



**Green Councillor
Gregory Smith**



Green Party

THE VILLAGE GREEN

AUTUMN 2023



**Green campaigner
Paul Norman**

The Green Party newsletter covering Haddenham, Stone, Waddesdon, Long Crendon, Brill and surrounding villages

JOIN THE YOUNG GREENS & MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Local Young Green and sixth former, Oscar Peck, recently promoted the work of the Green Party to the residents of Aylesbury, with a stall on the market place. He was joined by school friends and passers-by. Oscar says “young people like me are worried about our future and the Green Party will help people to discover what positive actions we can take and what is already being done”. Oscar recently attended The Green Party Conference and was inspired by what Green Councillors, some very young, have been achieving in their wards.

Oscar wants to start a **Young Greens** group locally. If you are interested in joining email him at info@aylesburyvale.greenparty.org

LOOKING AFTER THE RIVER THAME



Green campaigner, Doug Kennedy, is working tirelessly to keep the River Thame clean and full of life. He says “At the centre of Aylesbury Vale the River Thame flows through its lovely valley. But for decades we have not treated this waterway well, culminating in the disastrous 2013 sewage pollution from the Aylesbury works.

Dedicated groups of volunteers have been working tirelessly to restore the river, led by the River Thame Conservation Trust (Riverthame.org), and we’ve come a long way. Work continues, supported by Thames Water, Parish councils and your Green Party Councillor, Gregory Smith.

Please love your waterways!”

The decision by Rishi Sunak’s government to delay the ban on new petrol and diesel vehicles until 2035 is the worst demonstration yet of poor leadership and failure to face the facts. The UK has one of the highest rates of carbon emissions per head of population, with cars contributing a major element of this. At the same time the UK Government invents policies to “abolish” and consistently misses all of the climate change targets that it has set for itself. At a time when the country needs good leadership what we get is lies and muddle.

THE ONLY PARTY TO CONSISTENTLY OPPOSE HS2 IN PARLIAMENT



The Green Party is keeping up the momentum and continuing to survey in our villages. Our latest venue was **Stone** where we received an excellent response to our survey. Although road safety and parking were common problems, as with nearby villages, there were a lot of other issues too, the state of footpaths and cycle-paths being high on people's lists of possible improvement areas. **Councillor Gregory Smith will be raising the issues of concern with the Council.**

BLOOMING FRUITY OPENS AS A COMMUNITY SHOP



It is wonderful that Blooming Fruity has launched as a Community Owned greengrocer, well done Haddenham. Councillor Gregory Smith says "This shows how people working together can achieve great things and make a real difference to the local community. We need shops like this to keep our villages thriving. It is known that money spent locally comes back into the local economy because small business owners and staff are likely to spend their money in the locality too. I hope Blooming Fruity can be a model for other villages to follow."

The **Green Crendon** group's recent eco-café was inspiring, with information and advice on community energy, biodiversity, energy-saving, local farming, the Long Crendon Wombles and lots more. Green Campaigner, Richard Torpey, attended and found it informative and inspirational. He loved the biodiversity gardens award.

ENERGY HELP FOR RESIDENTS



Gregory recently went on a visit to our local Citizens' Advice. The CEO of Citizen's Advice said recently "Even before winter hits we're helping more people who can't keep up with their energy bills than ever before." Gregory is worried too and says "I sincerely encourage you to contact Citizen's Advice on 0808 278 7938 if you need help with a problem."

Also, if you have high energy bills and think you need to make improvements to your home, to bring your bills down, then you can contact Better Homes, Better Health for a consultation <https://www.bhbh.org.uk/> 0800 1070044

POOR HADDENHAM DUCKS



Haddenham residents may have noticed how low the Church End pond water level gets in dry periods. Gregory is keen to support suggestions to install a solar-powered ground water well to top up the village pond. Gregory says "Dedicated villagers are keen to ensure that Haddenham remains a village with a pond at Church End, not just a muddy puddle. Let's hope the Parish Council comes up with a solution to our leaky pond."

Long Crendon Biodiversity Gardens Award

Has your garden got the stuff?

Please complete this form if you would like to enter your private garden for a Long Crendon Biodiversity Gardens award.

The levels of award are:

Platinum (Wildlife Haven): 16 or more wildlife garden features, at least 4 from each category

Gold (Great for wildlife): 12-15 wildlife garden features, at least 3 from each category

Silver (Good for wildlife): 8-11 wildlife garden features, at least 2 from each category

Bronze (Welcoming to wildlife): 4-7 wildlife garden features, at least 1 from each category

You can contact Green Councillor, Gregory Smith, at Greg.Smith@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or meet Gregory at Haddenham Library on the second Saturday each month 10-12 am.