



West Alvington Parish News



Brought to you by West Alvington Parish Council

September 2022 – Number 3

Welcome to the September edition of West Alvington Parish News, in which we hope to keep you informed of local news and events. It is delivered to your door by volunteers. Please get in touch if you have any information or events that you would like to include in the next edition.

A downloadable version is also available at: www.westalvingtonparishcouncil.co.uk or if you'd prefer to receive this by email please contact westalvingtonpc@gmail.com and we'll add you to our distribution list.

Your Future, Your Voice, Your Parish – is a survey designed to ensure the Parish Council can incorporate your views and priorities within our five-year plan. What projects do we need to focus on and how can we best ensure the parish is cared for and maintained in line with your needs?

The survey is open to everyone who lives or owns a home within the parish boundary, it will only take a few minutes to complete. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/286ZN7Q>. Or open the camera on your smart phone and scan the QR code on the top right of this newsletter.

The survey closes on Friday 7th October, please ensure you share your thoughts and comments with us.

Village Events – A spring event is planned for the parish and already have a small group of people who are willing to help with the organisation. We are also looking to hold a coffee morning in the next couple of months and to arrange a carol singing event in December. If you would like to be involved please do contact our Parish Clerk, Kathy Harrod westalvingtonpc@gmail.com

Village Hall – Since our last newsletter there have been many developments regarding the village hall. In April of this year the Hall Committee took the difficult decision to hand the hall back to the control of the Parish Council. Since then, we have taken new bookings and have a growing variety of classes available at the hall as well as new bookings for a number of local organisations and events. We are also pleased to confirm that the Parish Council meetings have returned to the hall at the slightly later time of 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month (full details can be found on the noticeboards or our website).

WAPC have been kept busy obtaining quotes for refurbishment works to the property and we are hopeful that we will be in a position of awarding a contract in the next few weeks.

The survey referenced above contains a section regarding the facilities and offerings you would like to see available at the village hall. This is a very important facility sited in the heart of the village and it is vital that we can provide an amenity that will benefit as many of you as possible.

A new committee is being established, we invite you to join us and be a part of the coming transformation.

Don't forget, this spacious public meeting and function hall is available for hire with kitchen, toilets (inc. disabled facilities), a shower and heating. For more information, please contact us at westalvingtonpc@gmail.com

Play Equipment Project – You may have noted some works taking place on the playing field. Earlier in the year we were pleased to award a contract for new play equipment and a small adult gym to be sited on the field. Unfortunately, due to issues outside our control, the project had to be delayed by some months however, the works are now completed. We have further good news in that we are in discussions with the school and the contractor about the addition of a second phase - watch this space!

Waste Services – After an exceedingly long unsettled period it was good to receive news that South Hams District Council are taking back control of the waste collection services with effect from October 2022. This may not be the end of the troubles we have all been experiencing with our collections; however, we are all agreed that it is a step in the right direction.

Please remember, in addition to the weekly services you can also:

Compost your garden waste - here are some tips www.recycledevon.org/in-the-garden/how-to-compost. Please do not put garden waste in the grey waste bin.

Use the recycle centers - All three recycling centers located in the South Hams are operated by Devon County Council and take garden waste. Full details, including

opening hours, can be found at:
www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/centre

Use a licensed waste collector who will responsibly take away your garden, or household, waste items. Please check first with the Environment Agency to see if they are registered: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers>

Scam Emails – There continues to be a huge amount of scam calls and emails, please do not provide your personal or banking information to anyone unless you are 100% certain that they are who they claim to be. The Neighbourhood Watch Sling Your Hook Campaign helps prevent you from becoming a victim of frauds. Find out more here: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/protectfromfraud>.

Report it – Like it or not, most of us have experienced problems with potholes, full bins, damaged signs, overgrown vegetation, and other more unusual issues such as finding a stray dog or noticing building works taking place that may not have been approved.

It used to be the case that you would have to phone through the issues, thankfully these days it takes just one minute to submit a report online, sometimes even less than that as some higher incident objects (i.e., bins) have QR codes on them.

Please use the below links to submit reports on all the things in the parish that need some attention. You can do it as you notice the problems or if you are busy wait until a rainy day and submit a few reports at one time!

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/report> for issues with abandoned vehicles, missed bins, full dog or litter bins, recycling banks, public toilets, litter, fly tipping, lost & stray dogs, dog fouling, dead animals, car park problems, planning enforcement, nuisance, flooding, and other queries not already covered.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/> for issues with potholes, parking, vegetation, public rights of way, hazardous trees, debris, obstruction, defective signs or markings, trip hazards, traffic lights, manhole covers, grit bins, bridges, fences, ice, streetlights, flooding and blocked drains.

Platinum Jubilee – back in April/May of this year we took the decision to purchase the children at the primary school a small gift in commemoration of the Platinum Jubilee. In June this year we were thrilled to award each child with a water bottle with the Jubilee logo. The bottles are long lasting and hardwearing, we hope they will be used for many years. Our sincere thanks go to Cllr Rufus Gilbert from Devon County Council and to Councillors Judy Pearce

and Mark Long from South Hams District Council who funded the full cost of these bottles from their localities allowances.



Newsletter Sponsors / Advertising – Would you like to sponsor or advertise in this newsletter? We aim to print four editions per year and your donation will help us cover our printing and distribution costs. Sponsorship costs £40 per edition and we will include your name / advert at the top of the front page.

Parish Council Vacancy – Would you like to contribute to our community? Do you want to help look after, and improve, many of the facilities in our parish? We currently have one vacancy on the Parish Council. If you would like to find out more, please email us and we'll tell you all about it. westalvingtonpc@gmail.com

Finally, we would love to see you at our meetings – All meetings are open to the public with a section of Open Forum whereby you can share your views about any subject in the parish. We usually have District and County Councillors in attendance, we all do our best to help provide any information that you may need.

We meet at the village hall on the first Thursday of each month (except August and December when there are no meetings). Details of when and where are included in the agenda, which is published on our website the Friday before the meeting.

<http://www.westalvingtonparishcouncil.co.uk>

Our next newsletter will be issued in January 2023 at which time we will be giving you more news as well as updates from the Church and West Alvington Horticultural Society. In the meantime, if you have any comments or concerns please contact us at westalvingtonpc@gmail.com or call 07704 941150.