licence; and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass. Voters will be able to use expired ID as long as the photograph is still a good likeness. Voters may be required to provide further proof of identity if there is any discrepancy between the name shown on the form of photographic ID and the name the voter claims at the polling station.

Anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID will be able to apply for free ID online at voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk or by completing a paper form which is available from the Council.

More information is available on the Cotswold District Council website, including details of how to apply for the free ID. Anyone not able to visit the council website, or apply for a Voter Authority Certificate online, is being encouraged to contact the Council by calling 01285 623002 or emailing elections@cotswold.gov.uk. Residents must have applied for a Voter Authority Certificate by 5pm Tuesday 24 April.



Cirencester Foodbank is looking for new trustees to join the board and help us work towards a future where no one needs to use a foodbank. If you are looking for a flexible, part-time voluntary role helping those in your local community which will also develop your professional skills then becoming a trustee may be a good fit for you. We are particularly interested in recruiting trustees with experience in one or more of the following areas:

- lived experience of poverty or professional background of working in the field of poverty relief
- finance or accounting
- communications
- IT skills

The foodbank welcomes applications from those working in the local community. As a trustee you will develop professional skills such as teamwork, communication and decision-making as well as have a greater understanding of issues in the local community. The role is flexible and can be adapted so as to fit in with professional or family commitments. 14 March

Established in August 2012, Cirencester Foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK network of over 1,200 foodbanks, which provide food to people in crisis in their local areas. The foodbank covers an area of approximately 210 square miles of the South Cotswolds.

The foodbank is governed by a board of trustees who oversee the activities of the foodbank and ensure that it operates within its charitable purposes and legal and regulatory framework. The trustees also set the strategic objectives of the foodbank, working with the seven members of staff to deliver on those objectives.

Please download the role pack below which includes an application form and more details about the role.

[Trustee Application Pack](#)

The closing date for applications is 14 March 2024.

Cotswold District Local Plan Update and Cirencester Town Centre Masterplan Consultation is now LIVE

Cotswold District Council launched its Local Plan Update consultation on 1 February 2024. We are writing to you to let you know that this consultation has been extended by two weeks and will now end on **Sunday 7th April 2024**.

Cotswold District Council is updating its adopted Local Plan to make it “Green to the Core”. The adopted Local Plan covers a period from 2011 to 2031. The council is also considering development needs up to 2041 and options for how these may be delivered. The council is also consulting upon a draft Framework Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document for Cirencester Central Area (a town centre masterplan).

The updated consultation periods will now run from:

- **MASTERPLAN: 1 February** until **17 March 2024** (11:59pm); and
- **LOCAL PLAN UPDATE: 1 February** until **7 April 2024** (11:59pm)

As a reminder, this is a Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation. It builds on the consultation responses we received in 2022 at the previous ‘Issues and Options’ stage of plan-making. The consultation also responds to changes in national guidance and new evidence base studies undertaken to inform the Local Plan Update.

The consultation comprises:

- updated Local Plan policies;
- A vision, objectives and development strategy topic paper that starts the process of how the council addresses development needs to 2041;
- A Call for Sites that invites people to indicate available land that can deliver development needs up to 2041. This can include land for housing, employment, renewable energy, green spaces, nature, etc.
- An 'initial ideas' consultation document that starts the process for developing a Framework Masterplan for Cirencester Town Centre.
- An interim Integrated Impact Assessment will support the consultation and will include an appraisal of the development strategy options and the draft policies. This will be available from 9 February.

You can submit comments at your.cotswold.gov.uk. The document and supporting evidence can also be viewed or downloaded at www.cotswold.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/local-plan-update-and-supporting-information/

It is important to be aware that names and comments, once processed, may be made publicly available on the council's website. Comments received during the consultation will be considered and used to inform the next stage of plan preparation. A Local Plan Privacy Notice is available on the council's website.

Copies of the consultation documents are also available to view at the District Council offices in Cirencester (Trinity Road, GL7 1PX) and Moreton-in-Marsh (Moreton Area Centre, High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 0AZ).

As ever we look forward to your response as part of this process and we would appreciate your support in helping to make this consultation a success by sharing the information with your local communities and businesses.

If you require any further information or assistance, please contact the Forward Planning Team on 01285 623000 or by email to local.plan@cotswold.gov.uk



Cotswold District Council is working in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council and local community organisation World Jungle to deliver another **Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)** for eligible children across the Cotswold district this spring.

With funding from the Department for Education, children in the district will have access to free activities during the spring school holidays this year.

The spring programme of activities and events will provide young people with opportunities to socialise with peers, learn, and develop their skills. There is a diverse range of activities to participate in, including sports and craft activities, forest school, circus skills, family trips to Westonbirt, cookery classes and Water Park activities too.

The Spring Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) program will be running from 25 March to 5 April, with specific eligibility criteria, catering to children in school reception classes up to year eleven who are recipients of benefits-related free school meals.

Using additional funding we are also able to run the Holiday Activity Programme (HAP). This programme of free holiday activities is offered to all children between the ages of four and sixteen across the district, regardless of free school meal eligibility.

Cllr Claire Bloomer, Cabinet Member for Cost of Living and Inclusion, said, "It's so important that children and families are supported through our district and I'm

really pleased we're able to provide another Holiday Activity and Food Programme, in partnership with World Jungle and the County Council.

"These activities will provide much-needed enrichment for children during the spring school holiday, and they will also be provided with nutritious meals which are so beneficial to their health and wellbeing."

All activities are available to view now, please

visit: <https://gloucestershirehaf.com/cotswold-district-haf/>

Children who have been referred by professionals will be able to book on to the activities before the booking system officially opens.

The activity booking system will officially open to all on Monday 11 March at 12pm.

To sign up to the Children's Activity Booking system

(CABs): <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf/>

Family support is also available through our Community Connectors, Bloodhound Education, as part of the Spring Holiday Activity and Food Programme 2024.

They are on hand to help with booking activities, organising transport to attend activities and signposting families to other agencies where a need has been identified.

To get in touch with Bloodhound Education, please

email accounts@bloodhoundeducation.com or phone 0208 150 3767 (Monday to Friday, 9:30am - 2:30pm).



Call for RESOLUTIONS

It's that time of year again, when GAPTC asks its member councils to **submit resolutions to be debated at our upcoming AGM**; and while we're talking about the AGM, **save the date & BOOK, 20 July 2024**. Please find attached the information necessary and submit your council's resolution no later than Friday 2 May 2024.