

Albury Matters



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

WINTER EDITION - January/February 2012

What does the future hold for Albury? Have your Say!



Albury Photographs courtesy of John Powell

Inside this issue:

The Future of Albury & the Parish Plan Nick Wenman, Chairman	Page 1
The Precept. Joanna Cadman, Parish Clerk	Page 2
The Power of Well-Being, what next.... Editorial	Page 2
SITA Up-Date Chris Mitchell, E.A.	Page 3
Superfast Broadband Editorial	Page 3
Jubilee Up-Date. Drew Nicholson	Page 4
Diamond Jubilee, dig out your photos! Lisa Keech	Page 4
Jubilee Race Night Roy Hogben	Page 4

Special points of interest:

- The Parish Plan!
- The Precept.
- The Power of Well-Being.
- SITA Up-Date.
- Superfast.....
- Diamond Jubilee
- Party in the Park, Monday 4 June!
- Jubilee Race Night, 17 March!

Many changes have taken place in Albury during recent decades. Some residents will remember local shops, a school, Weston Wood (before the landfill) and a lot less traffic. In recent years new housing has been developed and many small businesses have moved into the Parish. Some clubs and associations have strengthened, like the Produce Association and the Cricket & Football Clubs, but others now struggle. Campaigns have been successfully fought to keep the village post office and prevent on-shore gas storage, and the landfill, having been a blot on the landscape for more than 20 years, is now thankfully moving into a restoration phase.

So what does the future hold for Albury?

Some time ago the Parish Council facilitated the formation of an independent Parish Plan Committee. A Parish Plan is a process that engages the people who live in our Parish in a debate about our local area, in order to improve the longer-term well-being of our community. The government is committed to giving more power to local communities so that we can control our destiny, and the Localism Bill that was passed in November 2011 is an important step in implementing this policy.

The Parish Plan Committee ("PPC") is chaired by William Moorwood who lives in Farley Green. It is a self-appointed committee of volunteers from our community; it has the full support of the Parish Council, but most importantly, in our view, it is independent of the Parish



Council. Its objective is to facilitate the development of the Parish Plan through a process that will ensure the views of the community are properly represented.

So far the PPC has identified stakeholders in the Parish such as clubs, societies, organisations and businesses. It has held a number of meetings with representatives of these stakeholders to identify local needs.

It is important that the process of producing a Parish Plan involves a high degree of consultation and debate **so that everyone has an opportunity to have their say and influence the outcome.**

Enclosed with this edition is a separate letter from William Moorwood, summarising the process that is being followed to produce the Parish Plan, as well as the progress that has been made so far, and details of how you can get involved to shape the destiny of our Parish.

Please read William's letter, and have your say in the future for Albury.

Nick Wenman, Chairman



Albury's Finances

The Parish Council spends a considerable amount of time each autumn considering the budget for the coming year, where the money is going to come from, and, in particular, how much should be asked from the Borough Council in the form of precept. A number of meetings are held and then the budget is finally agreed at our December meeting and submitted to the Borough Council. As you probably know, the precept is the money given by the Borough Council to the Parish Council to run our affairs, and is raised through your council tax.

The Parish Council is responsible, among other things, for the upkeep of Farley Green and the Recreation Ground, the lease, upkeep and day to day running of the Village Hall and Library, the care and maintenance of all the bus stops in the village, clearing of footpaths, cutting back of hedges, and special projects – for which we apply for help through grants – such as the litter bins on the heath, the new bus stop at Boundary Cottages, the re-surfacing of the village hall car park and refurbishment of the hall, and replacing a lot of unsightly metal road edging with oak post and rails.

You probably know that the Village Hall runs at a loss, but a great deal of work on behalf of the Parish Council has ensured that this loss has been drastically cut over the last two years, from over £8,000 to around £4,000 deficit per annum. Contd.....

We have been pleased to see an increase in bookings, both through advertising and through the enhanced facilities, but still have a long way to go before the hall supports itself. In the past, the loss on the hall was supported by drawing on Parish Council reserves, but this is no longer possible.

The coming year will be a very busy one for the Parish Council, with a number of projects on the go. We are pleased to be supporting the Parish Plan Committee, as well as the plans for the Jubilee celebrations, but it is the everyday running of the Council's responsibilities that are our main focus. We expect to support and enhance the services provided by Borough and County, as they struggle to find the resources to do so, and to continue to improve the services that we ourselves offer at a local level.

As a result, the Parish Council has decided on a precept request of £38,515, an increase of 6% on last year. This equates to £62.56 per annum on a 'Band D' property, or £1.20 per week. We hope that you will consider this to be money well spent, and look forward to seeing you at future Parish Council meetings, where you can find out more about how decisions are made and where priorities lie. We are always pleased to receive comments or requests regarding Parish matters, whether financial or otherwise, so please contact me on either 01483 268627 or at joanna@joannacadman.com – or come to a meeting! First Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Memorial Library.

Joanna Cadman, Parish Clerk

What next for your Parish Council.....?

As you know Albury is defined as a 'Quality Council' which is the result of the qualification by our Parish Clerk. Now it is the individual Councillors turn!

In 2007 the Government initiated a programme called "The Power of Well-Being" which enables the council to "do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social, or environmental well-being of their area".

This means that with the new "Localism Bill" a lot of power will be devolved locally. With the communities backing, the Parish Council will be able to spend, provide lending, give financial assistance, set up contracts, companies & joint ventures. In effect, do most things that an individual can do.

To obtain the **Power of Well-Being**, each councillor is required to be trained. The final training session for Albury will be taking place on 9 February and this new status will be formally adopted at a 'Special' Parish Council Meeting on that day.

Editorial

Audacious Thieves About

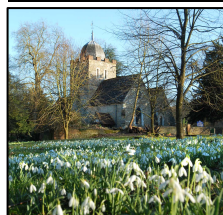
Recently there have been a number of thefts by really audacious criminals. Firstly there was the 1/2 mile of copper telephone cable that put Albury out of action for a week and then the York-stone capping stolen from the Albury Estate wall by Weston Farm & Clive Lodge.



Remember.... if you see anything that looks out of the ordinary, please phone the Police on 101.

Better to be safe than sorry!

Editorial



New Friends For Old...

In association with the CCT, (Churches Conservation Trust)

the local committee are about to launch a new society 'Friends of Albury Old Saxon Church'. It will cost a modest £10 per family each year which will help with the high maintenance costs. For more information please contact Daphne Foulsham, 202594 or Monica Cassels, 202962.



Almost Full!!

Environment Agency Update On Operations at the Albury Landfill - December 2011

Since the last round of information the **gas flare compound** has been secured and SITA's Contractors have been pushing ahead with the construction of the **leachate treatment plant**.



The new Gas Flare Compound

The capping operation along the village side of the site together with Cell B on the northern side of the site has now finished for the winter and will resume in 2-3 months time, however, SITA will be continuing to fill the remaining void and bringing in top soils to continue with their proposed restoration.



Construction of the Leachate Plant

The next Environment Agency update will be at the end of June, hopefully after the remaining operational areas have been completed and the final programme of capping is agreed for these areas.

Who to contact

If you want to report a problem or discuss progress on site please contact the Site Operator in the first instance as they are best placed to respond quickly and provide information about the ongoing works. SITA have asked that you use the following number **01483 202411** for any information or complaints. Alternatively, If you wish to report an issue with the Landfill to us, please call The Environment Agency on **0800 80 70 60** and the call will be logged and passed to the Officer dealing with the site.

Chris Mitchell, Environment Agency



For Albury.....?

The Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has recently announced a £20 million national fund to support the improvement of broadband in rural areas. Individual communities will be able to bid for funding, and applications will need to be aligned with their local authority's Local Broadband Plan.

Surrey County Council wants to ensure that homes and businesses in Surrey are able to access superfast broadband, no matter where they are located in the county. This work is now well underway and they are in dialogue with three strong bidders to develop the best technological solution to deliver Surrey's ambition.

To cover all of the different communities within Surrey there will be a number of technical problems that will have to be overcome. The final solution may well be a mix of **Fibre**, **Wireless** and finally **Satellite** technologies.

Whatever the solution looks like, all of these technologies should deliver an open access network that will enable homes and businesses in Surrey to subscribe to Superfast Broadband via a choice of different internet service providers and packages.

If you would like to receive regular up-dates on the progress of this scheme or any further information please contact: 03456 009 009

Twitter: @SuperfastSurrey

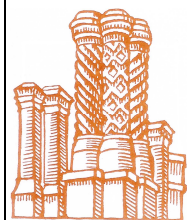
Email: superfastbbsurrey@surreycc.gov.uk

Website: www.superfastsurrey.org.uk

Editorial

Albury Parish Council..... at your service:

Nick Wenman (Chairman).....	01483 202 017	nick@wenmans.com
John Brockwell (Facilities).....	01483 203 586	john.brockwell@dsl.pipex.com
Peter Gellatly (Planning).....	01483 202 689	peter@lockhurst-hatch-farm.co.uk
Prue von Radowitz (Open Spaces).....	01483 202 003	pruvon@yahoo.co.uk
Roy Hogben (Community Development).....	01483 202 636	royhogben@alburypark.com
Jackie Chapman	01483 203 475	jaquichapman@aol.com
Grahame Robinson (Environment).....	01483 203 704	hoff-man@tiscali.co.uk
Alison Kerslake	01483 202 848	ali_kerslake@hotmail.co.uk
Katie Kinnes	01483 229 161	K.Kinnes@nmcommunications.co.uk
Joanna Cadman (Parish Clerk).....	01483 268 627	joanna@joannacadman.com





Albury's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations...

As we gear up for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations there are now a whole host of activities that have been planned for the Parish.

We are really pleased that The Albury Produce Association and the Albury Trust have generously donated £500 each towards the celebrations, and the Duke has contributed the Albury Beacon, but to kick things off, there will be an all important fundraising Race Night in March - do please book your place early as there is limited space.

The idea for the Parish for Jubilee weekend is that we have a big celebration on the Day ('Monday in the Park'- a party for all to be held in Albury Park) but also something that will provide a legacy for years to come (a photograph of everyone in the Parish - to be placed in the village hall, plus there will be a children's art competition and the planting of a Jubilee Oak).

We also hope everyone will get in to the spirit and dress their houses in red, white and blue in the weeks before the celebration weekend for the 'Best Dressed House' competition.

We hope that everyone from Farley Green through Brook Lane, Albury Heath, Albury and Newlands Corner will come and join in.

Make sure you miss nothing - please diarise the following dates:



Saturday 17 March: *St. Patrick's Day Race Night* at Albury Village Hall - see advert below.

Sunday 20 May - Sunday 3 June: *Best Dressed House Competition.* Dress your house in Red, White & Blue. The best dressed houses in the Parish will win prizes!

Sunday 3 June: *Planting of the Jubilee Oak tree.*

Monday 4 June: *'Monday in the Park'.* Join in this exciting celebration for the whole Parish at the Old Saxon Church, Albury Park. 5.15 p.m. till late.

Saxon Church Service, Free Barbeque, Duck Races, Best dressed gazebo, Best dressed outfit, Children's Painting competition, Taking of the large Parish Photograph, Beer Tent, Beacon Lighting & sparklers for the children at 10.00p.m.

Drew Nicholson, 07977 122727

Don't forget the **RACE NIGHT**

There are only 80 tickets available for this fun and entertaining evening, so please book early to avoid disappointment. The tickets are £10 each and include a fish & chip supper.

"Buy" and name your horse for an extra fiver.



Saturday, 17 March 2012

(St. Patrick's Day)

Albury Village Hall

Tickets & Horses from the Post Office!

Dig Out Your Old Coronation Photos

Do you have any old photos of the village celebrations of the Queen's Coronation? If so we would love to see them and maybe use them in our planned celebration for her Diamond Jubilee. All material will be copied and returned to you in good order.



Photos, courtesy of the Browne/Croucher Family

If you have anything that you think maybe of interest please contact Lisa Keech on 203582. Hard copies can be dropped off at the 'Old School House' next to the village hall or e-mail

lisa.keech@googlemail.com

N.B. Jubilee Fact:

Her Majesty the Queen came to the throne on 6 February 1952 and her Coronation took place the following year on 2 June 1953.