

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS www.aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk

PLANNING APPEAL – CALA HOMES. This Appeal will be determined by a Public Inquiry, commencing on **6th July 2021**. The Parish Council will be taking part in a case management conference with the main parties and the Planning Inspectorate on 18th May. The aim is to ensure that the Inquiry is conducted in an efficient and effective manner which optimises the Inquiry time.

PARISH PLANNING – No new applications have been received to date.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – This will be held on **25th May 2021**, at **7.30pm**, in the Village Hall. Please note this will be subject to Government guidelines at the time and face masks must be worn. The agenda will focus on some broad topics such as housing, the playing field and allotments. Organisations may submit reports if they wish, and these will be compiled into the usual summary. We are not expecting individual reports to be made at the meeting. Our aim is to keep the meeting as short as possible. If you would prefer not to attend but have a parish related question then please contact the Clerk beforehand.

LOCAL ELECTIONS – these are scheduled to take place on **6th May 2021** for the Police and Crime Commissioner and Gloucestershire County Council. The polling station in Alderton is the Village Hall which will be open between 7am and 10pm on 6th May.

VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS – There are currently two vacancies and the Parish Council would like to invite applications from interested parishioners. If you would like more information about the role, details of eligibility or a co-option application form then please see our website for further details or contact the Clerk. Please note, all Parish Councillors are volunteers; they do not get paid.

ALLOTMENT PLOTS – The site is full and we are operating a waiting list. If you would like to add your name to the list then please contact the Clerk.

Next Parish Council Meeting: 18th May 2021, 7.30pm, in the Village Hall (but subject to Government guidelines at that time).

Parish Clerk: Tamsin James, 9 Bowler Road, Northway, Tewkesbury, Glos, GL20 8RZ
01684 290392 tamsin.james1@btinternet.com www.aldertonparishcouncil.org.uk

VILLAGE NEWS

OAK HILL C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL www.oakhill.gloucs.sch.uk 01242 620448

We started the year with a new Headteacher, Mr Greaves. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this valuable role. His enthusiasm, passion and drive are at the core of his vision for Oak Hill Primary School. He supports our staff and children and works closely with our new Chair of Governors, Mrs Leather. Mrs Leather joined us in September, providing much support during the autumn term, and continuing to focus on positively moving forward as we navigate through the pandemic.

We really enjoyed welcoming the children back to school after the third lockdown ended in early March. It has been wonderful to hear classrooms full of laughter, see joy on their faces and to see how well they have settled back into the routine of school life.

Both our infant base at Dumbleton and our junior base at Alderton are at the centre of these villages and surrounded by wonderful countryside. An increasing amount of our learning is taking place outside and we feel fortunate to offer the children plenty of space within the natural surroundings to learn and explore.

Oak Hill is supported by FOOHS, our parents' group, who work hard to provide for and enrich the lives of the children here. There is a strong, supportive school community of staff, governors, parents and local residents who all contribute to the vibrant life of the school.

Many clubs and activities have been put on hold for the last year but we were able to arrange for Project Touchline to visit the school over the last month to give rugby coaching to all children at both bases. The coaching teaches Christian values alongside rugby and has proven popular over the years.

World Book Day took place just before lockdown came to an end and pupils both at home and school celebrated with some wonderfully colourful and creative costumes. The children of key workers that were in school decorated t shirts with their favourite story character.

A night vision camera was kindly donated to our Dumbleton base and, much to the children's delight, a hare was filmed leaping around and a cat was spotted chasing a mouse! Part of the outside space at Dumbleton is the forest school area named Dumblewood. Lots of great activities take place here including building mini beast houses and gardening.

Children at both bases are very keen to contribute to the development of the outside space. They have some exciting ideas and there are plans for developing the pond area at Alderton which is currently home to frogspawn.

At Alderton, Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed reading How to Train Your Dragon, writing descriptive instructions for dragon training and studying the poetry of John Lyons which they have thoroughly enjoyed. Last week one of our Year 3 pupil's parents brought in two ewes and lambs to meet the class.

Year 5 and 6 have been learning about parliament and held a debate about smoking which they found really interesting and enjoyable. They recently studied the rainforest and finished the topic with a dress up day featuring a fabulous selection of animal costumes!

If you would like to find out more about our wonderful, vibrant school, please do feel free to contact us, and, once restrictions are lifted, pop in to meet us.

CHURCH NEWS

Summer music in the village

Fed up with your recent year of restrictions? Then note this great village event in your diaries! Enjoy a summer's evening entertainment on **Saturday, June 26th** at 6pm. An evening of foot tapping music suitable for all ages "The Malvern Hill Billies".

They will give us an evening of Old Time American Mountain Music in the grounds of St Margaret's Church in Alderton, (or the village hall if the weather is wet). Tickets are £10.00 each with under 11s free. This will include canapes. There will be a pay bar.

Please bring your own seating if possible, but there will be limited seating provided.

For tickets, please ring one of the following:

Steve 01242 620545; Helen 01242 620587 or Gill on 01242 620303

Any profits will be used for Church repairs.

ALDERTON ACORNS PRESCHOOL

We have had a very exciting and creative return back to preschool after our Easter break. Our little acorns had great fun creating some amazing colourful hand print pictures this week which are looking wonderful on our preschool artwork gallery!! The sun has certainly had its hat on this week (and so have our little acorns) and we were blessed with some beautiful Spring sunshine!! Our little acorns rolled up their sleeves and got out their spades ready for some exciting garden planting. Our selection of sweet peas were lined up in their pots and one by one our acorns each planted a little pot of sweet peas, which are now looking fabulous in one of our acorns garden raised beds!! Our preschool garden is looking so beautiful, full of colour and scent the perfect magnet for our wonderful mini beasts (especially our buzzy bees)...well done to our fantastic acorns gardening team!!

We were lucky enough to have another fun and energetic Boogie Beats session this week with the story of "The hare and the tortoise" and we ended the session with some sleeping bunnies under the giant rainbow parachute.... such a busy and exciting return to preschool!! We are very much looking forward to another month of fun, play, learning and hopefully some more Spring sunshine next month.

Alderton Acorns Toddler Group "We are really excited to announce that the Alderton Acorns Toddler group will be opening again after a year's break (thanks Covid) starting on **Friday 7th May from 10am - 12pm**. Come in for a relaxed and friendly get together of local littlies and mums. Children are welcome from any age. It is just £3 per session and Tea/Coffee and Cake will be provided."

BBQ and Treasure Hunt Saturday July 10th. We are still hopeful that the social distancing rules will be relaxed as planned and this event will take place. More details next month.

We are currently taking bookings for September so if you would like your child to join our lovely group, please contact Steph on 07842 161159 or by email aldertonacorns@gmail.com to arrange a visit. If you would like any more information about Preschool check out our website at aldertonacorns.org.uk.

EVESHAM BAT CARE

The nice weather is finally here, gardens are starting to bloom and everyone's been able to get outdoors more. I for one have been enjoying the sunshine, though I did manage to get sunburnt today. Did you know that's there more land in private gardens than any other land use in this country? This means that our gardens can be a hugely valuable habitat for our wildlife, with sometimes only a few small changes. Leaving a small corner of our gardens untidy, with leaf piles or log piles, or not deadheading flowers over winter, can offer a home for insects, which in turn feed a lot of other things. Night-scented plants in particular if you want to help support bats, as the plants feed the insects that bats rely on. The Bat Conservation Trust and Gardener's World have a list of plants that are good for this, see <https://www.bbcgardenersworldlive.com/blog/batty-for-bats-in-our-gardens> or https://cdn.bats.org.uk/pdf/Our%20Work/Landscape_and_urban_design_for_bats_and_biodiversityweb.pdf?mtime=20181101151349&focal=none.

Thank you once again for all the donations of stamps and oral care items, they have been a big help during these lockdown times. The white donation bin is under the car port of 12 Orchard Road if anyone has anything else they would like to donate.

NOTE FROM PAUL WOODMAN

As some of you may be aware, plans for development in the field behind Orchard Road have now been withdrawn and the field is up for sale. I have been in discussion with other members of the village about collectively buying the field to prevent future developers from attempting to buy it, with possible plans to convert it back into an orchard and nature reserve for the enjoyment for all of the villagers. If anybody would be interested in contributing to this and getting involved with these plans, please contact me on 07483297605 and I will set up a Whatsapp group for everyone.

GARDENER'S ARMS gardeners1@btconnect.com. 01242 620257 www.gardenersarms.biz

Our beer garden is open.

We are so pleased to have our beer garden open and to be able to see so many of you again. Our garden area allows us to serve you food and drinks in complete safety as there is plenty of space for children and dogs to roam around. We continue to follow Government guidelines, so are currently only able to offer table service, so we would suggest you book via our website or call us on 01242 620 257 to guarantee a table. We are taking both cash and cards to make life as easy as possible.

We have a great range of classic pub dishes available on our garden menu for you to choose from and our fully stocked bar will ensure you can enjoy your favourite tippie or even try something new!

We are still open for takeaways, collection or delivery, with a good variety of dishes to suit all dietary requirements available on our takeaway menu. 2 main courses from the takeaway menu are just £18.95 Monday-Thursday, 2 takeaway pizzas for £20.95 and don't forget we still have our famous roast on Sundays from 12-2:30pm.

Hopefully, we will be open fully on May 17th – we can't wait!

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for copy is **Tuesday 25th May 2021**.

Our e-mail address is: AldertonNewsletter@googlemail.com

or deliver to Caroline Page, Corner Cottage, Stow Road.

All items must have Name & Tel No. of sender.

The newsletter is also available at www.aldertonvillage.co.uk