

September 23

Dear Member

PLANNING & CONSERVATION MATTERS

The **Aston Road Development** enters a new phase with Lynden Stowe's announcement at September's Town Council meeting. His full statement reads :

"Informal negotiations with the tenant having failed, GCC are now issuing a Section 172 Notice to obtain entry on to the land at Wolds End Farm to enable the surveys and site-investigation works necessary for preparation of a planning application. It is GCC's intention to proceed to the making of a CPO (Compulsory Purchase Order) under Section 226(1)a. of the Town & Country Planning Act to facilitate development of the land for a new access road, school parking, GP surgery and housing necessary to facilitate the development. Notice is being given to enable Acoustic, Ecological and Arboricultural surveys to be undertaken from mid-October, 2023.

The **Neighbourhood Development Plan** process continues, with further drafting still being worked on. A particular issue in hand is pulling together more evidence to support the points being made around traffic and parking.

The **Town Trust** has engaged new building contractors who are scheduled to begin repairing the Town Hall's finial urn and window mullion in mid-October. This should take about two weeks and then the scaffolding will come down. The Trust is now working on the design specification and tendering for other repairs that have been assessed as urgent, needing to be done within the year. This important work is being funded by the Town Trust.

The developer who has bought the **Lloyds Bank building** has applied to convert the property into small flats, similar to his application to redevelop Braithwaite House approved by the Cotswold District Council in 2021. We are objecting to the current proposals on the grounds that important retail space will be lost and that the proposals are an overdevelopment of the site. The proposed layouts, as they stand, do not have enough storage and are designed to accommodate temporary stays rather than provide flats for people either starting out on the property ladder or downsizing. Five units are proposed which will place further strain on the parking in the High Street. We will also propose that if planning permission is awarded for the development, covenants are imposed to prevent the on-sale for investment homes, second homes, holiday lets or Airbnb.

We are continuing to monitor applications and work with others to argue for more strategic thinking, better design, and a more environmentally friendly approach to planning. We encourage everyone to submit their individual views about planning applications.

At the time of writing we are between two Saturdays of Cam Clearance sessions organised by John Ellis. The Town Council provide the funds for a skip and the rest is down to volunteers who put on wellies and get into the stream to clear away debris that has accumulated. We would like to thank John and the volunteers who have been doing this since the 2007 floods, two or three times every year. If you are interested, please contact John Ellis, 841253, or john.ellis1938@btinternet.com

Protecting the architectural and historic quality of Chipping Campden, its open spaces and its natural setting.

We would also like to remind riparian owners that it is their responsibility to maintain the river bed to the half way point and that polluting the water course, for example, with garden waste or herbicides is forbidden. If you wish to make changes to the river bank, or use chemicals, permission must be sought from the Environment Agency. Further information can be found at www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse

WOLDS END ORCHARD

APPLE FEST SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 10-4pm

After successful Apple Day events in Wolds End Orchard over the past two years, the event is now expanding in collaboration with neighbouring Jecca's House. Traditionally Apple Day is held in October as a national celebration of the British apple. It was launched in 1990 by Common Ground. Apple Day - or Apple Fest as we're calling it this year - is a festivity of variety and diversity: not only of apples and orchards, but also our beautiful landscapes, ecology, culture and communities.

Wander between Wolds End Orchard with its 125 apple, pear and plum trees and Jecca's House to **pick apples and pears** to enjoy at home (don't forget to bring a bag); try your hand at **the Longest Peel Competition** - can you beat last year's winner at 2m 41cm using the special apple peeling gadget?!; join in with some **apple pressing**; buy **Wolds End Orchard Apple Juice** and **Campden Honey**; enjoy a range of **children's activities**; as well as tasty **homemade appley bakes and pork baps & apple sauce**, on sale at Jecca's House. We're also delighted to welcome **Campden's very own Boe Jigge band** to entertain everyone. **Do you have a mystery apple growing in your garden?** If so, bring along 3-4 fruits from the same tree, with stalk and leaf intact, to see if our Apple Fest guest, Steve Oram from PTES (People's Trust for Endangered Species) can help you identify the variety.

Entrance at corner of Back Ends/Aston Road and via Jecca's House driveway. Wear suitable footwear as the orchard ground is uneven with long grass. No dogs in the orchard please. No parking on site - parking available in the School Car Park. In case of very bad weather, activities may be reduced: but Apple Fest will still go ahead!

See you there to celebrate this wonderful time of the year!

HARVESTING

Harvesting is underway and hopefully as many people as possible will join in the harvest through until early November - it's there for everyone! When work is going on, the gate will be open so please feel free to pop in, have a chat and pick fruit to take home and enjoy. The apple juice produced from the 2022 harvest has been terrifically popular.

We have been able to donate 17 cases (of dozen bottles) to the North Cotswolds Food Bank in addition to the 27 cases on sale - almost all of which have now been sold. The money raised goes towards Orchard upkeep.



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WORK PARTIES

There are lots of jobs to get done this autumn - new young tree guards; mowing and collecting to prepare for more wildflower seed; numbering and labelling trees; hedge maintenance; winter pruning; and the Apple Day on Saturday 21 October. Looking at the list, it feels like Campden has its very own Green Gym! But there are jobs to fit every level of activity, knowledge and enthusiasm.

Work party dates are 14 and 28 October; 11 and 25 November; 9 December – please add to your diaries and consider coming along!

The Orchard's future and health depends on volunteer support. Thanks to the all work of local people this year the upkeep of this beautiful green space on the edge of town has been secured for another season. If you have any questions or would like information about the Orchard please drop us a line at fweo2020@gmail.com.

Thanks go to two members of the Art in the Orchard Group for our new logo. Christina Kingsmill's original design has graced the bottles of apple juice and honey on sale this year; you will have seen the logo on our gate too. Penny Lindner ran the 'Apple A Day' community art project, inviting visitors and supporters to submit a picture in any media of an apple they had collected from the Orchard last autumn. Penny used these to create this wonderful colourful version of the logo. Our thanks to everyone involved.

Our next **Art Open Session** will be **10 - 4pm** on **SATURDAY 21 October**. (Please note change of time and day.) Bring your own art materials. There's no expectation to show anyone your work. Do feel free to just roll up, even if it's just for a wander and to enjoy the rest of Apple Fest. As always, everyone is welcome.

Looking forward to meeting up with more volunteers this autumn at one of the upcoming work parties!

Julianne, Geoff, Susie, Mike, Chris, John, Geoffrey, Steven and Owen

With our best wishes

Elizabeth Devas
Chair

APPLE JUICE made from Wolds End Orchard and Campden gardens is available to purchase at £3.25 a 75cl bottle. They can be bought from Rachel's Stall in Back Ends. Alternatively we can deliver cases at a discounted price to members : 6 bottles at £18 or 12 bottles at £36 in the Campden area; to purchase a case or cases, please contact Geoffrey White on 0781 500 5879 or email geoffreywhite@gmail.com.