



Verulam Ward - Winter 2017

RIVER VER AND LAKES IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

St Albans District Council is working with partners to develop a plan that will improve the river and explore opportunities to enhance the wider river area through the city.

■ We want to improve the River Ver in St Albans to create a better environment for people and wildlife.

The council is currently investigating possible solutions to resolve the issues surrounding the river and lakes, while exploring other opportunities to create a better place for people and wildlife.

As part of this, we'd like to hear your thoughts. You can have your say by filling in the online comments form. Possible solutions must be feasible, sustainable and provide value for money.

Over the last 2000 years the River Ver in St Albans has been altered for industry, flood risk reduction, amenity and recreation, which have restricted river habitats and wildlife.

The ornamental lakes in Verulamium Park are fed by the river and suffer from poor water quality. This and other contributory factors cause algal blooms and reduced oxygen levels in the water, which is detrimental to wildlife.

The project is split into six areas. For more details and to have your say visit stalbands.gov.uk/riverver



River ver

Jessica Chivers, your local councillor making a difference.

LITTER PICK LOOT FOR CHARITY

■ A resident who joined Cllr Jessica Chivers' monthly litter pick in Verulamium Park in October was delighted to find £15 among cans and bottles. He beamed as he handed it to Jessica, saying "that's another little help for the play area."

Jessica is spearheading a project with residents to raise money for a new play area in Verulamium Park. They started the charity 'Verulamium at Play' (verulamiumatplay.org.uk) in 2016 and continue to welcome volunteers to run events to help reach their target. Please text PARK18 £10 to 70070 to donate. You can swap the £10 for £1, £2 or £5.



Volunteer donates find to VaP

VERULAMIUM PARK LITTER PICKS 2018

■ Community litter picks in Verulamium Park continue into 2018 with Cllr Jessica Chivers. "I host the litter picks because no matter how hard our contractor works to keep our district clean, there will always be more that can be done," says Jessica.

Jessica brings bags, pickers, gloves and high viz vests. Meet at the top of the causeway by the bridge next to the King Harry Lane entrance. 2018 dates, all on a Saturday, 1030-1130:

14th January, 17th February, 17th March, 28th April (part of SuStAinable St Albans week).

ANNE TACKLES ROHINGYA CRISIS

■ After returning from visiting the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, Anne Main MP has been working tirelessly to bring attention to this issue in parliament.

Anne secured a debate to share stories from the camps and urged the Minister to do everything possible to help support those affected by this crisis. This pressure has resulted in the government committing £47m in British aid, and a further

\$300m in the international aid effort.

Anne said, 'long term we need a political solution, but I'm delighted that the aid effort has been stepped up.' Mrs Main has been working with the Disaster and Emergency Committee for their appeal for the Rohingya refugees.

You can donate to the DEC appeal at: donation.dec.org.uk/myanmar



ROBERT AVENUE SPEEDING PRIORITY FOR POLICE

■ Cllr Chivers successfully pushed for the reduction of speeding on Robert Avenue to be a priority for police at the most recent "Priority Setting Forum" for St Albans North and West.

The police, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and parish, district and county councillors meet four times a year to set three priorities for the next quarter.

Cllr Chivers says "I'm pleased the police are taking this step and I'd like to invite residents who are concerned about speeding where they live to apply to the Police & Crime Commissioner's Community DriveSafe Scheme." www.hertscommissioner.org/community-drivesafe-scheme-hertfordshire



News SNIPPETS

VERULAM ESTATE-CITY STATION COMMUTER BUS

A new commuter bus service at 0704 and 0742 Monday – Friday (Mayne Avenue bus stop opposite Waitrose) to City station helps residents cut their commuting costs and carbon footprint. The new service is £3.50 return and return services from City station are 1734, 1826, 1856 and 1926.

See www.intalink.org.uk/verulam

RECYCLING RATES

Verulam residents are doing well with recycling and we're nearly hitting the 60% recycling rate across the district.

"Thanks to everyone in Verulam ward who makes the effort to reduce, reuse and recycle," says Cllr Chivers.

YOUR CONSERVATIVE COUNCILLOR VERULAM WARD



Cllr Jessica Chivers

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VERULAMIUM AT PLAY NEEDS YOU



We are fundraising for a new play area in Verulamium Park. Could you volunteer? See verulamiumatplay.org.uk for info.