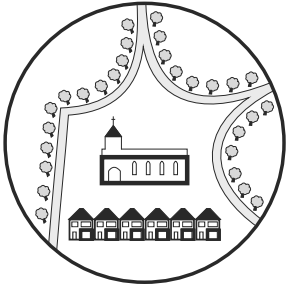


Purbrook and Widley Area Residents' Association.

Newsletter no. 23, March 2011.



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Welcome to your PAWARA newsletter. The photograph shows the Deverell cottages, opposite the Leopard pub, London road, Purbrook. It was taken from the top of a southbound tram in 1905! Amazingly the scene is still much the same in 2011. Photograph supplied by Andrew Perrin



**PAWARA's Spring Public Meeting will be held at 7.15pm on Thursday 24th March
at the Deverell Hall, London Road, Purbrook**

Agenda for the Meeting.

1. Chairman's Report.
2. Treasurer's Report.
3. Major Development Area Update and current Planning applications.
4. **7.15 pm. Guest Speaker - Illustrated presentation by Jamie Marsh from Hampshire Wildlife Trust. "Wildlife and Conservation on Farlington Marshes and the Solent Foreshores"**
5. 8.00pm. Input from Mark Maitland, Community Officer for the MDA.
 - Input from the police if able to attend.
6. Update on the St John's conservation area, Purbrook village.
7. Environment group news.
8. A.O.B. from the residents.

*Remember to renew your £3.00 membership fee if you have not done so.
Fees may also be sent to the membership secretary,
Brian Woolley at "Cover Point" 2 Copse Close Widley PO7 5JS.
Please make cheques payable to "Purbrook and Widley Area Residents' Association".*

Thank you for your continued support.

HATS OFF TO "HATS"!

PAWARA has been successful in its application for a grant from HATS (Hampshire Action Teams), to improve Spring planting along the A3 between Purbrook and Widley and to put in aquatic plants at Penjar Pond, Ladybridge Road.

We owe a big vote of thanks to Pam Cooper for her efforts in securing the grant and to our friends in Purbrook Horticultural Society. Brian Andrews and his team supplied the bulbs for the A3 and planted them two weeks ago.



PAWARA Environment Group

We meet on the second Sunday in the month at 9.30am and spend a couple of hours clearing and tidying. We also take on larger projects such as cutting back overgrown bushes, planting, putting in the new log barriers at Penjar Pond and organising information boards at Sandy Dell.

Volunteers always welcome. For a couple of hours in the fresh air just come along to Penjar Pond Ladybridge road (near the roundabout). The next meeting is on Sunday 13th March at 9.30am.

Waitrose Good Causes

PAWARA Environment Group has applied to Waitrose to be one of their Good Causes. Should we be selected, keep your eye out for the donation box if you shop at Waitrose. Give us your green token to help us do even more to look after open spaces in Purbrook and Widley.

Footpath between Ladybridge car park and Stakes road.

This unattractive footpath was featured in the "ugly" section of our previous newsletter. It is good to be able to report that it has been cleared up. A big thank you to the owners of the site, it is a great improvement. We would still like to plant the area with low maintenance shrubs and perennials, so if you own this piece of land please get in touch (telephone numbers and email on the front cover).

St John's Conservation Area, Purbrook

After a review in 2009 Havant decided not to add to the current area. However, a review of the boundary was promised for 2010-2011. Word from Havant is that due to staff shortages this will now take place in 2011-2012. We are third on the list behind Brockhampton and St Faith's.

Some may think we don't have anything worth preserving, but there are still many attractive and interesting buildings, such as this former vicarage with its beautiful flint wall. It is currently not in the conservation area, even though it is opposite St John's church and the former parish school, which are.



Street clutter and excessive signage

Do you know what this cycle sign (one of many between Purbrook and Widley) means? It seems to indicate that the cycle route is on the pavement. The young person thinks this is the safest place and he's right!

PAWARA totally supports the need to reduce street clutter, as expressed by Conservative councillors in the Autumn 2010 edition of their "Touchstone" newsletter. Although PAWARA has no political affiliation, we welcome common sense from any source. Since the arrival of the Zip bus corridor in 2004 at least thirty signs to do with cycling have been added to the street scene between Purbrook and Widley. Some of these are misleading and not everyone knows what they mean; so they have no real value, even though they may be required by law.



Good news about the Amenity Tip!

Hampshire County Council has announced that Waterlooville tip is to move to a site on the MDA near Brambles Farm.

Great news for all of us who have experienced being stuck in the queue to get in!

The provision of the site is part of the legal agreement with the developers and the cost is funded from developer contributions.

The new tip will not have steps up to the bins, so they will be much easier for us to use and they will be emptied from a lower level as at Havant and Port Solent, so no interruption to the service.

The proposed date for work to start is later this year and the current facilities will remain in place during the building process.

News from our local churches

Christ Church Portsdown Good Neighbours service is available 7 days a week from 8am to 8pm. Examples of the scheme are:

- Lifts to medical appointments
- Sitting service to give a care giver a break
- Befriending including trips such as shopping.

Call 07842 367490 if you need help.

If you have spare time and a car, why not volunteer? Mileage and out of pocket expenses are paid.

St John's Purbrook

Kidzone is the very successful Sunday School and youth group at St Johns. Due to an increase in the numbers attending they now need more volunteer helpers. If you are interested, call Father Philip Amej for an informal chat on 02392 266170.

There will be a Kidzone Jumble Sale and Auction on Saturday 2nd of April in the Church Hall.

Another date for the diary –

Purbrook Horticultural Society is having its Spring Show at the Deverell Hall Purbrook on Saturday 19th March 2011. Doors open at 2pm. All welcome – refreshments available.

Membership of the society is a very reasonable £5 per household per year. Members are able to buy a wide range of garden supplies at the Horticultural Society shop on London road Widley, which opens on Saturdays from 9.30am to 11.30am. The shop is manned by enthusiastic and knowledgeable people, a service you don't always get at the superstore or garden centre.

Ideal for all of us who want to have a more sustainable lifestyle or take the first steps to grow our own vegetables.

Purbrook Youth Experience Fund is aimed at young people (13-19) living, working or attending school in Purbrook.

A report from Mark Cluett, Youth Worker Havant Western Wards "The Purbrook Youth Experience Fund (PYEF) project continues to operate providing both detached street based engagement opportunities for young people as well as access to activity off-site trips. Recent trips have included Archery at Fort Purbrook, Pantomime at the Mayflower Theatre, London experience and Woodmill Outdoor adventure team challenge day.



In Oct 2010 the PYEF organised a charity tandem bike challenge at the Alexandra Park cycle track where young people worked as teams to raise money for their chosen charities, including Rowans Hospice, Help for Heroes, Cancer Research and HYSTS, which saw the project receive the News 'we can do it' runner up prize for best arts / sport community project.

Up and coming trips include Playzone, theatre, fishing and camping.

For more information please contact the youth team on 023 9226 1535 or 07718 146218."

The Police website "Crime Maps"

www.police.uk will lead you to this new website. Type in your postcode to see information on crimes by type in the local area. There is a very useful section with details of all our local officers and their contact details as well as information on forthcoming events such as Beat Surgeries. Well worth a visit.

Obituary

We were very sad to hear that Dave Houlihan had passed away on 7th January, after a long illness borne with his usual optimism and good humour.

Dave was a stalwart of the golfing community at Portsmouth golf club, Crookhorn, where he was Secretary for many years, and a respected member of the Bournemouth University teaching staff.

Our thoughts are with Maureen and the family at this sad time.

Planning Matters

West of Waterlooville Major Development Area The Grainger Site

The revised scheme for 2500 homes, or re-masterplan as Grainger call it, has been submitted to Havant and Winchester councils. This was just before



Christmas, when people were distracted by the festivities or in many cases away for the holidays. The period for public consultation is over and the application will be determined by the joint planning committees of Havant and Winchester councils on **21st March at Springwood Community Centre Springwood Avenue Waterlooville at 9.30am.**

'Spring at Plant Farm, soon to be part of the Major Development Area'

The proceedings are open to the public although they will not be able to comment. Councillors will debate the application and then vote. We can attend to see the hammer fall on the resistance we have put up against this development. It is the end of the process.

Although we have won some significant battles on design and the height of the buildings; at the end of the day we have lost the war.

We will continue to lobby for 30% Social Housing and not the 45% currently planned.

This is what is deemed acceptable in other parts of the Borough, such as north Emsworth and Green Lane, Clanfield.

Thank you to all who have fought the Major Development Area from the start in 1995, especially Alderman Bill Blackett, Pam Cooper, and the original PAWES committee.

Our best wishes to former Councillor Penny Moss, who is recovering in hospital following a stroke. Penny spoke out in support of us residents as we fought the building of thousands of houses on green field land.

The MDA Forum at Southwick Memorial Hall on 17th January.

Several members of the PAWARA committee attended.

There was a discussion on whether or not the new homes should be invited to join Southwick and Denmead parish councils. It was decided that a new entity would be the best way forward, either a parish council or a residents' association.

Planning Matters

On 7th February PAWARA committee members met Stephen Jenkins from Hampshire County Council Highways at Milk Lane, between Purbrook and Waterlooville on the A3. This junction could be one of only two entrances to the MDA for many years to come. This would cause misery to those who live on the new development, trying to turn right from Milk Lane across four lanes of traffic onto the A3, and to residents of Purbrook village who already suffer from excessive traffic on a very narrow busy road. A very robust legal agreement is needed to ensure we get the third major access at the Ladybridge roundabout.

Thanks to Stephen Jenkins for meeting us and listening to our concerns.

The Methodist Church Stakes Road Purbrook

Thanks to Daniells Harrison of Fareham, the agents dealing with the sale of the church for the following update. There has been a lot of interest from potential buyers but no sale is agreed as yet. Any more information will be passed on as soon as we get it. A planning application would need change of use consent and we are keeping a watch on this.



Tesco Express, 3 London Road Purbrook Old petrol station site.

This application has been revised by Tesco to address some of the points made by Havant council, Hampshire highways and other agencies as well as PAWARA. Unfortunately, the building continues to be of a standard of design not really appropriate for a landmark site.

Lots of people say anything is better than what was there before, but if it does go ahead this is our chance to have a building that will be a credit to Purbrook. It needs to complement the existing flint and brick buildings and sit easily next to the St John's church conservation area.

Remember, the Post Office will close if Tesco get planning permission. Can we afford to lose it?

70-72 London Road Widley

The two shops that closed recently (dance clothing and garage doors supplier) have undergone renovation and are ready for new tenants. PAWARA has heard from the letting agents that a water filtration company and a hairdresser have leased the shops and will be moving in soon.