

# MakeNews



## Work starts on new secondary school

Plans shared for Sports Hub



Heritage Day explores the development's past



New shops in The Glade



Protecting Prestley Wood heritage



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## MakeNews

*Make/News* is produced by Urban&Civic — master developer of Alconbury Weald — to update residents and our neighbouring communities on progress and news from the growing community. It is distributed to Alconbury Weald, Alconbury village, Alconbury Weston, The Stukeleys and Abbots Ripton, as well as being available in housebuilder marketing suites and other public places across Alconbury Weald.



Please recycle responsibly when you have finished with this newsletter

# Hello



**Rebecca Britton**  
Regional Director, Communications, Communities and Partnerships  
E [rbritton@urbanandcivic.com](mailto:rbritton@urbanandcivic.com)  
T 01480 413141  
M 07739 339889



**Paul Murfin**  
Communications and Partnerships Manager  
E [paul.murfin@urbanandcivic.com](mailto:paul.murfin@urbanandcivic.com)  
T 01480 413141  
M 07407 605119



**Natalie Leigh-Brown**  
Community Development  
E [natalie.leigh-brown@urbanandcivic.com](mailto:natalie.leigh-brown@urbanandcivic.com)  
T 01480 413141  
M 07823 527068

Hello and welcome to our autumn 2025 newsletter from Alconbury Weald, with updates on the development and future plans as well as the latest sustainability initiatives and community news.

It's been a busy summer, with planning consent granted and work starting on Alconbury Weald's new secondary school and plans submitted for up to five new shops in The Glade (opposite the Co-op). The Community Garden is also starting to flourish with the residents, school children and local groups getting involved, and we'll be sharing our emerging plans and asking for your thoughts on the final phase of Garland Park in December (see page 10).

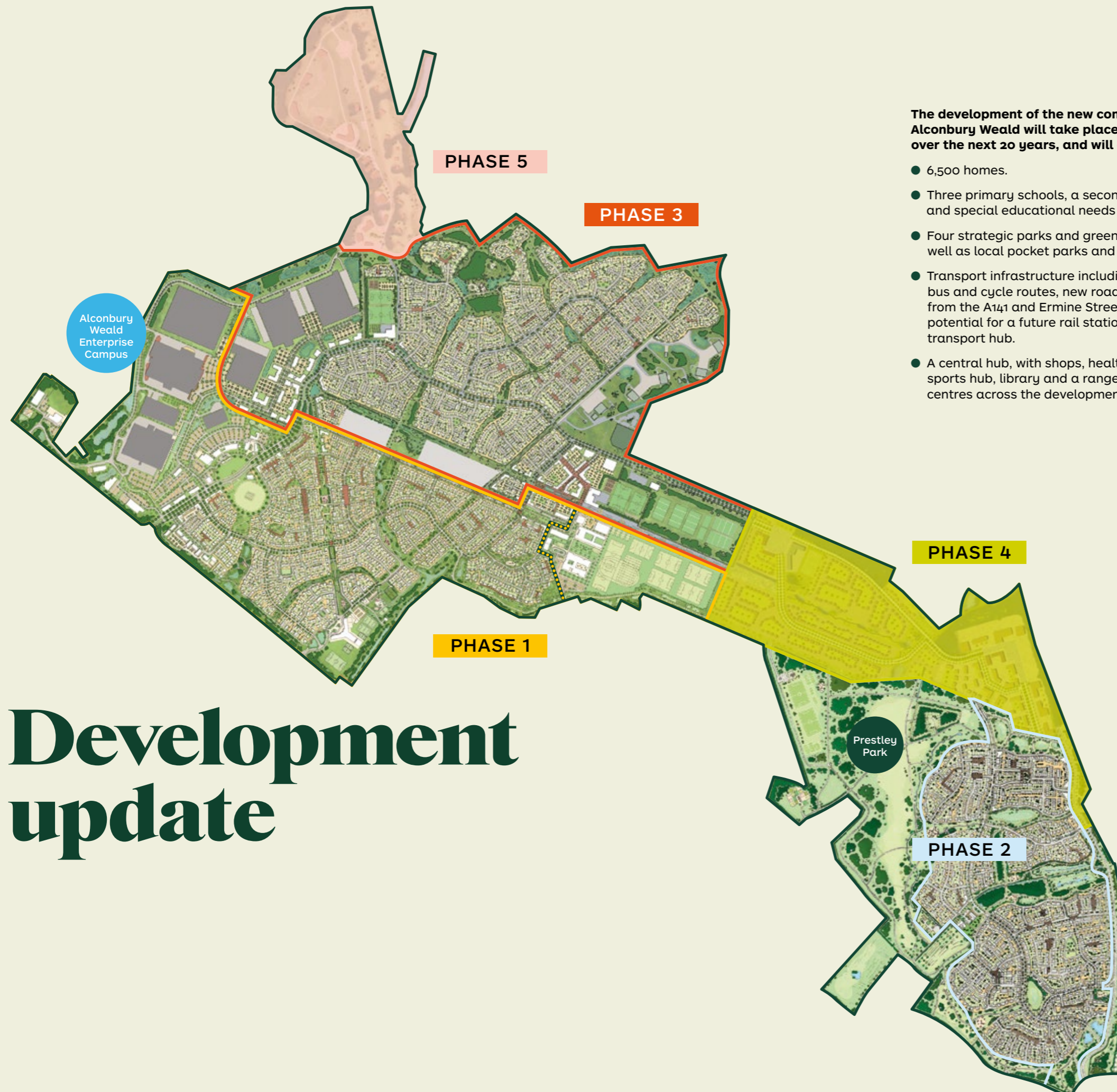
The team has also been busy completing the first phase of Prestley Wood management plan, which will help protect and enhance the setting of the scheduled monument contained within the wood. Work on the Southern Link Road is also on track, and it will be connected into the A141 September-November. This will require up to 10 weeks of night closures to Spittals Way (8pm to 6am on weekdays from 18 September) — see page 13 for more details.

During the summer we also carried out consultation on the Sports Hub coming forward in phase 3 and invited suggestions for future sport provision within Alconbury Weald. Feedback, along with commercial and planning considerations, will help inform plans being developed.

In addition to development news, this edition of *Make/News* provides details of the latest housebuilder incentives to buy new homes, updates from our nursery and education providers, details of initiatives to support water saving and sustainable travel, news from the Enterprise Campus, and the latest events and activities taking place at Alconbury Weald.

We hope you find this *Make/News* interesting and informative. If you have any queries, or have any ideas for future editions, please let us know.

With best wishes  
Becca, Paul and Natalie



**The development of the new community at Alconbury Weald will take place in phases over the next 20 years, and will deliver:**

- 6,500 homes.
- Three primary schools, a secondary school and special educational needs school.
- Four strategic parks and green spaces, as well as local pocket parks and green corridors.
- Transport infrastructure including prioritised bus and cycle routes, new road connections from the A141 and Ermine Street, and the potential for a future rail station and transport hub.
- A central hub, with shops, health centre, sports hub, library and a range of community centres across the development.

**Phase 1**

The first phase of development is well underway, with nearly 70% of homes already delivered alongside Jemima House Day Nursery, Ermine Street Church Academy, Prestley Wood Academy (special educational needs school), The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen, Co-op, The Pavilion community centre, cricket pitch, community library, multi-use games area (MUGA), parks, play areas, community garden and allotments. It is also home to Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus, which has over 1.5 million sq ft of business space and will be extended in Phase 3.

The next elements coming forward in Phase 1 include a health centre over the Co-op, up to five new shops in The Glade and a secondary school.

**Phase 2**

The second phase of Alconbury Weald will include new homes, open spaces and play areas. It will be delivered in two stages, with the first homes coming forward in the north of this area alongside the 150-acre Prestley Park and the southern link road, which will provide direct access to the A141 and Huntingdon. As subsequent phases are completed, the road will link with The Boulevard.

**Phase 3**

In addition to new homes, this phase will include many key amenities including a 'town centre' hub with a health centre, community centre and library, shops and services, and a sports hub. It will also have large areas of parkland, which will mark the area of the old Cold War runway and connect to the future Heritage Area.

**Phase 4 and 5**

Currently in the very early design stage, Phase 4 will connect Phases 2 and 3, and Phase 5 will deliver the final area of development in the north-west section of Alconbury Weald.

**Prestley Park**

Delivery of Prestley Park will start with Phase 2, and continue to evolve and mature throughout the development of Alconbury Weald and beyond.

# Development update

## Secondary school progress

In June, the updated plans for Alconbury Weald Church Academy received planning consent. The new secondary school — which is due to open in September 2027 — will initially deliver four forms of entry (600 pupils) and include a performing arts facility as well as a sports hall with outdoor courts and playing fields. The building has been designed to enable the secondary school to expand to eight forms of entry (1,200 pupils) in response to future demand.

The project is led by the Education team at Cambridgeshire County Council, working with the future operator of the school — Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust (DEMAT) — and Urban&Civic as the master developer of Alconbury Weald.

Councillor Edna Murphy, Chair of the Children and Young People Committee at Cambridgeshire County Council, said: “I’m delighted that plans have been approved for the new Alconbury Weald Church Academy. We’re working to ensure all children and young people in our county have opportunities to thrive — with education provision close to home. Alconbury Weald Church Academy, supported in part by Urban&Civic, is set to provide those opportunities to the current and future residents of Alconbury Weald.”

The school, which has been designed in line with the Council’s aspirations around sustainability, energy efficiency and best practice design, will support DEMAT’s ambitious curriculum for its future pupils.

The school has also been designed to facilitate out-of-hours access to enable the community to use the main hall, performing arts spaces and sports facilities.

Rebecca Britton, Regional Director for Urban&Civic said: “Bringing forward the right facilities at the right time to meet the needs of current and future residents is an important part of Alconbury Weald’s development. Approval of the updated plans for the secondary school is a key milestone for the Education Campus. We will continue to work with the Council and DEMAT to deliver an inspiring and sustainable place for learning and the community at the heart of Alconbury Weald.”



We’re delighted the school has reached this significant milestone and are looking forward to seeing work progress on site. Since the updated plans were submitted, we’ve had lots of positive feedback and interest from parents whose children will be in Year 7 in 2027. We have a busy but exciting couple of years to get ready for the new secondary school to open.

**Adrian Ball** Chief Executive of DEMAT



## The Glade



Plans have been submitted for five new shops opposite the Co-op in The Glade, the local centre in Alconbury Weald’s first phase of development. The shops, located in a single storey building, will accommodate a range of uses, with the flexibility to combine into larger units depending on the requirements of future tenants.

With modern design and attractive glazed frontages, the shops will face onto the plaza opposite the Co-op. The plaza provides informal space for pop-up community events such as the Christmas market.

The new shops will be suitable for a range of operators such as a café/deli, pharmacy, hairdresser/barber, estate agent or other retail uses. The units can be leased with options for fit out.

Paul Murfin from Urban&Civic said: “The Glade is Alconbury Weald’s first local centre and is an important part of the existing community hub on the development’s main Boulevard: alongside The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen, The Gym, the community library, cricket pitch and Pavilion community centre. We hope the new shops will attract a variety of local, independent retailers and service providers to complement the Co-op, and look forward to welcoming new tenants soon.”

Subject to planning consent, the new building will be completed and the units available to fit out by autumn next year.

Plans for an interim health centre above the Co-op continue to progress, with a change of use from offices to a health facility approved earlier this year. Discussions are also progressing for a new nursery, which will form the final building within The Glade.

Further shops and services will be coming forward in the central Hub area of the development in the next phase, while this area will continue to provide important shops and services for the homes and businesses in the development’s first phase.



# Community Garden

Following the launch event in April, Alconbury Weald's new community garden — which provides communal growing, meeting and activity space — is starting to flourish with residents, school children and community groups planting flowers, herbs, fruit and vegetables.

The idea for the community garden came from residents who wanted space to grow things and be involved without taking on an allotment. The Communities Team looked at a variety of successful community gardens across the country and worked with local charity Groundwork East to bring the ideas from residents into the new space provided.

The accessible community garden includes raised and tabletop timber planters, trellises for berries, a community orchard, roofed storytelling area and pergola for community activities. Additional space has also been set aside as grass and will evolve in response to new residents moving in and volunteers involved in the garden.

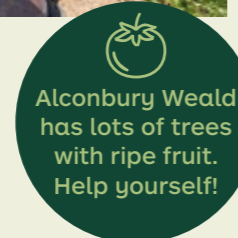
Adam Castleton, who has been brought in to support the early volunteers, organise activities and develop plans for future uses, said: "It has been lovely to meet and work with so many enthusiastic individuals, couples and families during the tree planting session in March, the launch event in April and our Community Garden Club sessions in June and July."

In addition to the community garden, new allotments have been provided for individuals keen to cultivate their own, individual plot. These allotments have proved popular, with all 23 plots now allocated and handed over to their respective allotmentees. More allotments will come forward as the development grows, if there is demand.



The community garden is really starting to flourish but there is always lots to do, and it will continue to grow and evolve through the different seasons.

Adam Castleton



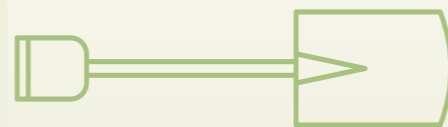
## Community Garden Club

Activity sessions this autumn:

- Creating planters around the central pergola — from 10.30am on Saturday, 27 September
- Winter veg planting — from 10.30am on Saturday, 1 November

Booking on Eventbrite — search 'Alconbury Weald'. All welcome.

Follow 'Alconbury Weald community garden' on Facebook for news and updates.



## Seasonal advice: autumn/winter

Lauren Kendrick, a perma-culturalist, grower and founder of Flourish Peterborough joined Adam at Alconbury Weald's Community Garden Club sessions in June and July, to share her passion, knowledge and experience.

As we move into the autumn/winter, we asked them to share some of their gardening tips for back gardens and allotments as well as the community garden.

- Keep an eye out for early frosts. Hardy plants will be okay but delicate plants may die. If potted, and you have space, move them to a sheltered area (like a garage or greenhouse) or cover them with garden/horticulture fleece to protect them from the frost. You can also dig up dormant bulbs, wrap them in newspaper and replant them next spring.
- Remember to keep picking in early September and enjoy your harvests.
- October/November is a great time to plant winter-hardy onion sets.
- Cut back any leaves around the courgettes and pumpkins so they ripen.
- By the end of September — before the first frost — bring any green tomatoes inside to ripen on a warm windowsill.
- Clear beds ready for planting of garlic in late autumn/early winter). Remember chives die back over winter so leave them in.
- Plant broad beans and peas — remembering to protect from mice.
- Sow kale, pak choi, lambs lettuce, rocket, spinach, chard and mustard for winter pickings.
- Plant spring bulbs like daffodils and snake's-head fritillaries. You could also plant some pansies and forget-me-nots.
- Late winter/early spring pruning for bushes and trees like roses and apple trees. Different plants have different pruning windows, so be sure to check before picking up the secateurs.
- Have a think before you clear leaves as they make great habitat for insects, hedgehogs and other small animals during the colder months.

# Garland Park: final section

Garland Park will provide a vibrant landscaped green space along the route of one of the airfield's former taxiways, connecting Ermine Street Church Academy with The Glade local centre, The Boulevard and the future Runway Park.

This multi-functional green space will include informal recreational spaces, play opportunities along the length of the park, from wild play and open space to equipped play areas, community orchards, hedgerows, avenues of trees, ornamental and shrub planting, wildflowers and other ecological features.

A walking and cycling route will run the length of the park, providing an off-road connection through the centre of the first phase of Alconbury Weald, with seating and picnic benches providing opportunities to stop and enjoy the amenities en route.

**Part C:** community orchard, new play area, tree planting, hedgerows, ornamental and shrub planting, wildflowers, seating and recreational space (in design).

**Part B:** landscaped spaces for relaxing and play within a community orchard (completed autumn 2022).

**Part A:** play equipment and table tennis tables in a green, landscaped setting (completed spring/summer 2021).



## Have your say (December 2025)

Plans are progressing for the final section of Garland Park (Part C), which will pass through Heathcote Crescent, Margetts Close, Garth Close, Leukenor Way and Pedley Close and complement the existing section across Senliz Road. It will include natural landscaping, trees, and seating areas to create a welcoming and relaxing environment for all ages.

As well as information and a feedback form online — <https://consultation.alconbury-weald.co.uk> — residents and the local community will have an opportunity to find out more and work with the design team to explore ideas for play equipment and other features in December.

- 7.30pm on Wednesday, 3 December at the Community Association meeting online. Teams meeting ID: 327 054 324 960 / passcode: yYADVj
- 6.30pm on Thursday, 4 December at the Residents' Forum meeting in The Pavilion.

## Indicative timeline

- Consultation: December 2025
- Finalise design and submit planning application: Winter 2025/26
- Construction begins: Summer 2026
- Park opens: Spring 2027

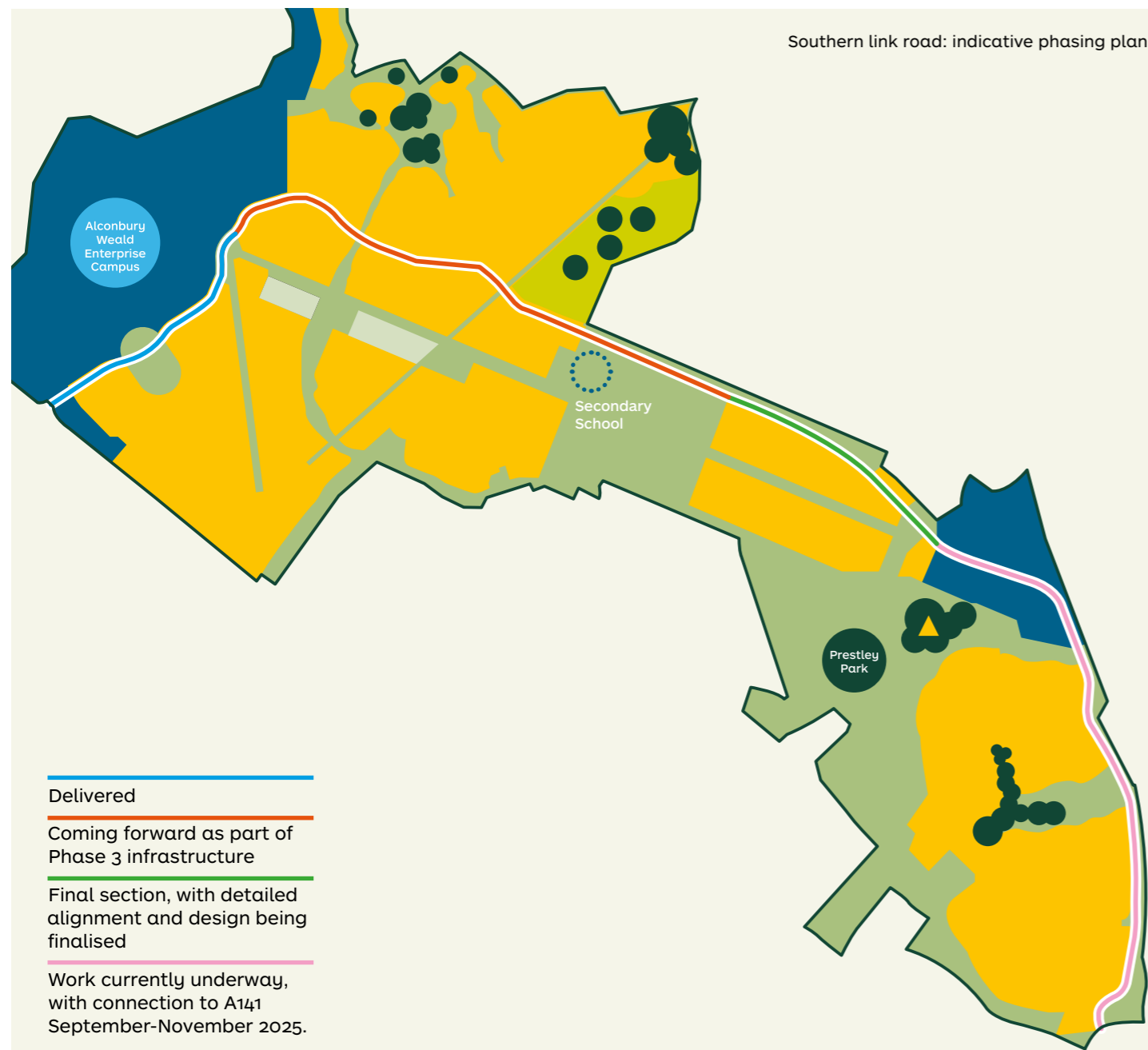
Get involved and help shape this space into something the whole community can enjoy!





# Southern Gateway opens link to Huntingdon

Progress continues on the southern link road, which will connect the southeast of Alconbury Weald to the A141 and Huntingdon in due course. The infrastructure will support the new homes and facilities in the second phase of the development (formerly Grange Farm) and Prestley country park.



The work to connect the road into the A141 (just south of the railway bridge) will take place September-November 2025, forming the Southern Gateway to the development.

In time, this road will connect to The Boulevard and form the primary spine route through the whole development for cars, buses, cyclists and pedestrians: running from the current Ermine Street entrance, through the first phase and north of the runway (the future Runway Park), then through the centre of the development, before coming through the former Grange Farm area to connect to the A141.

The southern part of the road will be delivered over the next 18 months, enabling access to the homes in phase two of Alconbury Weald. The central section will be completed as part of works to bring forward the central hub of the development.

### Creating the Southern Gateway

The work currently being undertaken by Breheny will include the installation of the new carriageway, with footpaths and cycleways alongside, and streetlights. Work to put in services along the road to support the new homes is also being undertaken.

The work has been planned to minimise disruption to road users, with the majority of the work being carried out north of the A141 at Spittals Way, with a narrowed but still open carriageway. For this next part of the work, however, a series of night-time closures will be required, for up to 10 weeks from Thursday 18 September 2025.

### Work being carried out

The work to connect to the A141 will include the creation of a resurfaced junction off Spittals Way, which will be controlled by traffic lights. A crossing for pedestrians and cyclists will also be included in this work, west of the railway bridge. This work is due to be completed by the end of November, with the spur into the development opening when the first houses in Phase 2 are delivered.

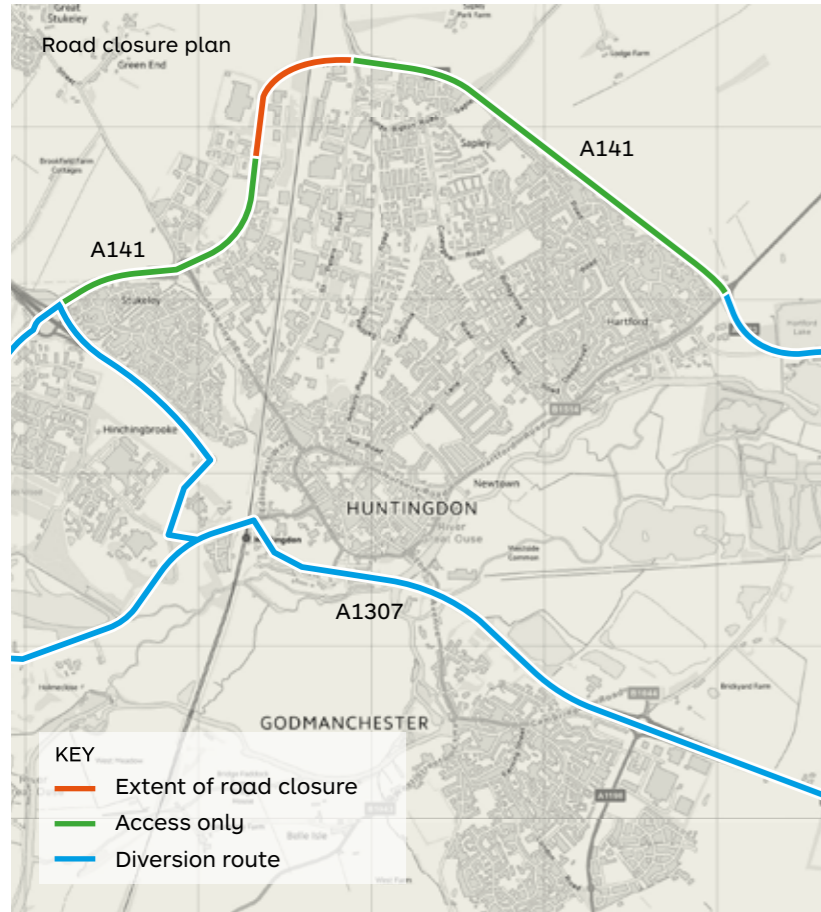
All works and the traffic management approach have been approved by Cambridgeshire County Council and are carried out under a legal agreement with them.



This work marks an important milestone for the project, as the completion of the Southern Gateway will provide access to the new homes and country park coming forward in Phase 2 of Alconbury Weald. Ultimately it will form the main route through the whole of the development.

Paul Murfin Urban&Civic





**Road closure details (left)**

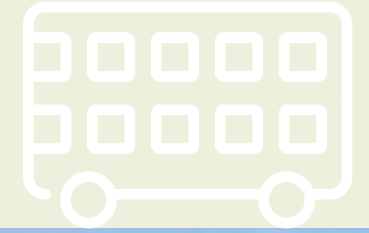
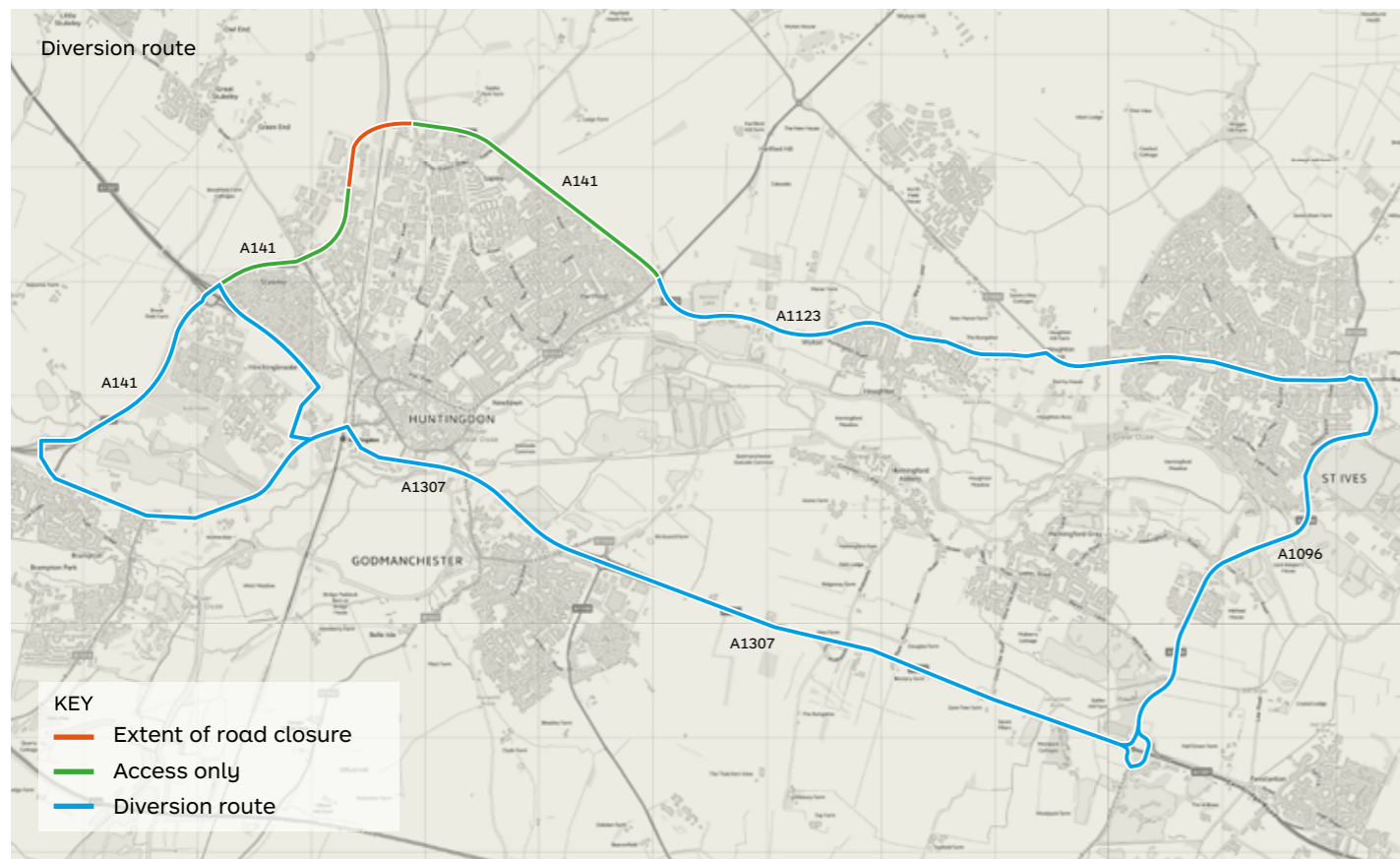
As work needs to be carried out on the carriageway, the A141 at Spittals Way will be closed from 8pm to 6am on weekdays (Monday-Friday) for up to 10 weeks from Thursday 18 September 2025.

**What is the diversion route? (below)**

A diversion route has been agreed with the County Council, which will help minimise disruption to surrounding villages particularly from large vehicles and HGVs. For local journeys, all other roads will be unaffected.

Approaching from the east, head south down the A141, go straight across the roundabout and take the A1123 to St Ives. At the Aldi and Morrisons roundabout, take the third exit along the A1096 and join the A1307 towards Huntingdon.

Approaching from the southwest, head southeast along the A1307 towards Cambridge and come off at the St Ives junction and follow the A1096 to the Aldi and Morrisons roundabout. Take the first exit onto the A1123 towards Huntingdon then continue until you join the A141.



**When will it be completed?**

These works are due to be completed by the end of November.

**Who should I contact if I have queries?**

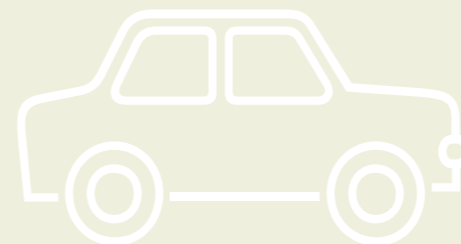
Breheny's emergency traffic management telephone number is 01449 745755.

For general enquiries about the works and wider development, please email [info@alconbury-weald.co.uk](mailto:info@alconbury-weald.co.uk)



We have been able to carry out most of the infrastructure works away from the road with minimal impact to the A141. To do this last connection effectively and safely will require night closures. We apologise for any inconvenience caused to local residents and road users during this time, and will keep people posted on progress during the works.

**Paul Murfin** Urban&Civic



# Prestley Wood

So far this year, work has been focussed on the installation of key infrastructure for the new homes that will be coming forward in the northern part of Phase 2. Early work on the new country park is also underway, with the first phase of Prestley Wood management complete and planting plans taking shape.

Alconbury Weald has several historic assets dating back through the millennia. One of these is a Scheduled Monument that marks the site of a 13th-century manor house of some significance, located at the heart of Prestley Wood. The double moated site has survived largely undisturbed and is one of the best-preserved examples of its kind in Cambridgeshire.

## Scheduled Monument

In addition to the manor house, thought to have been located in the central moated area, a manorial complex of this type in the medieval period would also have included stables, a dovecote and other outbuildings associated with the management of the estate.

There is also evidence of fishponds, which would have been artificially created pools of slow-moving fresh water to keep

fish for eating. This was an important way of providing a consistent and sustainable food source throughout the medieval period. Fishponds were often grouped together, either clustered or in lines, and joined by leats (waterways designed to feed other waterways). Each pond would have been stocked with a different age or species of fish, which could be transferred to other bodies of water, such as the moats. Their presence indicates that the families living here were wealthy and held high status within the local area.

It is believed the manor was part of the Prestley family's estates and is recorded in the ownership of Simon de Senliz in the early 13th century. Simon's successors held the manor until the mid-14th century, when it passed to Nicholas Stukeley and his successors.



It has been great working with Historic England and other partners to ensure the right approach to protect and enhance this important place. Once completed, this work will help bring the monument to life as part of the future country park, for future generations to explore and enjoy.

Paul Murfin Urban&Civic

Dr James Albone, Inspector of Ancient Monuments at Historic England, said: "The moated site in Prestley Wood is among a relatively small number of archaeological sites in the country to be identified as nationally significant. It was first designated in 1954, so relatively early on, and has had protected status ever since.

"With a site like this at Prestley Wood, the management of the trees is really important. Tree roots can be very damaging to archaeological deposits, and when trees blow over in the wind, they rip the soil, further damaging the archaeology beneath.

"Thinning out some of the trees at Prestley Wood will not only improve the quality of the woodland, but it has helped reveal the archaeological site. You can now see the manorial platform very clearly and understand the archaeology much better than before, when it was rather impenetrable and well hidden.

"With projects like Prestley Wood, partnership working is important. Historic England has been very keen and pleased to work with Urban&Civic and the District Council to develop the Management Plan for the Scheduled Monument. Early engagement ensures that everybody is on board with what's happening and why, and the various considerations are being fully understood — in this case how the heritage considerations have been balanced against the ecological ones."



## Woodland management

To help preserve the Scheduled Monument and enhance the woodland setting, a three-phase management plan has been agreed with Historic England, Huntingdonshire District Council and ecologists:

- **Phase 1:** clearing trees and shrubs from the central area where the manor house once stood, and around the moat structures, so that further historical investigations can be undertaken. Alongside that, the team removed damaged and diseased trees, helping support the health of the remaining trees.

*Completed summer 2025.*

- **Phase 2:** new planting to supplement the existing trees and incorporate new species to support and strengthen the woodland. The mix of species will be agreed in discussion with ecologists, Alconbury Weald's landscape architect and Historic England.

*Late 2025/early 2026.*

- **Phase 3:** installing timber bridges across the moat ditches to improve access to the monument. These will be sourced and installed considerably, with the exact locations agreed with Historic England in advance.

*Mid/late 2026.*

## Future plans

Prestley Wood will be a key feature within the new 150 acre country park and the works being undertaken provide a great opportunity to enhance public access and understanding of the monument. Further archaeological works on the site, which could include geophysical surveys, are also being considered to better understand how people would have lived here during the 13th and 14th centuries.

In the fullness of time, everybody will be able to access Prestley Wood, and information panels will help residents and visitors find out more about the history of the monument and surrounding area.

# Sports provision at Alconbury Weald

Alconbury Weald has been designed using 'Active Design' principles to encourage active leisure, exercise and travel.

Sport plays a key role in this and Phase 1 has already delivered The Gym, Cricket Pitch, Pavilion and the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in Swynford Park, alongside the netball courts and other provision at Ermine Street Church Academy.

In the next phases of Alconbury Weald, future provision will focus around the Sports Hub, which will sit at the heart of the development. This will also sit alongside and complement the sports facilities coming forward in the secondary school, and activities being explored for both Prestley country park and the hangars and spaces in the Heritage Area.

## Emerging plans for the Sports Hub

In the summer Urban&Civic shared its emerging plans for the Sports Hub, which will provide the main outdoor pitches for the development: fostering participation in team and individual sports and supporting player development and community involvement in sport.

## Sports pitches

Within the planning approach for Alconbury Weald, the requirement for pitches is based on feedback from local clubs and sporting governing bodies, and agreed with the local authority. This process considers current under provision in the local area, projected needs of future residents, and a review of popular sporting trends.

The initial proposals include two 11 v 11 football pitches, two 5 v 5 football pitches and an 11 v 11 artificial grass pitch, with additional space set aside for potential rugby uses or other pitch sports.

Huntingdon Rugby Club is currently looking to expand its provision in its current location.

## Clubhouse

Alongside the pitches, the Sports Hub will include a clubhouse with a range of facilities such as changing rooms, toilets, storage space, a café, office area, bar and kitchen, and balconies with views over the pitches.

As well as sporting events, the clubhouse could also be hired by community groups for a range of activities and by residents for private functions and celebrations.

The Sports Hub will also have over 250 car parking spaces and cycle parking.

## Consultation feedback

The team attended a range of community events, held pop-up sessions at key locations in Alconbury Weald and held information sessions at the Resident Forum and Community Association meetings alongside an online consultation during June/July.

Over 250 people chatted to the project team about the emerging plans for the Sports Hub or viewed and responded to the consultation online. As well as feedback on the Sports Hub, respondents were also asked to share their thoughts on additional sports facilities they would like to see come forward — potentially in the refurbished hangars in Heritage Park — as the development grows.

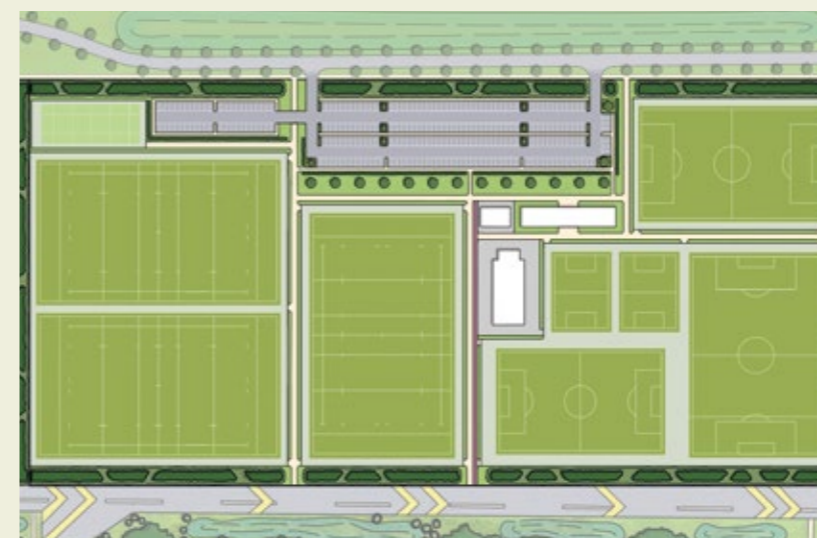
Respondents were supportive of the emerging plans, with suggestions received for the type, size and markings of the pitches — to enable a variety of games to be played — and additional facilities and amenities for the clubhouse. The team has been reviewing the feedback and using it to inform the final plans for the Sports Hub.

There were also lots of ideas for additional sports facilities the community would like to be available as Alconbury Weald develops. In addition to courts for racket sports, netball and basketball, suggestions included a swimming pool, sauna and spa, an athletics track, bowls, climbing wall, indoor skatepark for skateboarding, scootering, inlines (skating) and BMX, outdoor mountain bike park, exercise studio and a fishing lake. There were also ideas for supporting amenities such as café/bar and a children's soft play area.

The team will work through these ideas, and explore the planning and commercial options, to see how they can inform future options for the town centre, heritage park and country park spaces coming forward. We will keep you posted as this work moves forward.



Indicative image of clubhouse



Potential layout of sports pitches shown above.

## Next steps

Indicative timeline:

- **Summer 2025:** Analyse feedback and finalise plans
- **Autumn 2025:** Submit planning application
- **2026:** Ground preparation, install drainage, prepare pitches and start building clubhouse
- **Late 2027/early 2028:** clubhouse and artificial grass pitch available for use
- **2029:** Grass pitches available for use

To keep up to date with progress on the Sports Hub, as well as other news around the development, sign up to the Alconbury Weald e-News at [www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/contact](http://www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/contact)



## Inspired by careers in the built environment

Over 70 girls from schools across Huntingdonshire took part in an event to inspire and empower young women to pursue careers in development, construction and the built environment.

The Make Your Mark event was organised by master developer Urban&Civic, with support from planners David Lock Associates and landscape and ecology experts Bradley Murphy Design, who showcased the roles and skills it takes to create a sustainable new community like Alconbury Weald.

As well as presentations from women in senior positions within the industry and a tour of Alconbury Weald, the students were given an opportunity to create their own virtual community. Using a bespoke software platform, students were asked to consider everything from sustainability and climate change to heritage and ecology, and to design and present their perfect place to live.

Rebecca Britton, Regional Director for Urban&Civic, said: "We want the next generation to recognise the opportunities on their doorstep to be part of a sector that literally helps shape the future: from planning, architecture, infrastructure and engineering to landscape and ecology, as well as support roles such as marketing, finance and community development. These are all needed in the industry, and especially in an area with Cambridgeshire's growth projections."

The students also took part in a design workshop to help shape the plans for one of the play spaces within Runway Park. Ideas included environmentally friendly landscaping to support bees, ponds with stepping stones, picnic areas, different types of sport and play equipment, entertainment space, café/food trucks, bike storage and an information centre with toilets. The design team will take forward ideas from the students into the next stages of Runway Park delivery.

Amber Walker, Careers Office Manager for St Peter's School, said: "Make Your Mark is such a great event, and it just gets better each year! The students loved the activity of designing the Runway Park space; it was fun, creative and collaborative. But most importantly, my students

felt valued and heard, that their ideas were wanted and mattered, and might even be used in a real play space!"

This event is one of a number of initiatives, including working with Constructed Pathways and the CITB under the National Skills Academy for Construction Framework, to open up opportunities for local people within the built environment sector.



We have some incredible women working on the Alconbury Weald project and across the business, and within our consultant and contractor community. However, women are still not well represented in the industry. Part of both our community and jobs and skills commitment is to make sure the voices of young women help shape developments.

**Rebecca Britton** Urban&Civic



# Ways to live at Alconbury Weald

With a wide range of apartments and houses coming forward, there are lots of ways for people to make Alconbury Weald their home. This includes buying, Shared Ownership, Rent to Buy, renting and affordable rent.

In this edition, we provide an overview of some of the incentive schemes the housebuilders at Alconbury Weald have to help potential buyers secure their dream home.

**Barratt Homes**

3 and 4 bedroom homes

- Deposit contribution, upgraded kitchen and flooring (available on selected homes)
- Key worker deposit contribution (up to £25,000)
- Move in this summer
- Part exchange

**Campbell Buchanan George**

- Final remaining 3 and 4 bedroom homes

**David Wilson Homes**

3, 4 and 5 bedroom homes

- Armed forces deposit scheme
- Key worker deposit contribution
- Deposit unlock
- Deposit contribution, upgraded kitchen and flooring (available on selected homes)
- Movemaker
- Part exchange

**Hopkins Homes**

Final remaining 3 and 4 bedroom homes

- Move easy
- Deposit contribution
- Recommend a friend
- Key worker discount
- Part exchange

**Morris Homes**

3, 4 and 5 bedroom homes

- Shared equity
- Smart move
- Trade up

**Redrow Homes**

2, 3, 4 and 5 bedroom homes

- Help to sell
- Prime position
- Recommend a friend
- Shared ownership



To find out more about the wide range of homes and ways to live at Alconbury Weald, visit [www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/living](http://www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/living)



# Meet the housebuilders



Housebuilder showhomes



**Campbell Buchanan George**  
01480 220535  
Senliz Road, Alconbury Weald  
Huntingdon PE28 4LY  
**Open** Thurs–Mon 10am–5pm.



**Hopkins Homes**  
01480 435108  
Senliz Road, Alconbury Weald  
Huntingdon PE28 4LZ  
**Open** Thurs–Mon 10am–5pm.  
Closed on Friday at 4.30pm



**Barratt Homes**  
07795 919929  
Leukenor Way, Alconbury Weald  
Huntingdon PE28 4ZR  
**Open** Mon 12.30–5.30pm and  
Thurs–Sun 10am–5.30pm



**Morris Homes**  
07484 040412  
142–146 Senliz Road, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon PE28 4FR  
**Open** Thurs–Mon 10.30am–5.30pm



**David Wilson Homes**  
0333 355 8485  
Senliz Road, Alconbury Weald  
Huntingdon PE28 4LY  
**Open** Thurs–Sun 10am–5.30pm,  
Mon 12.30–5.30pm



**Redrow**  
01480 710086  
Senliz Road, Alconbury Weald  
Huntingdon PE28 4LY  
**Open** Fri–Weds 10am–5.30pm  
and Thurs midday–5.30pm



**The Hawkings**  
(Homes for renting)  
0300 1246773  
[info@thehawkings.co.uk](mailto:info@thehawkings.co.uk)

Education is a priority for Alconbury Weald, with schools designed to provide for every stage of learning, all in state-of-the-art buildings inspired by Alconbury Weald's rich heritage and community ethos.

## Jemima House Day Nursery

**Jemima House Day Nursery, which is based within Ermine Street Church Academy, gives children in its care — from birth to five years old — a nurturing environment with a focus on health, happiness and wellbeing to help each child reach their full potential.**

During the summer, the Nursery ran a fundraising event to raise money for Guide Dogs. The children had the opportunity to win a soft toy Guide Dog puppy by guessing its name, with the prize going to Daniel for his guess of 'Bolt'. To help them understand what it might be like to live with visual impairment, the children also carried out a range of activities. This included making blindfolds and wearing them to negotiate an obstacle course.

Children at the Nursery have also been supporting local lifesaving charity Magpas Air Ambulance, sending in artwork and putting forward suggestions to name its new mascot. The children are eagerly awaiting a decision to see if one of their entries is selected.

In the autumn, the Nursery's fundraising activities will focus on Childhood Cancer month in September and Children in Need in November.

The children have been enjoying a range of outdoor activities and were fascinated to watch caterpillars grow and emerge from their chrysalides as butterflies. The butterflies were then released into the Nursery's garden, which is looking full and vibrant with all of the flowers, grasses and vegetables that were planted by the children this spring and summer. The children love growing their own food and even the fussiest of eaters can usually be tempted to try something they've helped to grow.

Teachers from the Nursery's feeder schools have also been visiting to meet the children that will be starting school in September. A school role play area was set up in the preschool room to support the transition too. The children really enjoyed looking at photos of the local schools, dressing in the uniforms and using the available — and improvised — resources to pretend they were at school.

Tracey James, Nursery Manager, said: "Our leavers' event in August is always poignant as we celebrate the time the children spent with us and mark this important milestone as they move on to primary school. There's a mix of trepidation and excitement, but we have given them a great start and know they will go on to achieve great things. As we move into the autumn, with our young preschoolers rising to their new status as 'school leavers', we also look forward to welcoming new families to the nursery."

During the autumn, the children are also looking forward to this year's Scarecrow Festival and already have some great ideas! They will also have opportunities to learn about various cultural events and festivals including Diwali and Thanksgiving.

[www.jemima-house.co.uk](http://www.jemima-house.co.uk)



## Prestley Wood Academy

Alconbury Weald's special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) school, welcomed its first students in 2024 and is expanding from 70 to 100 pupils, adding three new classes as it moves into the new academic year.

**Caroline Place**, headteacher of Prestley Wood Academy, shared some of her recent highlights and what she's looking forward to as the school starts its second year.

"As we mark the end of our very first year at Prestley Wood Academy, we wanted to express a sincere thank you to the Alconbury Weald community for the warmth and generosity you've shown us.

"Opening a new special school is no small undertaking, but the welcome we've received has made all the difference. From the very beginning, we've been met with kindness, encouragement and a genuine spirit of collaboration. This has helped us not only to settle in but to thrive.

"We've been deeply touched by the generosity of our local supporters. A special thank you goes to those who donated an amazing 25 bicycles to our travel training fleet; an invaluable resource that is already making a real difference to our learners' independence and confidence. The many books you have donated has enabled our learners to have wider choice, which has a huge impact on their love of reading and storytelling.

"We are also incredibly grateful to the team at MM Flowers for their ongoing support; their charity walk raised vital funds for our school. Weekly fruit donations from AMFRESH have also been a wonderful boost to the health and wellbeing of our entire community.

"Functional learning skills in the community is a crucial skill for our learners to develop as they become adults, whether on local trips, working on school partnership projects, or getting their hands dirty in the community garden. We have been met with friendliness and openness at every turn. Our learners not only feel safe, but they feel part of their local community. It is difficult to express how special this is and how grateful we are.

"At the end of last term, we celebrated our first birthday with families and staff; a joyful occasion that gave us the chance to reflect on all we've achieved together. To have done so in the heart of such a welcoming and supportive community is a privilege beyond words.

"As we look ahead to our second year, we are excited to build on these strong foundations. With your continued support, we know we can achieve even more for our learners and give back to the wider community of which we are so proud to be a part."

[www.prestleywood.org.uk](http://www.prestleywood.org.uk)



The school enjoyed educational, informative and fun activities that culminated in a spectacular event linked to the national theme of 'colours' during Autism Awareness Week. Learners and staff alike navigated an obstacle course whilst being showered with colourful, non-toxic powders. The result was a joyful experience of sensory colour and fun, with a paint-covered t-shirt to keep as a souvenir!

# Ermine Street Church Academy

Before the end of the summer term, we caught up with Headteacher **Ashley Martin** to find out what the different year groups have been focussing on and the school trips they've been enjoying.

The summer term has been an incredibly busy time for our children, families and staff!

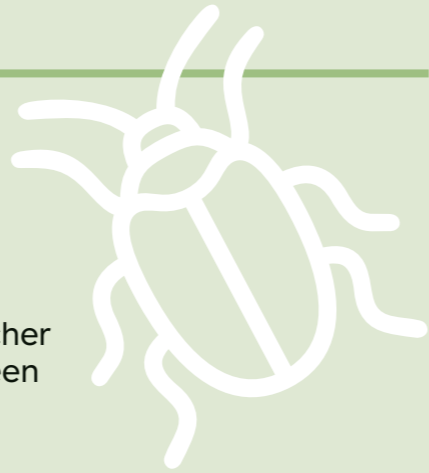
All years have shown excellence in their maths learning. Reception children have loved doubling numbers and counting in 2s. Years 1 to 3 have been building their confidence in multiplying and dividing, and Year 4 have recently celebrated successes achieved in the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) tests. Year 5 have progressed onto learning all about fractions, completing reasoning and problem-solving tasks and our Year 6 children have developed their understanding of formulae and sequences.

The children have also been showing our value of advocacy. They've been enthused by a range of stories that they have engaged with, sparking their imaginations and leading to some lively discussions!

Reception learnt about Prometheus and how he fought for fire, Year 3 finished *Beowulf* and honed their skills to write their own prequels, Year 4 enjoyed reading *The Miraculous Journey of*

*Edward Tulane* and Year 5 have been reading *Tom's Midnight Garden*. Meanwhile, Year 6 have been reading *Animal Farm*! We've loved the rich classroom dialogue about fairness, freedom and leadership and an understanding of how to advocate for themselves.

Teachers have also been bringing history to life, with Year 3 using drama to portray key events during The Wars of the Roses and Year 4 discovering Oliver Cromwell's local roots (he was born in Huntingdon). Year 2 and 3 children had lots of fun exploring the underwater world of Carnaile Pond with experts from The Wildlife Trust and learnt about some of the creatures they found living beneath the surface and in the aquatic vegetation. Year 5 children visited Grafham Water where they learned valuable skills in making a raft. Our Year 6 children visited the Imperial War Museum Duxford to find out about the impact of war on people's lives — past and present — and reflect on the importance of peace, resilience and remembrance.



# Alconbury Weald Church Academy

Work is underway to build Alconbury Weald's new secondary school at the heart of the Education Campus, which is due to open in September 2027.



Alconbury Weald Church Academy will be run by the Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust (DEMAT) and has been designed to start with four forms of entry, filling up each year as it grows.

There have been so many highlights during the summer term. We had a magnificent Sports Day, which saw the children take part in a range of sporting activities. It was magical to see our school community come alive with its positive and supportive spirit. Families came to share the day with us and even took part in some of the races!

Our final event of the summer term has been our incredible Summer Fayre organised by the FRIENDS of Ermine Street team. They have all worked tirelessly to put together a spectacular Summer Fayre, which was attended by over 400 members of our community. Events like this remind us just how lucky we are to have such an incredible community supporting us. Thank you to our wonderful FRIENDS team and to all who attended!

This time of year, is particularly important for our school leavers who are going on to secondary school in September. They have been an utter joy to teach and nurture. They will always be part of our Ermine Street family. We wish them every success for the future and look forward to welcoming our new Reception pupils.

[www.erminestreet.demat.org.uk](http://www.erminestreet.demat.org.uk)



To find out more or register an interest in enrolling your child in Alconbury Weald Church Academy (if they are in Year 5 or below), visit the website: [www.demat.org.uk/alconbury-weald-church-academy---our-new-secondary-school](http://www.demat.org.uk/alconbury-weald-church-academy---our-new-secondary-school)



# Alconbury Weald Water Savers

## Save water. Save money

As part of our ongoing commitment to sustainability at Alconbury Weald, we've been looking at water-saving and how it could benefit residents. There's an easy way to save money every month, just by making some small changes to how you use hot water.

### Save £££ every month with just a few small changes

Taking showers. Doing the laundry. Washing the dishes. They all use lots of water — hot water. The more water you use, the more you pay to heat it. That's a double cost. So, by using more than you need, you're not just wasting water but money too.

But there's good news. It's really easy to save £££ every month. By making a few small changes to how you use hot water, you can save water and money. It's as simple as that!

### Cut your bills with our simple calculator

We've created a simple Water Savers calculator to show how much you could save by using a little less hot water around the home. It works by asking a few simple questions and combining your answers with some behind-the-scenes data\*, such as the average litres used per minute by a power shower.

You can then see how much water, money and energy you could save by making up to three small changes to your everyday habits.

### Maximise your savings to see the difference

Start by answering each question and seeing the results in your personalised savings panel. Then try playing around with the calculator to explore how you can maximise your savings. The more small changes you make, and the more often everyone in your household does the same, the more money you'll save.

### Help protect the environment

Every drop saved makes a difference, not only to your water and electricity bills, but also to our beautiful local environment.

All the water you use is taken from local sources, including groundwater reserves, reservoirs and rivers, such as the River Great Ouse. So, the less you use, the smaller the impact on our natural habitats.

You are also helping reduce your own and your community's carbon footprint by reducing the emissions from cleaning, transporting and heating the water in your home.

### Join your neighbours already saving water and money!

Lots of residents have already signed up to be an Alconbury Weald Water Saver. On average, each household could save up to £55.04 a month on their water and electricity bills — adding up to £660.51 a year!

Jan said, "I used to do a quick thirty-minute load in the washing machine. I had no idea the eco mode was so much more efficient! It uses much less water and energy. Now I've switched to eco mode, I could be saving as much as £25 a month. Plus, I'm saving more by switching to the dishwasher instead of washing up by hand and having shorter showers."

As a single-person household, Jan's usage, and therefore savings, are a little lower than the average. But it's still estimated to be adding up to over £35 a month — more than £420 a year.

\*The Water Savers calculator uses figures based on the average family home in Alconbury Weald. Electricity and water bill calculations use averaged data from Uswitch and Anglian Water respectively.



I could save over £420 a year, just by making a few small changes.

Jan Single-person household

### More ways to save water this summer

- Running the tap as you wait for water to heat up?

*Collect the cold water in a container and use it to water plants*

- Running the tap as you wait for water to get nice and cold?

*Keep a jug in the fridge instead so you always have some ready!*

### Start saving now

The campaign is supporting Alconbury Weald as part of Urban&Civic's commitment to creating a sustainable community, but we hope and encourage anyone interested in saving water to try the calculator and see what changes you can make.

[www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/water-savers](http://www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/water-savers)

### Want to know more?

Get in touch with our friendly water-saving experts.

Email: [watersavers@alconbury-weald.co.uk](mailto:watersavers@alconbury-weald.co.uk)

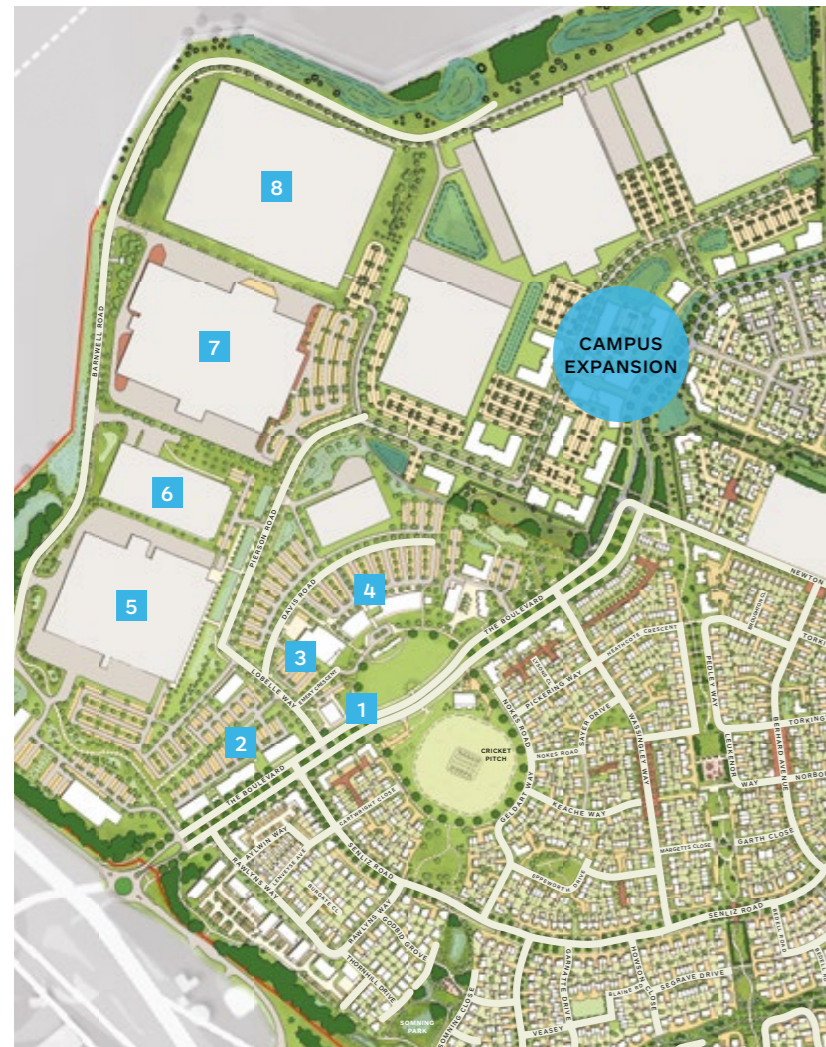


# Latest news

Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus is a dynamic place for businesses of all shapes and sizes — whether starting up, relocating or expanding — companies can rent flexible space for research and development, production and office accommodation in one of the Incubator buildings, or design and build bespoke facilities to meet their specific requirements, supported by the design, development and project teams at Urban&Civic.



## Space for businesses to grow



The first phase of Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus has already delivered around 1.5 million sq ft of commercial space and is home to a wide variety of businesses, including Ambu plc, Roythornes Solicitors, Cambridgeshire County Council, MM Flowers Ltd, Encocam, John Adams Leisure Ltd, AM Fresh and IKO Insulations UK Ltd.

With this phase nearing completion, more opportunities will be coming forward in the Campus expansion, with plots available as serviced land parcels or delivered through a full design-and-build service, tailored to the needs of individual companies.

Once complete, Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus is expected to deliver up to 3 million sq ft of employment space, with around 8,000 jobs created.

**KEY**

- 1 The Club
- 2 Incubator and Incubator 2
- 3 Encocam
- 4 New Shire Hall: Cambridgeshire County Council Headquarters
- 5 AMFRESH
- 6 John Adams Leisure
- 7 MM Flowers UK
- 8 IKO Insulations

### Networking and awards

As well as providing opportunities for companies to develop and grow, the Enterprise Campus supports enterprise and innovation through a range of events and initiatives.

### Business breakfasts

A range of business events and activities are held at Alconbury Weald throughout the year, with the most recent being Invest in Hunts' CEO breakfast on 4 September.

The event provides the opportunity for delegates from the business community to network and participate in a round-table discussion led by Huntingdonshire District Council, to share experiences and insights with like-minded peers.

Speakers include Richard Kenny, Executive Director for Economy & Growth for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and Mike Gildersleeves, Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director (Place) for Huntingdonshire District Council.

### Sponsoring business awards

Invest in Huntingdonshire, on behalf of Huntingdonshire District Council, is hosting its inaugural Huntingdonshire Business Awards in October to help raise the profile and celebrate the successes of industrious, hardworking and enterprising local businesses.

Award categories are:

- Best new business
- Business innovation award
- Large-scale business of the year
- Low-carbon champion
- Small business of the year
- Social impact award
- Tourism and hospitality award
- Waste reduction award
- Youth and education award.

Urban&Civic is sponsoring the Business Innovation award this year and Paul Murfin from Urban&Civic, will join the panel of judges to select the winner of each category.

Find out more at <https://eventsandpr.co.uk/huntingdonshire-business-awards/>

## MM Flowers: Innovation and growth

In 2017, MM Flowers opened its new facility at the Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus. Originally processing both flowers and fruit, the site was expanded in 2022, and the fruit operation was relocated to a new building within the Campus.

The MM Flowers facility now covers more than 330,000 sq ft, and the business turns over more than £350 million each year. With the goal of bringing food-level quality to the fresh flower market, this multi-million-pound operation houses flower packing lines and storage areas, along with training, research and development, new product development and office facilities.

The Alconbury Weald facility is a relatively new site and, when it was constructed, a lot of thought was put into ensuring that it was as environmentally friendly as possible. The goal across MM Flowers, for all of its operations, is to be net zero by 2040, but for this site, the target was brought forward to 2028.

A range of measures is being used to achieve this: the use of LED lighting, moving from diesel equipment and forklifts to electric, and generating around 20% of the current electricity needs from solar panels on the roof.

The business also incorporates innovative approaches to the operation of its chillers and buildings, using an intelligent building management system to operate as efficiently as possible, reducing emissions and overall delivering a more sustainable building.

The Alconbury Weald facility has changed the face of the UK flower industry. The site is equipped with state-of-the-art refrigeration and best-in-class handling facilities, together with impressive production capabilities. These range from highly automated processes through to bespoke machinery producing high-end bouquets to the same quality standard as a florist.

The workforce sits at the heart of its operation. All year round, about 800 people work at MM Flowers and this increases by at least half during peak demand periods – Christmas, Valentine's Day and Mother's Day.

Find out more: [www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/whos-here](http://www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/whos-here)



At its heart, Alconbury Weald has been designed to encourage a healthy, sustainable lifestyle, with the right infrastructure and services being put in place for people to lead low-carbon lives as the development rolls out.

The Urban&Civic team is working with *smart journeys*, the Sustainable Travel Planning Team hosted by Cambridgeshire County Council, to help deliver a place that puts active and sustainable travel first and encourages people to leave their car at home.

## Ride away

Alconbury Weald has been designed with an extensive network of footpaths and cycleways throughout the development and connecting into the wider area. To encourage residents to use active travel to get out and about, *smart journeys* has a range of incentives and initiatives, including bike hire, 1-2-1 cycle training, learn to ride sessions, bike servicing and bike maintenance training.

### App bikes

In August, App Bikes were introduced to Alconbury Weald and can be found outside the Co-op, and at Swynford Park and Crescent Park. The bikes can be used throughout the day and taken anywhere, but they must be returned to one of these three locations. Further locations and bikes will be available as the development grows.

They are available for anyone to use — just download the free App, register (with proof of age and address\*) and get pedalling. Don't forget to take a bike helmet with you and ride responsibly.

Urban&Civic is funding the first 30 minutes of each hire, after which it costs £1.50 for every 30 minutes.



\*Please note it can take up to 48 hours for your account to be verified.

### TAG Bike donation

Urban&Civic and *smart journeys* have teamed up with TAG Bikes to provide 15 bikes for people working at Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus to use throughout their working day, with the most recent bikes donated for use by staff at Magpas Air Ambulance.

TAG Bikes is run by Employment Skills Worker Robert Bierton as part of Cambridgeshire County Council's Supporting into Work programme. Through TAG Bikes, adults with learning disabilities and special educational needs are learning how to become bicycle mechanics. The programme offers training on how to service, repair and refurbish second-hand bikes and aims to help learners develop a wide range of employability and life skills whilst improving their levels of independence and confidence.

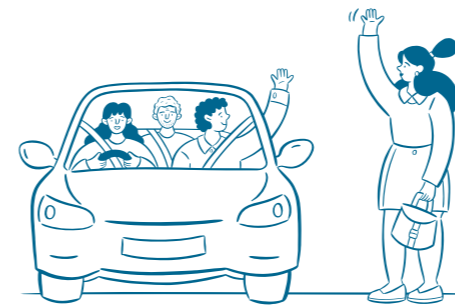
## Tap away



To support residents and workers at the Enterprise Campus to get about sustainably, Alconbury Weald has the AW1/AW1X and 904 bus services, which ensure passengers can catch a bus every half hour from 6.30am to 7.30pm on weekdays. The 904 runs on Saturday and the AW1/AW1X on Saturday/Sunday.

Alconbury Weald also has improved connections to Cambridge following the launch of the new hourly Tiger 1 bus route, which provides faster and more frequent bus trips between Huntingdon and Cambridge. Catch the AW1 or 904, change at Huntingdon Bus Station and be in Cambridge in just over an hour (subject to connections).

Visit [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info) and plan your next trip.



## Share away

Lift sharing is a great way to save money, reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and reduce stress — as a driver, passenger or both. If you haven't already joined, simply follow the steps below:

1. Download the Mobilityways App
2. Open the App and 'Search for a community to join'
3. Search for 'Urban&Civic' and click to join 'Alconbury Weald Liftshare'
4. Join with your email or sign in with Apple or Facebook
5. Add in your details i.e. your journey, if you are a driver or passenger (or both)
6. Let the App do the rest and find matches!

*smart journeys* is hosting *Meet your Mobilityways Match* coffee mornings from 10am–midday on the third Monday of each month at The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen to give potential matches an opportunity to meet before car sharing.

## Travel Survey

Each October, *smart journeys* carries out its annual travel survey to find out more about travel choices of people living and working on the development, and gain a better understanding of the barriers that prevent commuters from using more sustainable modes of transport.

Everyone living and working at Alconbury Weald is encouraged to complete the survey as the data collected helps influence future transport decisions and public transport improvements across the local area. It will also be used to inform future travel incentives *smart journeys* offer to residents and employees at Alconbury Weald.

## LocalGO

Residents at Alconbury Weald can also join LocalGO to access discounts to help them get about more sustainably. This includes:

### ● Cycle Solutions discount

LocalGO members can access 8% off gift vouchers at Cycle Solutions.

### ● E-bike savings

Save £5 on monthly subscription costs with Hurrecane eBikes.

### ● Halford discount

Enjoy 7% members discount in store and online.

### ● Railcards

Save on selected Railcards and get up to 1/3 off fares.

### ● Rent-a-car discount

Save up to 10% on car and van hire.

## MakingJourneysCount

Find out more about travel and transport at [www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/travel](http://www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/travel)

Alconbury Weald hosts a wide range of clubs and classes that cater for all ages and abilities. From play groups and dance classes for little ones, to youth club for young people and a range of fitness classes and social clubs for adults, there is something for everyone.

[www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.alconbury-weald.co.uk/whats-on)

**Weekly activities**

<b>The Pavilion</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	
	<p><b>Movement with Mindfulness Gentle Pilates</b> 10:00-11:00 helenvandecker@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>Stars on Stage</b> 17:00-18:00 samantha@starsonstageuk.com</p> <p><b>Pregnancy Fitness: Pilates</b> 18:45-19:35</p> <p><b>Fitness: Pilates</b> 19:40-20:30 taniafitness.com</p>	<p><b>Pilates with Zara</b> 09:00-10:00 zara@theunitfit.co.uk</p> <p><b>Mums &amp; Tots Fitness</b> 10:30-11:15 taniafitness.com</p> <p><b>Tuesday Club, Friendship group for adults</b> 13:30-15:00</p> <p><b>Hot Shots: Inclusive Tennis for 3-12 year olds</b> 15:30-17:30 gstevensonsport@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>Unleash Barre</b> 18:30-19:15 Unleasholivia@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Roots and Wings</b> 0-4 year olds playgroup with parents/carers 10:00-11:30 alconburywealdchurch.org.uk</p> <p><b>Brownies</b> 18:00-19:00</p> <p><b>Guides</b> 19:30-20:30 girlguiding.org.uk</p>	<p><b>Unleash Barre &amp; Yoga Class</b> 07:00-07:45 Unleasholivia@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Mums &amp; Tots Fitness</b> 10:30-11:15 taniafitness.com</p> <p><b>Starts on Stage Dance Classes</b> 15:45-18:00 Samantha@starsonstageuk.com</p>	<p><b>RightStart 3 Strength and Balance</b> 08:45-09:45 Book via the One Leisure app or call 01480 388111</p> <p><b>Unleash Yoga Flow</b> 2nd Friday of Month 12:15-13:00 Unleasholivia@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Alconbury Weald Youth Group</b> 2nd Friday of the month 17:30-19:15 Age 8-11 19:30-21:00 Age 11-16</p> <p><b>Cancer Support Group</b> 1st Friday of the month 16:30-18:30 identifycancergroup@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Barre Arms &amp; Abs</b> 9:00-10:00 Unleasholivia@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Tai Chi Class</b> 12:30-13:30 Soko123@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Sawtry and Alconbury Weald Cricket Club</b> Summer months sawtrycc@yahoo.com</p> <p>The Hall is available for private hire contact: info@alconbury-weald.co.uk</p>	
								
	<p><b>Sawtry and Alconbury Weald Cricket Club</b> Summer months sawtrycc@yahoo.com</p>							
								

<b>Out and about</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	
	<p><b>Walking Group</b> FREE. 12:30, meet outside Swynford Stores</p> <p><b>Spotlight Theatre</b> 19:00, The Club (starts in September) spotlight-theatre.co.uk</p> <p><b>Spotlight Theatre</b> 19:00, The Club (starts in September) spotlight-theatre.co.uk</p> <p><b>Book Club</b> 1st Monday of the Month FREE info@alconbury-weald.co.uk</p> <p><b>Alconbury Flyers</b> 18:00, Pavilion. Facebook: Alconbury flyers</p>	<p><b>Spotlight Theatre</b> 19:00, The Club (starts in September) spotlight-theatre.co.uk</p> <p><b>Spotlight Theatre</b> 19:00, The Club (starts in September) spotlight-theatre.co.uk</p> <p><b>Alconbury Weald Netball Club</b> 17:00-20:30pm New members welcome admin@alconburyweald.netball.club</p> <p><b>Photography Club</b> 3rd Tuesday of the Month, Watch Office</p>		<p><b>Walking Group</b> FREE. 19:00, meet Outside Swynford Stores</p> <p><b>Rhymetime or Story Fun</b> FREE. 10:00. For 0-4 year olds. The Club</p> <p><b>Walkie Talkies Walking Netball</b> 09:30-10:30 Multi Use Games Area 7netballacademy@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Coffee Morning</b> FREE. 11:00. The Club. Second Friday of the month</p>		<p><b>Tennis</b> FREE. 08:00-11:00 Multi Use Games Area. Email for more info info@alconbury-weald.co.uk</p>	<p><b>Tennis</b> FREE. 08:00-11:00 Multi Use Games Area. Email for more info info@alconbury-weald.co.uk</p> <p><b>Chess Club</b> 17:00-19:00 Watch Office</p>
							
							

# Recent events

## VE Day 80th Anniversary

On Saturday 10 May residents, family, friends and surrounding communities enjoyed a 1940's-themed event to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day on Watch Office Green. Attendees were encouraged to wear 1940's style clothes and live music was provided by Raw Theatre Productions, who performed sets from the era.

The event also included market stalls selling handmade crafts, gifts, sweets, pet products and flowers, a face painter and traditional lawn games including ring toss and hopscotch.

The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen — located in the refurbished World War II Watch Office — served food and refreshments, with the venue providing a poignant backdrop for the event: the Nissan Hut historically served as a central operations building, briefing aircrew before wartime missions.

Natalie Leigh-Brown, Community Development Lead for Alconbury Weald, said: "The heritage of the former airfield, which played a significant role during World War II and the Cold War, is reflected throughout the new development and made it a really special place to celebrate this important anniversary in world history."



## Recent events

### Open Gardens

Each year, green fingered residents open their back gardens to showcase beautiful blooms, perfect patios and wonderful water features to inspire neighbours and those moving into Alconbury Weald. Over 150 visitors explored the participating gardens and funds raised went to support local lifesaving charity Magpas Air Ambulance.



### Food Festival

Alconbury Weald's Food Festival provided a fantastic array of delicious dishes and tempting treats alongside summer sounds and family activities, including a giant trampoline and lawn games.

Organised in partnership with Off The Beaten Truck, this year's Food Festival featured food trucks serving a vibrant mix of cuisines. From wood-fired pizzas, hickory-smoked meat and traditional fish and chips, to Korean street food and South African and Jamaican fusion flavours, there was something for everyone.

The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen also provided an outside bar, so visitors could enjoy their beverages at one of the picnic tables or whilst exploring the Food Festival.

Alongside the food trucks, a bustling food market provided a mouthwatering selection of culinary delights to sample at the event or take home and enjoy. As well as German sausages and sushi, there were market stalls selling cookies, tray bakes, cakes, fudge, sweets and frozen desserts. There was even something for our four-legged friends with dog treats, collars, harnesses and toys available to buy.

There was a fantastic atmosphere throughout the event, with live music provided by the development's resident band, The Weald Thing and Claire Cameron, a professional singer-songwriter living at Alconbury Weald.

Natalie Leigh-Brown from Urban&Civic said: "The Food Festival is becoming a highlight of our community events calendar and it's always lovely to see residents, friends and visitors meeting up to enjoy an afternoon of food, drink and fun, whilst supporting local traders."



### Summer Reading Challenge

Each year, Alconbury Weald community library takes part in the Summer Reading Challenge, which encourages children (aged 4–11 years old) to discover the joy of reading for pleasure during the summer holidays. This year's theme was Story Garden — Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors.

Every Wednesday morning, volunteers listened to the children read and gave those taking part a sticker for each book completed. Young readers were also treated to a magical drawing workshop with Matty Long, Cambridgeshire-based illustrator and author of the hit Super Happy Magic Forest series.

In the last session, a certificate and a medal were presented to the children who successfully completed the challenge.



### Beer Festival

With the sun shining and the summer holidays looming, Alconbury Weald enjoyed a fabulous weekend of delectable drinks and fantastic food with friends, family and neighbours at this year's Beer Festival.

Wheatsheaf Brewery was joined by The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen to provide a vast selection of craft beers, cider, gin and cocktails, as well as soft drinks. Attendees also enjoyed burgers and hot dogs from The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen's food truck, or headed over to The Watch Office to select dishes from the full menu.

As well as whiling away a few pleasant hours in the sunshine, festival-goers enjoyed the fireworks display at the nearby USAAF base to celebrate American Independence Day on the Friday evening and a cricket match on the green on Sunday afternoon.

Frank Gillham from Wheatsheaf Brewery said: "I'm really proud we were able to put on 24 craft beers and four keg beers, all from local brewers we know; with some of them coming along to support us. The atmosphere has been amazing throughout the weekend, and it's been great to see so much enthusiasm and support for local producers."



### Alconbury Weald Community Association

Alconbury Weald Community Association is made up of a dynamic group of residents that volunteer their time and talents to organise events and activities that bring the community together and help make Alconbury Weald such a wonderful place to live.

This year, as well as organising the VE Day celebrations, Open Gardens event and Food Festival, the Community Association held a garage sale and a Sunflower growing competition during the summer holidays, and is finalising plans for this year's Scarecrow Festival and Christmas Market (see page 39 for more information).

# Forthcoming events

## Heritage and Fun Day

Midday to 5pm on Saturday, 13 September  
in The Club and on Watch Office Green

Each year, Urban&Civic hosts a Heritage Day with a variety of artefacts, talks and tours to give residents and visitors a glimpse into Alconbury Weald's fascinating past. The team from Oxford Archaeology will be sharing insights from the archaeological investigations on-site (1.15pm) and the Airfield Research Group will be giving a talk (3.30pm) in The Club.

Alconbury Weald Community Association's Fun Day will run alongside the heritage event with food trucks and The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen's outside bar. Huntingdon District Council's activities team will be putting on games for the kids and live music will be provided by resident band The Weald Thing and professional singer/songwriter Graham Buxton.

Fingers crossed for good weather for a flypast from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight: keep an eye on social media for timings.

All welcome!



## Scarecrow Festival 20–28 September

A highlight of Alconbury Weald's annual event's calendar is the Scarecrow Festival, with residents showing off their creative talents and displaying scarecrows of all shapes and sizes in front gardens around the development.

Highlights from last year's trail included a gingerbread man, the hungry caterpillar, Postman Pat, Harry Potter, Moana, Lightning McQueen and Mater from Cars, Tom Daley, Minecraft characters, Humpty Dumpty, a ghost, a giant spider and a giraffe.

Keep an eye on social media for a sneak peek at this year's creations and the trail map.



## Community Garden Club

Activity sessions this autumn:

- Creating planters around the central pergola — from 10.30am on Saturday, 27 September
- Winter veg planting — from 10.30am on Saturday, 1 November

Booking on Eventbrite — search 'Alconbury Weald'.  
All welcome.

Follow 'Alconbury Weald Community Garden' on Facebook for news and updates.

## The Library Presents

Following its successful summer programme, The Library Presents is back with a new season of exciting arts events from September to December. With workshops and performances at locations across Cambridgeshire, there's something for all ages and interests. Alconbury Weald will be hosting two events in The Pavilion:

### Magic Workshop 2–4pm on Thursday 30 October

Learn to vanish an object and make it reappear in creative places, card magic and more from twin magicians Kane & Abel, who will pass on decades of experience gained after taking on the family business from their grandfather. Spark a new fun hobby, learn some skills and wow your friends.

Suitable for adults and children aged 8+ yrs. Under 12s must be accompanied by an adult with a ticket.

### Fun Dance 3–3.45pm on Saturday 29 November

Join mother and daughter duo, Celestina and India, on an enchanting journey where rhythm, movement and spoken word converge. Hip-hop, jazz, and Afro beats blend into a vibrant tapestry of dance and music. Enjoy bright, colourful outfits, lively music and smiling faces, with joyful movements from children and adults laughing and dancing together.

Suitable for families with children aged 4+ yrs (younger siblings welcome).

Full details of the program, along with ticket prices and booking information, can be found at [www.library.live/the-library-presents](http://www.library.live/the-library-presents)



## Remembrance Sunday

From 10.50am on Watch Office Green  
on Sunday 9 November

Each year, the Alconbury Weald community joins Rev'd Rob Paddison from Alconbury Weald Church and representatives from the RAF and USAF to remember the service and sacrifice of those who have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life; and pay homage to those who served at the former airfield during its military past.

Following a procession from Ermine Street Church Academy plaza at 10.30am, residents congregate on Watch Office Green for a two-minute silence at 11am, which will be followed by reflection and prayers, laying of wreaths and poppies, and a commitment to work for peace, concluding with national anthems.



## Christmas Market

Midday to 4pm on Saturday, 29 November  
on The Glade plaza

With the summer holidays rapidly becoming a distant memory, Alconbury Weald Community Association is looking ahead to the festive season and progressing plans for this year's Christmas Market.

Come along to stock up on an array of festive goodies — including Christmas gifts, toys, food and drink — from local producers.

Keep an eye on social media for a sneak peek at this year's creations and the trail map.



If you are interested in having a stall, please email [alconburywealdca@gmail.com](mailto:alconburywealdca@gmail.com) or register directly at [bit.ly/AlconburyWealdChristmasMarket](http://bit.ly/AlconburyWealdChristmasMarket)



## The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen



A warm and welcoming space that pays homage to the past while creating new memories, The Watch Office Bar & Kitchen is a space for connection, remembrance and community.



**Fantastic food:** Whether you are popping in for a slice of cake, tasty brunch, leisurely lunch or hearty dinner, there is plenty to tempt your tastebuds. With dishes using locally sourced, fresh ingredients, an extensive selection of gluten free, vegetarian and vegan options, and a children's menu, there is something for everyone!



**Delicious drinks:** As well as a great selection of coffee, tea and soft drinks, its well-stocked bar serves a range of lagers and ales, fine wines, spirits and cocktails.

To make a table reservation, please email [hello@watch-office.com](mailto:hello@watch-office.com)

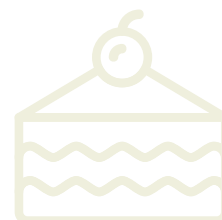
[www.watch-office.com](http://www.watch-office.com)

### Events and activities:

- **20 September:**  
The Heathens (from 8.30pm)
- **17 October:**  
Graham Buxton (from 8.30pm)
- **15 November:**  
Victor Vellochette (from 8.30pm)
- **20 December:**  
Graham Buxton (from 8.30pm)
- **25 December:**  
Christmas Day Drinks (11am–1pm)
- **31 December:** New Year's Eve Party with DJ Gary (8.30pm 'til late)

**Open:** 10am–11pm on Monday-Saturday and 10am–8pm on Sunday

**Serving food:** 10am–2.30pm and 5.30–8.30pm Monday to Saturday and 10am–4pm on Sunday.



## Contact

**Alconbury  
Weald**

Master Developer

Urban&Civic

Urban&Civic  
The Club, The Boulevard  
Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon  
Cambridgeshire PE28 4XA

E: [info@alconbury-weald.co.uk](mailto:info@alconbury-weald.co.uk)  
T: 01480 413141

[www.alconbury-weald.co.uk](http://www.alconbury-weald.co.uk)  
[www.urbandcivic.com](http://www.urbandcivic.com)

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