

MILTON MATTERS

Issue No. 52

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

June 2014



Hedgehogs in our area – see page 7
PICNIC ON THE GREEN – 7 JUNE PAGE 16
TESCO LATEST – Page 9

NEXT FORUM MEETING

Wednesday 18 June 7.00 pm

Mary Rose School, Gisors Road, off Locksway Road

THE FUTURE OF ST JAMES HOSPITAL SITE

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON SOUTHSEA SEAFRONT?

POLICE UPDATE

MEET NEW MILTON AND BAFFINS COUNCILLORS

COASTAL DEFENCES

Mark Bryan, Lyall Cairns and Scott Mills from the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) which was formed in 2012 to deliver a combined, efficient, comprehensive coastal management service across the coastlines of Havant, Portsmouth, Gosport and Fareham gave a presentation setting out the current situation concerning coastal defences for the city. Dealing with 170 km of coastline around our area, they are undertaking work with Portsmouth City Council to design the next generation of sea defences to reduce the risk of flooding along north Portsea Island.

The areas of Portsmouth most at risk of flooding are those at or below sea-level and ESCP concentrates on the areas where there is sufficient economic benefit – most property or jobs – as not all areas can be defended. In Portsmouth, Anchorage Park is low-lying and most at risk so is the current priority.

Consulting with residents about their preferences for the style of coastal defences to be installed, Lyall invited residents to complete questionnaires. After seeking views, the ESCP will be starting project work in March 2013 to provide the best solution to minimize flood damage and coastal erosion to safeguard Portsmouth Residents. Comments from the floor emphasized the importance of the Eastern Road which flooded badly this winter and was closed at New Year.

SEWER FLOODING

Portsmouth was one of the first cities in the UK to have a dedicated sewer network built during the Victorian age, when sewers were designed to take both rainwater and wastewater from people's homes. Known as combined sewers, during storms there can be up to 25 times more water in them than during dry weather. Being a tidal area, Portsmouth also suffers from seawater entering the outfalls.

Andrew Piggott from 4D, working in partnership with Southern Water, informed residents of the work currently being undertaken in the city to remove surface rainwater and divert it into the sea, rather than it being channeled into the sewer system. Fortunately some areas in the north of Portsea Island have separate rainwater drainage systems which can divert rain into the new pipework. He spoke about recent instances where current systems have failed to effectively remove surface water and stated that upgrades to the old Victorian sewer system and the provision of two new underground pumping stations should prevent future instances of such flooding. Key to the new system, which will relieve pressure on Eastney Pumping Station, are improvements to tanks at Copnor and an open 'stream' flowing into Great Salterns Lake where the water is then pumped out to sea.



FORUM MINUTES 5 Mar.cont

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

James Sandy reminded residents that about £19,500 is available in Milton from funds accruing from the levy on developers undertaking projects within the area. He asked residents to nominate worthy schemes to make good use of the money available for Milton and highlighted that two ideas have been submitted, including the provision of upgraded skate park facilities at Milton Park and the creation of a mini outdoor gymnasium at Bransbury Park. Residents supported these suggestions and there were no further nominations from the floor.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Chair presented a short report on the activities of the Forum over the past year. The election of officers to serve for the next year on the forum committee was supervised by James Sandy and it was agreed by a show of hands that current committee members should continue to serve for the forthcoming year and that Janice Burkinshaw shall continue as Chair.

It was noted that the current Honorary Treasurer will be standing down from his role as Treasurer and that a replacement is required. In addition, one current serving committee member (Dorothy Anderson) is stepping down as she is moving away from the area, and a new committee member was agreed (Justyn Loveridge from Vets4Pets).

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SINCE LAST PUBLIC FORUM MEETING

Since the last public forum meeting, the committee has considered:

The location of local notice boards;

The need for changes to the temporary roundabout at the Locksway Road/Milton Road junction;

Parking issues at the end of Locksway Road adjacent to Broom Square.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Vernon Jackson updated the meeting on the Health Authority's plans to sell St James Hospital as they are being offered a large interest free loan if they can resolve the disposal of the estate, including the Harbour School site, within 18 months. He suggested the Forum invite a speaker on this topic to the next forum as patient services and staff would be moved to St Mary's and the future of the listed Hospital building would be an issue.

Residents of the Forum area are invited to bring issues to the Open Forum, and the problems of parking on Council Housing areas was raised once again. Private owners of former council housing are charged higher rents for car parking spaces in the Seaway Crescent area. Cllr. Darren Sanders is continuing to investigate this and will deal directly with the residents involved.

Parking around Furze Lane due to University playing field use has not yet been resolved and needs monitoring by Parking Wardens to prevent parking on grass verges and double yellow lines. Also needing to be further investigated is the number of spaces available to sports people. The high usage times are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday late afternoon/evening.

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St James' Land Swap - a for Better Deal for Patients

A trail-blazing NHS land swap in Portsmouth has paved the way for a better deal for patients – and taxpayers. Ownership of the St Mary's Community Health Campus (SMCHC) and most of the St James' hospital sites in Milton has changed hands in a land transfer. At midnight on March 31, SMCHC, which previously belonged to NHS Property Services, moved to Solent NHS Trust, and most of the St James' Hospital site transferred the other way around. Solent NHS Trust has retained a small part of the St James' site from which it provides in-patient care.



The deal followed months of joint working by the two principal parties with other health community partners, particularly NHS Portsmouth Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which is responsible for planning – and buying – most of the city's health care services.

NHS organisations are working in partnership to divert taxpayers' money from maintaining expensive and outdated buildings and instead investing it into front-line patient care. It is hoped that the move will eventually save the NHS £3.25m a year which can be ploughed back into clinical improvements for patients.

The land swap will enable Solent NHS Trust to make best use of St Mary's, which has had up to 3,000 square metres of unused space. This will transform it into the community health campus for the city of Portsmouth. It will trigger the next stage of a number of transfers of services between the two sites, possibly starting later this year. These may involve moving the outpatient and specialist pain clinics. The Child Development Centre will also move and may be relocated from St James' to Battenburg Avenue Clinic, North End, to bring paediatric and therapy staff and services together, creating a focus for children's services.

There is no question of either site closing – some £20m has been invested in refurbishing the health campus at St Mary's and new mental health facilities have been provided at the Orchards and The Limes at St James.' The NHS partners, NHS Property Services, the Solent NHS Trust who now provide mental health care in the area and Clinical Commissioning Group all support the plan.

All the NHS partners are committed to engaging thoroughly throughout the process with patients and public, including the Milton Neighbourhood Forum. They will make a presentation at the forum's next meeting and try to answer your questions. Article submitted by *Mark Wingham, NHS*



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HEDGEHOG RETREAT IN MILTON

A couple of years ago I saw a television programme about British wildlife and was surprised to learn of the demise of the hedgehog. I did some research and was determined to help where I could and so e-mailed the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) and asked about becoming a hedgehog carer. They put me in touch with a lovely lady on the Isle of Wight, who I went to visit, and she inspired me so much that I came home determined even more to do something positive. I became a registered carer and the BHPS sent me a lot of information about hedgehog care and problems I might encounter.

I set about getting the equipment needed to take in hoglets (baby hedgehogs), juveniles and injured hogs and waited for my first one to arrive. I let all the local vets and animal charities know I was willing and able to take in hedgehogs.....it was a few months later, but I was suddenly receiving hoglets from a couple of days old up to badly injured adults.

It is a real labour of love. I work full time and the hoglets needed feeding every 2 hours day and night, Sadly, a lot that are that small don't survive. Some of the adults have horrible injuries, or are often struck with blowflies or ringworm and lungworm, quite sad at times. It is important to have a vet that will help you when you need it. (Thanks to Vets for Pets for being my saviours). I have to get up extra early to clean and feed them all, sometimes twice before leaving the house, and then straight back to it the minute I come home again.

I have two hogitats in my garden and two feeding stations. I put out meal worm and hedgehog biscuits everyday to encourage them to return. Initially when I receive them I feed them poultry cat food to help build them up until they are strong enough for release. The hedgehogs come from many different places , locally in Fratton, Waterlooville, Havant, Hayling Island. I try to encourage people to take them back once they are ready to be released , but most people are not interested. To this end I have had a good network of friends who have taken to the task of hedgehog care with great enthusiasm – much needed last summer when I had 22 in a short space of time !!!



HEDGEHOG RETREAT IN MILTON cont..

Obviously all this care cost money, so I fund-raise at church sales and community centres. This year I will be attending Picnic on the Green doing glitter tattoos to raise funds, and providing lots of information supplied by the BHPS and offering advice to anyone interested in taking part in keeping these lovely little creatures from becoming extinct.

I have to stress that these hedgehogs are NOT pets, they are released back into the wild or large open gardens where they can come and go freely at any time. They may come and stay, or they may just come for food or they may just leave. It gives me immense pleasure to see them thrive and to release them fit and healthy back into the wild. They all have great individual personalities and are a delight to care for.

Love from Bert's Hedgehog Retreat, Milton

Further information from Hedgehog Rescue - www.uhr.org.uk – 0131 225 6039

SUPPORT FOR MILTON BATS

We became aware of the presence of bats at St James when Light Villa was demolished and the Hospital Authorities engaged an expert to check whether any roosts would be disturbed. They recommended that new boxes be put up in St James as a precaution and the licensed bat experts will inspect those to check to see if they are being used.

Keen to do more for the bats, local councillor who has always been a strong advocate of local the environment, made a donation to the Forum within the St James Field (which residents will was saved from development by local people Caroline) and is now public open space owned Council. The Forum also contributed and the bat boxes to be put up on May Bank contractor gave his time without charge.



Caroline Scott wildlife and to erect boxes remember led by by the arranged for Holiday. The

Caroline also established a tree trail for the St James Field. She is retiring as a councillor at the election on 22 May and is due our sincere thanks for all the work she has put into the job over the last 12 years.

DECISION AWAITED ON TESCO STORE



Local shopowner Sue Manning presented the two petitions objecting to the new Tesco store at Fratton Park to the City Planners. 1627 people signed to object to the traffic which this development would create and a further 1784 people objected to the detrimental effect they believed the store would have on local shops.

The plans can be still viewed at the Civic Offices or by going on-line to Portsmouth.gov.uk and moving through to the Planning Department pages. The application number is **14/00128/Ful**

The developers have included proposals for re-routing Milton Lane to

the north, a new cycle way through the development site and a new roundabout to give access to the 579 car park spaces in the new store and the new petrol station. The new roundabout will be 33m wide and located on Fratton Way, just after Sunnyside Surgery and the pedestrian crossing; 160m north of the existing Pompey Centre access roundabout. **This means there will be 4 roundabouts in Fratton Way.** The planning application states that the new roundabout has been assessed as suitable for a 16.5m heavy goods vehicle passing along the roundabout and for a petrol tanker to turn into the petrol station. They consider this is the largest size vehicle which will use the junction. Access for Tesco service vehicles and Tesco Home deliveries will be via Anson Way with the service yard accessed via a ramp to store level. It was not so long ago that Rodney Road was opened up to give access to the city centre along Fratton Way to relieve pressure on Milton Road. It must be taken into account that this development will provide a new car park for the football club and this is planned to accommodate 56 cycle spaces, 50 disabled cars, visiting vip's, visiting players, media and coach parking so it will not relieve existing pressure on residential roads on match days. 8 cycle racks outside the ground!

The City Planners have not yet set a firm date for the committee meeting which will decide the planning application. It may not be until 11 June so there is still time to make a comment to planningreps@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

HISTORY OF ST JAMES' HOSPITAL

The new asylum at Portsmouth was opened on 1 October 1879 as reported in the Hampshire & Sussex Chronicle. However, the grounds of the 75 acre site between Eastney Lake and Velder Creek were in the same rough state as when purchased. This was the result of deliberate policy to have much of the grounds and gardens laid out and tended by the patients themselves.

The patients worked on the farm or at the heavy work of making paving stones. Some six miles of paved paths were laid by the patients. The care of the grounds by patients was therefore, part of their treatment and rehabilitation. The landscaping of the grounds was eventually achieved and remains, in most aspects, the same today. The mature trees planted almost 120 years ago are today protected by some 1650 TPOs .



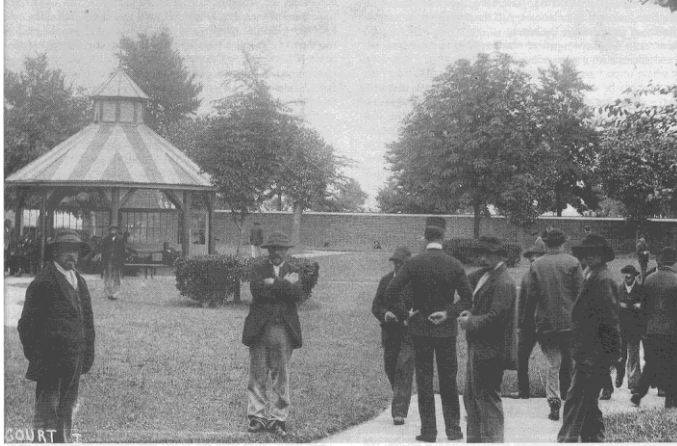
It was intended that the Institution should be as self-supporting as possible and the selection of a site with land for cultivation together with the whole design of the hospital was aimed at rehabilitation. The buildings on the site included a dairy, laundry, brewery, shoemakers and tailors. The patients were involved in a daily routine in the farm. Gardens and

paths were formed and paved whilst the rest was sown with grass. The front portion to the asylum was planted with fruit trees and evergreens and a proper approach made to the house. It was reported in 1883 that the newly constructed well on the site was 374 feet deep and was used to water crops on the farm.

In 1897 the Diamond Jubilee of her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria was celebrated by staff and patients with a special tea and sports on the lawns. The grounds were very important to the

HISTORY OF ST JAMES' HOSPITAL

recreation and diversion of the patients. It was reported in 1894 that the cricket team played 25 matches and won 17 of them. At this time a reed band was formed to play out of doors.



Exercise Yard at the turn of the century.

As new villas were built on the expanding site, it was reported that the charming gardens surrounding them were tended by the women patients who were encouraged to take up gardening. During the 2nd World War one of only two 'doodle bugs' to fall on Portsmouth, destroyed the hospital wall which had previously incarcerated the patients. From the 1940's therefore the general public began to share land informally for their own recreational use. The 60 acre farm on the site continued to provide pork, vegetables and fruit both for St. James' and other hospitals in the area right up until the farm's closure in 1965. It was one of the last farms to survive on Portsea Island.



When it was first built, the Asylum was one of the largest and best equipped mental institutions of its time in the country.

(This description and photos are taken from the report of the St James Memorial Park Trust 1998. The Trust is a registered charity which worked to save the St James Field from development and retain it as a public space for Milton residents).

OUT AND ABOUT IN BAFFINS & MILTON

Peter Roberts the Countryside Warden has contacted the Forum because a number of people have expressed concerns about the future of the Portsmouth College fields and the protection they give to the Brent Geese. He has checked the Section 106 agreement which was put in place as part of the Portsmouth College development (reference 08/01238/OUT). It is clear that the refuge and pool and mowing regime need to be in place in perpetuity. Monitoring of goose numbers was for five years from development commencement and ends this year so he will be writing to the College to request the monitoring data.

Over 50's lunch club at the Stacey Community Centre is being held every Thursday from 11.30 – 1.30 pm. Offering a home cooked lunch with dessert and entertainment all for £3.95. Phone to book a place and find out more about the club which can even arrange for a lift if needed. 02392 617 890

Eastney Community Centre

in Bransbury Park, has a new range of groups on offer

FREE legal drop-in on the first Wednesday of each month in the Meeting Room from 12-2pm. No appointment necessary

Musical Tots – Sing dance and play for the under 5's Mondays 11-12 pm

Taekwondo on Thursdays 6-7 pm in the Large Hall

Mixed Martial Arts on Thursdays 7-8pm in the Large Hall

Boxercise on Thursdays 7-8 pm in the Studio

Yogaflow on Sundays 10-11.30 am in the Studio

You can also buy tickets for gigs at the **Cellars at Eastney** during office hours with discounts for ECA Members, cash sales only with 50p admin fee

The facilities include a large sports hall, small hall, full size skittle alley for hire. mirrored dance studio and one-to-one room as well as a recently refurbished and well-equipped kitchen with a 5 Rating food hygiene.

The ECA is open Monday to Friday 10am-3pm and is a Community Toilet site

The Community Centre Café is open 10am to 5pm Monday – Friday

Full details of all their activities on www.eastneycommunitycentre.com

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Milton Village Community Association

Milton Village Hall, 182 Milton Road, Southsea, Hants, PO4 8PR

Tel. 023 9287 3788 Email: allisonmvca@hotmail.com

Website: www.miltonvillagehall.co.uk

Office Hours: 9.30am – 12.30pm Monday to Friday

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Current Activities at Milton Village Hall

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Curling		50+ Keep Fit	Zumba	Tai Chi		Light
Learn to Sign				Beginners LineDance		House Church
Kumon		Kumon School Support				
Zumba	Yoga	Lighthouse Church	Pilates	Creation Station		
Tapdance		Keep Fit	Line dance	Yoga		
SalsaClub						

Events at Milton Village Hall

All About Antiques – Tue 3 June 7pm-9pm

£1 including refreshments. Talk by local expert. Bring along treasures! Booking advised.



your own

Forthcoming Trips



Last few seats available on the following -

Winchester & Planetarium – Tue 24 June

Spinnaker Tower – After Dark Dinner & Talk – Mon 30 June

Llama Trekking – Thu 7 August

Cobbles of Coronation Street Mini Weekend – Sun 3 to Mon 4 Aug

Brooklands Motor & Aviation Museum – Thu 28 Aug

Luxury London Weekend (featuring the Tall Ships) – Sat 6 -Sun 7 Sep

Christmas Lunch at Leeds Castle – Sun 7 Dec

All enquiries: please contact the office or see our website



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THIS YEAR'S 'PICNIC ON THE GREEN'



Saturday 7 June 2014

2PM TO 5PM

**ST.JAMES FIELD, LOCKSWAY ROAD,
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Opening by BRIAN KIDD
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EXPLORE YOUR SEASHORE



We have been keeping you up to date with the improvements at Milton Locks Nature Reserve. Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust look after the site and Jess Daish-Miller has been organizing lots of activities for youngsters to encourage their interest in the wildlife on their doorstep. An art session was held in April when lots of families came along to join in - all walking to the site!

A new Nordic Adventure Tipi tent will be used to provide shelter in bad weather and seats up to 35 children. The next event exploring the grassland and the sea shore to investigate what is living there will be at half-term on **Thursday 29 May from 1.30 pm - 3pm**. The reserve is at the end of Locksway Road, just behind the Thatched House pub. To book a place call Jess on **01489 570240**. Bring outdoor clothes and wellies. Suggested donation £3 per child. Families and children of all ages welcome.

All these events are advertised on our Community Noticeboards in Milton Park (near White House Terrace), Bransbury Park, Eastshore Avenue and Moorings Way (Shearwater House). We have had tremendous interest in the Noticeboards from Baffins Pond Association, local musicians, Respect Programme, Eastney and Milton Community Associations, Friends of Langstone Harbour and the Wildlife Trust. We are grateful to Radian Housing for their grant of £1200 for the boards and to local Baffins Councillors for their contribution to complete our £1500 project. They were installed so that you would know what was happening in our area and have the opportunity to become more involved. Do keep an eye on the boards and let us have your feedback on how useful they are to you via our e-mail on page 20.

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FORUM ISSUES

The last Forum focused on the threats we have to face from waste water, rainwater and seawater. We were very aware of our island location! We heard how priority will be given to protecting Anchorage Park but as the North Portsea Island flood protection scheme described at the Open Forum covers the shoreline from Mountbatten Centre and Milton Common it does include our foreshore. As funds are obtained by the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership, further works will be carried out so we will have to wait and see what plans emerge for the shoreline path to be better protected from erosion.

At our Committee meetings, concerns have been raised about the condition of areas on the Southsea Seafront and we have therefore included this on the agenda for the next Forum so that we can hear from Portsmouth Council what their immediate plans are for the future of the seafront.

Come to hear Lara Dent from our local Police service and ask her questions on matters of neighbourhood policing.

FREE CHLD CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECKS 10am – 3.30 pm

Portsmouth Council is organising these at Asda Fratton on Thurs. 5 June, Sainsbury Farlington on Thurs. 3 July, and at Baby 2000 in Copnor Road on Thurs. 7 August, 4 September and 2 October. Phone 02392 688582
Those attending will receive a 10% discount voucher off another car seat from Baby 2000. Car seats are needed for all children until they are 135cm tall or 12 years, whichever is the sooner.

Would you like to become a friend of Milton Park?

A new group has just been formed to help look after certain areas of the park. Paul Miles on 02392 841102 paul.miles@portsmouthcc.gov.uk can tell you when they will next meet. Come and help your environment and make new friends.

Radian Group Grants: Are you aged between 11 and 18 and live in a Radian home?

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Dave Wilcox – Vice Chair
John Couch – Treasurer

David Jordan
Lyn Mills
Peter Mills
Demitris Papanicolaou

Margaret Nicholas (Secretary)
Jenny Bellinger
Paul Docking
George Dominy
Dominic Goodyear
Justyn Loveridge

Larry Nicholas (co-opted)

Ward Councillors – Milton

Cllr Will Purvis
53 Boulton Road
Southsea, PO5 1NS
(07590 282135)
wapurvis@me.com

New councillor May '14

Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson
39 Lindley Ave., Southsea
(02392 834551)
geraldvj@gmail.com

Ward Councillors - Baffins

Cllr. Darren Sanders
59 St Mary's House
St Marys Rd, Portsmouth
(02392 838963)
darrensanders59@gmail.com

Cllr. Lynne Stagg
71 Highgate Road, Copnor
(02392 780245)
Lynne.stagg29@gmail.com

New councillor May '14

*Please contact any Forum Representative or Ward Councillor for more information or assistance
If you would like to be a Neighbourhood Forum Representative please write in to the
Neighbourhood Forums Freepost address:-*

FREEPOST (SCE4514) PORTSMOUTH PO1 2YZ

or e-mail MiltonNForum@aol.com



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