

St. Albans Parish Annual Report- 2020

Welcome! St Albans Parish Annual Report

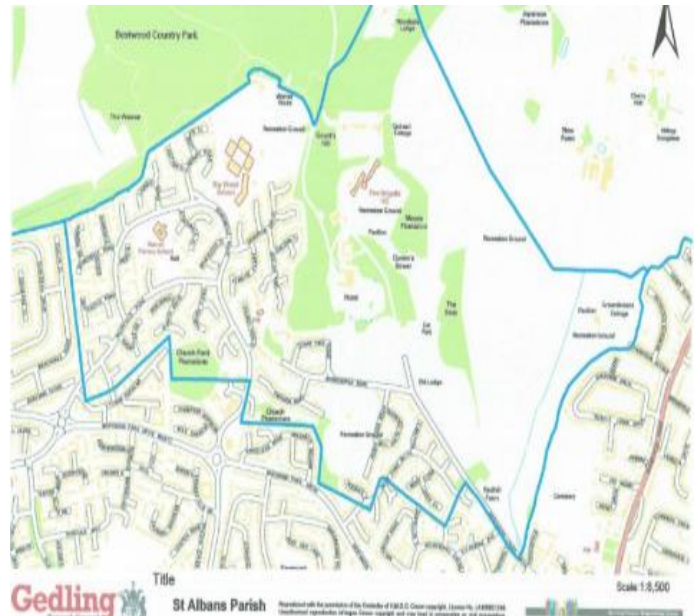
The Parish council was formed in May 2018 from the splitting up of the old Parish of Bestwood St Albans into Bestwood Village and St Albans. The area of the Parish can be seen on the map.

This is the first of what will be annual newsletters which will share news and events that have occurred in the Parish.

The newsletters will feature a summary of key decisions made by the council at the meetings, grants awarded and local improvements.

Your Parish Councillors

- Cllr Martyn Thorpe (Chairman)
martyn@stalbanpc.org
- Cllr Rachael Ellis (Vice Chairman)
rachael@stalbanpc.org
- Cllr Des Gibbons
des@stalbanpc.org
- Cllr Jason King
jason@stalbanpc.org
- Cllr Francesco Lari
francesco@stalbanpc.org
- Cllr Sarita-Marie Rehman-Wall
saritamarie@stalbanpc.org



There are vacancies on the council with elections to be held in May 2021. If you would be interested in joining the council and want more information please contact any of the councillors who will be more than happy to assist.

More Information:

The Parish Council Website

stalbanpc.org

St Albans Parish Council Facebook

facebook.com/Stalbanstogether

St Albans Community Page (Gelding)

Search for 'St Albans Community Page (Gelding)' on Facebook

Chairman's Report



I hope you are well and coping during these uncertain times.

For the Parish Council, COVID-19 has meant an initial postponement of meetings in March and April with a move to Parish meetings online through Zoom.

Living in the parish I am passionate about seeing positive change. I stood for a vacancy for the council in 2019 and within a short space of time was successfully voted as Chairman at the Annual Parish Meeting.

I hope to see over the next year the council increasing its effectiveness and have set out a plan:

Parish Council action plan for 2020/21

- Build links with community groups
- Be more pro-active in the community
- Promote Grants and their availability
- Increase online community group and presence
- Increase attendance to Parish meetings
- Start Community hub development
- To hold an annual community event run by the council

The council is your council. All the councillors volunteer their time to support the community. With the departure of the Clerk, the council is going through a transition period. I would encourage others to get involved either by contacting the parish council about issues or suggestions for the parish or by standing as a councillor. The role is very rewarding.

Cllr Thorpe

Grants Awarded

This year even with COVID-19 the Council has been able to support with grants some great community projects:

Month	Organisation/Group	Description	Value
July	S.T.A.R.S	Activity Bags	£600.00
July	St. Emmanuel's Church	Community Kitchen	£1,000.00
October	S.T.A.R.S	Halloween Event	£500.00

Councillors in The Community: Litter Picks of The Parish

Firstly, thank you Cllr King for starting up this project and thank you Redhill Runners as well as parishioners who have assisted. These events have been attended by councillors and have covered areas across the parish.



Tackling Rubbish: New Bins

Following concerns raised about the amount of litter near the Japanese Gardens, Cllr King has liaised with Terry Ball of Gedling Borough Council and finally after nearly 3 years of trying has successfully got two new bins installed.

If you feel there are any other areas which would benefit from the installation of a new bin please contact the parish



Report It!

If you come across any issues in the area either email the clerk to make the Parish Council aware of it or report it to Gedling if applicable using the following link:

www.gedling.gov.uk/resident/reportit/

council who will look into the area and bring it to the attention of Gedling Borough Council if suitable.

Installation of Defibrillator

The first of two defibrillators have been installed in the parish. The defibrillator is located outside Hollies Day Nursey (NG5 8NJ). Thank you to Becky Pike from the nursery for assisting in getting this installed.



The second defibrillator will hopefully be installed in the next few months pending approval of a location.

St Albans in Bloom

The Parish council has recently sponsored several hanging baskets on Bewcastle Road. The baskets are stunning and bring colour and vibrance to the area. The council will look at doing similar things in the future and in other areas of the parish. Thank you, Cllr Ellis, for working alongside Gedling Borough Council to get these baskets up.

St Albans Remembers

Due to COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, traditional commemorates were not allowed to mark Armistice Day. As a result, the Parish Council agreed to purchase 50 more Lamppost poppies, which were placed in the Warren Wood, Warren Hill and Gardens part of the Parish.

Without the normal commemorates, the symbolism of these lamppost poppies is even more significant and the Council received great feedback.

Lest we forget.



Christmas in St Albans

At the Parish Council meeting in November the Council approved allocation of funds to go towards Christmas activities in the Parish lead by the Council.

The Council would like to thank the recently formed organisation 'Reach Out Nottingham 2020' which offers help and assistance to homeless and venerable people in the Nottingham area, who have generously offered the Council the use of their Santa's Sleigh.



As a result, Santa will be going round the Parish on the 18th of December, to spread some festive cheer in a COVID-19 safe manner.

More details will be on the Parish Councils website and Facebook page.

Also, the Council would like to thank St Albans Community Kitchen which will be open during the School Christmas Holiday. They are doing an amazing job in the community and have received great feedback.

Parish Photograph Competition

The Council is pleased to announce that in the new year we will be launching a photograph competition.

There will be two categories; a general competition and a junior one, with photos required to be from within the Parish.

More details will be available on the Parish Council website shortly.

The Children's Climbing Frame of Robin Hood Road

The climbing frame has been removed as of the 23rd of July. Prior to its removal based on safety grounds there was a lot of comments from the community wanting to see it kept and made safe for use. Unfortunately, this cannot happen now but something can be put in its place. The Parish Council will be working with Gedling Brough Council to look into potentially creating a new play area.



Great Nottingham Strategic Plan & Proposed Access Road

The Council discussed this topic during the November meeting and voted unanimously against the proposed plans.

Cllr King has raised concerns with local MP Tom Randal and County Councillor Michael Payne, while Cllr Thorpe has raised it with MP Robert Jenrick who is Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Local Projects This Year

St Albans Activity and Recreation Society (STARS) Children's Activity Bags

STARS a community group formed in September 2019 has recently been providing activity bags to children. The initial batch were given out in May and a second batch will be given out shortly which was supported by the Parish Council with a grant for £600. These have been well received with great feedback from families who have received them.

For more information on STARS please check out: www.facebook.com/pg/NottmSTARS

Bestwood Emmanuel Church Holiday Hunger Project

Emmanuel Church has started the Holiday Hunger Project with the aim of providing approximately 100 hot meals a week for the summer holiday period to help those struggling. This has been supported by the Parish Council with a grant for £1,000.

For more information on the project please contact the church.

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for reading. Produced by Cllr Thorpe