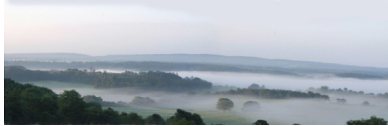


Albury Matters



The Albury Parish Council Quarterly Newsletter
Serving Albury, Farley Green, Brook, Little London & Newlands Corner

AUTUMN EDITION - October 2011



Albury Photographs courtesy of John Powell

Welcome to the Albury Team! Your Councillors for 2011-2015



Back row: Peter Gellatly, Grahame Robinson, Roy Hogben. Middle Row: John Brockwell, Katie Kinnes, Joanna Cadman (Parish Clerk). Front row: Ali Kerslake & Chairman Nick Wenman.

Inside this issue:

Welcome to the Albury Team!	Page 1
2010 - 2011 Finances. Joanna Cadman, Parish Clerk	Page 1
"Freedom of the Parish" For Rev. Ken Hobbs. Editorial	Page 2
Emergency Plan Editorial	Page 2
SITA & Star Energy Editorial	Page 3
"Tell us Once Service" Surrey Register Service	Page 4
Surrey Save, Credit Union Cllr. David Wright	Page 4
Diamond Jubilee Editorial	Page 4

Special points of interest:

- The Albury Team!
- Financial A/cs.
- Freedom of the Parish for Ken H.
- Emergency Plan
- Star Energy and SITA Up-Dates.
- "Tell Us Once Service".
- Surrey Save, Credit Union.
- Diamond Jubilee.

2010-2011 Financial Report...

The Parish Council's accounts for the year ending 31 March 2011 have now been audited and are open for any inspection.

In summary, the income for the year was £67,295, made up of £34,875 from the precept (the money we receive from GBC, which is part of your rates), £7,748 from the Village Hall & Library, £31 bank interest and £24,640 from various grants.

Expenditure for the year was £74,029. Administration costs totalled £20,361, with £2,949 being spent on the recreation ground and open spaces, £403 on the village centre, grants to local organisations of £1,020, and £32,045 on capital projects using the grant money as listed above.

The Village Hall is a large expense for the Parish and last year cost £18,271. We have recognized that we cannot continue to run the Village Hall on a large deficit and have taken steps to resolve this. Some of the capital grant money was used to help refurbish the hall and our new marketing programme is increasing the usage. It is hoped that by 2013 it will be on a break-even situation.

The shortfall between our income and expenditure of £6,734 has been taken from our capital reserves.

Please contact me by phone or e-mail if you have any questions, or you can visit me at the Village Centre (Library) on Tuesdays between 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm.

Joanna Cadman, Parish Clerk



A.P.C. awards “Freedom of the Parish” to Reverend Ken Hobbs

On 18 September, at his farewell & retirement party, the Parish Council presented, for the first time ever, the “Freedom of the Parish” to Reverend Ken Hobbs for his long and dedicated service to the Parish.

The handsome illuminated certificate was largely hand painted with the principal letters and Coats-of-Arms (Drummond & Percy families) embossed and gilded.

The Parish Council also felt that the award should be something more than a symbolic gesture, so it affords him, on an annual basis:

- A Brace of Pheasants (in season, of course) from the Albury Estate.
- A 2kg. Rainbow Trout from the Tillingbourne (rod & flies provided).
- A bottle of Sparkling Wine (if he lives long enough!) from the Albury Vineyard.
- The absolute right to drive his flock of sheep, or any other kind of flock that his calling may desire, through the Village any Sunday of the year!
- Lastly, the right to take over and 'cook up a storm' at the BBQ at the Annual Free Festival!



Nick Wenman presents the “Freedom of Albury” to Ken Hobbs

Both Ken and Margaret leave the Parish with everyone’s good wishes - they will be a hard act to follow!

Before the Parish finds a replacement for Ken the very capable Ministry Team headed up by Andrew Pearson will be looking after the spiritual needs of the community.

Editorial

Harsh Winter Ahead!

Weather forecasters are starting to give us warning of a very harsh winter ahead. As you may know, the APC has invested in a grit-spreader and an initial supply of grit to help keep open our principal connecting local roads to the main ‘A’ roads, these are:

- New Road, Brook Hill, Shophouse Lane (as far as Row Lane).
- Brook Lane, Little London & Park Road, to meet up with the junction at Sandy Lane, Shere.
- Church Lane into Westonfields, Water Lane & Guildford Lane to the top cottages.

We are in negotiations with SCC Highways to make sure that we have a map of the Parish showing all the locations of the grit bins and, of course, to make sure that they are filled!

The other important aspect of our **Emergency Plan** is to make sure that any vulnerable residents are looked out for, and again we would appeal to everyone in the Parish that has a special skill or any equipment that might help in an emergency to get in touch.

The idea of the **Emergency Plan** is to record all the facilities that the Parish will have at its command: those with 4 x 4’s or tractors that will be able to get through the snow, people with generators or chainsaws, residents with special skills of first aid, nurses and doctors.

We have had an initial response to the appeal that we made last year after the November snowfall, however, there is still a long way to go before this important Emergency Plan is complete.

Therefore, we would again ask that if anyone is willing to help, either with skills or equipment, to please get in touch directly with the Parish Clerk, or any Councillor. It would be better if this can be in a written form, either by letter, left at the Post Office, or by e-mail to any of the Councillors on the opposite page.



Editorial



Plans to Produce Green Fuel at Albury Gas Site....

The appraisal drilling for the gas storage scheme has proved not to be economically viable at this stage, however, Star are seeking planning approval in the short term for a low-key project to harness the natural gas that already exists in the field. They plan to produce a low-carbon Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) which would involve only one lorry calling at the site each day.

LNG is a simple natural gas that has been super-cooled to minus 162 degrees C. At that temperature it condenses to become a liquid that occupies 600 times less space than the equivalent gas and makes it economic to transport long distances. It can then be used as a fuel or warmed up to bring it back to its gaseous state.

The production process is relatively simple; the gas is cleaned, filtered and then refrigerated. Some gas will be used to generate on-site electricity so that the plant will be self-sufficient. The end result will be a low carbon alternative to diesel, burning more cleanly and quietly, and emitting less pollutants.



Artist Impression of Albury Well Site

Editorial

So very nearly there – the end is in sight!

Albury Landfill is nearly full, that's the good news. Unfortunately the economic downturn has meant that the tonnage of waste has dropped off and, in consequence, the original date for completion of the site will slip from November this year through to January 2012.



Capping-off with the plastic membrane

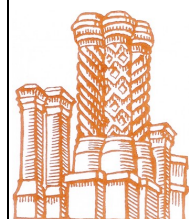
The Environmental Impact Assessment and Restoration Plan have already been approved by Surrey County Council and the timetable for the restoration will be set out once the tip is full. The Environment Agency is now taking a much more proactive involvement in the final capping to ensure that the production of leachate (contaminated liquid produced as rain percolates through the waste) and venting of landfill gases are kept to a minimum to reduce the local and wider impact of the site. SITA have capped and seeded a large portion of the Village (south) facing flank and it is hoped that the whole of this work will be completed before the end of the year.

After 25 years of environmental disruption to our village life we are **so very nearly there....!**

Editorial

Albury Parish Council.... at your service:

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“Tell Us Once” Service will make things easier

Following bereavement, a death must be formally registered with the local Registrar. In addition to registering the death, the Registrar will also be able to offer the “Tell Us Once” Service at their offices.

With your permission the ‘Tell Us Once’ Service will be able to inform the relevant Council services that need to know. This service will make things easier and hopefully take some of the stress away for the bereaved.

This free service covers the following services: Council tax, Adult social services, Blue badge, Electoral register, Housing and Council tax benefits, Libraries, DWP (State pensions and benefits), HMRC (tax credits), Identity and Passport Service (passport), and DVLA (driving licence).

More information is available from council offices, libraries and registration offices. To make an appointment to register a birth or death, please telephone 0300 200 1002.

Surrey Register Service

The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee



The weekend of June 2nd - 5th next year will mark the 60th Anniversary of the long reign of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. Buckingham Palace will be coordinating a programme of events centered around this extended weekend. This will include a Big Jubilee Lunch (probably Sunday 3rd June), a Diamond Jubilee Pageant on the Thames, a concert at Buckingham Palace, and the lighting of 2012 beacons throughout the United Kingdom (on Monday 4th June).

The celebration is being geared up into a ‘National Spectacular’ and the Parish Council would like to be able to facilitate some sort of complimentary celebration here in Albury.

A working party is being drawn from members of all of our various local societies and clubs. **Drew Nicholson has kindly offered to chair this group and has set the date for the first meeting for Thursday, 3rd November at 7.00pm. at the Village Hall Please phone him on 07977 122727 if you would like to be part of the team to discuss this historic event.**

Go Ahead for Surrey Save Credit Union

After seven years of tireless effort by the volunteer team under the guidance of their Chairman, David Wright (GBC Councillor for Tillingbourne), the **Surrey Save Credit Union** has at last received a licence to trade from the Financial Services Authority (FSA) and is planned to open for business in the spring of next year.

Surrey Save is designed as an ethical mutual cooperative bank that will be owned and controlled by its Members, that is, its customers. There will be no Shareholders, no Merchant Banking. **Simply just money in and money out.**

The no frills loans and savings bank will offer three loan products, *Instant, Budgeting & Larger Flexi Loans*, together with five savings products, *Flexi, Regular, ISA & two Bonds*.

All savings are, of course, guaranteed by the FSA scheme (like all banks) and loans will be insured against a death risk. Their rates will be reasonable and competitive. Above all, it will be a caring bank that will always take a practical interest in helping all applicants to manage their finances, including those without bank accounts.

The Bank will cover the whole of Surrey, therefore it is thought that the bulk of their business will be conducted on-line, so to familiarise yourself with the products and services that they will offer please log-on to www.surreysave.co.uk

To be successful **Surrey Save** needs both savers and borrowers to become Members, therefore you are encouraged to look at the web site now and possibly pledge your support so that you will be ready to consider becoming a Foundation Member in 2012.

Cllr. David Wright

Dial 101 for Police

The new number for all non-emergency contact with the Surrey Police.