

# Alvington News

*Published by Alvington Parish Council*

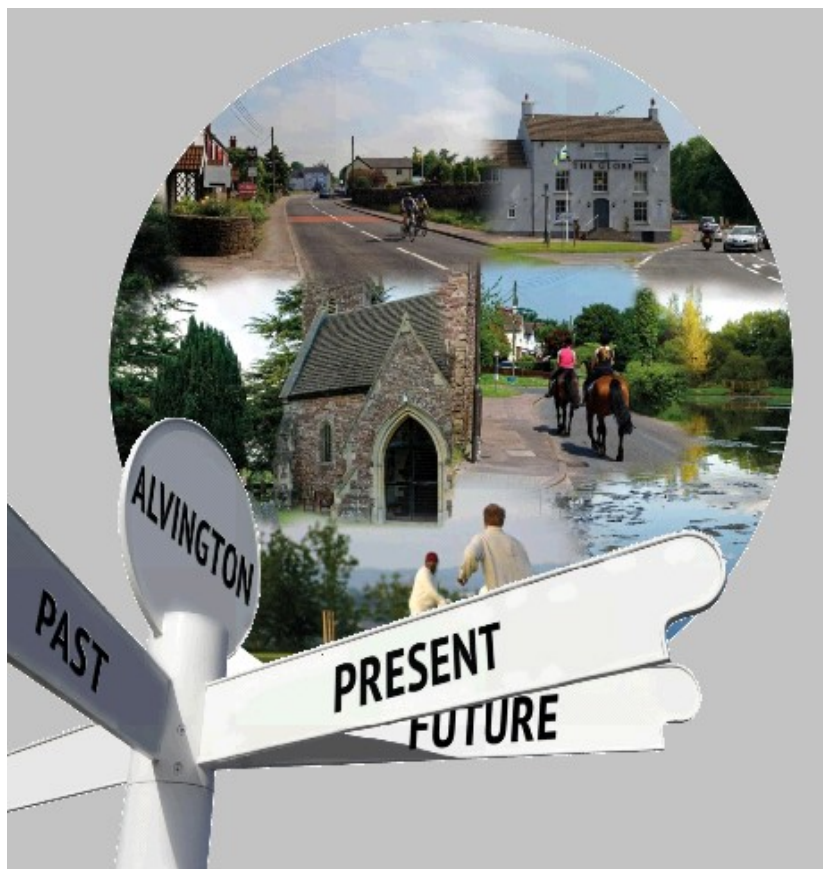
## **Parish Council News**

In this newsletter you will find an update from the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group including the results of the second open day and the results of a questionnaire on Pavements and Footpaths (see pages 2 to 5). There is also an update from the Sports (Playing) Field Committee on the status of the proposed pavilion and other developments on page 6.

You may have noticed that the village signs for the Church, Memorial Hall and Sports Field have now been installed. I can also report that the Defibrillator has now been received and is ready for installation into the telephone kiosk. The Parish Council should be in a position to select an electrician to install the unit at the December meeting so by the time you receive this newsletter it should be well underway.

There are still a number of vacancies on our Emergency Response team as well as vacancies for Snow and Flood Wardens—if you would be able to help, should an issue occur, please contact yours truly to discuss.

*Alan Haslam (Parish Council Chairman)*



### **Coffee Morning**

*A coffee morning is held at the Globe Inn at  
11:00 am every Tuesday.  
All will be welcome.*

### **Walking Group**

*Alvington Walkers meet at the Globe Inn at  
09:30 am every Tuesday.  
All will be welcome.*

### **Preparing for an Emergency**

The response team comprises of:  
Coordinator: Alan Haslam, 01594 529837  
Deputy: VACANT  
If anyone (should an emergency arise) be  
willing to give support and help in any way  
please give your details to Alan.

### **Allotments/Play Area**

off Garlands Road

Volunteers are needed to form an  
allotment/play area committee.

Coordinator: Lisa Chidley

Tele: 07496 127117

E-mail: [lisajchidley@gmail.com](mailto:lisajchidley@gmail.com)

*You can also visit our website at [www.alvingtonvillage.org](http://www.alvingtonvillage.org)*

## ALVINGTON NDP AREA 2ND CONSULTATION EVENT SUMMARY

### General Comments:

- A key event for parishioners to view, assess and comment on the Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) before the plan is finalised took place on Sunday 9th September 2018 between 10.00am and 4.00pm and was held as a drop in session at Alvington Memorial Hall with tea and cake refreshments provided by volunteers.
- The NDP event displayed photographs projected onto a wall, local history information and maps dating back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The displays showed the draft plan, vision, objectives and policies covering: Local Community, Retail, Commercial Facilities and Services; New Community and Recreation Facilities; Reducing Surface Water Flooding; Protecting and Enhancing Local Wildlife; Protecting and Enhancing Local Landscape Character; Design Guidance for New Buildings and Extensions in the Conservation Area; General Building Design for Development within the Settlement Boundary; Housing Mix. The newly adopted Local Plan, Reports e.g. flooding, traffic, planning documents, character assessments of the area and other evidence collected by the Steering Group to support the Plan could also be viewed.
- The event was advertised through:  
The Alvington Parish website, newsletter & A5 flyers to every household in the Parish. Posters were placed on Parish notice board, telegraph poles, bus shelter, fuel station & in the village hall.  
Newsletters, A4 Posters & A5 Flyers were also available in the local pubs, fuel station and village hall  
Email invitations were sent to key stakeholders and partners.
- 68 people signed in with a non-obligatory signature but obligatory postcode. The average time people spent at the event was around 1.5 hours or more.  
Unfortunately there were other events on the day including a very popular local all day Vintage Show which could account for the relatively low turnout.  
Two landowners attended, one from Somerset and another from Worcester.
- A questionnaire about Footpaths and Pavements was given to every attendee and was also available online to ascertain whether there was an accessibility issue.  
[Please see responses on pages 4 & 5](#)
- Members of the Steering Group and the GRCC Adviser were on hand to answer questions and encourage comments.

### Consultation

Attendees were given the opportunity to view and comment on the draft Alvington Neighbourhood Plan including the draft Vision, Objectives and Policies in the context of planning policy, evidence and other relevant information.

Consultees were asked to tick whether they agreed or disagreed with draft vision, objectives and policies and given the opportunity to put comments in envelopes against each. These were sealed and GRCC analysed the results (see Table 1 on page 3).

*The difference in the total number attending the Open Day and the number of people completing the comment forms in the table on page 3 is probably due to families only filling in once rather than each person on their own behalf.*

***Residents are welcome to contribute articles, letters and opinions to the newsletter.***

**Table 1. Results of Community Agreement / Disagreement of Alvington Draft Plan.**

	NUMBERS		COMMENTS
	AGREE	DISAGREE	
<b>DRAFT VISION</b>	36	0	1. Add safe place to live.
<b>DRAFT POLICY A1</b> Local Retail, Community, Commercial Facilities and Services	32	0	0
<b>DRAFT POLICY A2</b> New Community Recreation Facilities	31	0	1. Needs checking as different to FODDC allocation Plan p.154. 2. Needs controlled crossing over main A48 for all people to access especially children. 3. That a safe pedestrian crossing be provided to allow villagers to cross main road to the playing field. 4. Internet awful (0.5mbps most days - then suddenly 6 for an hour or two).
<b>DRAFT POLICY A3</b> Reducing Surface Water Flooding	36	0	1. Bottom of Swan Hill, sewage system overflowing add to policy as any new houses will connect and make it worse. 2. Imperative that run off is controlled and adequate drainage is put in and updated to prevent flooding in Clanna Lane and at the bottom of Swan Hill. 3. Sewage. Will be pleased when sewage has been sorted out at Swan Hill in floods. 4. Include Swan Hill sewage issue Swan Hill overflows raw sewage during heavy rain. 5. Absolutely no development should be allowed until the surface water and sewerage drains are increased in capacity. 6. I noticed as a newcomer that the corner of Knapp Lane was very bad during the heavy rain we had earlier in the year. The drain is there one there? Does not seem to be cleared.
<b>DRAFT POLICY A4</b> Protecting & Enhancing Local Wildlife	35	0	1. Hedgerows at top of Garlands Road not cut for last 2 years need to be cut by two thirds. Inside of hedge cut annually. 2. Hedgerows removed by farmers should be replaced. 3. Strong feeling no more lighting even if new development. NO MORE STREET LIGHTING.
<b>DRAFT POLICY A5</b> Protecting & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	32	0	1. Hedgerows also vital for wildlife. 2. Orchard next to Sports Field should be important open space. 3. Bring open spaces in line with allocation plan.
<b>DRAFT POLICY A6</b> Guidance for New Buildings & Extensions in Conservation Area	34	0	1. Should Wickson orchard next to sports field be 'green space'? 2. Many properties are not of Welsh slate my property has artificial slate. 3. Absolutely NO development in the open spaces in the conservation area. 4. What is happening about abandoned shop in Church Lane 39 year's derelict.
<b>DRAFT POLICY A7</b> General Building Design for Development	35	0	1. Court Lane will require some street lighting if pavilion is installed 2. Garage or space for cars is needed as public transport is not frequent.
<b>DRAFT POLICY A8</b> Housing Mix	33	0	0

## Pavement and Footpaths Questionnaire

### Questionnaires:

22 in total were received. The information gained has been forwarded to the relevant authorities and will be included as an appendix to the NDP.

Please see below comments received on Pavements, Footpath comments are on page 5.

### PAVEMENTS - Street names and / or road numbers, residents comments.

??	Pavements are a disgrace to the public. I feel very unsafe using them.	
A48	NE towards Aylburton narrow and overgrown often have to walk in road dangerous.	
A48	SW towards Woolaston, Swan Hill narrow, dangerous with heavy lorries and volume of traffic.	
A48	The pavement next to Myrtle Cottage.	
A48 Hill	1. To get to Swan Tea Rooms or friends - get almost sucked of your feet by traffic.	
A48	2. Past Blacksmiths has same problem with velocity of passing traffic.	
A48	Overgrown in Lydney and Chepstow direction.	
A48	The pavement near the Blacksmiths Arms.	
A48	Junction with Court Lane and crossing from east to west over traffic island - Path on east side overgrown with sortfall growth and overhead trees.	
A48	Northbound to Aylburton the Hedgerow is overgrown, we have to step into the road to avoid.	
A48	Westbound towards Woolaston. The path is quite narrow and hedgerows should be better maintained.	
A48	Main Road to Woolaston via Swan Hill, walk to pub and see visit friends.	
A48	Northbound to Aylburton, to walk to my bus stop.	
A48	Northbound to Aylburton. Hedgerow is overgrown, need to step into road to avoid and can be very muddy following rain.	
A48	Through village ??	
A48	To the Globe Inn and filling station shop.	
A48	To take the grandchildren to playing field. Get the daily paper.	
Alvington to Aylburton	Regularly overgrown. Difficult with Dog.	
Clanna Lane to Main Road	Hedgerow overgrown. Pavement uneven and overgrown with weeds etc.	
Garlands Road	To walk to car filling station, pub and every day walking. Pavement is bad state of repair.	
	Clanna Road to Woolaston.	

### Zumba & Belly Dancing at the Memorial Hall

Monday	7:30 pm to 8:45 pm	Belly Dancing - Rikki	Tel: 845573
Tuesday	7:00 pm to 9:30	Line Dancing	
Thursday	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	Belly Dancing - Rikki	
Friday	6:30 pm to 7:30 pm	Zumba - Jo	Tel: 07799 672071

## FOOTPATHS - Number and residents feedback comments.

?	To walk and they are very dangerous something needs to be done. I feel very unsafe using them.	
FAL 7	Always horses in field all year round too dangerous to traverse.	
FAL 13	Stiles 2 off dangerous and too high. Potholes always rough.	
FAL 13	Difficult Stile: overgrown with crops.	
FAL 13	Stiles too high to get over without assistance..	
FAL 13	Stiles too high, potholed and never maintained.	
FAL 14	Some overhanging trees look like they may fall on your feet and are dangerous. They will kill someone soon.	
FAL 14	Just for countryside walking	
FAL 14	No comment noted!	
FAL 14	Walk to and from bus stop. Leisure walking, walk to and from the Swan Pub/Swan Café. NB. Walking to Woolaston Primary School too dangerous. Cars/Trucks wind pulls you with little children in tow far too dangerous. What if they just tripped?	
FAL 14	Often obstructed by parked vehicles in middle of footpath at entrance and overgrown.	
FAL 15	Have tried number of times to use footpath- often blocked by stock and electric fences.	
FAL 15	Always stock in field	
FAL 15	Always horses in field all year round too dangerous to traverse.	
FAL 16	Not possible to use no marked signs	
FAL 17	Not clearly marked, not possible.	
FAL 18	3 stiles broken - footpaths not maintained - often ploughed over.	
FAL 18	Dangerous stiles 3 off should be condemned, potholes, unsafe to use.	
FAL 18	Walk down to the river.	
FAL 18	2 broken stiles and rough, potholes, mud always. Too dangerous to walk.	
FAL 19	Overgrown and potholes	
FAL 20	Big pot holes and ruts from timber hauling.	
FHE 43	Southern end, barred from entering. Northern end not maintained or stile.	
FWO 22	NW (North West) end Stile broken.	
FWO 97	Just for countryside walking	
FWO 102	Steps dangerous up/down from Swan Tea Rooms to playing field.	
FWO 111	Slurry foul always.	
FWO 111	Path and bridleway adjacent to farm buildings FOUL with waste and effluent run off from the farm.	
FWO 115	Eastern side always overgrown.	

**Residents are welcome to contribute articles, letters and opinions to the newsletter.**



### Pavilion/Sports (Playing) Field Update

At the November meeting the Parish Council signed off on the developed concept drawings submitted by the Sports (Playing) Field Committee. The PFC have worked with our architect to build in final revisions based on the comments received at the Neighbourhood Development Plan Open Day. This is a significant step forward, and has allowed the Parish Council to commission the second stage 'developed design' plans to be drafted ready for submission to the Forest of Dean District Council for planning.

The plans contain a hall with sufficient space for one badminton court; changing rooms for two teams, officials and a female changing room in line with sports association requirements; a kitchen; stores; a w/c which can be accessed from outside for use by those using the field; and a small office, accommodated in a single storey brick construction.

Important improvements to the plan following feedback from villagers included making the internal stores larger to accommodate clubs who use large equipment (karate mats, etc.), simplifying the outline of the building to reduce build costs and amending the plan for the changing room area. Thanks to all villagers who stopped by to discuss the plans and provide feedback.


To fund this second stage, the Sports (Playing) Field Committee have been successful in its second application to the Alvington Wind Turbine Fund (REACR). The active support of the Wind Turbine Committee and the Sports (Playing) Field Committee has been invaluable in progressing as we have, but we are going to be looking in the coming months for more support. We are investigating running an event on the field on the first or second Sunday of July 2019, where we hope to host a friendly match between our cricket team and a local rival, with barbeque, drinks, stalls and games. Anyone who would like to take part please contact Richard Heys at [richard.heids3@gmail.com](mailto:richard.heids3@gmail.com).

You may also have noted that Lydney FC Under 10s are now using the football pitch on a Saturday morning, including a number of Alvington children. As such, please can we ask that all villagers with dogs are diligent in removing any dog mess and using the dog waste bins provided. Please do not 'stick and flick' into the bushes, as footballs can bounce off the grass too!

As mentioned in our last update, the Sports (Playing) Field Committee also supported a grant application to Forest of Dean District Council to fund fence repairs and tree cutting. This was unfortunately unsuccessful, but we will try again over the coming months. Similarly an application for funding to install a gate for the car park to deter nocturnal use of the car park was unsuccessful, and we are again pursuing funding to proceed with this work as a priority.

Finally, the manufacturer of the defective play equipment which has been taken down have indicated their willingness to give the Council a refund but only if we return the product to them in Northern Ireland.

If any villagers know of any logistic companies or hauliers who could accommodate a partial load on a run to Northern Ireland for a reasonable fee, please could you inform the clerk at [alvingtonclerk@outlook.com](mailto:alvingtonclerk@outlook.com).



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### Woolaston Primary school is looking for governors!

There was a time when being a school governor meant turning up to school shows, handing out certificates and drinking cups of tea with the head teacher. Those days are long gone. Being a school governor in the 21st century is a challenging but hugely rewarding role that has the potential to have a real and lasting impact on children's life chances.

At Woolaston School, governors come from a variety of social and professional backgrounds, and each brings a set of valuable skills, knowledge and experience to the corporate body. Some governors are parents, with children at the school; others are staff, and others are members of the wider Woolaston community. Woolaston School is keen to encourage the participation of non-parent governors to ensure a diversity of experience and perspective and to enable the governing body to make decisions in the best interests of pupils at the school.

School governors shouldn't get involved in the day-to-day running of the school, nor in the provision of teaching, that's the role of the head teacher and the staff. Instead, governors should provide strategic leadership and accountability. The governing body has three key functions: first, to ensure the school has a clear vision and strategic direction; second, to hold the head teacher and other leaders to account for the educational performance of the school; and, third, to oversee the financial management of the school. In practice, this means getting involved in the recruitment, performance management and pay of staff; managing budgets and ensuring that money is well spent; supporting and challenging the head teacher; and monitoring the outcomes and progress of all pupils in the school through data analysis, school visits and meetings with staff and pupils. For many governors, the chance to engage with staff, pupils and parents is the most rewarding part of their role.

There are no formal requirements for becoming a school governor. You don't need to have a connection to the school; you don't need to have a background in education; you don't need a degree or a professional qualification. What you do need is the time, commitment and desire to make a positive difference to the education of all children in the school. Effective governors are confident, courageous, curious, creative and collaborative. They also follow the Nolan principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

But enough of the idealism; what does this mean in reality? A Woolaston School governor is expected to attend a full governing body meeting once a term, plus a number of committee meetings (either Business or Education) throughout the academic year. In addition, governors should undertake appropriate governance training (usually provided by the Local Authority), carry out monitoring visits to the school; complete related administrative tasks and keep up to date with significant trends in national education policy. Like magistrates or jury members, school governors are permitted reasonable time off work to carry out their public duties, although the specific terms of this will depend on the employer. Governors are volunteers, so their valuable time and commitment is unpaid.

If you are interested in finding out more about Woolaston School Governors or wish to put yourself forward as a potential governor, please contact the Clerk to the Governors, Sarah Williams: [clerkgov@woolaston.glouchs.sch.uk](mailto:clerkgov@woolaston.glouchs.sch.uk)

This article was based on guidance provided by the National Governance Association ([www.nga.org.uk](http://www.nga.org.uk)).

**Parish Council**[www.alvingtonvillage.org](http://www.alvingtonvillage.org)

The council meets at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall on the first Wednesday of every month but not in January and August. Members of the public are always very welcome to attend.

**YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS:****Chairman**

Alan Haslam Tel: 01594 529837 E-mail: [haslamhazelwood@btinternet.com](mailto:haslamhazelwood@btinternet.com)

**Vice Chairman**

Richard Heys Tel: 07967 709722 E-mail: [richard.veys3@gmail.com](mailto:richard.veys3@gmail.com)

**Parish Clerk**

Meg Humphries Tel: 01594 719245 E-mail: [alvingtonclerk@outlook.com](mailto:alvingtonclerk@outlook.com)

**Councillors**

Lisa Chidley Tel: 07496 127117 E-mail: [lisajchidley@gmail.com](mailto:lisajchidley@gmail.com)

Gail Thompson Tel: 01594 529708 Email: [gail@xsound.demon.co.uk](mailto:gail@xsound.demon.co.uk)

Chris Miles Tel: 07787 472656 Email: [chris.miles@icloud.com](mailto:chris.miles@icloud.com)

**DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Frankie Evans Tel: 07951 125597 E-mail: [Frankie.Evans@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:Frankie.Evans@fdean.gov.uk)

Jim Simpson Tel: 07747 048976 E-mail: [jim.simpson@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:jim.simpson@fdean.gov.uk)

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Patrick Molyneux Tel: 01594 529174 or 07802 269057.

Email: [patrick.molyneux@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.molyneux@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT (MP)**

Mark Harper Tel: 01594 823482 E-mail: [mark.harper.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:mark.harper.mp@parliament.uk)

**GLoucestershire POLICE & COMMUNITY OFFICERS**

Non Emergency Number: 101

**Street Wardens:**

Tel: 01594 810000

**Neighbourhood Watch:**

Forest of Dean: Chrissie Parkes.

Tel: 01452 753784

**Snow Wardens:**

Roger Lewis Tel: 01594 529422

Plus 1 Vacancy

**Flood Warden**

Vacant

**Village Hall Bookings:**

Terry Jones (Treasurer)

Tel: 01594 529287

**Some useful Telephone Numbers**

**National Rail Enquiries:** 0345 7484950  
**Travel Line:** 0871 2002233

**Airports:**

Bristol: 0871 3344444

Cardiff: 01446 711111

Gatwick: 0344 8920322

Heathrow: 0844 3351801

**Bonfire/Noise/Nuisance Complaints:**

F. of Dean District Council 01594 810000

**Gloucestershire County Council:**

01452 425000

**Forest of Dean District Council:**

01594 810000

**NHS Dentists:**

0300 3301348

**NHS Direct/Out of Hours Tel:** 111**Lydney Doctors:**

Severnbank Surgery 01594 845715

The Lydney Practice 01594 842167

**Hospitals:**

Lydney: 0300 4218722

Dilke: 0300 4218640

Gloucestershire Royal: 0300 4222222

**Pharmacists/Chemists:**

Lloyds Lydney: 01594 842847

Lydney Co-Op: 01594 843443

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Western Power (power cuts) 105

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**CVT**  
Camphill Village Trust

Lydney, Forest of Dean, GL15 6BU - 01594 844841  
[tauruscrafts.co.uk](http://tauruscrafts.co.uk) - [enquire@tauruscrafts.co.uk](mailto:enquire@tauruscrafts.co.uk)  
Taurus Crafts is part of The Camphill Village Trust

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4.30pm-6.30pm

Newnham Mon/Wed/Fri 7pm-7.30pm,

Tue/Thu 12.30pm-1pm



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