

Alderton Newsletter - April 2026

1. ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

www.aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk / clerk@aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk

MINUTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The latest minutes can be found at: <https://www.aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk/meetings-2025>

PLANNING UPDATES

Proposed Development – Land south of Beckford Road [now 32 houses] 24/00393/OUT

Gloucestershire Highways has now indicated that, subject to a number of conditions, they have no objection to the proposed development. There remain issues between the developer and the management company associated with the existing Franklin Road estate over site access land.

Proposed Development – Land Behind 52-74 Willow Bank Road [48 houses] 2400801/FUL

Planning enforcement issues remain.

If residents have issues with current construction programmes please raise these via the Parish Council as the Council have the relevant contacts. Email clerk@aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk.

ALLOTMENTS

The Allotment Association have undertaken clearance work on the Western Boundary.

ROAD CLOSURES FOR RESURFACING

At times between 1 April and 30 June on the B4077 and on Dibden Lane.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Work is being done with the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council to prepare a Parish household questionnaire on how this grant money might be spent.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Is on Tuesday 12 May 2026 at the Village Hall at 7pm.

Information about the Parish Council can be viewed on www.aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: at 7pm Tuesday 21st April 2026 in the Village Hall.

Welcome to new residents

Our monthly newsletter is available by email at www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/newsletter-signup. Visit www.aldertonvillage.co.uk for information on village services, clubs and organisations.

Follow us on social media at www.facebook.com/aldertonglos & www.instagram.com/alderton_glos and join our WhatsApp groups (**Alderton Residents** and **For Sale/Free**) for local updates and to buy/sell. To join, contact Mark on 07973 963539 or mwjmail@gmail.com.

2. ALDERTON BUSINESSES & SERVICES

THE GURKHAS AT GARDENERS ARMS

www.thegurkhasatgardenersarms.co.uk / 01242 620257 / info@thegurkhasatgardenersarms.co.uk

The Gurkhas at Gardeners Arms wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to all of their neighbours and friends for the incredible support since they opened their doors.

Since opening their doors, they have received quite an enthusiastic response from residents, who have embraced both the authentic dishes and the warm hospitality on offer.

The Gurkhas' menu is inspired by traditional Nepalese recipes, ranging from delicately spiced curries to freshly made momos, alongside a selection of vegetarian and vegan options. The staff members are passionate about sharing their heritage, and they expressed their gratitude to the local community for their early support and encouragement.

"We are truly overwhelmed by the warm welcome," said the manager. "It's a joy to see people enjoying our food and culture, and we look forward to becoming part of everyday life here."

With its inviting atmosphere and commitment to genuine flavours, the restaurant aims to become a gathering place for both diners and those looking to quench their thirsts with a refreshing lager or ale!

ALDERTON VILLAGE HALL

www.aldertonvillagehall.co.uk

bookings@aldertonvillagehall.co.uk / enquiries@aldertonvillagehall.co.uk

Our monthly café/coffee mornings are usually held on the first Saturday of each month from 10am-12 midday. Everyone is welcome to join us for fresh coffee, tea or hot chocolate and delicious home-made cakes made by the Village Hall volunteers. Come along on your own or meet up with friends.

SATURDAY APRIL 11th - SEED SWAP CAFE, 10AM TO 12PM

We will be joining with Alderton Allotment Association to offer you a chance to pick up some seeds for the coming planting season. Bring along any spare seeds or seedlings you have and swap them for something new.

SATURDAY MAY 2ND - PLANT SALE CAFE, 10AM TO 12PM

Following a very successful event last year, we have once again joined forces with Alderton Gardening Club who have arranged for local nurseries to come along with plants to sell, ready for our spring planting season. Coffee, cake and plants, what could be better

SATURDAY JUNE 6TH - CANINE COFFEE MORNING, 10AM TO 12PM

Well behaved dogs on leads, big and small are very welcome to join us for this special morning. Homemade doggie treats will be available to buy as well as the usual tea, coffee and cakes. Takeaways also available.

SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND - VILLAGE PRODUCE AND CRAFT SHOW

A date for the diary.

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH

CHURCH OPENING

The installation of the new electric heating will start on Wednesday April 8th and it is expected that it will take 3 weeks to complete. For health and safety reasons, the church will unfortunately have to remain locked during this time. We will put a notice up in the noticeboard when the work is completed and when the Church will be re-opened.

Because of this, the service that should be in Alderton on **Sunday April 12th** will be held in **St Peters Dumbleton at 10.30am** - with grateful thanks to their PCC. It will have to be decided nearer the time whether the service on **Sunday April 26th at 10.30am** will be able to be held at Alderton.

CHURCH BOOK SALES

Thank you for the donations of books. Because the church will be closed for a few weeks, please wait to hand donations for the moment until the work is finished.

CHURCHYARD TIDY UP

This will be held on Saturday 11th April and we will start at 10am. People stay as long as they can/like! If you can't make it on that day, do feel free to do some when you are able. Many people enjoy walking through the churchyard, and we would love your help to keep it looking attractive. Please bring any equipment, such as something to kneel on, a trowel, a bucket, and secateurs. We really appreciate all the help that you can give.

CONCERT IN CHURCH: MUSIC FOR A SUMMER EVENING ON SAT MAY 9TH AT 6PM

The North Cotswold Singers are a c.30-strong choir based in Willersey, with a wide-ranging repertoire of songs and a passion to share the joy of singing! They are directed and accompanied by husband-and-wife team Paula Evans and Chris Long, two professional musicians from Pershore with extensive backgrounds in performance and music education, in classical, contemporary, folk and other musical styles. Their current repertoire includes music by The Beatles, Bob Chilcott, Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo and Tomas Luis de Victoria alongside traditional English and Scottish folksong and popular favourites: a North Cotswold Singers concert is an entertaining and moving experience, suitable for all ages and tastes!

There will be a paying bar and light refreshments - tickets at £10 are available from Helen West helenmarywest4@gmail.com and Gill Cogzell gillian.klapper@gmail.com

OAK HILL CoE PRIMARY SCHOOL

<https://www.oakhill.gloucs.sch.uk/>

Wow! The second spring term has flown by - we have had a jam-packed month - the highlights were World Book Day, school celebration day and, of course, the Easter Service at St Margaret's and the school Easter Fair.

We raised a staggering £841.15 on the day from our FOOHS teams refreshments, face painting and feathers and the pupils' games, teddy sales and the raffle. We have also now received a top-up donation that took the tally to £1,000 - we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all the children, families, friends, staff and wider community for their donations of prizes, cakes, teddies and time and

entries for games and purchases of refreshments and raffle tickets. We hope you all had a wonderful time at this lovely event.

We are looking forward to a number of events beyond our school curriculum including a Parliament trip for Year 6 pupils, a visit to the Black County Living Museum, Sports Week and many sporting fixtures, a visit to Eastnor Castle, swimming lessons, a train trip, our final stay-and-play session for incoming Reception 2027 children and we kick off with a scooter training day on our return!

We are still booking tours for families who are interested in joining our wonderful school and we look forward to welcome people to visit us to experience all that we offer.

We wish you all a peaceful yet joyous Easter.

3. CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ALDERTON GARDENING CLUB NEWS

www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/alderton-gardening-club

The March meeting of Alderton Gardening Club featured a well-received talk by head gardener Mike Dron, formerly of Buckland Manor and now working at The Lords of the Manor Hotel. Making his debut as a speaker, Mike presented “Gardening Naturally,” outlining his environmentally sensitive approach to managing the hotel’s eight acres of grounds—work undertaken solely by himself and his sister.

A major focus of his talk was the creation and maintenance of wildflower meadows. Mike explained how these are traditionally cut using a scythe, with careful timing essential to allow seeds to fully ripen before cutting. He highlighted the role of yellow rattle, a semi-parasitic plant that suppresses vigorous grasses and encourages wildflower establishment. By redistributing cuttings to other areas, the team has successfully expanded wildflower-rich grassland across the site.

In contrast, the hotel’s more formal gardens are planted with a mixture of perennials, bulbs, shrubs, and trees, with no reliance on bedding plants. Instead, the planting scheme is designed to provide year-round interest through succession—ensuring a continuous display of flowers, foliage, and fragrance. Mike also shared practical insights into seasonal maintenance and current tasks, noting that the gardens at Upper Slaughter lag behind Alderton in early spring due to their higher elevation on the Cotswold escarpment.

Chairman Tom led an engaging question-and-answer session during and after the talk, before Mike received warm applause from members. Club business followed, including announcements of the AGM on 2 April, a plant sale and coffee morning on 2 May, and congratulations to Rosemary Macleod for winning the monthly photo competition with her image of *Chaenomeles*. Tom also shared seasonal gardening tips for March.

The evening concluded with a raffle, and a vote of thanks to the speaker. Mike stayed afterwards to chat with members, who clearly appreciated both his knowledge and enthusiasm. Thanks to Jim Keating and Mike Patterson for helping in the kitchen on the night

Sue Kent will be joining us on October 8th for a talk “Creating beautiful borders”. Tickets are now available on general sale to non-members priced at £15. To register your interest email

aldertongc@gmail.com, they can be paid for via bank transfer. Members can still purchase them at £10 each. Membership for 2026 is still available and cost-effective. Google Alderton gardening club and tap onto the membership link.

Next month is our 8th anniversary meeting on April 9th. We will welcome Jean Vernon for a talk about the secret lives of garden bees. Doors open at 6.45p.m for a 7.30p.m start. Members £3, Non-Members £6 you are welcome to join us!

5. GREAT WASHBOURNE

CHURCH

Thanks to those who have signed up for the rota for churchyard mowing and for locking and unlocking the church. There are a surprising number of visitors to the church who are always appreciative of the fact it is open and that it is so well maintained.

The Church AGM is being held on Thursday 9th April at 7pm in the church. Everyone is welcome to attend, and it would be great to see you and to hear any ideas for future village events.

GREAT WASHBOURNE SUMMER SUPPER - FRIDAY 19TH JUNE

Please put it into your diary, it would be lovely to be able to welcome you back to our summer evening event.

5. EVENTS

QI GONG, VILLAGE HALL

Qi Gong
Meditative Movement
Tai Chi is a form of Qigong

Qigong is an ancient gentle movement and breath work practice that enhances and strengthens our life force energy, clearing stress and stagnation from the body, promoting health and ease

For Wellbeing & Relaxation
For Strength, Flexibility & Balance
No floor work - suitable for all
For Fun. All Welcome!

Alderton Village Hall
Fridays at 12 noon, starting 17th April
Contact Anita 07788 560150 for information
Fully certified & insured

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Alderton Village Hall, Fridays at 12 noon, starting 17th April

Contact Anita 07788 560150 for information.

ALDERTON 5KM RUN - SAT 5TH SEP, 11AM START

The Alderton 5k Run is a fun, friendly and fast race set in the beautiful surroundings of Alderton, Gloucestershire. Open to all abilities — from first-time runners to seasoned racers — every entry helps support Alderton Acorns Pre-School and Toddlers, a much-loved part of our village.

- For everyone – from beginners to competitive runners (typical finish times: 16–45 minutes)
- Great race experience – free medal and finish-line photos
- Extras on the day – post-race massage available
- Inclusive and welcoming – under 16s, dogs, pushchairs and escorted runners all welcome

DEBRIFRILLATORS

To use both defibrillators, take your mobile phone as you need to call 999 to get the release code.

| | Rear of porch, Alderton Village Hall | Right-hand side of Pavilion, Alderton Playing Field |
|------------|---|---|
| Address | 2 Dibden Lane, Alderton | Beckford Road, Alderton |
| Postcode | GL20 8NT | GL20 8NL |
| What3Words | https://w3w.co/taking.scramble.reporting ///taking.scramble.reporting | https://w3w.co/dazzling.rounds.seemingly ///dazzling.rounds.seemingly |

Send contributions to the Alderton Newsletter to aldertonnews@gmail.com by the 25th of each month for inclusion in the following newsletter.