

Cotswold District Council: There was nothing too contentious at the September meeting other than questioning the resilience of CDC infrastructure. A storm caused a leak in the recently renovated roof which took out several IT and electrical services leading to reduced service availability throughout the building. We are assured that the core systems were unaffected and that offsite backups are in place.

Following the full council meeting we attended an event at the Corinium Museum to celebrate 50 years since CDC was founded. We were joined by special guests, including past councillors and officers.

Unsung Heroes: The Unsung Heroes Awards is to acknowledge all the work being done across the district by volunteers who give up their time to help others. Residents and businesses have nominated people in their communities who they think have made a difference, from individuals who give up their time to help neighbours, to members of local groups who volunteer to deliver local projects. I was delighted to see that one of our Kingscote residents, Brian McTear, was an award winner in the first ceremony at the Full Council meeting on 25 September (see pictures below). This will be a rolling scheme with winners announced at every Full Council meeting going forward. Please nominate your Unsung Hero here:

www.cotswold.gov.uk/unsungheroes

Bins: There have been ongoing issues with the new bin collection routes, especially in rural areas, and a written response to a question from Mike Evamy (The Cabinet member responsible) states: The waste team is committed to reviewing and improving the reporting processes following the recent round re-organisation. This review will include an evaluation of the entire online process, from residents reporting missed collections to crews addressing the issue, ensuring it is effective and allows residents to accurately report missed containers. The review will also look into the messages residents receive when reporting missed collections. This will include issues like 'gate checks,' where crews may indicate bins weren't placed out for collection or were contaminated, which currently prevents residents from logging missed bins. Key stakeholders, including customer services and the digital team, will be involved in the review, and extensive user testing will be conducted to ensure the tool is accessible and easy to use.

Roads: There have been several fatalities recently on our roads, mostly involving motor cyclists. With the darker nights and winter weather coming fast, do take care when travelling around the district.

Gloucestershire County Council: Cllr Mark Hawthorne recently stepped down as leader of GCC. He was 14 years as leader and a true champion for Gloucestershire both locally and nationally, which had helped the county punch above its weight. Cllr Stephen Davies has been elected as the new Leader.

Councillor Tony Slater

Cotswold District Council, Representing Grumbolds Ash with Avening.

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*Brian McTear (2nd from right)
With other award winners*

*Brian McTear with CDC
Leader Nikki Ind*

Other updates and information for Parish Councils:

Another parking survey

Views on parking in Cotswolds sought for a second time from residents Cotswold residents are invited to give their views for a second time this year on parking in the district as Cotswold District Council launches its second consultation on current parking provision.

The first consultation ran in January 2024 and helped establish baseline data for how the public uses and perceives our parking provision. The second consultation, which begins in September 2024 will consider the changes in parking behaviour in the summer when tourism and summer holidays are at their peak, through to autumn when schools and colleges restart. Since the Parking Strategy was adopted 2016 several factors have influenced transport and parking behaviours, such as the climate agenda, the Coronavirus pandemic, the cost-of-living crisis and the wider economy. Cllr Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health, Leisure and Parking said, “We are delivering a second consultation so that we can get a holistic view of parking across the year. We appreciate parking demand fluctuates with the seasons, and a second consultation will provide us with a robust set of data to work with. Your views will enable us to develop a parking strategy that is fit for our car park users. <https://news.cotswold.gov.uk/resources/ve7sq-c3o6s-n19cj-kbeo4-cw9c5>

HOW TO REPORT POTHOLES

I recommend using this link, especially if you have a smartphone and can take a photograph of the pothole and identify the exact position. It is more efficient than emailing the council as officers get a daily schedule of these alerts.

Gloucestershire County Council, report a pothole:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/your-highways-report-it/>

FIX MY STREET

Report, view, or discuss local problems like graffiti, fly tipping, broken paving slabs, or street lighting. This reports back to the appropriate Council: [LINK](#)

REPORT IT

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/report-it/>

New forms for reporting graffiti, overflowing bins, dog fouling and street cleaning are now live on the Cotswold District Council Website.

A map pin drop allowing for what3words location submissions can be used.