

Welcome to the January edition of my e-Focus in which I update local residents on news items, council meetings and planning applications in the Alamein ward. I hope everyone had a happy Christmas and I wish you all a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

As before if you no longer wish to receive these e-Focus newsletters please contact me on len.gates@andover.co.uk and I will remove your email address from the circulation list.

December is a quiet month for local councils but there is still a lot going on in the background and January will be a busy month for meetings and other work.

Discussions are continuing on details of the new parish council for Andover and existing borough councillors are being consulted about the parish's first budget. The new council has already caught the imagination of residents, several of whom have contacted me about becoming a parish councillor. If you, or anyone else, is interested who is let me know.

Meanwhile the debate over the future of the Guildhall has re-opened because Prezzo still has not signed a lease. The time has come for them to make up their mind and if their answer is no then we must look at ALL alternative options for the building. I will be raising this with council leader Ian Carr before and at January's council meeting.

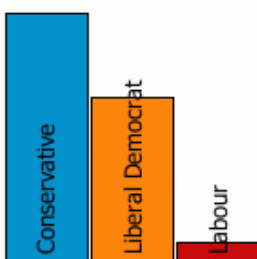
At the same meeting I will be proposing a motion calling for Twinings to reconsider their proposed redundancy program. I fully support the Twinings union's attempts to retain and expand production in Andover and hope my fellow councillors and our local MP's will do the same.

Also on the agenda is a Lib Dem motion on local bus services. This will not be debated at the council meeting, but bus services will be discussed at the Andover Forum later in the month. The Forum has been postponed from 18th to 25th January to allow for this. Two day's later Manuela Wahnou will be speaking to the council's scrutiny committee about her "Attitude of Gratitude" campaign. I wish her well with the presentation, and with her Campaign, which I fully support.

Finally the long awaited plans for the redevelopment of Enham have now been submitted (see overleaf). As a member of the planning committee I can't comment on them but I would urge all interested residents to look at them. If you have any queries or concerns please raise them with the planning department, or your local parish, or borough, councillors.

Cllr Len Gates, Alamein ward, Test Valley Borough Council

Andover's votes in 2007



Labour can't win here

For all the latest news visit

<http://lengates.mycouncillor.org.uk/>
<http://www.alameinlibdems.blogspot.com/>
<http://www.nwhampshire.libdems.org.uk/>



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application has been submitted in the past month. If you wish to see more details or comment on them go to

<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=5600>

09/02513/FULLN	03/12/2009	Trinley Buildings, Finkley SP11 6AH	Retrospective application for change of use of agricultural barn to marquee storage
09/02514/FULLN	03/12/2009	74 Genoa Court Andover SP10 5JD	Infill carport to provide secure garage
09/02623/OUTN	16/12/2009	Land at Newbury Road, Enham Alamein	Outline - Erection of offices/workshop and up to 395 mixed tenure homes and other developments in the village.

THIS MONTHS 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>

07.01.10	Northern Area Planning Committee	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover	17:30
11.01.10	Planning Control Committee	Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	17:30
12.01.10	Licensing Committee	Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	17:30
14.01.10	Full Council	Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey	16:00
20.01.10	Cabinet	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover	17:30
21.01.10	Standards Committee	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover	17:30
27.01.10	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover	17:30
28.01.10	Northern Area Planning Committee	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover	17:30

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL, OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Andover Councillors Forum	Mon 25 Jan 19:00	Guildhall, High Street, Andover
Enham Alamein Parish Council	Wed 20 Jan 19:15	Enham Tea Rooms, Enham Alamein
Smannell Parish Council	Wed 13 Jan 19:15	Smannell & Enham School, Smannell
Alamein Community Association	Tue 19 Jan 18:15	King Arthur's Hall, King Arthur's Way, Andover