



# Bedgrove MATTERS

From your Conservative Councillors Jenny Bloom, Tom Hunter Watts, Mark Winn & Brian Roberts

## GETTING THINGS SORTED

■ Parking problems in streets surrounding Turnfurlong and Wendover Way is on it's way to getting resolved.

We're local residents as well as Conservative councillors, and we knew long before being elected that addressing term-time congestion in Turnfurlong and Wendover Way needed to be a priority. Every day we sees buses rolling onto the pavements in order to turn and cars parking close to street corners. Jenny started working on this issue in her first term and with the support of Tom and Mark when they were elected in 2011 they decided to bring people together from the District and the County councils in order to come to a commonly agreed solution.

The "Turnfurlong Parking Group" has met regularly over the past year, and slowly but steadily, a plan has been mapped out, the necessary funds have been raised and a consultation process has begun. Councillors from all authorities have played a full part, alongside schoolchildren, police, county highway officers and the headmasters of the three affected schools. We are aiming to make it crystal clear where on Turnfurlong, Fairmile and Wendover Way parking is to be permitted and where it is to be prohibited. We hope to reduce term-time and rush hour congestion, while still preserving the traffic calming effect of the ranks of parked cars.



The Bedgrove team have been working hard on the Turnfurlong traffic situation.

We want to remove about ten of the spaces available for parking next to the Grammar and High Schools, while providing students with at least twice that number in a nearby car park. We will make the traffic restrictions we do put in place legally enforceable, and keep cars well away from street corners, bus turning points and school entrances and exits. Everything of course will depend on whether or not our scheme meets with the approval of local residents, but if the consultation process proceeds as we hope, we should all see significant changes to the parking situation outside the Grange, the Grammar and the High by the start of the next school year.

Affected residents should have already received communication from Bucks County Council, and we would like to thank everyone who has responded so far. Whether or not you approve of what we've done, there is still time to influence the scheme and help improve it. Feel free to contact any one of us with your comments or concerns.

## CHANGES TO BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL BOUNDARIES



Your Bedgrove team Brian Roberts, Mark Winn, Jenny Bloom & Tom Hunter-Watts

Due to the Boundary Commission Bucks County Council Divisions will be changing taking effect on 2nd May 2013. Bedgrove District Council ward will now be split into two County Council Divisions; Aylesbury South East and Aylesbury East.

Aylesbury South East will include the Bedgrove streets around Turnfurlong and Walton and all roads between Wendover Road and Turnfurlong Lane along with Mandeville & Elm Farm District Ward.

Aylesbury East will include the remaining streets of Bedgrove those off Northumberland Avenue, Long Meadow, Camborne Avenue and Bedgrove along with Oakfield South parish ward. County and District Councillor Brian Roberts will be joining the Bedgrove team of Councillors Jenny Bloom, Tom Hunter-Watts & Mark Winn.

—STOP PRESS— Broughton Farming Partnership have organised a second public meeting on 26th February at the Holiday Inn, 7.30–9.00pm inviting local residents to a further round of public consultation. This meeting is regarding the amendments to the original layout proposals for the possible residential development for 135 houses between Aston Clinton Road (A41) and New Road. We will report on this meeting in our next newsletter.

## STOP HAMPDEN FIELDS

■ Your local Conservative team have taken an active role in the fight against the Hampden Fields development

For the past few weeks your Conservative team of Jenny Bloom, Brian Roberts, Tom Hunter-Watts and Mark Winn have been out in the ward posting standard objection letters and collecting the responses. It's been a blessing that there's only been the snow to cope with rather than the torrents of rain which soaked so many objection letters last time. The good news is that on Friday 8th February well over 4,000 objections letters were delivered by the Action Group by hand to Aylesbury Vale District Council. We hope it will make a difference, as if you don't fight, there's never any hope of success.

Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts said, "We promised to protect our green spaces, and we have done all we can to stop this proposed new development clogging the landscape and choking the roads. Thank you to every resident who took the time to write an objection or sign one of our letters. Each has been carefully logged, and will add to the campaign's momentum."

Cllr Mark Winn said, "The massive number of objections shows the strength of feeling of residents to this development. We stand shoulder to shoulder with you against this development that would have such a detrimental effect on already stretched infrastructure, it's a shame the same can't be said for our Lib Dem counterparts."



Left: Hampden Fields Action Group handing in over 4000 objection letters.

Right: The public meeting organised by your Conservative team last year.



## LOCAL ISSUES, LOCAL ACTION, LOCAL CONSERVATIVES

## JANSEL SQUARE UPDATE

### ■ At long last the paving in Jansel Square has been repaired and new tarmac laid in the car park!

Jansel Square is privately owned and run, and over the past few years local Conservatives have urged its management to keep the Square tidy and get the repairs done. Too many of our older residents have fallen on the uneven paving and too many car wheels have slipped into potholes. But action is finally being taken, and like everyone in the area, we're just glad to see it. The company have told your Conservative team that **£300,000 will be invested** into the Square. Building work has also started in that patch of land between the bookmakers and the garage which had been uglily boarded up for so many years. The Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust are constructing apartments and retail units, and while some may prefer not to



Mark, Jenny & Tom have been working hard to get the property company to tidy up Jansel Square.

see more homes in the area, better here surely than in Hampden Fields! We hope that these new shops and apartments will add to the appearance and shopping experience at Jansel Square, but at the same time we will keep a keen eye out for any potential problems.

Most residents will have seen that the car park is now only free for the first two hours – for the longer than two hours one has to pay. The local team received a few complaints last year about drivers – often holiday makers – leaving their cars in Jansel Square for days on end. The new scheme, devised by Jansel Square management, seems designed to deter that, and ensure that the car park has enough navigable space for local shoppers. We received a number of letters recently from people concerned that they would have to telephone the parking company even for stays of less than two hours. Cllr Mark Winn contacted both Jansel Square management and the parking enforcers and we can assure you that **this is not the case. No one need phone for stays of less than two hours**, but the wording on the notices was not as clear as it could have been and we have asked the parking firm to amend it.

## EUROPE - YOU DECIDE



### ■ Aylesbury MP & Minister for Europe David Lidington responds to David Cameron's announcement.

I am delighted that David Cameron has shown that he trusts the British people to make a decision about the future of Britain's place within the EU by committing a Conservative Government after the 2015 election to a referendum on the UK's relationship with the EU. The Conservative Manifesto for 2015 will ask for a mandate to renegotiate a new settlement with our European partners in the next

Parliament. This new settlement will have the single market at its heart and the referendum will be a very simple in out referendum.

There are two groups of people who disagree with this plan. In the first camp are those that say this is irresponsible, that we are putting a question mark over Britain's place in Europe which could disadvantage British business. My response is simple: the question mark is there anyway. Those who refuse to contemplate consulting the British people are not prepared to trust the British people to decide what is in their own best interests.

In the second camp are those who agree we need a straight in-out referendum but argue we should hold one now. I understand the impatience. However, a vote today would be a false choice. It is wrong to ask people to decide there is any certainty about the future shape of the EU and Britain's role in it.

## POP MUSIC AT THE WATERSIDE THEATRE

Cllr Mark Winn has been trying for some time to persuade Aylesbury Vale District Council and the Waterside Theatre not to forget the musical legacy built up by the Friars Music Club during the 70's 80 and 90's. Almost every single major rock act played concerts in our town during this time. Everyone from Bowie who relaunched his career in the town (playing Ziggy Stardust for the very first time) to the Police, Blondie and the Clash played the Aylesbury Friars club.

He was delighted to learn that one major rock act from that time **The Specials** will be playing the Waterside Theatre on 1 May. He will be doing what I can to ensure we really push our musical legacy. The Waterside theatre is one of a number of great venues for music in our town. **Mark** said, "I hope this concert will just be a start to help recover the musical legacy in this town, I will be doing what I can to ensure this is the case and to encourage music for all tastes and ages in Aylesbury "

## WINTER WARMTH APPEAL

From January to 31st March Aylesbury Homeless Action Group (AHAG) will be running an emergency shelter in partnership with Aylesbury Churches, AVDC, BCC and Thames Valley Police. If someone is at risk of having to sleep outside this winter they can go to AVDC, High Street between 9.30am and 3.30pm Monday–Friday. If someone needs help a weekend or Bank Holiday they should go to Aylesbury Police Station before 3.30pm.

Councillor Jenny Bloom said "The winter warmth scheme provides people with shelter on a nightly basis, a hot evening meal and breakfast for free. I think the volunteers are doing a great job and AHAG should be commended for everything they have done to help the people of Aylesbury who have hit hard times."



Jenny Bloom packing a box for the Winter Warmth Appeal. Donations were collected at Aylesbury Town Council at the end of January.

## BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL: DELIVERING THE THINGS THAT MATTER TO YOU

- 1 Road Repairs** Since 2011 the County Council has spent £30m on road repairs with an additional £25m pledged to continue this process.
- 2 Strong Education Results** Education results in Bucks are amongst the highest in the country both at primary and secondary level.
- 3 Good Care for Those in Need** The County Council continues to provide quality support for the most vulnerable, particularly the young and the elderly.

## CARING AND CAMPAIGNING FOR OUR COMMUNITY