



ALBURY MATTERS

The Albury Parish Council Newsletter

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

From the Parish Clerk

Albury Village Hall is again open for users, whilst observing rules about social distancing, cleaning and masks. For these reasons, we currently can't open the Memorial Library but hope to be able to use it again from August.

Other Parish life continues as normal, as our groundsmen have been able to work. Please, can I make a heartfelt plea to the person/people who exercise their dogs in the Recreation Ground. Dogs are not allowed in the Recreation Ground, because dog faeces are incredibly dangerous to children.

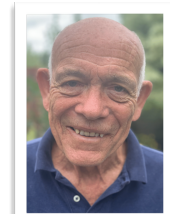
Joanna Cadman Parish Clerk

joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org

Chairman's Report

As we emerge from Covid restrictions the Parish Council and Planning meetings are once again being held at the Village Hall. I am delighted that Albury residents and Mandira's Kitchen were recipients of the recent Mayors Awards (see details below). Many congratulations to them.

The May elections saw the retirement of our Surrey County Councillor Keith Taylor after 12 years in the role, I extend our thanks to him. Bob Hughes was elected to replace Keith at SCC and we look forward to working together. After three years as Chair of Albury Parish Council I have decided to stand down. We currently have a number of projects running and have decided not to elect a new Chair in the short term, instead we will share responsibility. To contact us you can find details for our Parish Councillors at www.alburyparish.org



Cllr John Rowland

Mayor's awards honour community heroes

The Mayor's 2021 Award for Service to the Community rewarded people nominated by residents in the borough for going out of their way to improve the lives of others and included a new Community Heroes award for those who supported residents affected by Covid. Two local residents, Lisa Ryan and Sasja McCann were awarded for setting up a Covid helpline in Albury, distributing information leaflets and co-ordinating a team of volunteers to help with food parcels, prescriptions and community transport.



Lisa and Sasja said: "We're honoured to receive this award on behalf of all of our volunteers. The start of the Covid pandemic was a scary time for everybody, and things were so uncertain. We wanted to create this network to let vulnerable people, who were in their homes and scared to go out for essential items, know that help was available. In the end we had more volunteers than people who needed our help. The thought that everybody wanted to do something was very humbling, and it's helped us to get to know our community and meet new people." Mandira's Kitchen also won a

Community Heroes Award for providing 250 meals to vulnerable families over the Christmas holidays.

Out and About

We have made a big effort to clear neglected ditches. The work at Farley Green was carried out to an excellent standard and we took the opportunity to sort out the overgrown and silted pond. We removed over 100 barrow loads of silt and weeds and a new pipe was installed and connected to the pipe which crosses the road, replacing the collapsed one. This cured the puddle on the Green.

Going forward, we will look at the hippo ponds in the woods near to Lipson cottages but we need to establish responsibility first.

The ditch on the bridleway at the top of Church Lane has been cleared, and is now working well in heavy rain. Grass cutting is now happening: at Farley Green, the Recreation Ground, the Community Meadow, Albury Heath, Little London and the posts on the A248 by the Albury Estate office will be strimmed. The plants for the troughs in Albury village have also been planted.

SCC have completed remedial work at St Martha's car park and the surrounding footpaths, hopefully curing the problem of flooding onto the road. Unfortunately, the ditch in the car park is full and overgrown and needs clearing but currently SCC have no funds for this, so sadly this will have to wait.

Cllr Paul Yeoman Outdoor Maintenance

Become a Surrey Hills Champion



Becoming a Surrey Hills Champion is an exciting opportunity to become part of a growing network of like-minded individuals and organisations, who share the same love of the Surrey Hills and the key values of sustainability, quality and local provenance.

- Do you have a strong connection to the Surrey Hills?
- Would you like to contribute to the environmental sustainability of the Surrey Hills and support community nature recovery projects?
- Would you like to become an integrated part of the Surrey Hills community and take part in environmental, inspirational and community events?
- Would you like access to exclusive offers and events supporting sustainable Surrey Hills businesses?

To find out more information go to www.surreyhills.org/surreyhillschampion

Natural England announces proposed expansion of Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Natural England has announced that the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is to be considered for boundary expansion. Securing this designation would allow the area to benefit from greater protections, so that more of England's beautiful landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.

The Surrey Hills AONB stretches across a quarter of the county of Surrey and includes the chalk slopes of the North Downs from Farnham in the west to Oxted in the east, and south to the deeply wooded Greensand Hills which rise in Haslemere. To find out more go to www.surreyhills.org



Albury Parish Neighbourhood Plan

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

I had sincerely hoped that by now we would be in the first stage of parish consultation on our Neighbourhood Plan but recent Covid restrictions have delayed us once again. On the positive side our draft reports on all aspects except affordable housing are currently being prepared by our Planning Consultant. On a more disappointing note we are still trying to access grant funding from Locality to enable us to start preliminary assessments on sites put forward for affordable housing. The financial goal posts keep moving on this which has made it tricky, fingers crossed this time we will be successful. We look forward to bringing our draft Neighbourhood Plan to you for consultation just as soon as possible.

Sandra Dennis Chair Albury Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

B4SH for Farley Green

Broadband for Surrey Hills (B4SH) is a community based and community funded initiative to bring high speed, reliable broadband to the rural areas of the Surrey Hills. This initiative has been based on the pioneering Broadband for the Rural North (B4RN) that successfully brought broadband services to the rural communities of Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumbria.

Work has been underway since 2018 and there are now live operating services in Shamley Green, Willingshurst, White Lane, Halfpenny Lane, and Albury village.



Supported by local residents there is an active push into Farley Green where services should be enabled for residents in late 2021 rolling forward into spring 2022. This will be B4SH's largest concentrated deployment to date so you will no doubt see lots of activity across Farley Green as we bring this to reality and strange machinery as we dig the fibre in.

Of course, with all such schemes active volunteers are the key to making things happen and special thanks are due to John Brockwell, Duncan Godfrey, Calvert Han, Bob Dowson, Carolyn Low, Andi McCann alongside the B4SH team headed by Anthony Townsend.

If anyone is interested in a future subscription that we don't yet know about, simply learning more about B4SH or volunteering for the upcoming efforts then please reach out in the first instance to Andi andi.mccann@yahoo.co.uk or on 07971 844498.

Find contact details for Albury Parish Councillors and our Parish Clerk on the Parish Council website www.alburyparish.org Alternatively contact Joanna Cadman, on 01483 268627

The Green Project



With the current news of record temperatures along the West Coast of the USA and Canada and increased temperatures in recent summers here (but typically not while I write this), along with increased flooding in areas of the UK, not necessarily always due to climate, as well as national and government schemes, it is no surprise that more local initiatives that look at what can be done to help with climate change and the environment have commenced across the UK.

With the support of Albury Parish Council, two local residents, a few councillors, alongside our Guildford Borough Councillor, Diana Jones, have formed a group to propel local climate change and environmental related activities. Modelled on the approach in Effingham we are seeking interested local residents to come forward with their own ideas that they wish to progress.

The group's role is to help mobilise these ideas, connect to others in the Albury community or in other local parishes undertaking similar initiatives, and to join individuals or

teams who have similar interests, and help to source funding, where possible, with the objectives of:

- Making a sustainable difference to local climate impacts
- Making it easier for ideas to get started

Effingham Climate Change group have been working since June 2020 and have several initiatives and projects underway including recycling, tree planting, looking into electric car charging points and flooding.

They are also able to offer advice on a diverse range of subjects, all of which are geared towards achieving something to help with climate change.

Each local area has their own different conditions and environmental issues and with it, opportunities to achieve something locally that will add to an overall improvement.

We've initiated a short survey - it literally only takes a minute to prompt thinking and assess what ideas and interests there may already be...please take an opportunity to complete

<https://alburyparish.org/climate-survey>

If you have a project involving climate change or the environment that you think would help to achieve something in Albury, then please contact Stu Bevan at stu.bevan@alburyparish.org

