



# The Mayor's Office, Cirencester

Mayor - Councillor Mrs S A Alexander

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## Press Release - February 2008

### Budget Update - 2008/9

The Town Council approved a precept of £591,385 for 2008/9, which equates to less than £1.65 per week for a band 'D' property in Cirencester.

### Fees and Charges for 2008/9

<b>St. Michael's Park</b>		£
Tennis	3.90	Per hour
Tennis (Concessionary Rate)	2.50	Per hour
Tennis Lights	3.90	Per hour
Croquet	3.90	Per game
Golf (Adults)	1.60	Per game
Golf (Children & Concessionary)	.80	Per game
Golf (Family Ticket - 2 Adults & 3 Children)	3.10	Per game
Barbecue (inc. charcoal)	7.50	
<b>Kingshill Lane Sports Development Site</b>		
Football	50.00	Per match
<b>Allotments</b>		
Rental	15.00	Per annum

### Kingshill Sports Development

The Town Council continues its study of existing sports provision and facilities in and around the Town and hopes to report its findings in April.

If you have any ideas about how the Kingshill facility could or should be developed; where there are sporting needs to be met and where sporting requirement is adequately met already, please contact the Town Council.

### Proposed Post Office Closures

The Council, at its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008, made the following resolution: -

"This Council notes with concern the latest round of post office closures proposed by Post Office Ltd. In particular it deplores the proposals to close Beeches and Stratton post offices and regrets the harmful impact that these closures will have on Cirencester and on these communities in particular.

Council RESOLVES to: -

Write to the Rt. Hon John Hutton MP, Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform and to Mark Partington, Network Development Manager, National Consultation Team at the Post Office to express our concern and anger about the proposed cuts to post office services in the town following, as they do, on the closures of post offices in Chesterton and Watermoor.

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Contact representatives of other parishes affected to determine and agree a plan of mutual support in a campaign to stop post office closures in the Cotswolds.

Undertakes to do everything possible to save the Beeches and Stratton Post Office branches.

Support the call by Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP that all elected representatives work together to achieve the best possible outcome for their communities.

Note that a number of public meetings have been held and more are arranged in the affected areas, in particular for the Beeches and Stratton Post Offices and we urge all members of the public to attend these meetings."

Posters have been circulated around the town and included on the Town Council's website encouraging members of the public to forward their comments to the Town Council. The comments will then be collated by the Council's Corporate Group for submission to Rt Hon John Hutton MP and Mr Mark Partington of the Post Office.

### **Towards a Vision for Cirencester**

The Council at its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008, made the following resolution relating to the consultations being undertaken by Cotswold District Council relating to the Draft Cirencester Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document, draft action plan for priority/tasks and Conservation Area appraisals relating to Cirencester :-

"... delegated authority be given to the Planning Committee to prepare responses in relation to Cotswold District Council's consultations on the Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document and the Conservation Area Appraisals for Cirencester, for consideration and approval by Council at its' meeting to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2008."

If you have any comments on the above, please forward the same to the Town Council.

### **Our Future Cirencester**

Our future Cirencester will be set out in a new community plan.

The Town Council is working with the Market and Coastal Town's initiative to prepare a community plan for Cirencester. Last year, the Town Council succeeded in securing a £20,000 grant to prepare the Plan which will be launched this autumn. The Community Plan, called "Our Future Cirencester" will set out a number of community projects that will be used as a blue-print for the future. The Plan will list many small projects, but together, they will have a major impact on our quality of life in Cirencester. A small taster of projects that are being looked at is: more play facilities for children, town centre management, making the most of our local history, and creating more fun activities for residents and visitors. The work is building on Cotswold District Council's exercise last year, "Towards a Vision for Cirencester" and sits beside the forthcoming Cirencester Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document.

There will be an opportunity for residents to send in their views when we launch our consultation campaign in the near future.

### **Purpose Statement**

A revised Purpose Statement (overleaf) was approved by Council in January and work has now begun on detailing each item to specifically state what we are doing, including how we are working in partnership with other organisations and providing a foundation for the 3 - 5 year strategy.

If you have any comments please contact the Town Council.

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"Cirencester Town Council is a council dedicated to working towards meeting the needs and aspirations of all its citizens, by: -

Providing cost-effective services, Promoting a clean, safe and low-crime environment, Supporting activities and facilities for all ages and abilities, Encouraging good citizenship and pride in our town, Supporting a vibrant economy and - Encouraging appropriate developments that can meet the needs of all"

"Our People, Our Place"

<b>Services which we already provide and maintain</b>	<b>Partners with whom the Town Council works and other activities in which we are involved.</b>	<b>Areas that we are committed to promoting and/or improving over the next 3 to 5 years.</b>
<p>A Community newsletter</p> <p>Allotments and floral tubs &amp; baskets</p> <p>An important role in licensing and mandatory consultee for the planning process</p> <p>An Information Point</p> <p>Civic functions for all sections of society</p> <p>Facilities for The Mop Fair</p> <p>Financial support of the town's CCTV system</p> <p>Grant aiding local organisations</p> <p>Grass cutting public spaces</p> <p>Guide books and maps of Cirencester</p> <p>Kingshill Lane Sports Development and skateboard facilities</p> <p>Lavatories in the Abbey Grounds and at St. Michael's Park</p> <p>Parks, recreation grounds and play areas</p> <p>Seating and Notice Boards in the town</p> <p>Support of the Advent Market and Christmas Lights</p> <p>The twice weekly Charter Market</p> <p>The Town Council Website</p> <p>The walls around the parks &amp; churchyard and areas within the closed courtyards of the Parish Church</p>	<p>As freeholders and leasing of The Open Air Swimming Pool and Scout Hut</p> <p>Cirencester Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Cotswold District Council</p> <p>CPRE</p> <p>Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils</p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council</p> <p>Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum and signatory to the Joint Charter</p> <p>Gloucestershire Rural Community Council</p> <p>Many varied organisations in the voluntary sector</p> <p>National Association of Local Councils</p> <p>Police</p> <p>Society of Local Council Clerks</p> <p>The Chesterton Project</p> <p>The Churn Project</p> <p>The Corn Hall - To work in partnership to ensure that it continues as a community facility</p> <p>The Environment Agency</p> <p>The Market and Coastal Towns Association and Initiative</p> <p>The Safer Cotswolds Partnership</p>	<p>Development of the quarterly community newsletter</p> <p>Environmental enhancements</p> <p>Grant aid commitments</p> <p>Increased active participation from the local community</p> <p>Links with the town's schools and colleges and developing a youth policy</p> <p>Production of guide books and maps to promote the town</p> <p>Public art in the town</p> <p>The Charter Market</p> <p>Clean up Cirencester campaign</p> <p>The Town Council Web site</p> <p>The Town Wards and ward facilities</p> <p>The town's parks, recreation grounds, play areas and sports facilities</p> <p>The use of the Bandstand</p> <p>To review the provision of lavatories at the Abbey Grounds</p> <p>Towards a Vision/Action Cirencester</p> <p>Town Council's Information Point</p> <p>Working towards Quality Council Status</p>