



Petersfield Area
Community Trust

IMPACT

THE NEWSLETTER FOR PETERSFIELD AREA COMMUNITY TRUST • SPRING 2001

Fantastic Summer Picnic

30th June • 2-5pm
St Matthew's Piece

Everyone welcome!

Meet other PACT members
or join your community
group! Bring your own
picnic to share!

Are you part of another
local group?
Why not bring a table and
some leaflets to our
Summer Picnic?*

Just call 301647 or email
PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com
to let us know before the day

*We do not have tables for borrowing so please
arrange to bring your own.

Are you troubled by graffiti?

Management Committee member, Dorothy Runnicles, shares her experience.

'About three months ago I reported 2 items of graffiti on my wall to the City Council Graffiti Team and signed the necessary paper for them to act to remove them. About one month ago I reminded them and referred to the items which had grown in number to 7, sophistication, and size during the waiting time. The Graffiti Team managed to remove the offending items after several visits. They also asked neighbours who had been similarly affected to sign forms so that the area could be cleared. The Police treated my report seriously and PC Debbie Miller also visited me to discuss the matter and advise on future action.'

Dorothy offers this advice:

- Owners of affected property should be proactive as soon as possible. The longer the graffiti stays the more you get. If the graffiti team can get to you quickly, it is easier to clean it off. We need to help the Police as much as possible by being vigilant.
- As the local Youth Centre has been closed by the County Council, more detached Youth Workers are needed in the area. Perhaps we need a legitimate graffiti wall for local young artists?
- Dorothy thinks a local community centre for all ages would help increase a sense of community and pride in our area. Responsibility for improving our environment is up to us, and requires individual commitment to action.

Inside this issue of ImPACT you will find a postcard from the Graffiti team. If you are a victim of this crime please complete the card and post it back.

PACT has formed a working party to tackle this problem. If you are interested in joining please email on PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com or 'phone Dorothy on 462318.

Everyone Welcome!

The Petersfield Area Community Trust is now in its third year. As you can read in this issue of ImPACT, its main activities are to support and defend community interests in local planning issues and in the development of local leisure services and amenities. PACT's core purpose lies in finding ways to address the loss of the Howard Mallett Centre. However, concerns raised at public meetings by PACT members of all ages - as summarised in

the PACT 'Wish List' - have led us also to focus on graffiti, vandalism, and safety in our streets. 'Friends of Mill Road Cemetery' and 'Petersfield Streets for People' are two important new local groups that have developed from or alongside PACT activities.

PACT produces and delivers 3000 copies of this free newsletter, as well as creating information leaflets and maintaining an

acclaimed website (www.colc.co.uk/cambridge/forum/pact). PACT hosts regular public meetings on issues of local concern and at least two widely publicised social events each year. On request, PACT responds to consultations from public bodies. These activities are conducted on behalf of PACT members by a group of 8-10 management committee members who

continued on page 2

are elected by and from PACT members at the publicly advertised annual general meeting (AGM). The next AGM will be on 7 November 2001 at St Matthew's Church Hall. If you are not already a member of PACT, you can join at any time (including at the AGM) by completing a membership application form (page 7). Membership costs only £1 per year - the best bargain in town!

The PACT management committee comes together once per month, and forms subgroups that tackle specific issues. This is an enjoyable way to put something

valuable and lasting back into our community, as well as a chance to get to know our area better and to work with enthusiastic neighbours.

Committee members have the opportunity to acquire skills that may be valuable in the workplace, such as financial experience. They can learn more about how local government and websites work, and have the chance for personal growth in spheres such as negotiation and confidence-building.

New members may be co-opted onto the PACT management committee at any time,

and are especially welcome to come forward for election at the next AGM. Anyone is welcome, regardless of age or experience. Please contact us on (01223) 570157 or via email at PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com if you would like to become involved or just to ask for more information. Meanwhile come along to PACT's Summer Picnic at St Matthew's Piece on 30th June to meet the current PACT management committee. We are eager for new people to share their ideas and energies in making Petersfield a better place to live for us all.

Petersfield Live at Home Scheme

Located in the heart of Petersfield Ward is the Petersfield Live at Home Scheme based at the Methodist Church in Sturton Street. We offer a befriending scheme to older isolated members of the community, or to those interested in going out and about and joining in with some social events.

We regularly join up with Newtown residents at a First Friday Lunch Club organised at the Centre at St.

Paul's. Recently we have been fortunate to enjoy the company of pupils from the Ley's school. Transport, lively conversation and delicious refreshments are offered to us on a weekly basis during term time. We are all made to feel very welcome. During the year we arrange a summer outing, Christmas lunch, smaller outings or entertainments. Sometimes we gather volunteers and members together,, everyone enjoys these events, but we also offer our volunteers a chance to meet up, exchange ideas and to request any support or training which they feel they may require.

So we are a community

within the wider Petersfield community and we very much enjoy making vital links with other groups in the community.

Our volunteers come from many different geographical areas and are of many backgrounds and ages. To make use of our services or to offer volunteer time there is no need to be a Methodist or even to follow a faith. Our doors are open to all who want to improve the quality of life for older people.

We, the co-ordinator Penelope Brown and assistant co-ordinator Stephen Falkner, work hard to publicise the scheme and hope the enclosed flyers do the trick! So on with the community spirit, please do refer any older neighbours to us if they are feeling lonely and interested in meeting new people.

Please contact Penelope Brown or Stephen Falkner for more details on 566081, The Methodist Church, Sturton Street CB1 2QA.

The Centre at St Paul's

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building a
community



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Petersfield Streets for People

Petersfield Streets for People was formed 18 months ago, in a joint initiative by PACT, Cambridge Cycling Campaign, and Cambridge Green Party.

Two public meetings were held at which local residents put stickers on maps of their own streets to show what improvements they would like to see. Residents told Petersfield Streets for People that they fear for the safety of children, pets, pedestrians, and cyclists, and are generally concerned about traffic, and the feeling that, over the years, our streets have slowly and insidiously been taken from us.

Both meetings expressed sympathy for car-owning residents who need access, but considered changing priorities so that vehicles would have to drive at dead-slow speed and give way to pedestrians. There was feeling against commuter car parking and rat-running. Some wondered whether Petersfield could qualify for one of the new, government-approved, 'Home Zones'.

Petersfield Streets for People has now published a report, based on the findings, which contains scores of practical suggestions for improvements. Copies of the now-published report (an unfinished version was circulated at PACT's AGM last December) can be obtained from John Collins, 158 New Street. Tel. 562364. Email: johncollins@ntlworld.com – Printed copies are £1.50 (payable to Petersfield Streets for People), and email copies are free.

Members of Petersfield Streets for People have had an exchange of views with Cllr. Colin Rosenstiel and Bob Menzies, respectively Chair of the Joint City / County Transport Committee, and County Council Road Safety & Signals Manager. We would like to see some detailed proposals and consultation by the official agencies, notwithstanding their financial constraints.

We are very pleased they agree that Norfolk Street is a dangerous road, in urgent need of safety improvements. Members of the public and St. Matthew's School parents recently attended an exhibition and consultation exercise with City Council Highways officials and the (County Council) Safer Routes to School initiative, at which the following proposals were on offer (for Norfolk Street): a turning circle for cars; raised tables and traffic-calming measures; closing the East Road exit to cars and improving that junction for cycles; a combination of some or all of the above

A number of attendees made strong representations that a zebra crossing, outside the school, should be included in the proposals and were told by officials that this could be so, the only proviso being that speed humps or raised tables should accompany it to slow down traffic before it reaches the crossing. Comments should be addressed to Graham Lowe, City Council Highways Dept., The Guildhall, Cambridge. Email: Graham.Lowe@Cambridge.gov.uk – We look forward to seeing the updated proposals for Norfolk Street.

1970



2001

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News from the Webweaver

The PACT website is regularly updated with information about the activities of PACT and news of events. Its URL is:

www.colc.co.uk/cambridge/forum/pact/

(or go to the Cambridge Online City website at **www.colc.co.uk** and search for PACT).

If there's something you think should be added to the site please do not hesitate to contact us. Our easy-to-remember email address can redirect mail to the appropriate Management Committee member: **PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com**

If you haven't got access to the Internet at home, remember that you can get online at free public access points around the City. Those in or near Petersfield are:

- ☉ Citizen's Advice Bureau, 72/74 Newmarket Road, tel. 361418.
- ☉ Romsey Mill, Hemingford Road, tel. 213162.
- ☉ Centre 33, 33 Clarendon Street, tel. 316488. (For young people to age 25 only).
- ☉ Indian Cultural and Community Association, 117 Mill Road, tel. 319431 or 564477. (For member groups only).
- ☉ Centre at St Paul's, Hills Road, tel. 578899.
- ☉ Jimmy's Nightshelter, c/o Zion Baptist Church, for guests only.

PLANNING NEWS



News on the planning front is not too bad, on the whole. The threat of overdevelopment of sites and consequent pressures on existing residents seems to be diminishing as local residents' groups, guided by Planning Officers, helped by Ward Councillors and supported by PACT, steadfastly resist the worst that developers can throw at us.

Both the Regional Planning Guidance for East Anglia, (RPG6), and Planning Policy Guidance No. 3 on Housing, (PPG3) contain some protection, which we have been able to exploit. RPG6 states that the first preference for housing in the Cambridge sub-region is 'within the built up area of Cambridge, *subject to capacity and environmental considerations*', (our emphasis). PPG3 states 'local planning authorities and developers should think imaginatively about designs and layouts which make more efficient use of land *without compromising the quality of the environment*', (again our emphasis).

Nine significant developments are already taking place or are in the pipeline within Petersfield. These are at: The Beehive Centre in Coldhams Lane; Philips site in York Street; Foister & Jagg, Abbey Walk; Labgear, Abbey Walk; Simpers, New Street; Ivy Villa, Stone Street; ex-CRC building in Young Street; Carpet Mill, Mill Road and Eastern Court, Newmarket Road/Harvest Way (off New Street).

On the **Beehive site** the threat of a rear delivery road behind York Street houses has gone away! The appeal against refusal of Phase II of the development and in-fill of 'the gap', has been withdrawn. Alternative ways of extending floor space on the site have been explored. In the meantime, Phase I of the development - the ASDA foodstore, bus-turning point and improved security facilities on-site - which, we emphasise, were enthusiastically supported by local residents - are currently under construction. British Land has agreed not to raise the spectre of a service road for another five years from the commencement of a development of a retail warehouse on the former Mazda Car Showroom. PACT will seek to revise the Cambridge Local Plan by strengthening the protection already afforded to York Street residents.

Initial plans for the **Philips site, York Street** were also refused. Wilcon Homes, having 'considered their position', have submitted revised plans. There is some way to go in seeking further improvements to their proposals and they could yet appeal against the refusal. The revised plans went to the Planning Sub-Committee on 30th May and a decision was deferred.

Ivy Villa, Stone Street, was the subject of an appeal held on 24th April 2001 against the most recent refusal of plans for this site. The developer has, at the same time, submitted yet another application for nine 3- and 4-bed houses on this small site, hemmed in by existing housing.

This appeal by the developer was dismissed, so residents have won that round! Warm congratulations to Malcolm Hunter, Susan Carlyle, Andy Ranson and John Donaldson and other residents in Stone Street, Stone Terrace and Sleaford Street.

Eastern Court, Newmarket Road/Harvest Way is encouraging. Representatives of Fortune Investments met with leaders of RAFT (Residents Against Faulty Towers) and a representative of PACT and were hopeful of putting forward new proposals which residents would be able to support. That will make a welcome change! A public consultation with local residents was held on 25th April 2001 and a follow-up is due in September 2000.

The architect for this site is Neil Ruffles. An example of his work can be seen at Portugal Street., off Portugal Place. Go see for yourself and take a look at his website www.bcr-architects.co.uk

Other PACT activities in general planning issues have included commenting on the draft document on "Conservation of Parker's Piece" and on "Proposed Improvements to St. Matthew's Piece"; and contributing to a consultation workshop on the subject of "Public Participation and the new Council Structure". PACT has also sent a letter to the local Planning Authority on the subject of 'Assessing Density of New Developments' to stimulate debate on this important issue.

Together with our local Ward Councillors, PACT representatives argued the case for "Contributions towards Community Facilities" from new developments in the area and these are now being agreed. We expressed concerns at the current inadequacy of community facilities to cater for the needs of an already densely populated area and pointed out that the rapid expansion, as new residential development goes ahead, will worsen the situation. The City Council's Planning Department has responded positively to our arguments and monies towards community facilities to be contributed by developers will be very welcome. As with the 'Commuted Open Space Contributions' PACT will seek to ensure that local residents are consulted on how these sums are to be spent.

Consultations on Revisions of Cambridge Local Plan should commence this summer. Start thinking about which buildings or sites need protection or which you would like to determine their future e.g. Howard Mallet Centre or The Bath House.

If you have any comments on this article or need advice on planning matters please 'phone Glenys Malyon on 570157 or email PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com

Stop Press: St Matthew's Residents Association has been revived. For more details contact Jackie Mencehella on 560114.

Don't forget the fantastic **Summer Picnic** on 30th June, 2-5pm, St Matthew's Piece!

PACT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Contact PACT on 570157, email
PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com or
via our website which can be found
at www.colc.co.uk (search for PACT).

Chair Valerie Neal

Secretary/Webweaver Daniel Gordon

Membership and Planning Glenys Maylon and
Leslie Tubb

ImPACT Berenice Howard-Smith

Streets for People John Collins

Youth and Community Shirley Whitehouse

Mosaics Anna Lindsay

Fundraising Dorothy Runnicles

Noticeboards Leslie Tubb

Friends of Mill Road Cemetery 560058

City Council Noise Disturbance 457457

(7pm-7am weekdays, 9pm-9am
weekends and bank hols)

St Matthew's Cat Collective 311828

St Matthew's Residents Ass. 560114

PACT Millennium Project

By the time you read this, work will already have begun on a new community resource, offering a rare boost to the environmental quality of a neglected corner of Petersfield. Following careful consultation by the City Council with local residents, the drab concrete corner where St Matthew's Street meets Norfolk Street is being transformed into a beautiful Millennium garden.

This project started life early last year, with PACT's search for a suitable setting for the Petersfield Millennium Mosaic. It has blossomed thanks to the sustained enthusiasm and hard work of local residents, vital support from local City Councillors and Officers (thanks, Andy!), and funding from an Environmental Improvements grant and with welcome contributions also from local businesses and residents.

Features of the Millennium Garden will be mosaics created by local people, carefully planned landscaping, improved lighting, and a PACT noticeboard for sharing community news.

The first, almost-finished mosaic is being painstakingly created by some of our more senior neighbours, at the Ditchburn Day Centre on Mill Road. This will become the centrepiece of the Millennium Garden.

For the benefit of future local historians... here is photograph of this corner of St. Matthew's Street in its 'Before' state (not a pretty sight, is it?).

Local residents will have the opportunity to help maintain the flower beds (please contact Anna on 566772 if you would like to help with this or email PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com). This garden is planned to be a source of pleasure for local residents as they pass through on their way to visit friends, the shops or to and from school. It will be a real improvement, particularly on some of the recent uses this corner has seen.



Feedback and Membership form

I would like to join PACT (annual sub)

Adult £1 ☐

Under-18 50p ☐

Group £2 ☐

I would like to make a donation of
£

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to
Petersfield Area Community Trust

Please contact me. I am interested in helping with:

- ☐ Planning working party
- ☐ Youth and Community Centre working party
- ☐ Social working party
- ☐ Fundraising working party
- ☐ Joining the Management Committee
- ☐ Mosaics for the Millennium
- ☐ Helping with or advertising in the Newsletter
- ☐ I can help with distribution

If you have any comments on PACT's activities please complete see overleaf.

My details

Name

Address

.....

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Please post your form to PACT,
c/o 102 York Street, Cambridge CB1 2PY.
Or call 570157 or email
PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com

I agree to be bound by the PACT rules and constitution available at
www.colc.co.uk/cambridge/forum/pact
or by contacting PACT (see above).
I understand that my membership is subject to approval.

If you object to PACT holding your details please tick here ☐ (note that PACT doesn't sell or give members' details to other parties)

Signed:

Date:

Office use:

Subscription paid ..

Date Amount.....

Do you have any comments on this issue of ImPACT or the work that we do? Please write below:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Do you have a suggestion for a location of a Community Noticeboard?

.....

Summer Picnic

- ☐ I would like to bring along a table and leaflets to the picnic on 30th June.

Advertising

- ☐ Please send me details of advertising in ImPACT
- ☐ Please send me details about inserting leaflets in ImPACT
- ☐ I would like to link to the PACT website, please send me more information

Leaflets and posters

- ☐ I would like to display leaflets and posters for PACT, please add me to your mailing list*.

*note that PACT does not sell or pass on personal details to third parties. We will only send PACT information for display.

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Or call 570157 or email
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St Matthew's Piece

St Matthew's Piece is the 103-year-old park bounded by Abbey Walk, Sturton Street, York Street and New Street. Funds have become available for improvements to the facilities and layout of this park. The City Council has drawn up some ideas for this. Initially PACT and the immediate neighbours of the park were consulted on these plans. This feedback will fuel the next round of consultation by the City Council's Parks and Recreation Department. They are particularly keen to gain the opinion of a wider number of users of the park and those who live close to it. Be on the lookout for your chance to contribute to this process.



PACT members at a Summer Picnic on St Matthew's Piece

Karen Binks
BSc (Hons), MSc, DO
Registered Osteopath

For further information and appointments:
Telephone 01223 843184
Mobile 07870 105114

Where is it at?

PACT has called for local, affordable community activities for Petersfield residents of all ages – and now the City Council Community Development and Leisure Committee, chaired by Councillor J Rosenstiel, is taking steps to find out what is regularly happening in the area. It is aiming to produce a list of current community venues and events together with relevant contact information.

PACT has started them off with a list of all the venues we can think of – so now they will research the rest by contacting local residents, organisations and businesses. Already they have a map with flags indicating venues but we don't want them to miss any!

This mapping process was sparked off by the recent presentation of a petition by PACT, signed by residents following the closure of the Howard Mallett Centre, which stated that:

"Following the closure of the Howard Mallett Youth Centre, young people in the Petersfield area now have nowhere to meet for recreation, leisure pursuits or socialising."

and calling for the provision of:

"a suitable venue for young people in the Petersfield area as an immediate and urgent priority".

PACT has also supplied the City Council with the results of its Survey of Needs, which includes a lengthy list of activities compiled from residents' requests. The first draft of this directory is planned for 6th July 2001. The next step, after listing what is going on in Petersfield, will be to list what isn't.

The City Council's Community Development team will work with Petersfield residents to look at the gaps in provision and to work out what action should be taken to fill them. The City Council is keen to ensure that they don't miss anyone out at this important stage. PACT hopes that all local residents will have the chance to participate in their consultation.

News flash!

The Junior Youth Club is now up and running again as of 1st May. If you would like to volunteer to help with the youth club, or your child would like to attend, please contact Philip Merwiak via Parkside youth and community team. The club is held on Tuesday nights, from 5 to 7 p.m., at St Matthew's Church Hall, St Matthews Street. Contact Philip on 573716.


Community Noticeboards

Last year PACT was awarded money to assist in the provision of community noticeboards by the Community Challenge Award, run by the Cambridge Evening News. Now we'd like your suggestions on where to place them, or even where not to put them! Perhaps you would like to keep the noticeboard up-to-date. Please send your ideas to us by calling Lesley on 311981 or emailing us at PACTCambridge@bigfoot.com

PACT Public Meetings

AGM: November 7th, 7.30pm. Community Party: 5th December, 7.30pm both at St Matthew's Church Hall.

We welcome volunteers to help organise our public meetings and the picnic - you can gain experience in organising events! If you are interested in joining any PACT working party please call us now on 570157!



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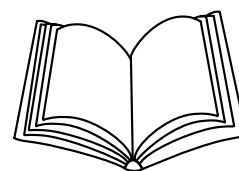
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