

Clerk's Report to 27th December, 2017

- **Bike Trails** – A permanent sign is now installed at the Bike Trails with a list of sponsors. Weekly safety checks are being carried out by volunteers.
- **Sign at Frogmarsh** – A sign has been placed at Frogmarsh asking drivers to refrain from parking adjacent to the dropped kerb.
- **Closure of Southfield Road by Wales and West Utilities** - Parts of Southfield Road and Station Road will be closed from 2nd January until March in order to lay a new gas link. The insertion works will be undertaken from approximately half way along Southfield Road so the excavations here will block the road and therefore the closure will be in place on this section. The section between Church Road and Selsley Road will remain open for the traffic during this time.
The replacement works in the section between Church Road and Selsley Road will be carried out during the half term week to minimise disruption to the school traffic.
- **Local Government Finance** - The Government have agreed that for the next three years there will be no regulation regarding increase in precepts and the possibility that this could trigger a referendum. This will allow Councils to plan more effectively without the fear that the following year there may be restrictions on increases. The Government have stressed that Councils should be transparent about the need/reason for any increase in precept and that, where possible, other means of funding should be found or money taken from reserves.
- **External Audit** - PKF Littlejohn have been appointed to be the External Auditors for Gloucestershire. All councils will be emailed an Annual Return (known as the Annual Governance and Accountability Return) in March. Councils where the higher of the income or expenditure for 2017/18 was £25,000 or less will be able to declare themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review by the external auditor, provided they meet all the qualifying criteria. Councils with income or expenditure of more than £25,000 will have an External Audit in the normal way.
- **Neighbourhood Warden** - The following is a quarterly report from Neighbourhood Warden Dom Everiss:

Abandoned vehicles: Lawns Park & Bath Rd junction with Giddynap Lane, both had tax expired and were reported to DVLA for further action.

Crime Prevention: I have conducted a free home security survey; given a personal safety talk to the health & fitness group at the Village Hall.

I have conducted numerous patrols on foot and in a vehicle. I have delivered message in a bottle and home security items to the benefit of Woodchester residents.

Fly tipping: I continue to check for fly tipping & caused five black bags of rubbish to be removed from adjacent to the war memorial.

Fly posting: as previously requested, I continue to remove fly posting & out of date posters. To be honest there is very little, with the main 'hotspot' being the Bath Rd.

I Provide youth transport for young people to attend the Stroud District Youth Council. Helping to give young people a voice across the District.

My colleagues and I have also been assisting at local elections and the Ambitions careers event, an event which gives excellent advice on careers opportunities for young people.

Cheques signed/to be signed since the meeting of the 2nd November, 2017

Date	Payee	Cheque Number	Amount	Authorising Power
16.11.17	Grant Thornton – External audit	821	£120.00	LGA 1972 s.111
16.11.17	British Legion – Donation for three wreaths	822	£105.00	LGA 1972 s.137
19.12.17	iDigLocal – Transfer of website and domain	823	£152.39	LGA 1972 s.142
19.12.17	CR Signs – Bike Trail signs and sign for Frogmarsh	824	£174.00	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19(3)

Planning

Planning Decisions:

Consent has been granted for:

- **S.13/1893/FUL – Rooksmoor Mills, Bath Road** - 'Hybrid' planning application. Full planning permission for 54 residential units, reinstatement of millpond, construction new access and associated car parking and landscaping. Refurbishment of cottage building. 1,300sqm of commercial floorspace (uses within Classes B1, B2, B8) (Revised Scheme)
- **S.17/2401/TCA – Southfield Mill House, Southfield Road** - Remove secondary branches of Beech trees and reduce primary branches by 2-3m on limbs overhanging neighbours between 8 and 12M high to obtain more light to neighbour, reduce weight of limbs and ease neighbours peace of mind of breaking and falling branches.