



# Chairman's Blog

Spring is on its way finally and the beautiful daffodils planted by our open spaces team have been brightening up the high street as well as the Phillimore Rec. On the 14 March, Aldenhams Parish Council (APC) hosted representatives of the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, as well as various community groups. Together we gave the Department feedback on how we are run and giving an insight into how we have worked with each other on matters such as planning objections and community engagement. My thanks for all those that came to speak – a shining example of the wonderful volunteers who give their time to enhance our shared lives.



Helen Jones

## Café update - contract to build has been signed!

APC are thrilled to announce that they have appointed LifeBuild Solutions Ltd to build the new café at Phillimore Rec. All seven tender bids received were scrutinised and four were invited to an interview. All four tenders and interviews were evaluated by the whole working party and scored according to a pre-agreed scoring mechanism. At the APC meetings on 19 & 26 February 2024, APC received extensive feedback from the project manager and APC councillors on the working party and, having considered all



the facts before them, appointed LifeBuild Solutions Ltd to build the café in line with the planning permission granted in 2022. There are still some finer details to finish off but it is anticipated that work will commence in mid-May, and, barring delays, will be ready approximately 24 weeks after that.

## Phillimore Playground Easter Event

To celebrate the opening of the new improved playground at Phillimore Rec, APC is hosting a free Easter event for the local community. There will be games, bubbles, freebies, competitions, a treasure hunt with prizes and a chance to have your face painted or get a glitter tattoo. APC will be displaying plans of the above mentioned café and Alex Black (Café Operator) will be joining us, so if you have any questions, please come and see us.

The next stage of this project is to establish pathways between the equipment to ensure the playground is accessible as possible. Again, these plans will be available to view on the day.



## Casual vacancy for a parish councillor

Following the statutory period of Public Notice, APC is now able to co-opt a local elector to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mr Daniel Nygate. If you want to support your local community, have the time and enthusiasm to help represent their views, then please contact Council Manager, Peter Evans on 01923 856433 or email [manager@aldenhams-pc.gov.uk](mailto:manager@aldenhams-pc.gov.uk).



Citizen's Advice have a drop-in clinic **every Tuesday** at the Radlett Centre, funded by APC. Due to an increased demand for this service, and taking the

collated figures into account, APC has injected further funding into this valuable scheme, and will be extending the clinic opening hours to **10am-3pm** (previously closing at 1pm). APC will trial these extended hours for 3 months from 2 April 2024 and, if the service is used in these additional hours, will look to make it a permanent change.



Don't forget to sign up for free to get your garden waste collection sticker.