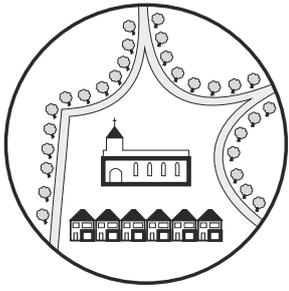


Purbrook and Widley Area Residents' Association.

Newsletter no. 31, April 2014.



PAWARA Committee Contacts

Gary Hughes - Chariman: 9237 4152
Sheila McIntosh - Secretary: 9225 8144
Vic Pheasant - Treasurer: 9226 3249
Michael Saunders - Deliveries: 9264 8966
Stewart Gilbert - Environment/Distribution
Gill Johnson: 9279 3161

John Briggs - Vice Chairman: 9264 1118
Brian Woolley - Membership: 9238 1645
Paul Jackson - Environment: 9225 4458
Terry Smith - Environment: 9226 4856
Paul Outen - Webmaster: 9278 0435
Gina Doggett: 9225 5890

Website: www.pawara.co.uk

Email: info@pawara.co.uk

Welcome to your PAWARA newsletter!



London Road from Purbrook Heath Road (c1950's)

Message from the new Chairman

As I am sure you are aware and as reported in Newsletter No 30, PAWARA was in danger of folding last November until a number of residents, myself included, encouraged the existing Committee to 'hold-fast' until new blood could be found to assist the Committee in fulfilling the constitution initially set out in 2005. At a meeting of the PAWARA Executive Committee on 20th January 2014, I was elected as the new Chairman of PAWARA, taking over from John Briggs. I believe that PAWARA can continue to be a relevant Association that continues to do good things in the Purbrook and Widley area. A number of ideas were presented to take the Association forward and it is my job to enthuse and cajole both my fellow committee members and you, the wider residents, to embrace those initiatives. PAWARA still needs more volunteers. If you feel you could spare a couple of hours per month please contact me on the telephone number above or e-mail (info@pawara.co.uk).

**Please come and join us at our next Public Meeting on 22nd
May 2014 at Deverell Hall, commencing at 7.15pm.**

The agenda is on the back page of this Newsletter

The purpose of PAWARA

The constitution that established PAWARA in 2005 has undergone two revisions, the last in 2010. The primary objectives of the association are to:

'...represent collectively the interests of the residents, to provide a channel of communication with appropriate Local Authorities and to provide a forum for residents to express their concerns about matters affecting Purbrook and Widley Area.'
PAWARA Constitution updated 25th November 2010 (available on the web-site).

In my short time in office, I am pleased to report that this works. A PAWARA member reported to the Police and Havant Borough Council (HBC) that offensive and racist graffiti that had been sprayed onto the hoardings surrounding the old BP garage on the London Road. HBC contacted the landlord's agents and the graffiti was removed within 4 days. I raised to HBC and Hampshire County Council (HCC) Councillors that exceptionally large potholes on Stakes Road (adjacent to the David Wilson site) represented a clear danger to all road users, particularly motorcyclists and cyclists. Following an exchange of e-mails and telephone calls, I was informed that the potholes had been targeted for early repair, which was carried out on 24th March. These two small examples demonstrate that the improvements and changes that happen around the area are often as a result of the actions of residents. My ambition is for residents in the PAWARA area to drive activity to 'make things happen'.

Planning Issues

Many of you will have noted the work to convert the Leopard Inn on London Road into a Morrisons store. Despite objections by local residents, the store has been granted a licence to sell alcohol between the hours of 1200 and 2300. Separately, planning permission has been granted to convert the former manager's flat into two self-contained flats with construction of an external staircase and entrance canopy.

The Jet garage on London Road closed earlier in the year. Despite rumours that it was going to be turned into a convenience store with external parking, no planning application has yet been submitted.

West Waterlooville Major Development Area

Berewood (Grainger Site)

- Phase 1 (194 houses) (opposite ASDA) is building and selling.
- Phase 2 (246 houses) (North of Purbrook Gardens - adjacent to London Road) - Infrastructure works - roads & utilities (gas, water & electricity) are almost complete. The residential element is still under consideration and will be decided at a joint Planning Committee date (tbd - probably in June).
- Phase 7 (20 houses) has been submitted along with proposals to restore both Newlands Meadow and the river Wallington. In addition, a further submission for the 'Town Park' (a significant public open space, to include a skate park, youth shelter, kick about area and a 'LEAP' (locally equipped area of play) to serve Phase 2 residents and existing residents of Waterlooville is also under consideration.
- The new school (currently under construction) is on schedule to open for the September 2014 term.

Taylor Wimpey Site

- Phases 3 and 4 comprising 450 houses are currently in build. A further application (Phase 5) comprising a further 103 houses will be considered at the Planning Committee along with Phase 2.

In addition, HBC is continuing to investigate the funding and delivery options for a cemetery on land within the MDA.

A map detailing all of the various phases of the MDA along with the 'Town Park' and proposed cemetery has been posted on the PAWARA web-site.

And finally, the ponds that are apparent near to the London Road/Purbrook Heath Road are part of the MDA sustainable urban drainage system (SuDS), which are designed to provide a more controlled removal of surface water. The recent very wet winter did result in some flooding, but considerably less than in the past and has been attributed to the successful introduction of SuDS.

You can find a link to the Havant Borough Council planning website at www.pawara.co.uk

In November, after several sessions of clearing ivy, which was blanketing the ground, we had two work parties and planted a total of 1,000 English bluebell bulbs in Marrelsmoor Coppice, opposite the One Stop in Purbrook. The flowers are starting to open (early April) and should be visible from the pavement. At the end of November the Council cut some large branches from the willows next to Penjar Pond and the December work party was spent cutting up branches, clearing debris from the pond and adding to the pile at the side of the road which has since been removed. We also cut the grass around the hedge we planted last year and replaced some of the dead saplings.

We have received advice from the Environment Agency on the management of the ponds at Penjar and Woodsedge. The ponds do not need any major attention and we are likely to restrict work to removing some branches to help reduce leaf litter, removing duck weed and, possibly, transplanting some of the sedges at Penjar to Woodsedge.

Environment Group at work in Sandy Dell



So far this year we have concentrated on Sandy Dell. In January we tidied up the laurel we cut down last year, dug out garden shrubs and cleared some ivy. Our main project is to remove the Spanish bluebells with a view to replacing them with native English bluebells.

In February four of the Environment Group filled five bin liners in two hours and we continued the work in March. Although some of the bulbs were in loose soil, a lot are up to a foot deep and not easy to locate, so we are likely to need annual follow-ups.

Environment Group at work in Sandy Dell We also now have a separate website for the Environment Group. Links are available from the PAWARA website (www.pawara.co.uk)

All work parties meet at 9.30am. We welcome new members without obligation to attend every task. If you have ideas for Environment Group activities or you would like to be involved, please contact Terry Smith or Paul Jackson.

Johnston's Coppice

Terena Plowright of The Greening Campaign applied for a change of use of Johnston's Coppice, the nature reserve behind Crookhorn College, to 'mixed use of woodland and natural pet cemetery'. The intention was for the pet cemetery to finance management of the woodland.

There were a number of objections and the application was refused because 'In the absence of adequate information the Local Planning Authority is not satisfied that the proposal will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the populations of protected species concerned at a favourable conservation status.'

The principal species of concern is the Hazel Dormouse although eleven different species of bats have also been recorded in the area, including the very rare Bechstein's bat.

The first section of hazel was coppiced early last year and the PAWARA Environment Group has assisted with clearance work. Woodland management activities ceased last year when work parties were cancelled due to a lack of numbers and Hampshire County Council withdrew the support of a Countryside Warden, who had been able to assist with a chainsaw, due to budget constraints.

Terena still intends to manage the coppice and is waiting for the lease to be finalised.

Environment Group next meetings (Sunday):

13th April - Sandy Dell

Clearing Spanish bluebells

11th May - Privett Road

Grass cutting around planted trees

8th June - Woodsedge

General clearance

13th July Penjar Pond/Marrelsmoor Coppice

Clear grass from path, remove ivy.

10th August - Gauntletts Park

Litter pick (tbd)

14th September/12th October - Sandy Dell

Plant English Bluebells/woodland plants

Membership and subscription renewal.

Due to the uncertainty that PAWARA would continue, no subscriptions were taken at the AGM in November 2013. At the Executive Committee meeting in January 2014, it was agreed that no new memberships would be accepted until further notice. Prior to November 2013, there were approx 75 members. A membership drive will be undertaken to try and get 10% of houses in the PAWARA catchment to take up a new type of 'household' membership @ £5 per household per annum; replacing the old 'individual' membership. Details will be provided at the public meeting and posted on the website.

'Adopt a 'grot' spot' - anti - litter initiative.

The PAWARA Committee is considering whether there is sufficient resident support for the above initiative. If, like many others, you are tired of seeing litter spoiling the public spaces around the PAWARA area, small numbers of residents (ideally 2 or 3) might wish to nominate a particular spot and 'adopt it'. By adopting a spot, PAWARA will record the location, provide 'litter pickers' to help pick up the waste and official Havant Borough Council waste sacks to dispose of the waste. The waste sacks once full would be collected by HBC. In order to determine if the initiative is feasible, residents are invited to register their interest with the Chairman. Separately, the Chairman has adopted 'Sandy Brow' and after two extensive litter picks (generating six sacks of rubbish), maintaining the area takes approximately 20 minutes a week and generates less than half a carrier bag of waste. PAWARA has registered as a group with Litter Action and we will update our page of their website with details of any litter-picking activities and the number of bags of rubbish collected (33 to date!).

Hampshire Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team) update (from the web-site).

The South Waterlooville Safer Neighbourhood Team continues to promote their 'You Say, We Did' initiative. In response to specific concerns raised by the public, they have undertaken focused activities to address drug related activities and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the PAWARA area. This has resulted in the dismantling of drug cultivation equipment, additional patrols in areas where ASB has been reported and working with charity groups such as 'Motiv8' to provide additional facilities for young people. In addition, the Police have visited the parents of young people caught perpetrating ASB, to make them aware of the situation and highlight the potential for Acceptable Behaviour Contracts being imposed to improve behaviour. Interestingly, having been made aware of the graffiti on the hoarding of the old BP garage on London Road, PC Nick Donnelly was actively investigating to use individuals on the 'Community Payback' scheme (Community Service) to overpaint the hoarding prior to the action of the landlord. It is hoped that a member of the Safer Neighbourhood Team will be in attendance at the next PAWARA public meeting.

**PAWARA's public meeting will be held at 7.15pm on Wednesday 22nd May 2014
at the Deverell hall, London Road, Purbrook PO7 5JU**

AGENDA

1. Chairman's welcome.
2. Guest Speaker - Mr Keith Watson **Title: Queen Elizabeth Country Park**
3. Treasurer's report.
4. Major Development Area Update. Ms Jaime Bridges, Community Officer, HBC
5. Environment Group - Update
6. Policing update - Waterlooville South - Safer Neighbourhood Team.
7. A.O.B. From the residents.
8. Meeting closure