



## ***AVLAN's Greening Alton Project is gearing up ready to go. Let's make 2024 a brilliant year for nature.***

Website: [altonclimatenetwork.org.uk](http://altonclimatenetwork.org.uk) Email: [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [@AltonClimate](https://www.facebook.com/AltonClimate) Twitter: [@AltonClimate](https://twitter.com/AltonClimate) Instagram: [alton.can](https://www.instagram.com/alton.can)

### **What is the Greening Alton Project all about?**

***Last year we were introduced to the People's Plan for Nature and this year we are making a start on implementing those plans here in Alton. Come to the library on Tuesday morning 13th February to find your street on our map and see where new trees and hedges could go.***



### **Hampshire Nature Recovery Strategy**

The Government's Environment Act 2021 included the development of new county Local Nature Recovery Strategies by the end of 2024.

These strategies aim to restore or create additional wildlife-rich habitats outside of existing protected sites, and help the recovery of threatened animal and plant species, including many butterflies and birds, by providing more, diverse and better-connected habitats.

Ours is being led by Hampshire County Council, who are keen to engage with local people. They have launched [a survey](#) which has an easy-to-use interactive mapping tool. You can pinpoint areas, large and small, that have potential for improvement.

### **Greening Alton Project**

Here in Alton, we've been inspired by last year's *People's Plan for Nature* to create the **Greening Alton Project**. ACAN's nature group Alton and Villages Local Action for Nature (AVLAN) has a big town map with no less than 70 sites for nature marked on it. Come along to **Alton Library on the morning of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February**, during the Library's Green and Thrifty fortnight to see the map and have a chat with Jenny. You might want to add your garden to the map and maybe pledge to connect with another green space nearby. Hopefully lots of other groups will get involved with greening our town.



You can make comments on the consultation website [here](#) and there is more info on EHDC's website [here](#).

You can find out more at these in person consultation events on:

**Thur 1 Feb** 3.30-7.30pm at [Forest Community Centre](#), Whitehill & Bordon

**Sat 3 Feb** 10-2pm at [The Maltings](#), Alton

**Wed 7 Feb** 3.30-7.30pm at [The Millennium Centre](#), Liphook

**Mon 19 Feb** 3.30-7.30pm at [Four Marks Village Hall](#), Four Marks

**Tue 20 Feb** 3.30-7.30pm at [Merchistoun Hall](#), Horndean

[Energy Alton](#) and ACAN are currently preparing formal responses to the proposals - we'll publish these on our websites soon.

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## Hampshire County Council needs to cut £132 million

**Have your say on proposals for future services in Hampshire.**

The Future Services Consultation provides us all, as individuals and organisations, with the opportunity to choose the services we would like to see prioritised over others. Do take the time to fill in their survey.

The consultation sets out 13 detailed options to help lower costs in future – by charging extra for some things and by cutting things that the council is not legally required to deliver. Needless to say rural passenger transport does not fare well!

The 13 options within the consultation are [explained in detail here](#):

***The consultation runs from 8 January to 11:59pm on 31 March 2024.***

A banner for the Future Services Consultation. The background is orange. In the top right corner, there is a logo consisting of three vertical bars of varying heights, followed by the text "Making the most of your money". The main text "Future Services Consultation" is written in large, white, bold letters. Below the text, there is a row of four small images: 1. Two construction workers in high-visibility gear working on a road. 2. A woman sitting on the floor in a library, reading to a child. 3. A road sign with the number 5 and a signpost with the number 6. 4. A road sign with a pedestrian crossing symbol and the word "Patrol" below it, with a person in a high-visibility jacket in the foreground.

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## Order your fruit trees now for collection 24th Feb in Alton

For details and the order form go to:

<https://petersfieldcan.org/projects/nature-recovery/trees>

There are more options this year:

- 1 year old maiden trees, potted in 4 litre pots (a young fruit tree with a single leading stem and some side shoots, but importantly has had no pruning or training).
  - 2-4 year old bare root bush trees (a young tree that has been pruned back in the first winter to form a bush shape).
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- Mixed native hedging (65% Hawthorn, plus a mix of at least 5 other species)



**Each fruit tree costs just £12 and comes with a stake and instructions on how to plant.**

These trees usually cost between £25 - £35 but thanks to our partners you can buy them at a subsidised price. This project has received funding from the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Collection will be on the morning of Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Feb from Edgar Hall, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NB (with grateful thanks to Alton Men's Shed)

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## Some Good News

For a long time now we have been hearing all sorts of lies and propoganda about EVs, such as they burst into flames more easily and when you calculate their emissions from cradle to grave they are worse than ICE cars!

You may be pleased to know that both those supposed facts are nonsense. For a fun, myth busting, canter through the misinformation being putting out against EVs you might enjoy this:

[Ex-Top Gear Star Sets Electric Car "Experts" Straight](#)

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## Dates for your diary

### Join ACAN at the demo against Farnbro Airport's Expansion Plans

A peaceful family-friendly march is planned on Saturday, 11 am in Farnborough, to protest about Farnborough Airport's expansion plans.

Private jets produce far more GHG emissions per person than any other mode of transport.

See [ACAN's repsonse to the consultation](#) for more information.



**It's time for a new ACAN,  
a new approach with new leaders**

*Join in and have your say at our  
public meeting – all welcome*

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7-9pm  
Alton Maltings, GU34 1DT**

### Come and have your say about the Future of ACAN

**Monday 29th Jan 7pm  
Alton Maltings**

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If you cannot make this meeting and want to contribute to the discussion do let us know.  
email [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com)

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## ACAN's Monthly Litter Pick

*The next litter pick will be on Thu 1st Feb from 10am - 12 noon*

Thanks go to the 8 people who managed to pick up 36 kilos of rubbish in 90 minutes for January's litter pick. There was a lot there and we didn't all finish our routes. So this time we'll meet again in the football club car park of Anstey Park and can go out in all directions from there. Those who prefer quieter areas can go to the park and onto the footpaths to Holybourne and those who would like to tidy up that end of the town can concentrate on the roads and alleyways off Anstey Lane and adjoining estates.

*Please email if you can make it to give us an idea of numbers [plasticacan@gmail.com](mailto:plasticacan@gmail.com)*

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## Alton Community Share

**Next session Sat 10th February**

Reduce waste & save money at this free library of jigsaws, games, toys and activities.

2nd & 4th Saturday of the month at St Lawrence's Parish Centre  
10am to 12 noon

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## AVLAN's Greening Alton Project at the Library

Jenny will have a table at Alton Library on the morning of **Tue 13th Feb** during Hampshire Libraries' "Green and Thrifty" week. Come along to find out all about AVLAN's new "Greening Alton" project.

We've marked over 70 green spaces on a large map and warmly invite members of the public to add more, perhaps their gardens, and pledge to join up green spaces (maybe using planters) to create corridors for wildlife particularly insects.



## Spaces left on Cycle Alton's Bike Maintenance Courses

Do you know a woman who might benefit from some confidence-building bicycle maintenance sessions run **by** women **for** women at Alton Community Centre?

They will provide a space to learn and develop skills for maintaining a bike and dealing with common bike maintenance challenges.

**The dates are:**

- Monday 12th Feb at 12-1pm, half term (main hall);
  - Saturday 9th March at 3-4pm (main hall);
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- Monday 18th March at 7-8pm (garden room)

Contact [cyclealton@gmail.com](mailto:cyclealton@gmail.com) for more details.

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## Next Session Sat 17th February

Bring your items for repair along to Alton Community Centre from 10:30am to 12:30pm on:

**17th Feb, 13th April, 25th May, 20th July**

The repair team will be at your service to assist and advise you on repairs to small household items.



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## Don't forget to pick up your fruit trees

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February from Edgar Hall, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NB**

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## Alton Sustainable Eating - Healthy Food Healthy Planet

Cutting down the meat and dairy in our diets has been shown to be one of the highest impact ways to reduce our personal contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. Better still this is something that is entirely under our own control and benefits our own health as well as the planet.

To register for our first film, discussion and tasting event or find out more, email: [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com)



**Alton Sustainable Eating**  
Healthy Food Healthy Planet

Eating less meat & dairy benefits our own health as well as the planet. It's easier than you might think!

**Join us for a short film followed by discussion and food tasting**  
**7:30-9pm on Thu 29th Feb**  
Alton Community Centre, GU34 1HN

  

 [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com)   
[www.altonclimatenetwork.org.uk](http://www.altonclimatenetwork.org.uk)

## Farnham Community Farm Job Opportunity

Farnham Community Farm is a 2-acre veg growing community scheme following organic & agroecological methods.

They are looking to employ a new [Assistant Grower](#).

This is a paid, part-time job that would suit someone with a passion for protection of the land, biodiversity, soil health and connecting people to food growing.

Deadline for applications 15th Feb.

**Please send a cover letter and CV (or any queries) to Tash at [hello@farnhamcommunityfarm.com](mailto:hello@farnhamcommunityfarm.com)**



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## Your Community Needs You

Scientists tell us we have until the end of this decade to cut our emissions by half if we are to prevent runaway climate change. Here in ACAN we have a range of groups already set up and many more ideas of things we would like to do if we had more volunteers, and, of course, you may have ideas of your own you would like to pursue. It doesn't matter how much or how little time you can spare we have volunteering opportunities to suit.

To get involved do fill in our [volunteers form](#)

Or just email [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com) and let us know what you would like to do

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## As ACAN has grown so have our costs.

Most grants do not cover running costs, such as insurance, zoom subscription, examination of accounts.

If you can help with one off or regular donations please use the button below for our CAF donate page.

Many thanks.

[Donate to ACAN](#)

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