

ALKHAM VALLEY SOCIETY
Executive Committee's Report for 2021/2022

It has been a relatively quiet year and there is not a lot to report to Members of the Society.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 8 November 2021 in the Alkham Village Hall with 12 members present. All the resolutions were passed and after the meeting the wine flowed with some excellent canapes.

The Christmas Walk was held on 27 December 2021. The weather was wet and windy, but 11 intrepid souls with two dogs turned out and were guided by Anita James up the hill towards Chalksole Green, along Fern Lane and then back towards Alkham. Everyone felt better for it.

The AVS objected to Dover District Council planning authority in November 2021 regarding the building at Kearsney Station and received an acknowledgement to this objection.

There was communication with Kent Highways and the footpath warden for Alkham Parish Council following the fall of a walker, which resulted in new steps and handrails being installed on Footpath ER161.

There is some good news on Pimlico Way, where the first section of the track from Slip Lane has been flattened and resurfaced with type 2 aggregates, which has made it safer, less dangerous, and more traversable. Hopefully, 4x4s and motorbikes will not plough up the track again.

The AVS corresponded with residents of Ewell Minnis and with the Dover District Council planning authorities regarding the placing of mobile homes in Ewell Minnis and note that in Spring 2022 the Council issued an instruction for work to stop there. This matter is continuing to be monitored by the Committee.

In October 2022, the AVS objected strongly to the development of the site at Romany Acres with mobile homes for residential use, given that this would detract from the character of the area and spoil the surrounding Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and there was also limited access via a single track. The AVS expressed concern that the Dover District Council were taking no action to stop this development without any planning permission.

The Committee have been concerned for some time on the flow and speed of traffic through the Valley and the Village. Other residents of Alkham share this concern and in the year ahead the Committee will liaise with others to see what can be done to introduce some controls.

The Committee are hoping to plant a commemorative tree by the Village Green in honour of Queen Elizabeth 11's Platinum Jubilee and her life of service to the Nation.

Our Chairman, Richard O'Rorke, and our Vice-Chairman, Jane O'Rorke, have resigned from the Executive Committee and relinquished their roles, as they are now leaving the village. We would like to thank them for all their work on behalf of the Society.