

Temple Guiting Parish Council

Meeting 23rd September 2022

Report from GC Cllr Mark MacKenzie-Charrington

- **Future local Road Closures include:**

Stow, A429 Fosseway 15th – 22nd Sept Sheep St to Broadwell turn, A424 Stow to Donnington turn & B4077 Stow to Upper Swell. Night time 20.00 – 07.00
Fosseway A429 between Northleach to Cirencester 20th – 30th Sept 9.30 to 3.30
Evenlode Road – Foxcote Court to Coldicote Farm 27th & 28th Sept.
Lower Slaughter – Lower Farm to the Bridges, 28th & 29th Sept.
Upper Slaughter – Back Lane, 10th – 19th Oct.
Icomb 10th & 11th Nov.

- Delighted that you Build Back Better application for £1,000 for new village signage has been accepted.
- Working to get funding for the necessary environmental surveys around the Ford cluster of quarries. Have committed £2,500 from my Highways Fund, along with Cllr. David Gray for Winchcombe & Woodmancote
- Gloucestershire Fire & rescue Service attended 1,381 emergency calls during the heatwave between 1st -15th August, compared with 497 during the same period last year. 163 were fires, many of which were grassland, woodland, crops and agricultural machinery, a significant increase over the 19 call outs in 2021. In addition to the fires, they attended river rescues and road traffic accidents.
- The county continues to support those Ukrainians who have been displaced and come to Gloucestershire, living with the many generous families who have welcomed them into their homes.
The number as at 26th August were:

National Visas:	178,900 issued	118,000 arrived
Gloucestershire	1,381 issued	1,039 arrived
Cotswold	290 issued	214 arrived
Properties	635 approved	
Cotswold	120 approved	
School Places	307 allocated	(early yrs 16, Primary 160 & Secondary 131)
- The Community Speedwatch Safety Fund has been launched in a partnership between the County Council and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner with the aim of making our roads safer for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists alike. The Cotswolds is one of the first areas to start getting benefit from the £600,000 fund. The money will be put toward speed surveys, vehicle activated signs to encourage drivers to slow, wheelie bin speed stickers and community Speedwatch cameras etc.
Many communities have already applied for the first tranche of funding and will see results over the weeks to come.

- Three of six new Innovation Labs in Gloucestershire will be opening shortly, based within libraries in Tewkesbury (12th Sept), Chipping Campden (20th Sept) and Cheltenham (4th Oct) The Labs will be open in the afternoons between 14.00 – 17.00 with specially trained assistants offering guidance, to all age groups, in the growing world of digital technology. The facilities and equipment available include a digital design studio, 3D modelling and animation, virtual reality, podcast recording equipment, laser cutting and micro-computers. For further information can be found by emailing: info@innovationlabnetwork.com should you be interested in becoming involved as a teacher or simply want to ask questions about it al.
- Get on your bike!!
The County Council is sponsoring stage 6 of the 2022 Tour of Britain on Friday 6th September, having already sponsored stage 3 of the Women's Tour earlier in the summer. The 170.9km race will start at St Mary Abbots Church, Tewkesbury finishing on Southgate Street in Gloucester. The route will head through Winchcombe, Cirencester, Tetbury, Wotton-under-Edge, Dursley and Stroud. There will inevitably be traffic congestion but roads will be only closed on a rolling blockade basis.
The council is encouraging people to take part in the national 'Love to Ride' Cycle September challenge. 'Love to Ride' is for individuals or groups to enter into challenges, earning points towards winning the 500 prizes. These include a £4,000 holiday and a £1,000 bike, simply by getting on your bike, even for as little as 10 minutes a day.
The County Council is aiming to increase cycle use by 50% by 2031 by securing 258 miles of existing infrastructure, over £40m funding for a dedicated 26 mile route between Bishops Cleeve and Stroud, training 5,000 children through Bikeability every year and delivering a 6 mile route between Cheltenham and Gloucester.
- My 'Build Back Better' Fund is nearly fully committed with only £2,800 remaining. Councillors have access to £40,000 over the over the course of the council supporting projects, such as;
 - Nature and Environment
 - Physical and Mental Wellbeing
 - Digital Inclusion
 - Building Connections and Improving Neighbourhoods
 The funds will be open to community and voluntary organisations, charities, sporting groups and other non-for-profit groups, town and parish councils. Funding has been made to Cotswold Friends - £5,000, Moreton Croquet Club – £3,000, Stow Motor Club - £9,000, Guiting Power PC - £1,032, Moreton Tennis Club - £10,000 and £7,000 for play equipment in Bledington and £1,180 for a bench at Shrubbery Green, Park Street,
- My annual £30,000 Highways Fund has been renewed so please let me know of any schemes that I might be able to contribute to.