



CIRENCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

Dyer House, 3 Dyer Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire,
GL7 2PP

Tel: +44(0)1285 655646/Fax: +44(0)1285
643843/Website:www.cirencester.gov.uk



PRESS RELEASE - APRIL 2009

1. 'OUR FUTURE CIRENCESTER' COMMUNITY PLAN'

Cirencester Town Council says thank you to volunteers!

Between September 2008 and March 2009, over 880 volunteer hours were logged. That's the equivalent of 24 weeks of full time work or a value of £34,150.

In September 2008, Cirencester Town Council adopted its Community Plan, "Our Future Cirencester". This contained 16 community development projects on themes relating to economic development, heritage and culture, young people and sustainability.

From September 2008 to March 2009, the OFC Steering Group set up four working groups to consider how to take the community plan forward in detail.

The task for the working groups was to consider specific topics and to make recommendations to the Steering Group in March 2009 on how the project should proceed in the 2009-2010 year. The four working groups were Heritage, Business, Infrastructure, and Children/Young People.

The working groups prepared individual reports on the following topics:

- Amphitheatre Strategy
- Heritage Interpretation Strategy
- Festival and Events Strategy
- A Good Place to Grow Up
- Report of the Infrastructure Working Group
- Townscape Strategy

On 4th April 2009, a special meeting of the Steering Group and members of the working groups met to prioritise the projects and established a timetable. The recommendations were then given formal consideration by the Steering Group and Project Group on 20th April and will be published in the near future.

VOLUNTEER AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS (value of time donated¹)

Steering Group and working groups	£25,564
Individual contributions	£3,065
Consultation events	£1,992

Participants in Cirencester Local research project	£3,529
	£34,150

Records have been kept of the number of volunteer hours that were gained through the project. This was estimated to have a value of £20 per hour unless individuals specified that their professional charge-out rates were higher.

2. ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - 28TH APRIL 2009

A special invitation is extended by the Mayor to all members of the public to attend this year's Annual Town Meeting, which takes place on **Tuesday, 28 April 2009 at 7.00 p.m.**, in the Bingham Gallery and Conference Suite, Bingham House, 1 Dyer Street.

The meeting gives members of the public an opportunity to ask questions on matters affecting the town and to receive an Annual Summary, including information about the work of the Council.

3. GRANT AWARDS 2009/10

The Council, at its Meeting on 14th April 2009, allocated its grants budget of £10,500 for 2009/10 as follows: -

Applicant	Amount Awarded
Cheltenham, Cirencester and Tewkesbury Citizens Advice Bureau	£3,800
Cotswold Counselling	£2,500
Cotswold Council for Voluntary Service	£2,500
Corinium Radio	£700
Cirencester Open Air Swimming Pool	£113.85
Cirencester Fairtrade Steering Group	£50
Cirencester Table Tennis League	£250
Cirencester Youth Town Council	£150 (underwrite up to £300 subject to the Bingham Library Trust's decision)
Cruse Bereavement Care	£100
Sue Ryder Care - Leckhampton Court Hospice	£150
Vitalise	£184
TOTAL	£10,497.85

4. ABBEY GROUNDS

The Council, at its meeting on 14th April 2009, approved the introduction of cycling through the Abbey Grounds for a pilot period of six months from 1st June 2009.

The Council also approved the de-restriction of the dog zone areas for the same period.

It is hoped that the public will respect the rights of others using the pathways and that dog owners clean up after their dogs.

Further information on all of the above issues can be obtained from the Council's Customer Information Point on 01285 655646.

