



# ALBURY MATTERS

## The Albury Parish Council Newsletter

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

### From the Parish Clerk

In March we had to close the Village Hall and Memorial Library but when the first lockdown eased, we were able to put in measures to keep it Covid friendly and it returned to partial use. Unfortunately, our efforts were short lived, and we have had to close the Village Hall again. We will open it just as soon as possible. Sadly, the Memorial Library remains closed as it is too small to ensure adequate social distancing. We have also had to take additional measures at the playground in Weston Fields. Please encourage children and visitors to observe social distancing and wipe down equipment after use for the safety and well-being of all.

**Joanna Cadman Parish Clerk**

[joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org](mailto:joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org)

### CORONAVIRUS - HELP IF YOU NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE.

If you need help, feel isolated or lonely phone the community support helpline and we will connect you with someone who can help. **07496 065349**

We can't provide medical advice.

**Volunteers** - If you can 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.

## Chairman's Report

I hope this newsletter finds you well. It has been a difficult year, but the Parish Council has continued to meet throughout albeit via Zoom, and we have been active on your behalf.

After more negotiation between Surrey County Council and the Albury Estate the flooding problems in the Warren (Church Lane) have been addressed. The ditch has been cleared and trees removed. This should resolve the problem. Unfortunately, we are still waiting for the silt to be removed from the road surface in Guildford Lane adjacent to White Lane Farm. We have been let down on promises that it would gone by now, but we will persevere.

Our new VAS (Vehicle Activated Speed camera) has been installed outside Weston Farm. In addition to contributing to speed reduction in the village we can also monitor traffic speed and vehicle numbers. Our Neighbourhood Plan team are already using this information for their planning. Surrey Police are monitoring sound emissions on the A25 in Mole Valley after resident's complaints about loud motorbikes which seem to have increased recently. I will be contacting the police to see if this scheme can be extended to Newlands Corner.

I would like to congratulate our Parish Clerk Joanna Cadman on her recent sponsored walk to raise money for NHS charities. She walked from Cranleigh Leisure Centre to the Royal Surrey Hospital and back every day for 5 days, totting up 100 miles.

Our local retailers, pubs and restaurants have served us well through 2 lockdowns, but it has been tough for them. On page 4 you can find details about their current plans, and also for the Festive Period. I sincerely encourage all of us to support them as much as possible, they are an invaluable part of our community.

Lastly, I am looking forward to seeing the usual wonderful display of Christmas lights on homes around the parish bringing much needed cheer to us all.

**John Rowland Chair Albury Parish Council**



## Lockdown, but not for Broadband for Surrey Hills who continue to install our independent fibre network

Broadband for Surrey Hills (B4SH) now have customers in Silent Pool, Albury Park, Weston Yard, and the new Albury Estate development in Church Lane. Local group champion Tim Wall has been gathering expressions of interest and investment in the area south of The Street in Albury. Thank you to those who have recently invested, it means we can bring our fibre network to your immediate area sooner. Investment and interest are also being gathered for north of The Street. Route planning the parish in Albury Heath and Farley Green are also progressing.



We are registered for the Gigabit Voucher Scheme, so we can claim a Government Voucher of £1500 for every residential connection and £3500 for a business. This is a great help in funding, but only goes a small way to pay for the network costs. Pictures show our new big kit which enables easier duct installation with a small team; our blower being put through its paces; plus, some of the supplies needed to continue our network expansion; hence we continue to seek investment.

As important as investment, is volunteer help. B4SH is a not-for-profit, community benefit society, all our directors are volunteers, and the network is planned and built by local resident volunteers. To help bring full fibre to local villages, we welcome your involvement. If you're happy to do digging (manual or machine), networking, installing routers or even office admin and have time to spare, please speak to Sonya Graham 01483 347437 or [sonya.graham@b4sh.org.uk](mailto:sonya.graham@b4sh.org.uk) The community builds the network and B4SH brings the technology.

Demand for connections during lockdown has outstripped the speed that we can build the network. Customers connected to B4SH benefited from their own fibre connection which means no problem with congestion, so your service does not drop off at peak times; gives the same speed up and down (those working on Clouds or gaming hugely benefit here); allows you to continue your Zoom meeting whilst your children are doing their school work online (or watching YouTube!)



If you want to upgrade, then get in touch [enquiries@b4sh.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@b4sh.org.uk) or go to [www.gigupanddown.net](http://www.gigupanddown.net)



**Contact Us:** Find contact details for Albury Parish Councillors and our Parish Clerk on the Parish Council website. Alternatively, please call the Clerk, Joanna Cadman, on 01483 268627 or [joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org](mailto:joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org)

In line with government guidelines for accessibility we have updated the Parish and Neighbourhood Plan websites. All the usual information is there but with a fresh new look. View them on [www.alburyparish.org](http://www.alburyparish.org) and [www.alburyparishneighbourhoodplan.org](http://www.alburyparishneighbourhoodplan.org)

## Planting trees for the future

On 9 July 2019 Surrey County Council declared a climate emergency and committed to work with partners to agree Surrey's collective response, which will include a strategy for becoming carbon neutral as early as possible. As part of this, the council has committed to facilitate the planting of 1.2 million trees – one for every Surrey resident – by 2030. They are now seeking sites to plant the trees and for volunteers to water and maintain the trees after planting. Parishioners are encouraged to put forward suggestions to our Parish Clerk Joanna Cadman [joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org](mailto:joanna.cadman@alburyparish.org)



## Albury Parish Neighbourhood Plan

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

Covid has made it difficult to progress our Neighbourhood Plan this year as we are committed to community consultation and engagement for the project in the form of “open events” around the parish. We doubt this will be possible until late spring 2021 at the earliest and are realistic that we may need to resort to a parish household questionnaire to gather some of the information we need. Either way we will make sure that we publicise any consultation.

Our draft reports on: Green Infrastructure and the Environment, Rural Enterprise, Design and Heritage, Tourism, Community Assets and Traffic/Travel are almost complete and over the summer we began to turn our attention to Affordable Housing. In order to progress any investigation into possible sites we need to secure grant funding. The recent government announcement about changes to the planning system has caused much confusion about the future of Neighbourhood Plans and how they will be funded. It is still as clear as mud! The “knock on” effect was delays to our grant application. We have only just reached the point where we can begin to progress this which is frustrating.

Once the funding is secured, we will start analysis of potential sites for affordable housing to see if any might be suitable and if they comply with planning policy. As we are in the Green Belt and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with limited settlement areas, this is not straightforward but may still be achievable. Once we have a short list of sites, we will present these to the community for consultation.

I would especially like to thank members of our Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for all their hard work this year. They are all local residents and have devoted a great deal of their time in the preparation of our draft reports which are detailed, professional and well considered. We look forward to sharing the reports with you when we are able.

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

## Please support local business and shop local

**Albury Post Office and Pratt's Stores** is open 7.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 7.30 am to 2pm on Saturday, closed Sunday. The Post Office offers all services including issuing car tax and banking. We also have parcel drop off and collection and a Food Bank drop off point. The shop sells newspapers and groceries. Call us on 01483 202123.

**Albury Village Stores** sell fresh food, drinks and ready meals. Open every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. We have a new dry-cleaning service for clothing, duvets and bed linen. Call 01483 203727.



**Albury Vineyard** and shop are open during lockdown, Saturdays and Sundays 12pm - 4pm for wine sales and walks - our self-guided vineyard tour (outside) is currently free [www.alburyvineyard.com/pages/visit-us](http://www.alburyvineyard.com/pages/visit-us) We have a lovely selection of wine gift boxes and gift vouchers available in the shop and online for delivery [www.alburyvineyard.com/collections/gifts-1](http://www.alburyvineyard.com/collections/gifts-1) Lastly, we have a Christmas offer online for sparkling wine - use the discount code CHRISTMAS25 to receive £25 off online purchases of Albury Estate sparkling when ordering 6+ bottles [www.alburyvineyard.com/collections/wine](http://www.alburyvineyard.com/collections/wine)

**Carlo's** are offering a hot food collection service and our chilled and frozen menus during lockdown. Check out menus and order details at [www.carlostrattoria.com](http://www.carlostrattoria.com) where you can also book for Christmas or call 01483 224180.



**The Drummond** will be open after lockdown and are now offering a delicious take-away service! Give us a call to book - 01483 202039 Many, Many thanks to all of our wonderful customers for their continuing support. [www.thedrummond.co.uk](http://www.thedrummond.co.uk)

**The King William IV** are closed for lockdown but look forward to warmly welcoming customers soon. We have installed lots more tables and seating and are taking bookings for our Christmas menu, so come and visit. For menus and opening times [www.thewilliamivpub.com](http://www.thewilliamivpub.com) or call us on 01483 202685.

**John Murray Butcher & Game Dealer** For wonderful local meat, cheeses and a vast selection of delicatessen and so much more. We offer a weekly delivery to your doorstep, everything is packed to your personal requirements. Visit our website [www.johnmurraybutcher.co.uk](http://www.johnmurraybutcher.co.uk) or call 01403 752859.

**Mandira's Kitchen** are so touched by people who make the effort to buy local from small businesses. We currently can't serve food on our lovely patio, but winter picnics are popular. Pick up a warm biriyani and samosas with a hot drink. Our cookery lessons are on hold for now, but we run zoom lessons-where Mandira demonstrates how to create a family feast. People come to fill their freezers and pick up Christmas presents. We are taking orders for Christmas food (dishes from our catering menus ordered in advance, for 4 or 6 people). Following our successful half-term cooking session, we have more planned and will do another 500 meals for community projects in Guildford [www.mandiraskitchen.com](http://www.mandiraskitchen.com) or 01483 940789.



**Plucky Pheasant** is open for takeaway and collection service from 8.30am with an adult and children's menu. See our website for opening times [www.thepluckypheasant.com](http://www.thepluckypheasant.com)

**Norbury Park Cheese** award winning artisan cheese can be bought online at [www.norburyblue.co.uk](http://www.norburyblue.co.uk) or at Kingfisher Farm shop in Abinger Hammer.



**Silent Pool Distillers** are open throughout lockdown, 7 days a week. There's something for everyone with our range of luxury English gins and gorgeous lifestyle gifts, so get your Christmas shopping done in one place. Those who can't get out, can order from our website. We also offer Virtual Gin Experiences and Private Virtual Gin Experiences can also be arranged. Head to [www.silentpooldistillers.com](http://www.silentpooldistillers.com) for more information. NHS & Blue Light card holders can enjoy a 10% discount online and at our Distillery Store. Local residents should keep an eye out for a special discount leaflet in the post from us all soon!