

The Village Green

Greens keep on
delivering

Issue 23 Autumn 2022

The roads were melting and train lines buckled in the heat but the Bucks Council Leader, at the July Full Council meeting, stated that it is not clear that this is caused by climate change! The Leader and every Conservative councillor voted against a motion to set out plans to achieve net zero in a shorter timespan – an objective stated in its own climate change strategy. One of their reasons – the residents of Bucks wouldn't support it. Some kind of leadership!

Swimming at Shabbington



Cllr Gregory Smith recently convened a meeting to explore the potential for wild swimming on the River Thames. A potential site could be the river near the pub in Shabbington. The double benefit of a new leisure facility and improved monitoring and water quality is enthusiastically embraced by residents across this area. There is lots of work to do bringing together charities, business, the community board, Buckinghamshire and Parish Councils.

Can you help deliver the Village Green or would you like to join The Green Party?
Email info@aylesburyvale.greenparty.org.uk

Pavements causing problems



There is a particular problem for people with limited mobility or visual impairment who are prevented from taking simple exercise by the trip hazards across our pavements. Cllr Gregory Smith met with residents and arranged a meeting with Transport for Bucks to demand action. He said "we need to build pressure on Bucks Council to improve pavements across the area".

Gregory is also pressing for the resurfacing of Thame Rd, Haddenham, to stay a top priority... including the pavements.

Gregory is still working hard for Bernwood residents

Accessibility for the Community Orchard

Cllr Gregory Smith has been working with The Community Orchard and Stonehill House Care Home in Haddenham to develop an active aging project. The Orchard needs to be inclusive for all residents and provide volunteer opportunities for all. Gregory spoke with residents and staff when they visited the orchard in August – to test out the new accessible paths and raised beds. This allows people with limited mobility to get involved too.



A community owned business?



Cllr Gregory Smith is proud to be part of a group exploring the opportunity to take over Blooming Fruity, the Haddenham greengrocer, as a community-owned business. He says “we need to hold on to the services we value – shop locally and buy just what we need”. Look out for details of a share offer where local people can invest in this great community asset.

Keep warm this winter

Bucks Council must support organisations like libraries and the village halls to keep warm spaces available for people who are struggling to keep their homes warm this winter. We also need the Council to extend the Government Home Insulation Scheme. Check out the Bucks Council website for grants to reduce your energy bills - www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news/green-homes-grant

Road accident zone - Haddenham



Local residents contacted Cllr Gregory Smith about the junction at Stanbridge Rd and Woodways in Haddenham. This has long been a source of accidents but recently an increasing number of cars have been crossing Woodways without stopping. Gregory got Transport for Bucks involved, taking immediate action to suspend the road sign that was causing confusion. They have also committed to refreshing the white lines. Gregory says “please report any road problems through ‘Fix My Street’, this is good for a lot more than just potholes. If you don’t get a satisfactory response, contact me”.

**You can contact Green Councillor,
Gregory Smith, at**

Greg.Smith@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Or meet Gregory at Haddenham Library,
second Saturday each month, 10-12