



THE ALTONIAN WEEKLY

Alton Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1HD
www.alton.gov.uk

WEEK 7 18th February 2021

New Testing Site In Alton

A new testing site in Alton is being launched next week so that those who cannot work from home (i.e. frontline workers, health care staff, supermarket staff etc) can get tested - even if they are not showing symptoms.

This is important to help keep workplaces that need to stay open safe as it's been shown that around one in three people have coronavirus without showing symptoms. Therefore, regular testing for people with no symptoms will help to find positive cases earlier and break chains of transmission.

The new tests are called 'rapid lateral flow tests'. They are free and you get the result about 30 minutes after taking the test.

We are expecting this service to start on Wednesday 24 February. When the booking system goes live you will be able to book a test quickly and easily on the Hampshire County Council website.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20210216communitytesting>

Community First are excited to be recruiting volunteers for roles at Alton's brand new testing site located in the Sports Centre.

Volunteers will be helping ensure that essential workers can continue to safely carry out their roles by facilitating their access to regular testing. They will undertake operative and administrative roles.

Are you interested in volunteering? Do you know or work with any residents who may be interested?

Register your interest via the link below or contact our Volunteering Team for more info:
volunteer@cfirst.org.uk

<https://www.volunteerfirst.co.uk/opportunities/volunteer-to-help-beat-covid-19-in-alton-5009625/>

Alton School's Open Day

Alton Senior School Virtual Open Evening -
Tuesday 9 March at 6.30pm

Hear from the Headmaster and senior members of staff live and ask your questions of our staff Q&A panel

You are very welcome to join us. Please register by clicking on this link. Zoom login details will be sent to you prior to the event

www.altonschool.co.uk

Contact admissions@alton.school.co.uk for further information.



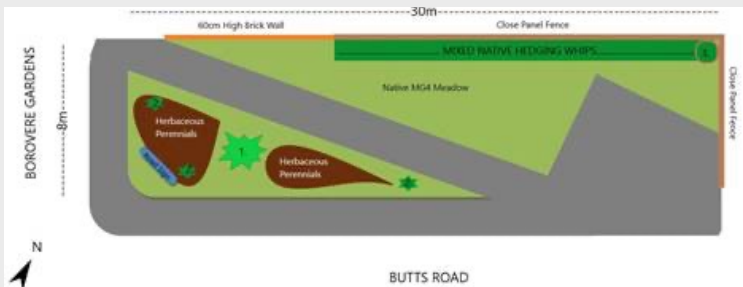
ALTON
SCHOOL

Butts Road/Borovere Gardens Community Garden

AVLAN (Alton and Villages Local Action for Nature, one of ACAN's groups) has been granted a licence by East Hampshire District Council to plant the green space on the corner of Butts Road and Borovere Gardens with flowers for wildlife. It will have a small crab apple tree and a mixture of low maintenance native plants and ornamentals to showcase a 'wildlife garden'. This is the first licence for rewilding a community open space to be granted by EHDC - the first of many we hope!

The photos show the plot before it was rotavated by Alton Town Council grounds staff and then AVLAN's Nancy Clarke and Cllr Ginny Boxall planting native hedge whips along the fence line. The rear bed has been sown with wildflower seeds.

Passers-by were enthusiastic at the prospect of flowers for pollinators and we look forward to talking more with local residents about getting involved with the plot after lockdown ends.



Apply For A Safer Way To Vote

Residents in the district can apply to receive a postal vote, for elections taking place in May.

On Thursday 6 May 2021 residents in Alton will go to the polls to have their say on who represents them locally for Hampshire County Council and the Police & Crime Commissioner.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic voters are being encouraged to think about voting by post and to register for a postal vote especially if they are clinically extremely vulnerable or are otherwise at high risk.

Letters are currently being sent to households in the district explaining the options available on how they can vote safely, either from the comfort of their own homes, by post, or by selecting someone to vote on their behalf - known as proxy. Anyone wishing to vote by post can apply before 5pm on Tuesday 20 April 2021 by simply visiting the Electoral Commission website.

The easiest way to register is online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote





Are you thinking about getting solar panels, but not sure where to start?

Sign up today at
www.solartogether.co.uk/hampshire

Solar Together Hampshire

Do you want to save on your energy bill and generate your own clean electricity? Having your own solar panels can be an intelligent investment; not only can you save on your energy bill, but you will be powering your home with clean energy.

