



Great Alne Parish Council

www.greatalne-pc.gov.uk

Crime Report

Thankfully, throughout 2020, crime in Great Alne has remained low. A regular update on crime within the area and useful information is issued by Warwickshire Police and can be found on their website <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/>.

Door to Door Sellers

In recent weeks, the police have had several reports of men going door to door, trying to sell items from holdalls. The police have provided some information about this type of call.

It is unlikely that they are part of any prison or young offenders rehabilitation scheme. If they are, they will have official identification and will be happy to produce it. They should carry a Pedlars Certificate issued by the police area they live in. This certificate should be produced on request. If you have a seller at your door and you feel that they are not complying with the law or they are acting suspiciously then call the police straight away on 101 to report.

There are legitimate representatives that go door to door taking orders for new windows and building work etc. To prevent such calls, put a sign on or near to your door saying that door to door sellers are not welcome. If in doubt, do not answer the door. Consider using a video doorbell to monitor any callers.

Is your vehicle attracting thieves?

Follow these ten simple rules to protect your car.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Lock your vehicle | 2. Keep the keys safe |
| 3. Be aware of carjackers | 4. Park responsibly |
| 5. Watch for illegal tow trucks | 6. Fit good in-car security locks |
| 7. Double-check electronic locking | 8. Before you buy, check for cloning |
| 9. Secure your port | 10. Be aware of test drive thieves |

For more details on these 10 useful tips, visit the Great Alne Parish Council website: <https://www.greatalne-pc.gov.uk/>

Great Alne Parish Councillors:

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

Joanne Bullingham (Clerk) – Oakfield Cottage, Stratford Rd, Wootton Wawen, Henley-in-Arden B95 6DF Tel no: 07833 790375
greatalne.parishcouncil@googlemail.com

Can we help?

Please complete and return this form to Joanne Bullingham – Oakfield Cottage, Stratford Rd, Wootton Wawen B95 6DF

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

Speed Awareness Group

The Great Alne Speed Awareness Group is now up and running. Thank you to Cllr Millard and Sue Millard for the work they have put in to arranging this. The Parish Council both appreciate and share the level of concern residents have over the speed vehicles drive through the village and hope this scheme will prove to be an excellent deterrent. Thank you to the residents who have volunteered to be part of the team.

Join us and have your say!

It has never been easier to attend the bi-monthly Parish Council meetings and now may be the perfect opportunity to learn more about the Parish Council and get involved. For the foreseeable future, meetings will be held via Zoom. Joining details are added to the website, Facebook and noticeboards in advance of the meeting along with the agenda. If you have any questions, please contact the clerk.

Cyclists and Walkers

Please remember:

- Walkers (unless in large groups) and runners should face oncoming traffic.
- Cyclists should ride with the traffic.

Fly Tipping

Please report any fly tipping by emailing: streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk or via the online form by visiting the Stratford-on-Avon District Council website.

Parish Council Meetings 2020

Via Zoom – joining details added to website ahead of each meeting

➤ 18 November

Meetings start at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.



Provisional meeting dates for 2021 are:

- 20 January
- 17 March
- 19 May
- 21 July
- 15 September
- 17 November

COVID-19

**WASH HANDS
COVER FACE
MAKE SPACE**

For the latest updates, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Wonderful community spirit during difficult times

At the start of the pandemic, Great Alne joined forces with Alcester Community Resilience team to ensure help and support was available to those in need. Our Chairman, Cllr Lynn Bowring kindly volunteered to be the coordinator for the Great Alne sub-group. The Chairman said "I was delighted to get such a speedy response to my call for volunteers and this has demonstrated the fantastic community spirit within the parish. The group remains active and whilst we aren't inundated with requests, those we do receive are always dealt with very promptly with multiple volunteers happy to help. We have assisted with food shopping, collecting prescriptions and dog walking. From talking to residents, I understand lots of arrangements have been made outside of the group and it is wonderful to know so many people are checking on their neighbours. I would like to think that when we are the other side of this pandemic, we may be able to continue the group in a different form and potentially support one another by sharing skills and knowledge."

Should you require any assistance, please call:

Helpline: 07707 598379

Email: alcester.response@outlook.com

Alcester Community Resilience is also on Facebook

Working together to keep safe

The Parish Council were pleased to be able to re-open the park on 20th July following the three-month closure. In order for the park to remain open, it is essential that social distancing and the rules advertised on the signs at the park are adhered to.

As a reminder:

1. Please respect and maintain social distancing at all times, ideally keep at least 2 meters apart, and certainly no closer than 1 meter. If the play area is busy, please go back later or wait. We are unable to monitor the use of the playground but strongly recommend the following to ensure social distancing:
 - a. Only one adult per child in the toddlers' area.
 - b. Max of 3 children and 3 adults in toddler area at a time.
 - c. Birds nest swing - 1-person max at a time (unless the same family group)
 - d. All other equipment - max of two users at a time
2. The Parish Council does not have the resources to undertake cleaning of this equipment on a regular basis and ask that parents wipe down equipment before and after use.
3. Please use hand sanitizer for yourself and your child throughout your visit and ensure hands are washed thoroughly when you get home.
4. The attempts to secure one of the swings to prevent use have been undone. The Parish Council feel it is safer to leave the swings as they are but please only use one swing at a time to maintain social distancing.



Police matters

Main contacts for Great Alne are:

PC Rob Davies

(Beat Manager)

PCSO Carolyn Davis

PCSO Gary Johnson-Jones

Alcester Police Station, Priory
Road, Alcester, B49 5DZ

Tel: 01789 444816

(Team voicemail) or 101

E-mail:

alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire

pnn.police.uk

Twitter: @AlcesterCops

Instagram: southwarwickshiresnts

Facebook: Alcester Police

Contact information for the

Alcester South Safer

Neighbourhood Team is on the

village noticeboards or see

www.warwickshire.police.uk

Parish Council Update

The Huff Cap

The new owners have recently submitted their plans to Stratford-on-Avon District Council and these are publicly available by visiting the 'Planning' page of the Parish Council website.

In brief, the proposals include the: "erection of 3 new dwellings, re-configuration of the public house car park and beer garden including demolition of modern garage".

Flooding

As winter approaches and the inevitable rainfall increases, concerns remain over flooding/drainage in lots of different parts of the village. At the end of last year, County Cllr Rickhards suggested that the Parish Council request a comprehensive survey from the Flood Risk Management Team. This was arranged for March 2020 but lockdown restrictions meant this meeting was cancelled. As restrictions eased, the Parish Council have tried to rearrange this survey. The Flood Risk Management Team have confirmed however that between Covid and a high number of internally flooded property investigations, they are struggling to meet expectations for many site visits. They would need to justify the expense of their specialist contractors attending to survey and so have asked County Highways to provide the most recent highway reports for the sections the Parish Council identified as key problem areas. An update will be provided at the November meeting.

Proposed changes to the planning system

The Government is proposing major changes to the planning system in England. The 'Planning for the future' consultation proposes reforms of the planning system to streamline and modernise the planning process, bring a new focus to design and sustainability, improve the system of developer contributions to infrastructure, and ensure more land is available for development where it is needed. The Chairman attended a briefing session on these proposed changes and updated the Councillors (at the September meeting) with the high-level information. More information will be available when the Government White Paper is issued. The consultation period closes on 29 October 2020, and comments will be shared after the Parish Council have considered the proposals in detail.

Creation of Unitary Authorities

A Government White Paper on local government reform is to be issued in the autumn. Among other things, this will include a review of the principal authorities which will probably lead to the creation of a unitary authority of some kind in Warwickshire which will combine the functions of County and District Councils. Our county may be fast tracked and it could all happen in the next two to three years.

The government wishes to strengthen the role of local councils and other community governance arrangements. This might lead to significant changes for Parishes such as gaining control over services with money, staff and training. It may also be advisable for parishes to collaborate voluntarily together to have enough influence to be able to negotiate with the unitary authority.

There are currently two possible options being floated: a single unitary council for Warwickshire which would in effect combine the functions of the County Council and the Districts, or two unitaries, one each for the north and south of the county. Further details will be provided as more information becomes available.

Dog Waste

May we kindly remind all residents that it is an offence not to clean up after your dog (Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996). There are five dog waste bins throughout the village. Please use them where possible or dispose of the waste at home.

Centenary Calendar 1921-2021

The centenary calendar is now available for delivery and features 12 scenes from around Great Alne and Kinwarton along with thumbnails of all the photographs displayed at the exhibition in March. An ideal Christmas present and only £5.00. Call 01789 488831 or email gakmhnews@gmail.com to order.

Great Alne Park Update

Jeremy Conen, Senior Development Manager for Inspired Villages has sent the following report.

General Progress

Our contractors, Seddon, are making good progress with the next phase of cottages. They have adopted the industry approved working practices to keep everyone safe and this has had a slight delay in allowing progress. We are also experiencing supply issues with some materials. We hope to have the next phases of cottages complete in November and December. The two apartment blocks are due to finish before the end of the year subject to the impacts of the pandemic.

Events

The events programme for this year have been suspended due to the Covid outbreak.

Hoarding

It is still our intention to replace the hoarding on Henley Road and complete the landscaping works and install the signage previously shared with you. Our board requested further information on costs and feedback from our own residents which will be presented for approval this month. Once approved we will be able to progress a planning application followed by the implementation.

East Entrance

Whilst for marketing reasons we want to open the east entrance as soon as possible, our safety advisers are very concerned at the risk of residents and heavy construction traffic coming into conflict. This is especially a concern due to the heavy earthworks required to complete the foundation excavations for our third phase. The material excavated needs to be transferred across to the meadow where it will be shaped and landscaped. We are currently reviewing the programming of these works with planning officers and will be engaging county highways in these discussions.

Phase 3

We are still working with the local planning authority on our proposals to change the type of units we want to build in our third and final phase at Great Alne Park. Our objective is to introduce smaller and more affordable units into the scheme. This appears to be supported by the local authority, although there are some challenges, we need to work through with them around the Community Infrastructure Levy and affordable housing contributions. Our aim is to have a planning application ready to submit in December 2020. We will share our plans with the Parish ahead of any submission.

Farm Shop and Medical Centre

Work is underway with the conversion of the former sales centre to convert this into the new medical centre. We hope to be able to handover the property to Alcester Healthcare in December 2020.

We have also placed the contract to fit out the thatched building which will operate as the village shop. We have identified a local business who will be operating the shop as a farm shop. We hope this will open in the first quarter 2021."

A letter to Great Alne residents from Alcester Health Centre can be found on the 'Great Alne Parish Council' Facebook group or on the website under the 'News' page.

Facebook

The Parish Council now have a group on Facebook. Please search 'Great Alne Parish Council' to join. We hope that this can be of great use to residents, allowing us to share information more quickly.

Please respect one another's opinions and ensure the group remains a friendly, useful group to be part of.

We kindly request that it is not used for advertising.

Allotments at Great Alne Park

If you would like to rent an allotment at Great Alne Park, please contact the reception team on 01789 489101 for further details. Each Plot is rented for a period of 12 months and you can be added to the waiting list if there are no plots available. The current rent for the period is £25.00 for a full plot for residents within the boundary of the Alcester Town Council.

Hedgehogs

Following requests from residents, the Parish Council are investigating some new signage to warn drivers of hedgehogs within the village. Signs from the County Council and the work entailed to establish need etc. are prohibitively expensive so advice has been sought to establish where we are allowed to put signs ourselves. If you do find a hedgehog that appears to be in distress, visit <https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/fo-und-a-hedgehog/> for helpful information.