



# Alex Brewer MP

## Monthly Newsletter

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### May Highlights:

#### A New Parliamentary Session and a Month Out in the Constituency



*Alex at the Beautiful Oaks Farm.*

**May was a real mix of the ceremonial, the political and the wonderfully local.** With local elections, watching the State Opening of Parliament and the King's Speech on 13th May, an ITV appearance and interviewing bright young people applying for our internships, it was a hugely varied month.

**The best moments, however, have been those much closer to home, out and about across North East Hampshire.** My highlight of the month was visiting Beeutiful Oaks farm in Crondall. The farm supplies fresh eggs to local restaurants and shops, works with Fleet Beekeepers to produce honey, and much more. It's a brilliant example of a thriving, sustainable rural enterprise.

The farm is completely off-grid, powered by solar panels on the barn, which will soon house an exciting gourmet mushroom growing operation. It was also fantastic to hear about their future plans, including truffle cultivation with oak and hazel trees, rare breed livestock like their Kune Kune pigs, and even pygmy goats. On top of all that, they're making the most of every resource...turning chicken manure into compost and supporting local biodiversity with barn owl habitats.

**Beeutiful Oaks is exactly the kind of innovative, environmentally conscious farming business we should be championing, combining sustainability, local supply, and real entrepreneurial spirit.**

## Reflections on the King's Speech







*Alex speaking on ITV News about the King's speech*

**I was invited onto ITV this month to share my reflections after the King's Speech, and my view is straightforward: it simply wasn't ambitious enough.**

People across North East Hampshire are crying out for action on the cost of living, on the NHS, on housing, on water, and on the everyday issues that shape their lives. What we got instead was a programme that felt timid, when the moment calls for boldness.

**We need a Government focused on action, not in-fighting.** Too much energy in Westminster is being absorbed by internal Labour battles, while the country waits for the change it was promised. I will keep pushing for the ambition we need and deserve.

## Out and about in village life



*Alex handed out medals at the Hook Fun Run.*

**I had a brilliant time at the Hook Fun Run on 17th May, cheering everyone on and handing out medals to the runners as they crossed the finish line.**

Now in its 34th year, it is the biggest community event in Hook and raises money for so many local charities and good causes. The atmosphere was fantastic, and a huge well done to every runner, every volunteer, and everyone who came along to support.



**The Bramley Village Fête was another highlight.** The community spirit on the day was wonderful. These events take an enormous amount of work behind the scenes from local organisers, and I am always grateful to the people who put them on year after year.

As usual, there were many charities there, all in need of volunteers, including the Bramley Volunteer Drivers who take people who cannot drive to medical and other appointments. I'd encourage anyone interested to contact them.

## Casework Wins:

### Standing Up to Scottish Power

A North East Hampshire resident came to me after years of repeated and deeply distressing contact from Scottish Power, a company she had never been a customer of.

The contact included threatening letters claiming she owed £5,516, repeated and confusing text messages, Scottish Power representatives turning up at her home to "check the meter," and even bailiffs at her door. Worst of all, the contact had continued despite the matter previously being resolved.

This was completely unacceptable. No one should be hounded by a company they have never had any dealings with, let alone be threatened with bailiffs over



a debt that is not theirs. My team and I stepped in to demand answers and to make sure the contact stopped for good.

I am pleased to say the erroneous account has now been zero balanced, and Scottish Power are working on disconnecting the account from their databases so this resident is not contacted again.

The resident wrote to say: "Great news for me. I can sleep easier now. So appreciate your help."

**If you are facing something similar, whether with an energy supplier, a debt collector or any other organisation, please do get in touch. You do not have to handle it alone.**

## Protecting the Whitewater Chalk Stream

**When I was first elected, I promised to do everything I can to protect our chalk stream rivers. Most of my work on this is in Parliament and the Government has promised new protections.**

But this month, we had a call a little closer to home after a resident contacted me about an issue at the Whitewater, one of our precious local chalk streams. Cars had been banned from driving through the ford in order to protect the stream, but 4x4 drivers had found a gap in the bollards and were using it for off-roading.

The resident had tried the Environment Agency, Thames Water, Hampshire Highways and the HIOW Trust, but could not find anyone willing to take responsibility for the bollards.

As many of you know, chalk stream protection is something I care deeply about and have campaigned on consistently since being elected. These are rare and globally significant habitats, and they deserve every bit of protection we can give them.

My team and I contacted the Environment Agency and Hampshire County Council, who raised it with their highways team and organised for the bollards to be replaced.

**The resident wrote: "Great to hear that the issue will be resolved and that we won't have any more 4x4s driving through our lovely chalk bed stream. I really appreciate you and the team following this through."**

**A meaningful win for one of our most special local habitats.**

If you know anyone else who might need my help, please do get in touch by emailing **[alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk)**

Due to the volume of cases I receive, I have to prioritise responding to those who require my most urgent assistance. If you are currently waiting for a reply to your question, please know that I will get back to you as soon as I can.

## Other Stories:

### Standing Up for Rural Connectivity

**In Westminster, I had important meetings this month with Vodafone, Three and the industry body Mobile UK, on local connectivity.**

Rural connectivity is one of those issues that does not get the attention it deserves. Poor broadband and patchy mobile coverage are not minor inconveniences.

They affect whether small businesses can trade, whether children can do their homework, whether people can work from home, and whether older residents can stay connected to family and services.

In rural areas, poor connectivity is undermining the viability of our communities. **I will keep pressing for the investment our area needs.**

### Holding South East Water to Account

**My position on water companies has not changed, and it will not.** They must face real, enforceable consequences for their failings, and customers should not be picking up the bill for years of mismanagement.

I met with South East Water this month to raise the issues residents have been bringing to me directly, from supply disruption to billing concerns to the longer-term questions about how the company is investing in our local infrastructure.

**I want to see a stronger regulator, mutual ownership models that make water companies accountable to customers rather than shareholders, stronger environmental protections, and a social tariff to end water poverty for good.**

### Investing in the Next Generation: Our Internship Programme

**One of the highlights of the month was interviewing candidates for our internship programme.** The calibre of young people coming forward was impressive, and it is a real privilege to be able to offer that first foot in the door to people who want to understand how Parliament works and how they can make a difference.

Investing in young people, whether through early years education, schools, apprenticeships or internships, is one of the best things we can do as a country. I am looking forward to welcoming our new interns, as well as our school work experience students, and supporting them in what I hope will be a brilliant experience.



Although I am able to offer a couple of internships, I was inundated with requests and, unfortunately, I can't offer everyone the time they deserve.

## Constituent Surgeries

Alongside everything else this month, I held surgeries across the constituency. These are some of the most valuable hours in my diary. Whether the issue is housing, healthcare, schools, planning or something nobody else has been able to help with, my team and I will always do our best to support.

If there is something I can help with, please do get in touch at [alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk).

Due to the volume of cases we receive, I prioritise those needing the most urgent assistance, but I will get back to you as soon as I can.

## Do You Need Help with an Issue? Contact Me

**It's an honour and a privilege to serve as your MP for North East Hampshire, and I'm committed to working hard to repay this trust by being the best MP I can be.**

My number one priority will always be helping and supporting my constituents. If you live in the North East Hampshire constituency, you can contact me via the channels listed below, and my team and I will get back to you as soon as we can.

- You can email me at: **alex.brewer.mp@parliament.uk**
- You can leave me a voicemail at: **020-7219-7560**
- You can write to me at: **Alex Brewer MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA**

**I'm here to represent you**, and this monthly update is just one way I hope to keep you informed and engaged.



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