

Welcome to the April edition of my e-Focus in which I update local residents on news items, council meetings and planning applications in the Alamein ward.

The last month has seen several good news items for Alamein ward as a result of work over the past years.

In Smannell the project to bring quality broadband to the village is nearing completion. I am pleased to have been a part of the project team from the beginning and congratulate the team for their success. What a pity that politicians with no input or interest in the project have now tried to high jack it for their own ends.

We also had another successful meeting of the Roman Way forum attended by the police and local residents. I am pleased to report that many of the highways issues raised several times in the past and discussed at the February meeting are finally being dealt with. A number of other complaints were raised and your town councillors and I will be following up on these.

After six years of campaigning we can finally see work on improvements to the Enham arch roundabout. Work will start in in May on traffic calming and repairs to Viking Way. After this Icknield Way will be closed to through traffic as agreed after my residents survey last year.

The Alamein community association of which I am a trustee, is, in partnership with the Turnaround project, close to completing an application for lottery funding of £500,000 to be spent in Alamein ward over the next five years. We would like your help in deciding where that money should be spent. Many of you will have already had questionnaires if not you can complete the survey at one of the following online addresses or contact me and I'll send you a paper copy. Replies should be returned by Tuesday 5th April.

Residents and community groups consultation: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7W2C5ZF>

Young people consultation: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5LP39PL>

In May elections take place for the borough council. It doesn't seem like four years since the last or eight years since you first elected me. I have really enjoyed working with and for you over this time and will be standing for re-election again. In this election you have three votes and I will be campaigning with two excellent local candidates town councillor Kevin Hughes and ex-county councillor Robin Hughes. We hope to get round to speaking to many of you over the next month to discuss our policies and plans for representing you.

If you are not on the electoral register or need a postal vote it is not too late to apply. For details see page 2 of this newsletter or contact me. Also on May 5th will be a referendum on a fairer voting system which I fully support. For more details on this visit the campaign web site at <http://www.yestofairervotes.org/>

Cllr Len Gates, Alamein ward, Test Valley Borough Council



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There was just one planning application submitted and validated in February 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>

11/00689/OUTN Land To The North Of Roman Way Primary School Roman Way Andover SP10 5JY Erection of 12 dwellings together with access off Witan Close

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>

07.04.11	Standards Committee	Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	17:30
12.04.11	Planning Control Committee	Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	17:30
13.04.11	General Purposes Committee	Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	16:00
13.04.11	Cabinet	Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	17:30
18.04.11	Council	Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	16:00
20.04.11	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Council chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	17:30
21.04.11	Northern Area Planning Committee	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Andover	17:30

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL, OTHER MEETINGS and EVENTS:

Smannell Parish Council	Mon 4 April 19:15	Smannell & Enham School, Smannell
Enham Alamein Parish Council	Wed 13 April 19:15	Enham Shop, Enham Alamein
Alamein Community Association	Tue 18 April 18:15	King Arthur's Hall, King Arthur's Way, Andover
Andover Town Council	Thu 12 May 19:00	Guildhall, High Street Andover
Roman Way Forum	In May date to be confirmed	Church centre, Smannell Road, Andover

ELECTIONS IN MAY

Borough council elections take place on May 5th. On the same day a referendum will be held on plans to establish a fairer system of voting in this country. If you haven't registered to vote yet or want a postal vote it's not too late - phone 01264 368020, or visit <http://www.aboutmyvote.co.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 or Phone: 01264 356759 or 07793 607190