



Gloucestershire Group

Gloucestershire Group CSPA Newsletter 5 March 2025

This Newsletter is to bring you up to date on the latest Circular 966 from HQ and remind you of our next meeting on 20 March which will be our AGM and of our outing to the Perry Pear Centre on 3 April.

Circular 966

The Executive Council (EC) has been reviewing the existing guidance on running a local CSPA Group to make it more flexible than the previous Model Group Constitution and less prescriptive, to meet the demands of local groups. The new format is a broad framework whilst still being in line with the national CSPA Rules and Constitution. Our current Gloucestershire Constitution is dated 11 May 1995 and is similar to the revised version. Rather than adopt the new version without you having seen it I am suggesting that a copy of the new version is attached to our original constitution which as far as I can remember has never been looked at since 1995. If there is a need to consult the constitution in the future, both versions can be considered. If you have

any comments on this, please let me know and I can circulate the new guidance for further consideration.

Future circulation of the Annual report and Accounts

The Annual report and accounts are currently published as supplements in the Pensioner Magazine which is expensive. To avoid this charge it is proposed to only publish the report and accounts on the members area of the website and send hard copies to groups. If an individual requests a hard copy they may do so. If you have any comments on this proposal please let me know immediately as the closing date for comments is 21 March. This is a pretty major change but likely to save £8000 pa and a fair amount of paper.

We can view and discuss these items at the AGM on 20 March.

AGM

We are very pleased to welcome David Luxton, the Deputy General Secretary as our speaker. David has visited us before and is a very good speaker. He will bring us up to date on CSPA news and other matters including the future of groups and regions. He will also be willing to answer any questions you have on current matters including the McCloud Remedy.

Before the AGM we have to approve the draft response to the questionnaire on the democratic structure of CSPA i.e. the election to the Executive Council by individual members vote as opposed to Group votes. Please see the last E

Newsletter with more detail on this. I was advocating that we support the idea as it gives a vote to those who are not members of a group.

The AGM is of course when we elect our Committee and officers. I am happy to say that the present committee is willing to stand again but as always we would welcome fresh blood on to it.

The agenda will be:

Apologies

Minutes of the previous meeting

Matters Arising

Membership Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Chairman's Report

Election of committee (current holders names in brackets)

Chair (Alastair Goldie)

Treasurer (Ken Lovett)

Membership Secretary (Dorothy Bunting)

Minutes Secretary (Maureen Smith)

Accounts Examiner (Martin Matthews)

Any other Business

Speaker David Luxton Deputy General Secretary.

Outing to the National Perry Pear Centre 3 April 2.30pm

The outing is to the National Perry Pear Centre at Hartpury on Thursday 3 April at 2.30pm. The orchards in Blackwell's

End Hartpury contain the National Perry Pear collection – at least two examples of most known varieties of perry pear, whether they will actually have them at this time of year we will have to wait and see. There will also be a collection of Gloucestershire apples, plums and cherries all planted by Hartpury Heritage Trust since 2006. The orchards cover 30 acres but you don't have to walk round all of them and the Blossom will hopefully be at its best.



We will have a talk in the centre, a short walk round the orchard and finishing with tea and cake. The cost is £10 for members and £12 for non-members. You will need to make your own way to the Centre at Blackwell's End, Hartpury about 2 miles north of Gloucester, where there is plenty of parking. The post code is GL19 3DB and "what 3 words" recapture.imprints.thuds If you require further instructions or require a lift please get in touch.

If you wish to come please send your name, telephone number, any dietary requirements and email address to Mrs D Bunting dorothybunting@gmail.com and transfer the money by BACS if you do online banking, to Lloyds Bank sort

code 30 91 87 account number
01178285 title CSPA Gloucestershire
Group and reference your surname. If
you wish to pay by cheque then send a
cheque payable to CSPA
Gloucestershire Group to Mrs D Bunting
10 Redgrove Road Cheltenham, GL51
0AU with your name and any dietary
requirements.

For further information about the Perry
Pear Centre go to
nationalperrypearcentre.org.uk We are
restricted to 20 places so please book
by 22 March 2025.

Forthcoming Meetings

Thursday 20 March AGM David Luxton
Deputy General Secretary CSPA

**Thursday 3 April Perry Orchard Centre
Hartpury Tour and Tea and cake.**



**Thursday 12 June The A417/419
Missing Link** Carolynne Ferguson Keir
Construction.

**Thursday 4 September Star Centre,
Ullenwood** The work they do.

**Thursday 4 December Cheltenham
Camera Club show.** Topic to be
selected.

Committee:

Alastair Goldie Chair/Secretary
Membership Secretary Dorothy Bunting
Minutes Secretary Maureen Smith
Treasurer Ken Lovett 02285 831748
Looking forward to seeing you at the

AGM on 20 March. As usual the
meetings will be held on Thursdays at
10.00 for 10.30 at the Civil Service Club,
Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham GL51
9SL. If you require any further
information please contact me.

Best wishes,

**Alastair Goldie Chairman CSPA
Gloucestershire Group**
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