

# Radlett Society & Green Belt Association

www.radlettsociety.org  
Registered Charity 280877



# NEWSLETTER 2018



Affiliated to:  
Hertfordshire

MEMBER:



OUR PRINCIPAL AIMS AND OBJECTS

To improve, protect and preserve, for the benefit of the public, the countryside around Radlett, the village of Radlett and the Green Belt



**1500 more homes 'needed' in Radlett by 2036**

**Nearly ALL sites are in the Green Belt**

**Huge threat to local infrastructure**



**AGM—WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**  
8pm start. At Vision Hall, Christchurch, Watling Street, Radlett. WD7 7JJ  
**Guest Speaker: Stephen Baker**, Planning Manager at CPRE Hertfordshire  
Followed by usual refreshments and discussion. Limited Parking. Agenda on back page.

This Newsletter has been delivered to all members, and serves as a NOTICE for the AGM.  
Additionally, to encourage new members to support our activities, it has been circulated to all residents of the Parish of Aldenham, who are invited to complete the application form on the back page—thank you.  
*Members: if you pay your membership fees annually by cheque, in order to retain your membership, please ensure you have sent this year's payment!*

From the CHAIRMAN:

Welcome to the 2018 edition of our Newsletter. This year, our diligent Committee has worked hard, on your behalf, on many aspects of issues confronting this community.

Sadly for us our Library Partnership Agreement with HertsCC came to an end in January, for our much-appreciated historic photographic exhibition in the Library Reading Room. Rental charges were being imposed by all Libraries for wall space, at considerable cost. This 'service' had been free to our Society since the Library was built in 1996.

During the year we have strengthened our Footpaths and Rights-of-Way Team with Co-opted Leader, John Whiting. We are most grateful to those members who have worked hard over the years to walk the local footpaths and for their reporting at the end of each year.

The Society has found it necessary to be robust with Hertsmere Borough Council, at all levels, in upholding their own Policies. We have also pressed hard for the Council to accept their responsibilities in preserving and enhancing our Conservation Areas. We are a Volunteer Amenity Group and act as the 'eyes and ears' of the village in bringing issues to the attention of the Council.

We maintain good contact with Aldenham Parish Council, especially on major or controversial planning applications, and members of the committee have worked on various aspects of The Neighbourhood Plan. The Society looks forward to the Plan for Radlett being adopted so that Hertsmere Borough Council will have to adhere to what we have set out, as Policy.

We are grateful to Cllr.Neil Payne for his generous support and advice over many years. This year, he retires as our President and, at the next elections in 2019, as Chairman of the Aldenham Parish Council. Rosamund Gray

### **ELECTED COMMITTEE 2017-18**

Chairman..... Rosamund Gray

Also covers Conservation Areas, Trees,

**Vice-Chairman** ..... Graham Taylor

Also Planning & Green Belt

Hon. Secretary ..... Beverley Porteous

Hon.Membership Secretary.....Linda Godman

Honorary Treasurer ..... Chris Parker

Transport & Parking..... Clive Glover

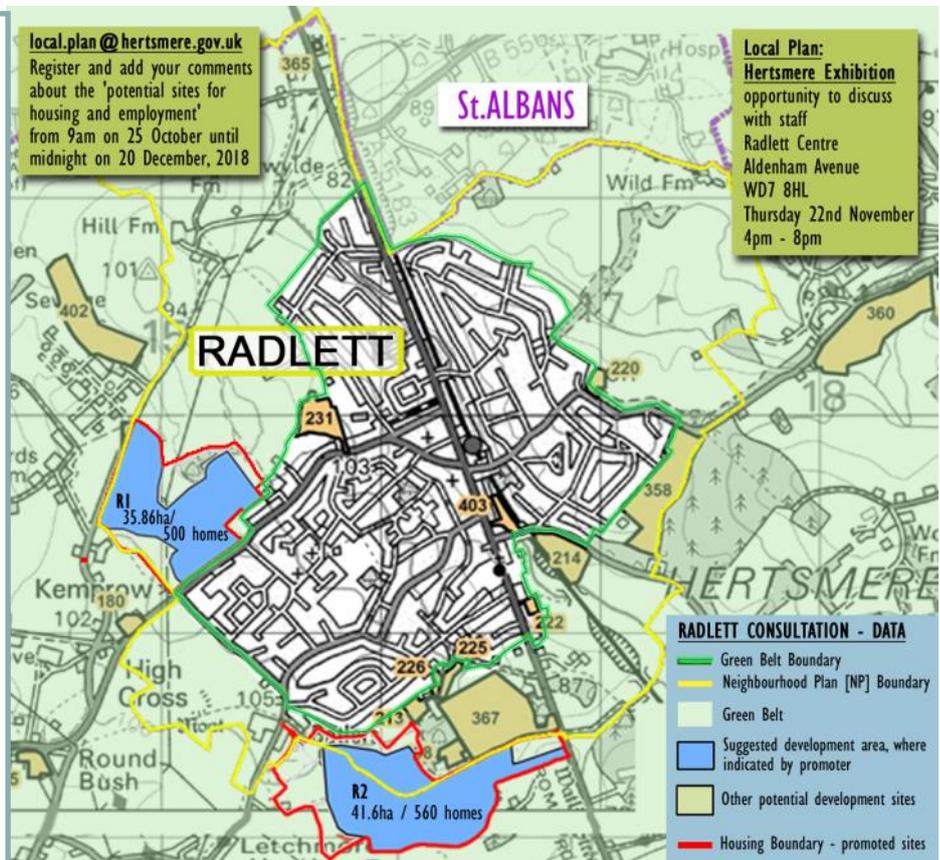
Elstree Airfield CC ..... Mike Stearns

Footpaths ..... John Whiting [co-opted]

**COMMITTEE VACANCIES:  
GREEN BELT, PLANNING,  
NEWSLETTER & PUBLICITY**

local.plan@hertsmere.gov.uk

Register and add your comments about the 'potential sites for housing and employment' from 9am on 25 October until midnight on 20 December, 2018



### **Planning & Green Belt**

This is my last year as Committee planning representative! The past 5 years' experience has taught me so much about the planning process and I'd advise anyone with a keen interest in how Radlett is being re-developed to give this role a try.

One of the less appealing tasks, at least, is attending and speaking at Hertsmere Planning Committee meetings. This adversarial ordeal highlights the complete lack of a 'level playing' field that members of the general public experience. From the telephone lottery to get a 3-minute slot, to the flat refusal to allow CGIs [screen images] and the poor Council Chamber acoustics, it's a steep uphill struggle for objectors.

In a recent case, RSGBA objected to the re-development of Regency House- the 24-hour Esso fuel & convenience store. Whilst we accepted the proposed gabled architecture of the original scheme, at 4-storeys, we thought it was too high in relation to Edwardian buildings sited across Watling street in Radlett North Conservation Area. So did APC. Instead of removing one storey, the applicants ignored our comments and came up with a completely new design which was said to be preferred by Hertsmere planners! We were shocked!

Come the vote at planning Committee, Councillors seemed keen on refusing the scheme, but were persuaded by departing Head of Planning, Christine Lyons, who dismissed one of the Council's SADM Policies,

as 'undefendable'; another was 'weak'.

Faced with this and a veiled threat of a possible £100K appeal bill, the Committee very reluctantly voted in favour. As usual, Radlett Councillors were out-voted. All that work-many of us wondering what was the point?!

Planning For Growth [see our map above]

Moving on, there's an even bigger threat in the pipeline: 1500 homes on Radlett's edges! This is a real nightmare for our Civic Society that cherishes the Green Belt which surrounds Radlett and gives it its semi-rural setting.

We would like to advise all residents in the Parish of Aldenham to object strongly to these hugely damaging proposals. The main reason is obvious: loss of Green Belt countryside [which the Local Plan would simply re-classify as development land] Also there's the constrained state of our local infrastructure: heavily congested highways, restricted medical facilities, nearly-full schools, hardly any nursery places, noise and pollution. Don't accept *promises* of better services!

Make sure you go to the Hertsmere presentation on 22nd November at the Radlett Centre, 4-8pm.

Shortly, we will publish a longer list of reasons for objection on the Society's website, [www.radlettsociety.org](http://www.radlettsociety.org).

At our AGM, Steve Baker, Planning Manager, CPRE Herts will, no doubt, also give more guidance on how best to campaign and protect our irreplaceable Green Belt.

Graham Taylor

## Trees

Following an unusual weather pattern this year of extreme cold and then a late spring, we now have experienced a warm and dry spell for several months. It is now noticeable that many trees, shrubs and hedges have died or are struggling, losing their leaves well before time.

Trees that edge public highways, which are in need of attention - please call Hertfordshire County Council 0300 123 4047. We should be vigilant to prevent trees & shrubs from overhanging footpaths & pavements. We encourage residents to report trees needing works or if unauthorised works are being carried out to the Tree Officer, Hertsme Borough Council 020 8207 2277.

## TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS REPORT

### Roads

Traffic congestion has been a regular problem due to works for new buildings and the laying of new communications links along main roads including Watling Street and Shenley Hill. Multiple traffic lights and single lanes have caused significant delays around our area and beyond over many months. There is little sign of such pressures easing as further major construction works are planned including a large new office block in Watling Street and the renovation of Radlett Gardens.

Inconsiderate and illegal parking continue to be a problem. With little enforcement action by Hertsme or Police this can only get worse. It is clear many drivers do not consider regulations apply to them so continue to park across drives, in bus stops, disabled bays and so on.

### Newberries Car Park

Hertsme Councillor Paul Morris submitted a detailed report to Hertsme Borough Council on his consultations with Radlett residents on their views on what developments would be supported. They are working to develop new proposals for further consultation in early 2019 so it will be some time before any specific developments will be proposed for this site.

### Buses

The hourly 601 route to St Albans and Hatfield has settled in well and is being well used. The 398 route to Watford has been cut back so now only runs a few times a day which is disappointing. However the 602 provides a half hourly service from Radlett to Watford and to St Albans via Shenley and London Colney which is fairly well used.

### Trains

The introduction of a completely new Thameslink timetable caused serious problems for many weeks although services to and from Radlett were not significantly affected unlike to other stations on the line, notably Harpenden. New direct services to stations in Kent are now operating from Radlett. *Clive Glover*



We very much commend the planters and summer bedding at the frontage of Radlett United Synagogue, on Watling Street, Radlett, opposite The Oakway Parade. They are a great improvement and a have given a wonderful show this summer.

*Rosamund Gray*

## MEMBERSHIP

We're hoping to start sending out occasional email updates with information on important matters of local interest on, for example, Newberries Car Park and 'Planning for Growth' proposals. We have e-mail addresses only for about 50% of our membership, so if you would like to receive these updates please let us have your current email address. Alternatively, if you would rather not receive emails from us, please tell us - we take your privacy very seriously. Please send emails to [membership@radlettsociety.org](mailto:membership@radlettsociety.org)

This year, to help promote the work of the Society and recruit new members, we are sending our Newsletter to every household in the Parish of Aldenham. If you are interested in preserving the area we live in and its surrounding Green Belt why not join us? There is a membership form on the back page of this Newsletter. *Linda Godman*

**If you can help, let us know at [www.radlettsociety.org](http://www.radlettsociety.org) 'Contact Us'**

After 20 years of voluntary work with the Society, including 15 years as Chairman, for which we are very grateful, we are saddened that a very committed member of our team has decided to step down.



During this time, Graham has chaired over 100 Committee meetings and 15 AGMs. Each year, he has designed and produced the Society's annual Newsletters, publicity fliers and presentations for outside events such as the Radlett Festival.

Since 2013, Graham has been busy as our Planning Representative. The Radlett Society is a 'Statutory Consultee', and we are supplied annually with 200-250 planning applications. Graham has diligently compiled full database of these, especially Green Belt sites and those in Conservation Areas.

It is paramount that the Society's views are conveyed to Hertsme Borough Council

and Graham, by referring to all published policies, has ensured that this has been done.

This experience has enabled Graham, in a personal capacity, to assist Aldenham Parish Council Planning Committee.

Graham has also been Spokesperson for the Society in maintaining our firm stance of defending the Green Belt, particularly in respect of the Strategic Rail Freight Interchange application.

In 2017, on behalf of our members, Graham responded fully on the Hertsme's Planning for Growth proposals. He has also worked with Aldenham Parish Council on the Radlett Neighbourhood Plan.

As you can see there has been commitment, diligence and concern for this Community and we are most appreciative.

Well done, Graham, it has been wonderful to work with you. *Rosamund Gray*

# ADMIN & MEMBERSHIP

## 42nd AGM Agenda, 21/11/18

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 41st AGM on 15/11/2017
3. Treasurer's report y/e 30/06/2018
4. Annual report and discussion
5. Election of Officers/Committee 2018/19
6. Appointment of auditor
7. Resolutions
8. Any other business [*please notify Hon. Sec. in advance*]

Nominations for Officers and members of the Committee should be made in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder, and bear the consenting signature of the nominee. The Chairman should receive nominations not less than 24 hrs before the AGM, that is by Tuesday 20th Nov 2018.

To contact the Society on such matters, please use 'CONTACT US' at our web-site's homepage:  
[www.radlettsociety.org](http://www.radlettsociety.org)

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 30 June 2018

Honorary Treasurer - Chris Parker

	2018	2017
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions/Donations	2,569	2,654
Footpath Map Sales	120	156
Investment Income	1,450	2,417
Gift Aid Tax Refund	559	1,155
<b>Totals :</b>	<b>4,698</b>	<b>6,382</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Administration/General	334	374
Newsletter/AGM	577	742
Other Societies	96	121
Donations	500	600
Interpretation Boards	0	160
<b>Totals :</b>	<b>1,507</b>	<b>1,997</b>
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>3,191</b>	<b>4,385</b>

Join Us! Support Us!

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2018-19 with GIFT AID DECLARATION and STANDING ORDER MANDATE



**Radlett Society &  
Green Belt  
Association**

**Please print your details (CAPITALS)**

Title ..... First Name .....

Family Name.....

Address .....

.....Postcode .....

phone.....

Email

@

Date of application.....

**Annual** member subscription is at a level you choose; we suggest at least £10-£15\*.

\*Payment is preferred by **Standing Order**, just enter your bank details in next column.

Otherwise, please attach a cheque **[minimum £5.00]**, payable to:-

'The Radlett Society & Green Belt Association'

You will be enrolled as a full member and receive details of the Committee and a copy of the Constitution.

### STANDING ORDER MANDATE

Instruction to your Bank/Building Society

NAME: .....

BRANCH:.....

ADDRESS:.....

NAME on ACCOUNT .....

SORT CODE: ACCOUNT NUMBER:

<input type="text"/>									
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Please pay to NatWest Bank plc,  
Sort Code 60-17-14,  
\*A/C No: .....[\*We will fill this in]

for the credit of:-  
THE RADLETT SOCIETY AND  
GREEN BELT ASSOCIATION,  
the sum of £ .....

(.....)  
Commencing (*please allow 1 month*) :  
Day \_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_ Year 20 \_\_\_\_  
and **annually** thereafter until further  
written notice and charge such pay-  
ments to the debit of my account.

Signed .....

Date .....

Gift Aiding your membership subscrip-  
tion and other donations means we  
reclaim 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you  
donate.

*giftaid it*

### GIFT AID DECLARATION

I want to Gift Aid any donations or sub-  
scriptions I make in the future or have  
made in the past four years to RSGBA.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand  
that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or  
Capital Gains Tax than the amount of  
Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in a  
tax year, it is my responsibility to pay  
any difference.'

**SIGNED**.....

**PRINT NAME**.....

**DATE**:.....

*Registered Charity #280877*

Please post your completed ap-  
plication form to:-

**Hon. Membership Secretary,  
RSGBA, Little Orchard, Radlett  
Park Road, Radlett, WD7 7BQ**

*Please allow us up to 4 weeks to  
set up your membership.*

*Thankyou*