



# Stroud Parish Plan Forum Newsletter

Bringing  
Communities  
and Partnerships  
Together

Issue 6

The forum is a network for parish representatives to build links with possible partners and organisations

## FORUM DATES

For your Diary

The next meeting  
will be held at

Stroud District  
Council Offices at  
the  
Council Chambers

On Monday  
2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009

The Topic is:  
Village Design  
Statements

5.30 – 8.00 pm

Programme to  
follow

This newsletter is  
composed by GRCC  
with support from  
Stroud District Council

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## Congratulations to Village's in Stroud

The winning villages in the 2008 Calor Gloucestershire Village of the Year competition were revealed at an awards event held at Highnam Court on the 18<sup>th</sup> July.

The high standards across the board gave the judges a difficult task in selecting the winners.

Although the Cotswold village of Fairford won the prestigious title of 2008 Calor Gloucestershire Village of the Year, Stroud took 8 of the prizes / certificate.

The Stroud results of the competition are as follows:

### Environment

Bisley – Winner

### Healthy Village

Minchinhampton – Winner

### Community Life

Painswick – Runner Up

### Business

Painswick – Runner Up

### Young People

Painswick – Runner Up

### Older People

Painswick – Runner Up

### Information Technology

Minchinhampton – Runner Up

### Best Community Initiative certificate

Arlingham

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## Grant Scheme for Stroud District

Stroud District Council has launched the Parish Plan Grant Scheme. The deadline for the forms is January 2009. The three main areas for funding consideration are:

**Community Planning** - For parish and community-led planning groups to assist them with any costs associated with undertaking a Parish Plan or similar community planning exercise.

**Village Design Statement** - For professional fees, running events, distribution, printing costs and any other financial expenditure directly incurred for community planning purposes.

**Community Projects** - To assist in meeting costs associated with the delivery of project work arising from the community plan process. Any organisation can apply for funding from this scheme, as long as it complies with the conditions of funding, has organisational terms of reference and/or a formal constitution, audited accounts and an official bank account.

The amount of funding available to communities will vary, as will the upper limits of how much can be sought. Copies of the application form and the guidance notes are available from: Krista Harris, Regeneration Officer at Stroud District Council 01453 754325. Angela Burlow, GRCC 01452 528491

Or the links below

[http://www.stroud.gov.uk/info/community\\_planning\\_grant\\_scheme.pdf](http://www.stroud.gov.uk/info/community_planning_grant_scheme.pdf)

[http://www.stroud.gov.uk/info/scheme\\_guidance\\_notes.pdf](http://www.stroud.gov.uk/info/scheme_guidance_notes.pdf)

**The Stroud Parish and Community Plans Forum** on 22<sup>nd</sup> September at Whitminster Village Hall focussed on how to deliver local level action on the theme of climate change / carbon neutral communities. Speakers from Stroud District Council, Severn Wye Energy Agency and Water 21 set the scene about why local action was needed, what can be achieved from 'on the ground' activity and what has been done in other parts of the country. Representatives from Uley and Stinchcombe parishes gave an insight into their experience of driving forward climate change/ carbon neutral projects and GRCC gave an overview of points to consider when developing funding applications for projects.

Discussion throughout the evening showed a desire for parishes to share information and prevent reinventing the wheel and below is the news relating to the actions identified at the meeting.

GRCC now has a supply of DVDs which you may wish to borrow. Contact Angela Burlow [angelab@grcc.org.uk](mailto:angelab@grcc.org.uk) 01452 528491 to borrow any of them but please do ensure that you return the DVDs so other communities may use them.

- An Inconvenient Truth – Al Gore
- The Truth about Climate Change – David Attenborough
- The Great Global Warming Swindle (for an insight into any counter-arguments which may be presented) – Martin Durkin
- Going Carbon Neutral: Our footprint our journey – Ashton Hayes

There was a desire to set up a list of 'who has done what' so that links between communities can be developed (e.g. Stinchcombe has some energy meters which they could lend to other communities). GRCC will set up an e-group to gather the information during November, GRCC will send you the link so that you can make your own contacts.

Garry Charnock from Ashton Hayes would be prepared to come to Gloucestershire to give a talk but as their Defra funding for 'spreading the word' has ended, there would be a need to cover Garry's expenses. Please let Angela Burlow at GRCC know if you would be prepared to pay e.g. £5 to hear Garry speak.

You may also be interested in these websites

<http://www.goingcarbonneutral.co.uk/> The website for Ashton Hayes – one of the first 'carbon neutral villages

[www.gloscarbonwatchers.org.uk](http://www.gloscarbonwatchers.org.uk) – a new Gloucestershire based project. They are looking for participants in a "energy save project"

<http://www.everyactioncounts.org.uk/>

<http://www.carsharegloucestershire.com/>

For more details of the speakers' presentations and feedback and suggested actions from the event, go to [http://www.grcc.org.uk/assets/0000/4398/Notes\\_of\\_Stroud\\_parish\\_and\\_community\\_plans\\_forum\\_22.09.08.doc](http://www.grcc.org.uk/assets/0000/4398/Notes_of_Stroud_parish_and_community_plans_forum_22.09.08.doc)

## Parish Plan update

A breakdown of the parishes who are going through the parish plan process and the stage they are at

### Thinking about or early stages:

Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon, Harescombe, Morton Valence

### Consultation Process:

Cranham, Eastington, Kingswood, Leonard Stanley, North Nibley, Standish, Thrupp, Whitminster

### Parish Plan Review:

Leonard Stanley, Painswick

### Parish Plans adopted and working through their Action Plans:

Alkington, Berkeley, Bisley-with-Lypiatt, Cainscross, Chalford, Coaley, Frampton-on-Severn, Fretherne-with-Saul, King's Stanley, Longney & Epney, Ham & Stone, Hardwicke, Minchinhampton, Miserden, Nympsfield, Randwick, Rodborough, Stinchcombe, Uley, Upton St Leonards, Woodchester

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Fairford, the overall winner, has the added honour of being nominated to go forward and represent the county in the prestigious Calor Village of the Year® for England competition 2008/9. This will give them the opportunity to gain recognition at national level as well as a share of a prize fund totalling more than £40,000.

GRCC Chief Executive, Lesley Archer commented: *"We were very impressed by the standard of the villages involved in this year's competition; the judges had a tough job selecting the winners. Our congratulations go to all of the villages that took part, whether they won a prize or not. We had a good mix of entries from all over Gloucestershire and hope that they will all be encouraged to participate again in 2009"*

GRCC can help with competition forms, for further information for the 2009 Calor Village of the Year competition please contact Angela Burlow

This newsletter was composed by Gloucestershire Rural Community Council with support from Stroud District Council and parishes in the Stroud District.

All information was correct at time of publication. If you would like more information please contact Angela Burlow at GRCC, [angelab@grcc.org.uk](mailto:angelab@grcc.org.uk) on 01452 528491

## Funding News

### Comic Relief's funding for small scale regeneration projects

**Comic Relief Grant:** Local community groups, community enterprises and registered charities that address social and economic deprivation within specific geographic areas such as a housing estate, neighbourhood or village may be eligible to apply for grants of up to £5,000 through Comic Relief's Disadvantaged Communities programme. The focus of the programme is on small scale local projects which were started by local residents who came together to try to make their community better. This programme does not support work over a larger area, for example, city-wide initiatives or across a whole town. To be eligible applicants need to have a turnover of less than £150,000. Applications can be made at any time.

<http://www.comicrelief.com/apply-for-a-grant/uk/application/dc-preview.php>

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### Biffaward is prioritising projects that fall into 'Re-building Biodiversity' and 'Cultural Facilities'

**Main Grants - Community £5,000 and £50,000:** Projects should provide or improve community spaces, cultural facilities and places for outdoor recreation. It might be a building that needs improvement to increase the services on offer to the local community. Or an open space such as a park, play area or woodland that needs transforming to benefit local people. In a nutshell, they want to make sure that everyone has access to high quality local community facilities.

**Main Grants - Biodiversity £5,000 to £50,000** Projects should protect and enhance biodiversity across the UK, particularly those concentrating on species and habitats that have been identified as a priority in Biodiversity Action Plans.

*You need a third party funder(s) to provide 10% of the grant you are applying for, for both of the Main Grants schemes.*

**Small Grants - £250 to £5,000:** Often groups only need a small amount of money to make a difference to a local facility, be it a community building, nature reserve, cultural facility or outdoor space. The Small Grants Scheme offers quicker access to lower levels of funding to make these projects happen.

*The scheme for the Small Grants is anticipated to re-open for applications again on the 01 January 2009.*

***The main criteria for all the above schemes are: The project's site is within 10 miles (25 miles for biodiversity projects) of a Biffa operation and the project's site is also within 10 miles of a landfill site owned by any company.***

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### Gloucestershire Community Foundation Grassroots Grants

The fund supports constituted, not for profit community organisations which are volunteer led or have a large volunteer input and have been in existence for 2 years. This is a valuable fund which could be used for revenue income to help you achieve your projects which meet the needs of your community. You must have an average income of less than £20,000 per year over the last 3 years (or since you started if less)

**Grants:** you can apply for grants from £250 to £5,000

**The deadlines are 12 noon on the second Wednesday of each month**

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### Cotswold Conservation Board, the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF)

The scheme supports projects that bring environmental, social and economic benefits to the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It aims to develop and test new methods of achieving a more sustainable way of life.

Achieving sustainable development normally requires working toward four interconnected goals:

- Social progress which meets the needs of everyone
- Protecting and enhancing the environment
- Ensuring a diverse and prosperous rural economy (which supports the conservation and enhancement of the area's special qualities)
- The prudent use of natural resources

Individual projects can place particular emphasis on any one of these four goals. Ideally they should seek to make progress on all of them but must demonstrate no negative impact on any.

**Grants:** You can apply for grants ranging from several hundred pounds up to £25,000.

**If you would like further information about the funds listed above or would just like to discuss your project idea further, please contact Angela Burlow [angelab@grcc.org.uk](mailto:angelab@grcc.org.uk) at GRCC - 01452 528491.**