

Welcome to the February edition of my e-Focus in which I update local residents on news items, council meetings and planning applications in the Alamein ward. As before if you no longer wish to receive these e-Focus newsletters please email [len.gates@andover.co.uk](mailto:len.gates@andover.co.uk) and I will remove your address from the circulation list.

I am pleased to see work has finally started to solve the problem of flooding on the footpath opposite Tesco on Smannell Road. Hampshire Highways have been promising to fix this for a year. Work is now being carried out, in response to my requests, by Test Valley to raise the level of the path above the surrounding land. It won't stop the flooding but will keep the path and passers-by dry.

Work has been scheduled to resurface the stretch of Smannell Road between Cricketers Way and Icknield Way but not until the weather improves in early March because frost would damage the new surface. What a pity it wasn't done last summer when first reported.

These two are just some of the issues raised at the Roman Way Forum in January but no-one from the county council could attend. I am currently trying to organise another meeting specifically on highways issue to allow residents to discuss all the unresolved highways complaints (pot-holes, damaged paving stones and kerbs, overgrown trees and lack of grit bins) raised over the last year. I will notify everyone separately of the date.

Also discussed at the Forum were the problems of motor bikes and speeding cars. I have been in regular contact with the police and can report they are dealing with motor-bikes and riders have been issued with formal warnings. Thank you to everyone who has been sending me details of problem areas. I will continue to pass everything on to the police for action. I am also following up on residents calls for a 30 mph speed limit along Newbury Road.

You may have seen a leaflet from local Tories saying they have paid for a new notice board on Roman Way. This is somewhat premature because as I have explained before the county council funds they refer to are only a part of the total cost and I still need to get planning permission before we can put the notice board up.

The diversion of Smannell Road through Augusta Park will go ahead despite the strong case against it presented by the parish council. I believe it was the wrong decision but we must now accept it and now work to minimise the effect of this decision on local residents.

As usual I am dealing with lots of comments on poor roads, overgrown trees and damaged footpaths. These are slowly being dealt with by Hampshire Highways or Testway Housing. Only recently Testway agreed to remove a tree in Statham Square. My apologies to anyone whose problem has not been dealt with yet. I will keep chasing on your behalf.

And finally a date for your diary - on Friday 4th February Andover Town Council have a special meeting to discuss the future of the town's war memorial. Should it move or stay where it is? Let me know what you think.

**Cllr Len Gates, Alamein ward, Test Valley Borough Council**



## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There was just one planning application submitted and validated in January. If you wish to see more details or comment on this or any previous application, go to <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=9883>

10/03039/FULLN 1A Newbury Road Enham Alamein SP11 6HG Single storey bin and cycle store

## THIS MONTH'S BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Test Valley council meetings this month are as follows. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings of the council. To view the agenda of the meeting, go to <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=201>

16.02.11	<b>Cabinet</b>	<b>Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Andover</b>	17:30
17.02.11	<b>Northern Area Planning Committee</b>	<b>Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Andover</b>	17:30
23.02.11	<b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey</b>	17:30
25.02.11	<b>Council</b>	<b>Guild Hall, High Street, Andover</b>	16:00
01.03.11	<b>Planning Control Committee</b>	<b>Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey</b>	17:30
08.03.11	<b>Licensing Committee</b>	<b>Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey</b>	17:30
10.03.11	<b>Northern Area Planning Committee</b>	<b>Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Andover</b>	17:30

## NEXT PARISH COUNCIL, OTHER MEETINGS and EVENTS:

<b>Smannell Parish Council</b>	Mon 7 Feb 19:15	Smannell & Enham School, Smannell
<b>Enham Alamein Parish Council</b>	Wed 9 Feb 19:15	Enham Shop, Enham Alamein
<b>Alamein Community Association</b>	Tue 15 Feb 18:15	King Arthur's Hall, King Arthur's Way, Andover
<b>Andover Town Council</b>	Fri 4 Feb 19:00	Guildhall, High Street Andover
<b>Andover Town Council</b>	Thu 24 Feb 19:00	Guildhall, High Street Andover
<b>Roman Way Forum</b>	tbc	Church centre, Smannell Road, Andover

**For regular updates on what's happening in Alamein ward and across Test Valley visit**

**<http://lengates.mycouncillor.org.uk/>**

If you wish to comment on, or need any further information about, any of the issues mentioned in this newsletter or any other local issue, please contact me on -  
Email: [len.gates@andover.co.uk](mailto:len.gates@andover.co.uk) or Phone: 01264 356759 or 07793 607190