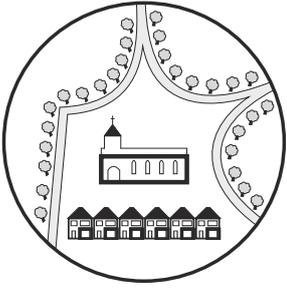


Purbrook and Widley Area Residents' Association.

Newsletter no. 26, March 2012.



PAWARA Committee Contacts

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PAWARA's public meeting will be held at 7.15pm on Thursday 29th March at Deverell Hall, London Road, Purbrook PO7 5JU

Membership subscriptions can be made or renewed throughout the meeting. Your membership is still only £3 per year.

Welcome to your PAWARA newsletter.



The photographs on the left show two incarnations of our guest speaker, John PFC Westwood; football fanatic and antiquarian book specialist.

Come along and hear from one of football's most recognisable fans about Portsmouth football Club's unique history, traditions and role in unifying the City of Portsmouth.

Continuing this theme we pay tribute to Pompey Legend Len Phillips and celebrate his career.



Len Phillips 1922 - 2011

In the words of another famous Portsmouth player, Pat Neil:

*"And though he's gone, that final link with feats of yesteryear,
the legacy he leaves behind continues to endear.
And when the talk's of football, whilst topping up the glasses,
the misty eyed will call to mind, Len's devastating passes!"*



Agenda for the Meeting.

- Chairman's welcome.
- Treasurer's report.

An audience with John PFC Westwood and a chance to ask him about his amazing "double life" as an antiquarian book dealer and Pompey's most famous fan.

- Planning matters and Major Development Area Update
- 8.30pm Policing update. Our new Police Sergeant Kathryn Chambers will give residents a report on crime and policing in the area.
- AOB from the residents.
- 9.00pm Meeting ends

West of Waterlooville MDA update



Artist's impression of proposed housing at Newlands courtesy of Adam Architecture.

Now that permission has been granted why are houses not being built?

The answer is that the section 106 agreement between Havant and Winchester Councils, Hampshire County Council and Grainger plc, the MDA developers, has still not been signed. That means we don't yet know the details of the legal commitment to our community facilities and infrastructure.

PAWARA will be asking Grainger director of development John Beresford about this at the West of Waterlooville Forum on 28th February. This forum will be at the Acorn Centre, the Kestrels, off Eagle Avenue Wecock Farm Waterlooville PO8 9UB at 2pm. All welcome.

Taylor Wimpey goes to the joint planning committee at Havant BC offices on 3rd April at 2pm to seek simultaneous approval for their remaining two phases of the MDA at Hambledon Road.

Planning Matters

Potential sites for new homes The Havant Borough Local Plan – Allocations

Members of your committee took part in a workshop at Havant Civic Offices on January 25th, the subject being where to squeeze up to 1036 new homes in the Waterlooville area between now and 2026.

One idea seemed to be to grab what Havant call "slivers" off our limited open spaces. Two local areas suggested were by the balancing pond in Elizabeth Road and land north of Highbank Avenue.

Disappointingly, no alternatives to squeezing in more homes to an already crowded Waterlooville area were offered.

There are tens of thousands of empty homes in the South East but there is no local or national policy to bring these back into use. Neither are there any initiatives from Havant Borough Council such as a loan to improve a vacant property in return for the use of the property by the council for two years, as is being tried in the New Forest.

Havant will be taking their "where shall we build" road show out into the community starting in March, so please watch out for details and go along to have your say.

Former Methodist Church Stakes Road

A Masonic Lodge from Portsmouth has applied for change of use from a church to a Masonic centre and community hall. The return of this building to public use would be welcomed, especially as all the other public meeting places in the area are pretty near capacity. However, residents nearby are concerned, both about parking problems and the sale of alcohol on the premises. These concerns should be addressed at the licence application stage.

Waterlooville Town Centre Improvements

You can now actually see Waterlooville as you drive past the top of the High Street. The works seem to be progressing as expected and we are all looking forward to a smart new town centre.

New sports facilities and all weather pitch at South Downs College.

Planning permission has been granted and the scheme will be ready by May. It can't come soon enough. David Heck from our committee will be joining the playing field management group to represent residents' interests and to channel information to us about the new facility.

Former Purbrook Park Playing Field

Thanks to "The News" for this photo of residents reviewing the new plans.



A PAWARA committee member represented the views of residents at a Civic Offices Forum with developer David Wilson Homes.

The best news is that the number of homes for the site has been reduced to from over 90 to 76 and the plans look promising. Among the comments received from residents were:

Conserve the hedge bordering the site as it gives a natural pleasing entrance into Purbrook.

Make the boundary with The Grange more robust.

Conserve trees on the boundary with Westlands Drive. We welcome the reduction in height of houses to prevent loss of privacy.

Extra traffic. Will the new traffic light junction be in place before new residents arrive?

The revised plans will be on show at our public meeting on 29th March, so come along and have a look. This is all part of the pre-planning process; which is how developers canvass the view of the community before putting in for full planning permission.

Environment Group News

Diamond Jubilee Tree Planting

We will be marking the Jubilee with the planting of native trees from the Woodland Trust.

The Trust is offering free community tree packs with the aim of one million trees being planted in 2012. Each pack also contains a Royal Oak sapling, grown from seeds gathered from Royal Estates.



Her Majesty plants a tree at Sandringham to commemorate 60 years of her reign

Trees will be supplied as young saplings about 20 - 40 cm high (8" – 16") – a lot easier to deal with than the young tree The Queen is shown planting.



A delighted Queen pictured after the tree planting

Now let's do our bit in Purbrook and Widley!

A site meeting was held on Friday 3rd February with Havant Borough Council's arborist.

The possible sites are:

- The island of scrub and brambles in the centre of The Bog on the opposite side of Ladybridge Road to Penjar pond. This is the preferred site. Havant Borough Council would be willing to clear the area. They would also install posts to prevent damage to the trees when the grass is mowed.
- A triangle next to the hedge at the end of The Bog by the car park.
- An arc in front of the Leylandii hedge next to the path by the pond.
- Purbrook Heath. Trees could be planted in an arc in the bottom left hand corner near the bench or as a hedge along the bottom fence.

The Arborist will obtain permission to plant trees at these sites.

The corner of Marrelswood Gardens next to the roundabout at the end of Ladybridge Road/A3 London Road was suggested as a possible site for the Royal Oak sapling. However, the area may be required as an access road and the Arborist will have to check this.

If you have any comments on the proposals, suggestions as to where the Royal Oak sapling could be planted or you would like to be involved in the planting, please contact Terry Smith at tjs.oaktreecottage@virgin.net or on 023 9226 4856.

Away day with Woodsedge Waders

We are having a trip to Woodsedge on February 12th so by the time you read this we will have got to grips with helping to clear the two ponds (one of which is shown) and tidy the area. Later in the year we will hopefully have help from students at Southdowns College, as part of the curriculum for outdoor courses. We are really looking forward to working alongside young people from our community.



News from our Councillors

County Councillor Robin McIntosh
Purbrook and Stakes South
Cllr McIntosh writes:



Speeding

There has recently been some concern regarding cars speeding through the local area, in particular The Dale and Park Avenue. In an attempt to mitigate the problem, I have been working closely Police and County Highway Engineers.

The Highway Engineers are considering whether traffic calming measures could be implemented and the Police will check the areas on a regular basis to see if the problem persists.

A3 Gas repairs

The ongoing Gas Pipe replacement programme through the village has caused some problems, mainly the hold up of traffic at peak periods.



I have been assured by the County Highway Engineers, who are responsible for checking that the reinstatement of footpaths and verges is in accordance with the contract, that they will remain vigilant throughout the project.

Most of us have had letters if our homes are involved. Not sure if you will be affected?

Tel 0845 070 1431 or www.sgn.co.uk

Councillors' Devolved Budget

I have a small budget to administer in my area. If you are aware of any worthy causes, (Guides, Scouts, small clubs that do not receive funding from other areas) I would be very happy to consider them for a grant

Robin McIntosh 023 9225 8144

We thank Robin for his help typing our minutes. Sheila, Robin's wife and our secretary, has broken her arm for the second time. Get well soon, Sheila!

Community Planning Forum

This group replaces the Waterlooville North and South Community Boards.



Councillor Paul Buckley, local councillor for Waterloo, says: "Community Planning gives local people the opportunity to work with public agencies and be involved in taking action to develop and implement a Vision for how your community can be a better place to live, work and play." The group will be supported by Havant Borough Council's Neighbourhood Development Team, who will be on hand to assist with action planning and other projects.

PAWARA committee members attended a meeting on February 1st at Waterlooville Community Centre to discuss the Vision for the area. The new group is keen to provide a Forum for local residents, and other key community partners such as local businesses, schools, sports clubs, associations and healthcare providers to meet and get involved in shaping the future of Waterlooville.

Groups and Events

Let us know about your group or event and we will include details in the newsletter and on the website.



Purbrook Horticultural Society Spring Show

will take place on 25th March at the Deverell Hall from 2pm

St George's Market at St George's Church Hall Waterlooville.

Every Thursday from 9.30 – 11.00 a.m. Come along and buy home made cakes, preserves and home

produced crafts and jewellery as well as eggs and plants. Coffee and tea available.



Part of the Good Neighbours Network

Christ Church Portsdown Good Neighbours

This group of volunteers recently celebrated a year of giving neighbourly help to residents of the Parish of Portsdown (and surrounding area). The group offers: transport to hospital, GP or other health related appointments, shopping, visiting, sitting for carers, befriending, helping with pets, minor repairs/DIY and small gardening jobs. If there are other things you need help with please ask. Call - 07842 367490

There is no charge for services but a donation can be made to Christ Church Portsdown Good Neighbours to help with running costs.

New Drama Group in Purbrook.

The Deverell Hall is the venue for this new venture. A drama group has been a huge part of Deverell Hall for many years, and the hall has hosted many shows for the people of Purbrook. More information about the Deverell Players will be announced shortly. If you are interested in the stage; the group meets at Deverell Hall from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on Fridays.

PAWARA annual get together

Our Christmas Meal and Quiz Evening was a great success with £142 raised for our funds. Thanks to all at the Hampshire Rose for their support and an excellent meal. Special thanks to Gill Griffiths and Mike Saunders for all their hard work.

Policing

There has been a small change to the South Team and Sgt Kathryn Chambers is now your Safer Neighbourhoods Team supervisor with the addition of PC Maria Nixon to work alongside the regular officers.



Popular PCSO Helen Aiken (shown right) is leaving us to go to Waterlooville North and Jemma Burbury takes over her duties. We thank Helen for all her hard work and wish her well for the future.

There is an excellent website, police.uk which gives crime statistics and information. Just search for the site, then type in your postcode.



There is also a very useful news and information section.

Councillor David Farrow

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of David Farrow, Local Councillor for Purbrook, former Mayor of Havant and Purbrook resident.

As befits a dedicated public servant David was honoured with a Civic Funeral at St Faith's, Havant on 30th January. We send our sincere condolences to Hilary and the family.

If the weather gets worse please, please check up on your elderly neighbours.

And finally – don't forget to join us on Thursday 29th March at 7.15pm at the Deverell Hall.

