



PARISH ASSEMBLY

What is a Parish Assembly?

There can be, and often is, confusion between the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. All Parish and Town Councils throughout England are required by law to hold an Annual Parish Meeting (which we have called the Parish Assembly to try and avoid confusion!), which must take place between 1 March and the 1 June (inclusive).

What is the purpose of the Parish Assembly?

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for the Parish Council and other local organisations to explain what they have been doing over the last year. It also enables the electors to have their say on anything they consider is important to the people of the parish.

What else happens at the meeting?

This year and last year the Parish Council invited local clubs, societies and other organisations to provide an exhibition and/or have a stand at the 'market place' to showcase the work of their group.

Who can attend the meeting?

The Parish Assembly is a meeting for all the local government electors of the parish. It is not a meeting of the Parish Council. Anyone may attend but only registered electors of the parish may speak and vote during the meeting.

Will I be able to ask questions and make suggestions?

Any registered elector may ask questions of the Council, which will usually be answered by the Chair, the Clerk, or a councillor. An elector may also make suggestions and comment on anything pertinent to the people of the parish. This will be welcomed and is the whole purpose of the meeting.

Will notes be taken of the meeting?

Minutes of the proceedings of a Parish Assembly are recorded and will be signed at the next Parish Assembly.

Great Alne Parish Councillors:

Lynn Bowring (Chairman) – The Old Cottage, Henley Road, Great Alne, B49 6HR
Paul Clark – 66 School Road, Great Alne, B49 6HQ
Ian Millard – West Meadow Barn, Manor Court, Henley Road, Great Alne, B49 6HR
Marie Holding: 10 Nightingale Close, Great Alne, B49 6PE

Sarah Duran (Clerk) – 2 Flax Close, Alcester, B49 5DQ Tel no: 07833 790375

Any thoughts on the newsletter? Please let us know!

BITS & BOBS

Here are a few snippets that may be of interest to you!

- **SDC Online reporting-** there are many online forms available on the SDC website- Abandoned vehicles, Missed bin report, Street Cleansing, Moving Home (Council Tax) to name but a few. Today's top tip however, is the Fly Tipping Form available at: www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/fly-tipping-form.cfm
- **Fix my Street Warwickshire-** An online form that allows you to report potholes, faulty traffic lights or bridge defects. You can report a problem by going to <https://warwickshire.fixmystreet.com>
- **Computers for the rural community-** Available to anyone who works or lives in a rural area needing a laptop or desktop computer. It is possible to buy a fully refurbished device at a very reasonable price through the following charity <http://www.ruralchurch.org.uk/communities-and-farming/computers-for-rural-people>
- **Checking on local river levels- River Alne**
 - Flood information service <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/station/2048>
 - River levels- NB. This is an independent website: <https://www.riverlevels.uk/river-alne-aston-cantlow-little-alne-.Vo6CF8-95EY>



Parish Council Meetings 2018

Great Alne Primary School on Mondays

- 21 May*
- 16 July
- 17 September
- 19 November

Meetings usually have a 7pm start
*Annual Meeting 6.30pm

Everyone is welcome!

Draft Minutes are available one month after Parish Council meetings. Please see the website or contact the Clerk for a hard copy

PARISH ASSEMBLY
24 MAY 2018
7pm
MEMORIAL HALL
All welcome!

Parish Update

- **Defibrillator:** Following the successful installation of the defibrillator in the phone box on School Road, two defibrillator awareness sessions were held at the Memorial Hall in January 2018. Trainers from the Community Heartbeat Trust were very informative and entertaining. Further information about what do if someone collapses is available as a PDF download on the Parish Council website/ News
- **Recreation Ground:** There have been serious and disappointing delays to the installation of the play equipment. The contractors, Kompan have been severely hampered by the adverse weather and subsequent ground conditions. We hope for good news soon as the weather improves. The Parish Council hopes to have an event to celebrate the arrival of the new equipment to which everyone will be invited. We will keep you posted! However, the log and chain assembly has been replaced on the Playdale Activity Trail.
- **Green lane between Sernal Lane and Coughton Fields Lane:** Warwickshire County Council have renamed this track as a U route. The Parish Council is yet to understand the full implications of this change. But as the route has an unknown status the County Council will not maintain or enforce this track as anything other than a footpath. It has now been established that the track and land adjacent, which has been so badly damaged by members of the off-road community, is owned by a local farmer. The Parish Council is making a direct appeal to the land owner and is waiting to hear the outcome.
- **General Data Protection Regulations:** These come into force on 25 May 2018. The regulations need to be updated due to developments in technology and the amount and types of data that is collected. They will also reflect changes to improved rights of the individual, clearer responsibilities for organisations and accountability as to the holding and use of data. For those of you who receive this newsletter and information about Parish Council Meeting agendas or minutes electronically- the Parish Council will therefore need to write to you again asking for your permission to hold your personal details for such purposes. You can withdraw your permission at any time- please just let me know.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for VASA!

Volunteering should be enjoyable and rewarding so come and join a friendly team working across Stratford upon Avon District. VASA has a number of services with a variety of voluntary roles including Community Transport and Social Events.

Have you got a little bit of spare time? VASA appreciate as much time as you can give and have times available to suit you. They are looking for Volunteer Drivers who take clients for medical appointments or to groups and activities to help overcome social isolation. VASA need drivers from all areas in South Warwickshire. You can choose to do as many journeys as you like each month. 45p mileage costs paid. Areas covered include: Stratford, Alcester, Warwick, Leamington Spa, Kenilworth, Southam, Shipston & the surrounding villages.

They also need Telephone Operators, to help answer the phones for their Community Transport service. You'll be taking calls, entering details on a computer (full training given) and be part of a lively group in their Stratford offices. Perfect if you have a spare morning or afternoon each week! If you are interested in any of these opportunities then please get in touch for an informal chat. Please call 01789 262889 or email volunteer@vasa.org.uk

Can we help?

Please complete and return this form to Sarah Duran, Clerk to Great Alne Parish Council, 2 Flax Close, Alcester, B49 5DQ

Do you have any comments or suggestions about the state of the footpaths, overhanging trees or pavements for example?

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Thank you!