



# ALBURY MATTERS

## The Albury Parish Council Newsletter

Serving Albury, Albury Heath, Brook, Farley Green, Little London & Newlands Corner

### From the Parish Clerk

The Parish Council receives funds to deliver its legal duties to the parish through the precept, which is a proportion of the council tax you pay to the Borough Council. From this we maintain the Village Hall, Memorial Library, Recreation Ground, Farley Green and pond, the Riverside Meadow, allotments, bus shelters, roadside planters, and more. We normally supplement this with income from hiring out the hall and library so we can add extras, like the new fitness equipment installed in the Recreation Ground, and work to bridleways and ditches. Covid 19 has meant we couldn't hire out premises for the last three months, and probably not for the next two, resulting in almost a half year loss of income, inevitably impacting our plans for the coming year.

The internal audit of Parish Council finances, systems and legal procedures has now been completed and the period of public rights has started. This means that, whilst the accounts and governance statement are with the external auditor, all residents in the parish have the right to ask to see information relating to its affairs. Please contact me if you would like to do this.

**Joanna Cadman Parish Clerk**  
[joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org](mailto:joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org)

### Chairman's Report

I hope this edition of Albury Matters finds you well. I am always delighted to see how residents support each other, and never more so than recently. Before Boris announced lockdown, we already had a Covid 19 parish support programme. Through the Parish News and leaflets, support information was distributed to homes, and a database of local volunteers willing to run errands for those self-isolating, was set up. Using a dedicated phone line, volunteers are put in touch with those needing help. This scheme has been running successfully for over 3 months. You can find out how to use it on page 4. I would like to thank the volunteers, Silent Pool Distillery for delivering leaflets, and the Rev. Andrew Pearson, Lisa Ryan, Sasja McCann, Tracy Laffar and Sandra Dennis for setting up and running the scheme. Thanks, are also due to our local shops, Pratts Stores/Post Office, and Albury Village Stores which have remained open serving our community when many larger shops struggled with supply chains. The Drummond, Mandira's Kitchen and Albury Vineyard must also be credited for their local take away services and we look forward to them all being fully open. Thanks also to those who continue to deliver our mail and to our GP surgery and health workers.

The police and GBC are monitoring Edgeley Park regarding safe compliance with government Covid 19 legislation for holiday parks, and both have visited the site.

Our programme of maintenance has also continued. The ditches on Farley Green have been cleared of silt and the pond is in the process of having the silt removed. We are also engaged with the Albury Estate and SCC regarding the maintenance of the ditch banks and pathway up to the Warren from Church Lane.



Although we had to cancel the Annual Parish Meeting, parish council meetings have continued via Zoom. If you want to join a meeting, please speak to our Parish Clerk. You will be welcome. **John Rowland Chair Albury Parish Council**

## Traffic

Traffic management in the parish is one of the areas under review by our Neighbourhood Plan team. They are assessing traffic hotspots, and data from Surrey County Council and the VAS camera (Vehicle Activated Speed), which is located in the Street. Data from the VAS shows the volume of traffic and speed of vehicles approaching the village from the A25. Their report is not complete yet but for example, they have compared the VAS data for 2 periods, one in 2019 and the other in 2020, (the latter just before lockdown). Analysis of both sets of data showed that 88% of vehicles, drove at speeds in excess of 40mph and there was an annual increase in vehicle numbers from 723 per day to 1042. Over 770 vehicles travelled in excess of 60mph in this 30mph zone.

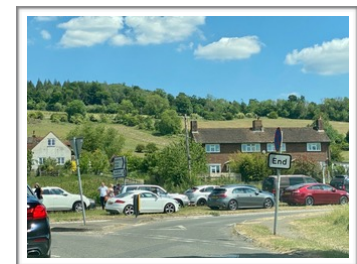


We have ongoing dialogue with Surrey County Council (SCC) regarding traffic management measures in the Street. SCC don't consider speeding to be a problem provided that 85% of traffic is travelling at 33mph or less. The VAS camera data confirms that we have a speeding problem in the village, and this will help us secure a solution. It also helps to slow traffic. The current VAS camera is on loan, so the Parish Council has bought one. It will tell drivers to "Slow Down" if they are exceeding 30mph. The new

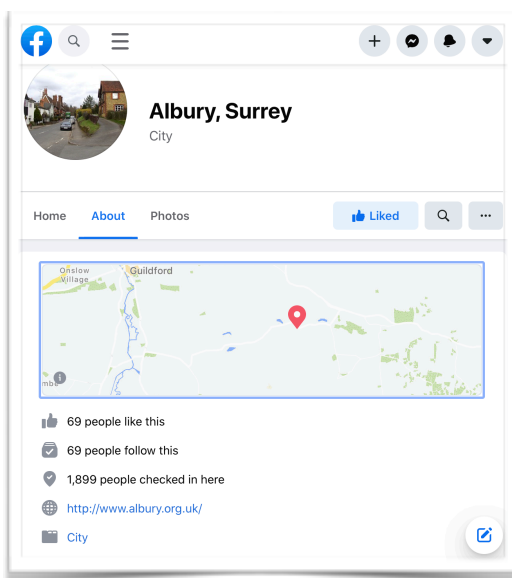
VAS can be moved around the parish and will enable us to assess speeding in other locations, including in the village close to Weston Farm but it can only be used on roads with a 30mph speed limit.



Residents cannot have failed to notice the cars parked on the road and central reservation at Silent Pool. We are hoping this will disappear once lockdown eases, but in the meantime, we have reported it to SCC and Surrey Police and requested dangerous parking offenders are ticketed.



Guildford Lane: After a long ongoing dialogue, SCC have agreed to clear and re-dig the ditch, level the bridleway, install grips, and widen the soak away where the pipe runs under Guildford Lane on the bend close to White Lane Farm. We have also asked for the silt to be cleared from the road, and for two grips to be dug to take water off the road as it comes down the hill after the car park. Work should take place this summer, though no date has been set. **John Brockwell Chair Highways and Byways**



### Facebook

In addition to the parish website [www.alburyparish.info](http://www.alburyparish.info) we now have a Facebook page [www.facebook.com/pages/Albury-Surrey](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Albury-Surrey) where you can catch up on local news, events and what's going on. **Stu Bevan**

### Contact us

You can find contact details for all Albury Parish Councillors and our Parish Clerk at [www.alburyparish.info](http://www.alburyparish.info) Alternatively, please call the Clerk, Joanna Cadman, on 01483 268627

[www.alburyparish.info](http://www.alburyparish.info)

## Litter pick

We held another Litter Pick on 22 March, at 10am. Volunteers met at the Cricket Pavilion on Albury Heath. There was a good turnout and 17 bags of litter were cleared from Park Road, New Road and Albury Heath, including around the sports ground. The good news is that volunteers were interested in attending more "picking" sessions in different areas of the parish. Two have been suggested, one in Farley Green and one in Albury village. Dates for these will be advertised in the Parish Magazine in due course. The Parish Council has also invested in pickers, and high visibility jackets. Our thanks to Michael Boud, Georgie, Ian & Jess Field, Geraldine Firth, Ariane, Amos, Cecelia & Isobel Hill, Giles Madge, Lily & Rosie Murray, Bertie Smith, Sandra & Ian Smith and Paul Yoeman. Caroline Grayburn could not make the day but subsequently did her daily litter pick. **John Brockwell**



## Albury Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Including Albury, Albury Heath, Brook, Farley Green, Little London & Newlands Corner

When we began lockdown, I wondered if our Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group could continue, but we have held regular meetings via Zoom throughout. Our draft reports focus on: Green Infrastructure and the Environment, Rural Enterprise, Design and Heritage, Tourism, Community Assets and Traffic/Travel. These were the areas identified to be of most importance to our community. Each report contains "SWOT" analysis looking at the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats faced by our parish. We have also identified objectives for our policies. Over the coming weeks we will fine tune the reports and pass them to our Planning Consultant. He will put them into a report we can share with the community via consultation. Your input will be key, and the Plan will change in line with your comments.

Part of Neighbourhood Planning is to assess the need for Affordable Housing, and though we don't have to provide it, we know from our Housing Needs Survey that there is a local need. This is principally for first time buyers and young families, and to a lesser extent those wishing to downsize. The tricky part is delivering Affordable Housing on sites that have the support of the community. Part of the process has involved us asking local landowners for a list of sites they would like to put forward for consideration. We now have these. Next, we will assess them, to see if they might be acceptable to the community and meet current planning policy. As our entire parish is in the Green Belt and Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with only a small overcrowded Settlement Area, this is a tough task. Many of the sites put forward will founder but if we can find some that are possible, we will bring them forward to you for public consultation. The Neighbourhood Plan needs the support of parishioners, so everyone will be able to have their say and we will take these comments on board. We are aware of concerns regarding sites previously considered, and it remains our aim to gain the support of the community, and not to cause division.

I would like to be able to tell you when we will commence the consultation stage, but with the current constraints regarding social distancing I am unable to do so, it won't be until September at the earliest. Once we have some dates, we will publish them locally.

**Sandra Dennis Chair Albury Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

[www.alburyparish.info](http://www.alburyparish.info)

## SALV

SALV was formed by a group of philanthropic local residents to help the local surgery acquire equipment and services beyond what was possible within the NHS. I think it's fair to say that Shere Surgery is the envy of other medical practices. Since it was founded the Trust has raised over £200, 000 - most recently £30, 000 for a back-up generator, £30, 000 for a state-of-the-art Ultrasound Machine and £40, 000 for the Wall Dispensary Project.



The project, to build an automated 24/7 dispensary began 2 months ago. Within 3 weeks, thanks to local generosity, we had raised the money to see the project through. The need for planning permission has meant a delay, but hopefully within a month permission will be granted and work can start. SALV through its Trustees and network of Village Representatives, acts as a conduit for channelling feedback and information to and from the Surgery. We like to think we make a small contribution to making the Surgery a happier place to work which results in the best all round service.

Outside lockdown we normally have 2 or 3 public meetings a year, inviting speakers to talk about aspects of healthcare or developments within the Surgery. These are very well attended. If you would like to know more, please contact me. **Adrian O'Loughlin Chairman SALV Health Trust**

## Planning

Despite lockdown, planning applications have continued to arrive for our consideration and under temporary regulations, we have reviewed and commented on applications remotely. Numbers of applications have reduced slightly. Planning applications are determined against the latest (2019) National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Guildford Borough's new Local Plan, Strategy and Sites, adopted in 2019.

The latest public planning consultation from Guildford Borough Council is the **Local Plan: Development Management Policies - Issues and Preferred Options Consultation** which covers detailed planning policies and clarifies planning policy. To view it and add your comments (by July 22) visit Guildford Borough Council's website: [www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan) It's worth looking at. **Peter Gellatly Chair Albury Parish Council Planning**

## COVID-19: Help if you need to self-isolate

If you need help, feel isolated or lonely please phone the community support helpline on **07496 065349** and we will connect you with someone who can help. We can't provide medical advice.

Volunteers - If you are able to spare time to help those self-isolating, please send an email with your details to [CSplanCV@gmail.com](mailto:CSplanCV@gmail.com) In doing so you consent to us holding your details and passing them to a parishioner in need of help. If you are already DBS approved, please let us know.

Albury Village Stores can deliver a wide range of fresh food, drinks, ready meals and more. To order call Nik on **01483 203727**. Payment is via credit or debit card over the phone. Delivery (to the door only) is free but there is a minimum order value of £15.

Albury Post Office and Pratts Stores is open as usual for post office transactions and deliveries. Please contact them on 01483 202123 for help.

For more information visit [www.alburyparish.info](http://www.alburyparish.info)

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