

# Purbrook and Widley Area Residents' Association.

*Newsletter no. 9, February 2007.*

At the AGM our Chairman as previously intimated, resigned his position but has agreed to stay on the committee and oversee PAWARA's environmental work. John has worked hard and successfully saw us through the transition from P AWES to PAW ARA. Efficient Myra has also resigned but she is still willing to deliver her newsletters.

We must give a belated thank you to Brian Kidd for giving us such a humorous, knowledgeable talk on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2006. It was good to realise that a gardening talk can be so amusing and lively. Thank you, Brian. Our thanks also go to the Grainger Trust Trio who withstood a barrage of questions from the residents who are concerned that both new and existing inhabitants should live in a healthy, sustainable community.

*A mistake. In the November newsletter under the heading 'Amenity Tip', the first sentence should have read "The proposed site for the new (and necessary) Amenity Tip". "Unnecessary" was our printing error. Of course anyone who tries to use the Waterlooville tip at the weekend knows that a new, bigger and relocated tip is urgently needed.*

Our next meetings on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 7pm in Deverell Hall.

1. Andrew Perrin has agreed to yet again attend the meeting and co-ordinate with residents' knowledge, a talk on "The Families of Purbrook and Widley". Andrew has been a repository for local history ever since he left Purbrook Park School in 1988. He is always anxious to be fed more local information. Maureen and Tom Lewis, Christine and Tom Woods, Myra Clear and Sisters Rosemary Fuller and Sheila Eastwood will be attending the meeting with their memories and photos. Rosemary hopes to bring Grace Blackman from Emsworth. We have been in contact with the Fielder family (now living in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk) who have sent us information and memories.
2. Rachel Moroney, from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, and perhaps the police may attend. (3) A.O.B. from the residents.

## **Sandy Dell/Privett Road.**

In the past months members have concentrated on revamping the Privett Road site now that the old concrete and tarmac has been broken up and covered with some topsoil. Our thanks go to Havant Borough for doing this work and supplying us with the appropriate seeds. Rob Hill at H.B.C. is a great help. We have cleared the bank sides of accumulated litter and undergrowth. Prior to Christmas wild flower seed and grass seed was sown over certain damp areas with plans to add further seed in the near future, together with naturalised bulbs and plug plants. The wooded area off Sandy Brow has been cleared of most of the rubbish and undergrowth thus opening up the ground to many flowers, shrubs and bulbs which were previously hidden.

Annoyingly though is to find that certain areas continue to be used as an unofficial dumping ground for garden waste, despite warning notices and appeals. More volunteers are needed to continue this work to enable another group to be set up to work in Ladybridge on the Penjar Pond. We meet from 9 .30am till 11.30am on the last Sunday of the month. Please turn up when you can; children are very welcome.  
Waste Collections.

All except one residents' association (Emsworth, who have just moved to fortnightly collections) agreed to us all urging Havant Borough to revert to weekly kitchen waste collections during June, July and August. Havant Borough replied that as they had not received any written complaints from the public it was deemed not necessary to alter the present collection arrangements. Thus we say to you, please write to your councillors or Havant Borough Council, Civic Offices, Civic Centre Road, Havant, P09 2AX if you want a weekly kitchen waste collection.

Outline Planning Permission was granted for the Northern area of the MDA along the Hambledon Road by Winchester City Council and Havant Borough Council on 30<sup>th</sup> November. The Southern area of the MDA to the west of the A3 in Widley, Purbrook and Stakes is being planned by the developer Grainger Trust. Their outline plans have been submitted to H.RC. and W.C.C. and it is estimated that these southern plans will come before the two planning committees some time during the middle of April. PAWARA wrote to both councils about the Grainger Plans under the following headings:

1. A density of 40-50 per. hec. is too high.

2. The houses planned for the south of the ridge at Milk Lane should face the A3 to correspond with the properties
3. on the east side.
4. No landscaping is evident between the new development and the A3.
5. Building materials for the new homes should be in keeping with existing build materials.
6. The southern access road should maintain a safe access to the Heath for pedestrians and cyclists and preserve
7. the tranquillity of the Rowan's Hospice.
8. The Toucan crossing is in a dangerous position.
9. It is imperative to retain footpaths and safeguard woodlands and hedgerows.
10. Include Nursery provision. PAWARA sent the above MDA concerns to the nine ward councillors and one County Councillor affected by this development, asking for their support. One Councillor did not answer; seven gave more or less the same answer that "to express an opinion would negate them from being able to take part or vote at future meetings concerning the MDA." It appears a ridiculous situation that in local government an elected member cannot express an opinion to support or disagree with residents' concerns. County Councillor R, McIntosh and Councillor G. Blackett answered that they would support and represent all residents with MDA concerns as this development will have a tremendous impact on the local area.

### **Planning issues.**

Applewood Grove flats have yet again been refused by Havant RC. but the developer has now gone to appeal. The Dale application to build with access into Underdown Ave. has been refused by H.RC. The Purbrook Park Playing Field Developers have applied to increase the number of houses from 80 to 110. The Vodafone pole on the corner of Claremont Gardens and Stakes Road has been given permission because the company went to appeal and won.

The Rockville Drive Junction now has a barrier on the north side but the entrance to the petrol station is unaltered and remains a major hazard for pedestrians.

Hampshire County Council has notified some residents on the A3 to the north of Purbook that the County are planning to install a wind turbine at the bus stop to the north of Milk Lane. The idea of fostering the use of green energy is to be commended but this one-off experiment has created many questions and as of the end of January we believe there have been no answers. Would it be more cost effective to enlarge the solar panels which are already in situ on top of the bus shelters? We understand that the electricity generated by one small turbine is not sufficient to power the one bus stop. The cost of installation is £ 14,000 with only a three year guarantee - who funds the repairs after that period? Then there is the question of noise, 55dbs is quoted, at what speed does that occur or is the figure an average? County Councillor Robin McIntosh is also seeking answers and hopes to prevent more street furniture and unnecessary expense on an experiment.

Did you know that parking charges are to be levied on the Ladybridge car park? Residents living on the A3 in Purbrook fear that parking in the limited spaces outside their homes will become even more difficult. We understand that parking charges in Havant are to rise and most free car park areas are going to be charged. There are two unsightly 'Grot Spots' in our area: (1) the old garage site in Purbrook; and (2) the ex Dyer and Butler depot on the A3 at Widley. Please write to Havant Borough Council Planning Dept. (address overleaf,) urging them to approach local developers and housing associations with a view to redeveloping the garage site. Also request that the Widley depot be returned to its previous condition so as to prevent Travellers moving onto the site.

We are so pleased to welcome to our committee Anne Willoughby, our new deliveries secretary, and Brian Woolley, secretary of Purbrook Cricket club.

We hope to see many of you on 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 7pm in Deverell Hall. The meeting should be fascinating, so add to the evening by bringing along your old photos and memories. Happy New Year.