

Purbrook and Widley Area Residents' Association.

Newsletter no.14. May, 2008.

Committee members.

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It was a full house on 28th February when over 100 people listened to Bob Hunt's talk on "Beneath Portsdown". The 'villages' of tunnels were far larger than most of us realised. Bob's work was further advertised by the Weekend magazine in 'The News' on 12th April. Well done and thank you Bob. We look forward to your book, due to be published in December. At the same meeting County Councillor Robin McIntosh handed over a cheque for £1, 323.77 to PAWARA from Hampshire C.C. which has enabled us to become I.T. up-to-date. Thank you Robin.

Our next meeting is on 22nd May, 7.15pm in Deverell Hall.

The **Agenda** for the meeting will be:

- 1) Jane Kent and Chris North from Waterlooville Library.
- 2) At 7.45pm Andrew Perrin, a talk 'Forgotten Widley' and the Deverell family who shaped Purbrook. In 1837 John Deverell purchased the remaining 600 acres of the Purbrook Park estate and in 1851 the census shows there were 195 inhabitants.
- 3) A.O.B. from the residents.

The Waterlooville Library has been awarded £700,000 in a lottery bid.

Jane Kent and Chris North will explain that the lottery money is to fund new learning opportunities at the library. These learning opportunities will reflect what the public has asked for. Suggestions thus far include: back to work courses, family history, basic computer courses, hobbies and much more. They are looking for members of the public to suggest their ideas for the type of learning they want to take place, and perhaps become involved in helping to organise the learning. For more information contact Chris North at the Waterlooville Library.

The Access roads for the MDA.

Joe Toohey of Capita Symonds is responsible for the building of the two access roads at Maurepas Way Roundabout and Milk Lane. Joe has been in contact with PAWARA and wants to keep the local residents in touch with the likely progress through our newsletter. His first report contains three headings: (a) Archaeological Evaluation and Mitigation Work; (b) Ecology; (c) Road/Highway Improvement works and Onsite Infrastructure. Joe's report is most informative and copies will be available for residents attending the 22nd May meeting and from PAWARA committee members.

At the MDA meeting on 26th March we learnt a number of disturbing facts.

- (1) The Southern Access road at Ladybridge roundabout will not be built until 1,000 houses are built. Will there be any guarantee it will be built then? Will Milk Lane cope with all the construction, resident, and cemetery traffic? Residents have always been told that the access roads will go in first.
- (2) A map explaining the routes for construction lorries and vans shows them being channelled along Stakes Road then through Purbrook Village from south to north only to reach Milk Lane. We were told many times that **no** construction traffic would be allowed through the village as they would use the southern access at Ladybridge roundabout and Maurepas roundabout.
- (3) New houses on the A3 north of Purbrook Gardens will face the road now but they will be 3 storeys high with landmark buildings on the corners. A 5 storey building is still planned for the highest point at Milk Lane. The Pawara committee met on 9th May with Nigel Green, an Officer from Winchester City Council, who is leading the MDA development. An effort was made to reinforce the disquiet at being given false promises.

Havant's Forward Planning for 6,301 houses after 2011.

Three documents have been issued on planning control matters and possible sites over the whole Borough where the houses could be built. Havant has been tasked with finding space, even on green fields, for some of the 6,301 dwellings by 2021. We have noticed that one such site is called UE31 which is land north of Highbank Ave. on the London Road at Widley. It has the potential for 63 dwellings. A quote from the Assessment Document. "There is an existing access from the London Road to the site. The site is currently used for agricultural purposes and could offer scope for a larger development area in association with Winchester City Council." Thus possibly encroaching on and possibly in time encompassing the Heath. Comments on these documents had to be submitted by 25th April. Many residents sent in letters of objection to the use of this site and some people are still writing in.

Purbrook Park Playing Field Development on Stakes Road. Plans are due to go before the Development Committee on 22nd May.

The Curzon Rooms Development in Waterlooville.

A new plan with far fewer flats has been submitted to Havant Borough. The Building will be 4 storeys high and will include 3 shops and 14 x 2 bedroom flats. Provision for car-parking and a new access to Curzon Road are included in the plan.

Purbrook Methodist Church and Hall has closed and we believe it is to be redeveloped. The Chapel was opened on February 19th, 1932 and the Hall was opened on December 5th, 1953. The Chapel houses the Eric Fielder Memorial Organ. Eric was the grandson of Alfred Fielder who was brought from the New Forest to Purbrook by Squire Deverell. For a while Alfred was the superintendent of John Deverell's Industrial school. PAWARA is looking into the possibility of having the Chapel made a listed building.

The Environment Group. Mick Mills reports that *"this year's project sees the start of our rejuvenation of the Penjar Pond. We hope that throughout 2008/09, with the help of volunteers we can clear and tidy up the area surrounding the pond of fly-tipped rubbish. In the autumn we intend to carefully restore the pond by removing some of the silt which has built up over the years. Many thanks to the 20 plus volunteers who turned up for the start of this project in March. Fewer put in an appearance in April. We do need as many volunteers as possible to help at the Penjar Pond on the following dates: 8th June; 13th July; 10th August and 14th September. (0930 till 1130 hours)"*

PAWARA's Get Together and Supper on 20th June is at the Purbrook Heath Cricket Club at 7pm.

We are grateful to the Cricket Club who have agreed to run the bar. The price of the tickets is £8.00 and if you are interested you can buy tickets on 22nd May at the meeting in Deverell Hall or contact a committee member by 4th June please. We do intend to give a donation to the Club.

Waterlooville Music Festival 7th June to Sunday 15th June.

The Festival takes place at St. George's Church and the standard last year was most impressive. More information can be found on www.stgeorgesnews.org/wmf/wmf2008/wmfboxoffice

St John's Church—Purbrook Youth Experience Fund.

The fund provides 'an opportunity for young people to access funding which supports them to have new and challenging experiences'. To be eligible you must live in Purbrook and be aged between 10-19 or those with special needs up to 25 years. Forms and help with filling them in can be obtained from Abi Facey on 023 92262014. Please see your children and grandchildren take advantage of this generous offer.

We hope to see many of you on 22nd May at 7.15 in Deverell Hall.