



Crime Report and staying connected

Police are asking residents to be vigilant following incidents in South Warwickshire, including Stratford, Alcester, Wellesbourne, Snitterfield and Southam. Several of the offences are being treated as linked, with most incidents occurring overnight. The offences have mainly involved offenders breaking into houses and taking keys, before stealing cars from the driveway. VW Golfs, BMWs and Audis have been the main targets. There are also increasing concerns within Warwickshire and nationally regarding people having their drinks spiked in bars and nightclubs.

A regular update on these issues is issued by Warwickshire Police and can be found on their website <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/>. A new Warwickshire Police community messaging system - 'Warwickshire Connected' – encourages direct engagement between the Community and the Police. This is a free messaging service where you decide when and how you hear about the issues that matter most to you, whether that be getting regular crime updates, the latest information on ongoing incidents and emergencies or learning more about what your local police are doing. It is also the place where you can get involved in helping to shape the initiatives that help to keep people and property safe and communicate on what matters are causing your communities harm. It is very quick and easy to sign up here: <https://www.warwickshireconnected.com>

Police matters

The 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

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
- Hazel Mainwaring - Hill View, Burford Lane, Shelfield B49 6JH
- Diane Francis – 6 Millway Lodge, Woodland Drive, Great Alne, B49 6FX
- Kyla Brown (Clerk) – 2 Gunn Court, Park Lane, Great Alne, Alcester, B49 6HS
Tel no: 07833 790375
greatalne.parishcouncil@googlemail.com

Can we help?

Please complete and return this form to Kyla Brown – 2 Gunn Court, Park Lane, Great Alne, Alcester, Warwks B49 6HS

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

Help for local families

Did you know that there are local organizations in Alcester and Great offering help throughout the year to families who might need a little bit of support?

Great Alne Parochial Charity

If you, or anyone you know is struggling to make ends meet, for whatever reason, please tell them about the Great Alne Parochial Charity. You must be a resident of Great Alne to be eligible for a grant but there are no other conditions that need to be met. If you wish you could apply for someone else as long as they are a resident. Any request will be considered quickly and confidentially. There are no restrictions. There are no fixed amounts. It's not a loan. You don't have to pay the money back. Please contact thegapcharity@gmail.com in total confidence.

Alcester Foodbank

Another local resource is the Alcester Foodbank, located in the Methodist Church on Priory Road, next to Waitrose. The foodbank works by a voucher referral system. Vouchers are available from various agencies, such as health visitors, children's centres and Citizen's Advice. For more information on how to obtain vouchers and visiting the foodbank, please visit: [Foodbank vouchers | Arden Foodbank](#)
Donations for the Foodbank can be made at Tesco's and Waitrose in Alcester.

Christmas Hamper Appeal

Christmas can be a stressful time for many families. The Parish Council will be collecting non-perishable products to make up hampers for local families this December, with anything left over being donated to the Alcester Food Bank. We would be grateful for any non-perishable donations that you might usually expect to find in a hamper. Collection boxes will be located from 1st - 10th December outside Reception at Great Alne School, at the Memorial Hall (by the garden slope) and at Great Alne Park (in the Reception area near the restaurant). The items will be removed daily from the boxes. Please help us support local families who might need a little bit of support this Christmas.

Issue

42

Autumn/
winter 2021

Great Alne Parish Council

www.greatalne-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings 2021

The next Parish Council meeting is on 16 December 2021.

The meeting starts at 7pm. It will be held in the Function Room at Great Alne Park, B49 6HS.

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. If you have any questions, or if there are any items you would like to be considered for adding to the agenda, please contact the Clerk.

Defibrillator and First Aid Training

On Sunday 9th Jan 2022 at 10.30am, the Community Heartbeat Trust will be running a 2-hour seminar and training session at the Memorial Hall on cardiac arrest response, including how to use the upgraded defibrillator in the phone box. There are 29 spaces available. Please request a place by emailing the Clerk at: greatalne.parishcouncil@googlemail.com.

Welcome back to The Mother Huff Cap!

It's been a long time coming but now we know it has been worth the wait! We are delighted to confirm that The Mother Huff Cap will be reopening – soon - under the experienced and capable hands of business partnership Sarah Pert and Andy Taylor.

Sarah and Andy also own The Why Not Inn in Astwood Bank and The Five Alls in Cheltenham. They are extremely excited to relaunch The Mother Huff Cap and return this asset to the village. Work is currently underway to refurbish the interior of the premises and recruit new staff.

In the meantime, Sarah and Andy are very keen to understand what the village needs in terms of facilities from its pub and are keen to actively engage with us to hear our thoughts. They have some great ideas already, including making the separate rooms available for local social groups. With this in mind, the Parish Council has offered to gauge the views of residents in the parish to hear your thoughts on what facilities, activities or group events you would like to see at The Mother Huff Cap. The key areas for which Sarah and Andy would particularly appreciate your opinion are as follows:

- Opening times - is there a demand for coffee and cake in the mornings/ breakfast and the newspapers at the weekend?
- Would local social groups be interested in using the separate spaces at the pub for their meetings? They have previously hosted all manner of wonderful groups – from ukulele club to metal detectors and mother and baby groups!
- Is there a need or wish for any other community resource, such as a book swap or takeaway facility?
- What sort of entertainment would the community like to see?
- Are there any concerns that Sarah and Andy can assist with or help to alleviate?

We are sure there will be lots of excellent ideas and different views in response to this survey, so please email your suggestions to the Clerk at greatalne.parishcouncil@googlemail.com who will collate the information and forward it on to Sarah and Andy for their consideration.

We will provide updates as and when they become available, including the all-important opening date! We would also like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to Sarah and Andy to Great Alne. We are sure you will want to join us in wishing them many happy years at The Mother Huff Cap, and every possible success. Thank you for saving our pub!

Parish Assembly Part II!

The first part of the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting was held on Wednesday 19 May 2021, and comprised a simple formal report on PC activities in 2020-21. This was adjourned so that we could reconvene again when Coronavirus restrictions had been eased. The purpose of reconvening is to enable residents to join us to hear about proposals and plans for the coming year (for which we will be seeking volunteers!); to share views from residents on what they would like to see happen in our local community, and to invite some of our local organisations and groups to provide an update on their activities and upcoming events. The Assembly will take place on **Saturday 29 January at 11am**, at Kinwarton and Great Alne Memorial Hall. If you would like to get involved with a new hobby or activity, meet local residents and perhaps make some new friends, please come along to what will be a real volunteer-seeking event!



South Warwickshire Local Plan/Council Merger

Earlier this year, Stratford District Council and Warwick District Council agreed to explore the principle of a formal merger of the two councils, to create a new District Council covering the whole of South Warwickshire.

The vision is 'to create a single statutory South Warwickshire Council covering all of the activities currently carried out by Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwick District Council by 1 April 2024.' The South Warwickshire Local Plan will set out a long-term spatial strategy for services such as waste collection, local planning, housing, management of parks and sports facilities, licensing, business support and environmental health, which are currently delivered separately by the two district authorities.

Public consultation on this plan closed on 24th October 2021. There is a council meeting on 13 December at which both councils will vote on whether they are going to request the Secretary of State to support the merger, as without support from Central Government, the merger cannot take place.

More information, including a video presentation on the proposals can be found here: [South Warwickshire Local Plan](#)

We will keep you updated on any developments through the PC meetings, Facebook and the newsletters.

Parish Council Update

Community Speed Watch Group Gets the Green Light

Following a fabulous response to our call for volunteers to join the Great Alne Speed Watch Group (CSWG), 14 volunteers have completed the basic Road Safety training with Alcester SNT, and 3 volunteers have been formally trained by the Warwickshire Police Road Safety Unit (WRSU) and are now qualified to use the speed detection device. GAPC has now purchased a speed gun and tripod for use within our parish. We will be contacting the volunteers very soon to arrange some dates for using the speed gun on road sites that have been pre-authorized by the police. We are trying hard to arrange spaces with the WRSU for the remaining volunteers to be formally trained, but in the meantime, they can assist the qualified volunteers in their use of the speed gun.

'Great Alne Tidy-Up Weekend' – Your Village Needs You!

The Parish Council, in collaboration with the Great Alne and Kinwarton Memorial Hall and the Church, is organizing a 'Great Alne Tidy-Up Weekend!' from **10am-3pm on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th December 2021**. We hope to repeat the success of the Litter-picking weekend held in April, where 17 groups of volunteers collected 28 bin liners of litter across the parish. However, this time we are also supporting the Church with a number of essential garden maintenance jobs and general odd jobs. A list of tasks has been co-ordinated with the Church Warden, Mr Gareth Roberts-Davies, who will be up at the Church working through the list! Volunteers can choose what volunteering activity they would like to assist with, and for how long.

'Base Camp' will again be set up at the bottom of the Memorial Hall car park, where volunteers can sign in and collect any equipment (which will be sanitized between use). There will also be a Volunteer Policy which we would encourage every volunteer to read before taking part on the day. We will be purchasing some more litter pickers, so there will be no need to book a slot for them this time; you are also more than welcome to bring your own. There will be a small thank-you for each child who takes part (please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult for the litter picking).

The weekend coincides with the Memorial Hall 'Coffee Morning' on the Saturday and 'Christmas is Coming!' on the Sunday evening – so it is a weekend of opportunities to catch up with neighbours and local friends. Please help us to spread the word, and if you are able to support us over the weekend, even for just an hour, please add the date to your diary.

Community Pay Back Team Assistance

Over the coming weeks and months, you will notice a number of workers and supervisors in hi-vis tabards carrying out various essential jobs across the parish. We have been fortunate to engage the assistance of a local Community Payback Team who will be visiting on a monthly basis for the foreseeable future.

The Team will initially help with grounds maintenance in and around the church, and with the clearing of a number of footpaths that are overgrown and need re-establishing. The Team will therefore be located in one of two locations initially – either at the Church or along one of the footpaths near to the church.

Mrs Diane Wright MBE

This edition of the Parish Council's newsletter is dedicated to the life and work of Mrs Diane Wright MBE, who sadly passed away in July 2021.

Born in 1933 in the Boot Inn which stood on the corner of Mill Lane and Henley Road, Mrs Wright was the oldest born resident in Great Alne. She had many fond memories of going to school and growing up in the village, including celebrating VE Day on the field over the railway line.

Mrs Wright was the school crossing patrol lady for 34 years. She was a strong supporter of the Great Alne and Kinwarton Memorial Hall serving on the Management Committee for over 30 years, and was a member of the WI for over 40 years. Her official duties at the Memorial Hall included oak tree planting for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 2012, opening the Millennium extension, the new stage and bathroom facilities. She was extremely proud and honoured to be awarded the MBE in June 2000. Mrs Wright was a dedicated and active member of our community and will be sorely missed by many. We are sure you will join us in extending our deepest condolences to Mrs Wright's family and friends.

Great Alne Park Update

Mr Will Gardiner, Development Surveyor for Inspired Villages (IV), has provided the following update for Great Alne Park (GAP):

- As Warwickshire County Council (WCC) are yet to approve the technical s278 agreement which facilitates necessary the road works at the East Entrance to GAP, IV have commenced temporary works to the entrance, and from within the development, which will see the closure of the West Entrance on Park Lane next month. All traffic to GAP will thereafter be directed to the Henley Road entrance until Phase 3 of the development works commence, currently scheduled for the end of 2022.
- Some minor hedge/vegetation clearance is required in order to safely bring the East Entrance into use. A condition of the SDC (Stratford District Council) planning consent requires 160 meters of unobstructed visibility from the site access; these impending works have been raised as part of the s278 discussions. This visibility range is on the basis of the speed limit along that section of the Henley Road remaining at 50mph. IV and GAPC are in early stages of speaking to WCC to seek a reduction of the limit to 30mph. If the speed limit reduction is approved, the hedges will be allowed to regrow beyond the 160-meter visibility spay.
- A planning application for advertising along the East Entrance is currently pending before SDC. The Parish Council submitted a response to the proposals and IV have subsequently made some amendments.
- IV has confirmed that a new planning application will be made to SDC in December 2021 for the addition of 5 new plots which will be built within Phase 3. IV have indicated that plans have been shown to the GAP residents and amendments to the plans subsequently made. GAPC has been invited to attend a meeting with IV to discuss these plans before the application is submitted.
- The Farm to Fork shop on site is now fully open. For details on what the farm shop has to offer, including opening times, see - www.farmstofork.co.uk

Keep in touch

The 'Great Alne Parish Council' Facebook page provides regular updates and information concerning our Parish, including local road closures, events and news. All local residents are welcome to join.

We do ask for members to 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 business advertising and any business posts will be pre-approved by an admin before going live. Thank you for your understanding.

We're going paperless

One of GAPC's primary ambitions for this year is to reduce its carbon footprint. One of the easiest ways we can achieve this is to reduce our reliance on printed copies.

We have created a QR Code which can be scanned by most mobiles and electronic devices. The QR Code will take you to a link where you will be asked to register your address details to confirm that you no longer wish to receive a paper copy of the parish newsletter. All registered addresses will receive an electronic version going forward.

It will take just a minute or two to register. Please help us achieve our goal and environmental objectives by registering your address. The information will be used for the purposes of the newsletter only. Our Privacy Notice is available at [The Parish Council - Business: Great Alne \(greatalne-pc.gov.uk\)](#)

