



THE ALTONIAN WEEKLY

WEEK 40
2nd November 2023

Alton Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1HD
www.alton.gov.uk 01420 83986

Fireworks Reminder



If you are planning fireworks at home this year please let your neighbours know in advance, as not everyone enjoys them. It is especially important that if you have neighbours who have dogs, cats or horses you let them know if you plan to have fireworks. It can be extremely distressing for the animals and indeed their owners. Animals simply don't understand, they hear loud noises and sense fire and get very frightened, panic and run. Advance warning is very much appreciated as those with pets can make sure they are safely indoors. If you are going to go have a bonfire, please check them for hedgehogs before lighting. **Please remember:** You can set off fireworks on private land such as your garden but setting off fireworks (including sparklers) and lighting bonfires in the street or in public open spaces such as Flood Meadows, King's Pond and the Public Gardens is illegal.

Message From The Town Hall

At last evenings Full Council meeting, Alton Town Council said farewell to Town Clerk, Leah Coney, who leaves the Council later this week. She was presented with a bouquet and gift from the Town Mayor, who said it was sorry news to lose such a treasured Town Clerk, noting that she had been a huge support and to have someone so competent at his side as a new Mayor and Councillor has been a pleasure.

Councillor Matthew Bayliss said that looking across the Town there were so many places that had been improved under her stewardship over the last 8 years during her time in post and he was sorry to see her leave.

This was echoed by County Councillor Andrew Joy who said it had been an extraordinary privilege to work with the Town Clerk over the last 8 years as both a district and county councillor.

"She has gone out of her way to facilitate meetings, bringing in experts and officers and driven hard to deliver. She leaves behind a well-trained and disciplined team."

Mrs Pat Harris takes up the reins as interim Town Clerk from Friday 3rd November.



FORCES VETERANS REMEMBRANCE PARADES

Forces veterans of all ranks of
His Majesty's Armed Forces
are invited to parade at

Holybourne Remembrance Parade

Saturday 11th November

meet at Andrews' Endowed School, Holybourne
at 10:15am to march off at 10:45am

and

Alton Remembrance Parade

Sunday 12th November

meet in the Market Square, Alton
at 10:00am to march off at 10:30am

For more information please contact
Alton Town Council on 01420 83986
or email info@alton.gov.uk



u3a learn,
live

Alton u3a

Is u3a for you?

You are retired or semi-retired, or perhaps raising your family is behind you.

You have some spare time and want to meet other like-minded friends.

You would like to take up new hobbies or interests, and to keep learning.

You have knowledge and interests of your own and would like to share these with others.

WHY NOT COME ALONG THIS MONTH AND FIND OUT?



NOVEMBER EVENTS OPEN TO ALL!

**DROP-IN COFFEE MORNING FROM 11am ON FRIDAY
10th NOVEMBER AT THE ALLEN GALLERY, CHURCH STREET,
ALTON. (Hot drinks from £1.90.)**

**TALK & TEA AT 2.30PM ON FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER AT ALTON
COMMUNITY CENTRE (£2 cash admission on the door.)
"THE BUTLER'S CHRISTMAS" BY DR BOB FRANCE**

For more information please visit

www.altonu3a.co.uk

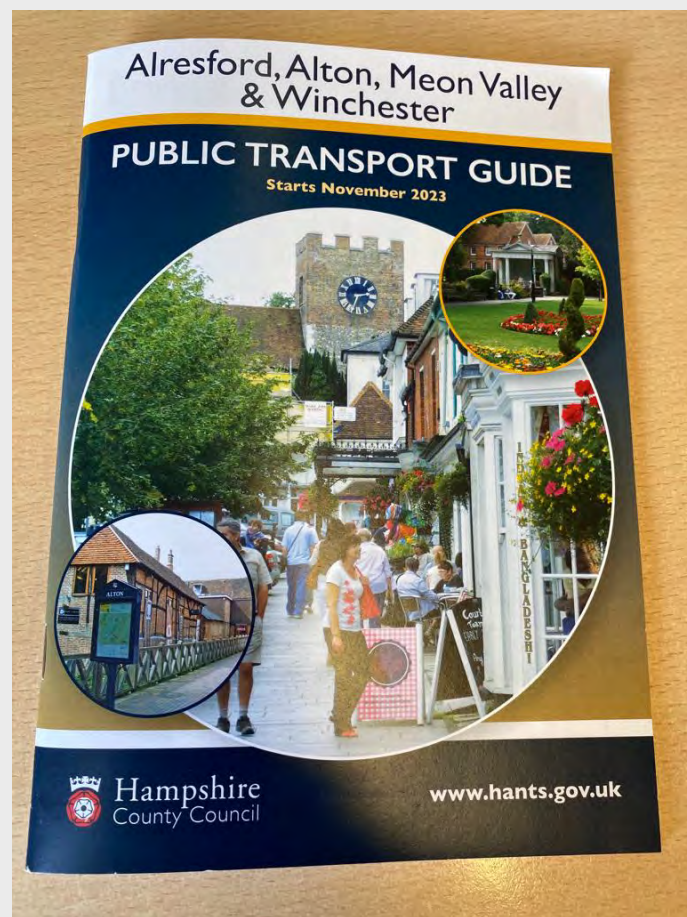


Single journeys capped at £2*

The £2* price cap on single bus journeys has been extended. You can take a single journey and never pay more than £2*. If your current ticket is less than £2, don't worry it'll stay the same price!

The National Bus Fare Cap scheme is a Government funded scheme (for more information about the scheme please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/2-bus-fare-cap>) available on most single (including Child and Student) bus journeys across England. Stagecoach are participating in the scheme until at least January 2024.

For up to date local bus information visit <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables> or you can pick up a new printed timetable for Alresford, Alton, Meon Valley and Winchester at the Town Hall.



Meet The Funders



East Hampshire District Council is running a session to give local clubs and groups the chance to meet funding organisations and discuss possible funding streams.

The event is called Meet the Funders and will be held on Wednesday 31 January 2024 at the Liphook Millenium Centre, 2-10 Ontario Way, Liphook GU30 7LD.

The aim of the event is to give local organisations the information they need to maximise their chances of making successful funding applications.

The event will begin with a short talk from each funder, followed by bookable one-to-one appointments.

East Hampshire District Council

Sport England

The National Lottery Community Fund

Hampshire Isle of Wight Community Foundation

Arts Council

Crowdfunder UK

Hampshire County Council

For more information contact EHDC Community Officer Callum Christie on callum.christie@easthants.gov.uk or visit <https://www.easthants.gov.uk/meet-funders>



ECO CHURCH
AN AROCHA UK PROJECT



Craft Swap

Saturday 4th November - 2.30-4.30pm

**St Lawrence Hall (Parish Centre),
Vicarage Hill, Alton, GU34 2BW**

Bring your arts and crafts 'leftover supplies' and take what you need... free and open to all!



Wool, haberdashery, papercraft, paints, craft books, fabric, rubber stamps, beads, jewellery, stickers, craft storage and more!

Donations can be left in the marked boxes at St Lawrence and All Saints Churches in Alton, St Peter's Church in Beech, the Church of the Holy Rood, Holybourne, St Mary's Churches in Bentworth and Lasham and St Peter and St Paul's Church in Shalden during October.

Monetary donations on the day will go to a local charity

Parish of the Resurrection, Alton

W: www.potr-alton.co.uk T: 07865 292401 E: office@potr-alton.co.uk



Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? A six-session course will soon be running in your area.



Tuesday mornings

10am - 12 noon

January 16th - February 27th

at The Alton Maltings Centre.

Voluntary contribution £20.

To book your place, email

bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk

or phone Wendy Burnhams

on **07514 280 362**

Topics include: Attachment, separation and loss, Difficult feelings, Rites of passage, The impact and pain of bereavement, Coping with others, Coping with change, Moving forward, an optional session on Questions of Faith



Helping Amphibians and Reptiles in our Gardens – a talk by **JAMIE NEAVES**

Jamie is a local reptile surveyor, who has worked as a herpetologist and in several conservation roles, including for Natural England.



ALL WELCOME – share your own experiences

**MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER,
7.30 – 9.00 pm**

**ALTON COMMUNITY CENTRE,
Amery Street, GU34 1HN**



An Alton Climate Action Network event
www.altonclimatenetwork.org.uk
Email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com

Eco Streets November events

- 07 5pm Deer – Hop Field Place
- 11 11am Litter pick – Hop Field Place
- 12 2pm Ecology walk – Ackender Woods
We'll meet at the Deer Statue at the entrance to the Ackender Hill estate. The walk will last approx. 1h
- 14 5pm Our local owls – Hop Field Place
- 24 3:30pm Festive clothes swap – Alton Maltings
- 26 Wildflower Meadow working party
“weeding and seeding” (suitable for children)
We'll meet at the corner of 80 Bolle Rd. (GU34 1PP)
This will be a great opportunity to learn more about how to create a wildflower meadow and to discuss possible locations for one within the estate!
- 27 7:30pm Amphibians & Reptiles – Alton Community Centre

Meeting points
Hop Field Place: Playground
Ackender Hill: Deer Statue
Talks are free & suitable for all ages.

Big News From EHDC

For the first time in six years car parking charges in East Hampshire are set to increase to provide funding for vital front-line services – and other fees and charges are set to go up by at least 10%. **EHDC only currently charges for parking in Petersfield and Alton, with the rest of the district's car parks being free.**

Now charges are set to go up by an average of 26.7% (we have rounded to the nearest 10p to make the transaction simpler, which is why this is a specific percentage) and our one-hour parking is expected to increase from £1 to £1.30. The increase, if implemented, will be less than the equivalent cost in inflation over the six-year period while charges were frozen. The accumulated inflation rate over a six-year period is 27.1%.

The council has protected the district's communities throughout Covid and the cost-of-living crisis by consciously taking the decision not to increase parking charges since 2017.

The increased parking charges will be considered by Cabinet on Thursday 16 November, after consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9 November. You can see the proposed fees and charges on the agenda for that meeting below.

Increasing non-statutory fees and charges, which includes things like pre application planning advice and a garden waste collection service, are part of the council's long-term strategic plan to ensure it has a robust financial strategy for the next five years so that it can protect front-line services. Making these increases will also be considered by Cabinet on 16 November.

The garden waste collection will also see an increase, rising to £120, allowing us to invest in service improvements and ensuring that this non-statutory service is not subsidised by the taxpayer. For more details <https://www.easthants.gov.uk/news/2023/parking-charges-rise-first-time-six-years-other-fees-set-go-10>



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