

MILTON MATTERS

Issue No 66

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

March 2019



LOVE OUR LOCAL SHOPS see page 9

Wednesday 20 March 7.00 pm
Mary Rose School, Gisors Road, off Locksway Road
NEXT FORUM AGENDA
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING FORUM UPDATE – Rod Bailey
CITY PLAN FINAL CONSULTATION – Cllr. B Dowling & team
PROPOSALS FOR NEW ELECTRICITY INSTALLATION
UPDATE ON CITY'S ANTI-AIR POLLUTION CAMPAIGN

OPEN FORUM MINUTES 17 Oct.18

Southern Water. Sam Underwood and Paul Kent (Wastewater Strategy Manager) came to speak about our concerns regarding wastewater being pumped into Langstone Harbour. According to the speakers, some of the records on discharges on the Langstone Harbour Board website are incorrect and the actual number is lower. There was a concern raised from a member of the public about the noise/smell of the pumping station in Eastney and its efficiency, they responded saying that the pumping station is working as needed for the whole of Portsmouth. They pointed out that Eastney Pumping Station is not a holding tank for storm water, but an ancillary pumping station.

The system is that water flows to Eastney and then to Budds Farm and out to sea through the long-outfall pipe. If there is severe rainfall, tanks are not able to hold it all, some goes to Budds Farm but the rest into the Harbour. However, all the discharges are monitored and authorised by the Environment Agency. In summary, the system is designed to treat sewage in normal weather with back-up storm tanks. However with climate change and population growth in our area, water must go out to sea untreated at times or else flow back up into homes through toilets. Southern Water is not a statutory consultee on planning matters so cannot object to developments.

Southern Water have reduced the amount of rainwater entering combined sewage and rainwater system by the improvements in Portsmouth north.

The company is encouraging ways of holding back water from the system by self-draining water butts, trees and more planting to hold water in the soil; encouraging showers v baths as there is 1% p.a. growth in new customers. It also has to reduce its abstraction from the Rivers Test and Itchen. Unlike Portsmouth Water Co. Southern Water has compulsory water metering for homes and businesses as its area is under 'water stress'.

Questions from the floor included

Is there an effect on nature of these discharges? Are shellfish safe? Does the surface water entering the Harbour get tested? The company stated that it works with English Nature and although they do not measure the quality of the water, screens are in place to catch solid. Other matter will settle out to the base of the storm tanks. The audience vowed not to swim after heavy rain! Sludge can be burned as bio-degradeable power or used for fertiliser.

They are also in the process of piloting out a new system called **Beachbuoy on the Southern Water website, updated 9am – 5pm daily** to warn people when discharges take place hoping it will be more accurate than current notifications.

The company are proud of being one of the first to introduce policies to handle plastics use. Staff re-use cups and water bottles. As it is impossible to screen-out the micro plastics which are entering the seas and subsequently fish, they are working with Portsmouth University to look at possibilities for the future.

FORUM MINUTES 17 Oct '18 cont

St James Hospital Land Ben Dowling explained a Council bid for phase 2 of St James hospital has been submitted and a decision may be made by NHS after Christmas. If successful there may be some housebuilding but also community facilities, working with residents and forums to get the best deal for everyone.

Future of University QEQM Site

Fiona Bell from Portsmouth University had attended the previous meeting and took several comments and questions away to investigate. Furze Lane is now almost empty although it is still used for the sports facilities and the pitch across the road. They are looking at 24 hour security to protect the buildings but also to combat anti-social behaviour on the site. There are no plans to move the sports pitches in the near future due to lack of space in the City. She confirmed that they intend to keep Barnard Tower and the 1990's new built removing the 1960's buildings.

University buses have been re-routed. Concerns raised include:

* Speed of university buses in the city

* Will University let residents park in the car park to sort out overflow on residential streets. Fiona responded it is £2 for 24 hours parking.

* An idea of timescale as to the sale of the land and what is to go on there. Fiona will take these questions away again and is happy to feedback in further meetings.

Bus Services in Milton Cllr Lynne Stagg spoke about the loss of bus services. Lynne has been in contact with First and has been trying to

restore routes **No.1 & 13/14**. First Bus want a subsidy of over £100k to carry on these and other affected unprofitable routes in the City. A resident told Lynne of their concerns as No.13/14 is the only bus that serves Moorings Way mainly used by the elderly already suffering a reduced timetable. Lynne hopes to be able to return to the forum with good news but it is a 'use it or lose it' problem. She pointed out that cycling is an option and bikes are being repaired for issue free of charge from the **Stacey Centre**.

Improved access to GP Services

Dr Collie and Dr Moore stated they understood the concerns of residents unable to obtain a doctor's appointment on the day, that it was extremely difficult to get through on the phone due to many doctor's surgeries merging across the city. Many practices are now offering an online service where you can book an appointment for yourself, seek repeat prescriptions, blood tests, or just view your medical history. You can do this by visiting your GP Practice with proof of ID to set up an account.

Also, **SystemOne** has been introduced through which GP services use the same system for more efficient care for patients so that any GP service can access your medical records but also, Solent NHS Trust from 2019. It means that if you require medical care using the out of hours systems (the walk-in at the Guildhall, St Mary's or Lake Road Surgery), they will now be able to access your medical records.

Appointments are now on offer at the Lake Road Surgery. Mon-Sat. 8am-8pm or same day up to 10pm. If you require this, phone your doctor as usual and you will be referred to the new service out of hours. Visit [nhs.uk/GPaccess](https://www.nhs.uk/GPaccess) for

more information.

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HOW MILTON CAN HELP FIGHT THE UNFLUSHABLES!

Did you know, during the last year, Hampshire residents experienced 5,841 blockages? And the most shocking thing is nearly two-thirds of these are preventable, caused by people flushing unflushable items like wipes, tampons, nappies and condoms down their toilets, or washing fat, oil and grease down their kitchen sinks. Southern Water removed 1,661 tonnes of unflushable items from wastewater sites in Hampshire alone last year; that's the equivalent weight of more than 131 double-decker buses.



Putting things like wipes, nappies, tampons and cotton buds down toilets, or pouring leftover cooking oil, fat and grease down sinks causes a build-up in sewers and can create blockages - which usually results in sewage backing up and coming out of your toilet or waste pipes, into your home.



And we also know the devastating effect carelessly discarded plastic can have on wildlife. What's less known is that things like wipes, nappies and cotton buds are often partly made of plastic that doesn't deteriorate like toilet tissue does. When they eventually do break down, the small remaining pieces of plastic add to the global micro-plastics problem, as marine life consume them.

So Southern Water and the Consumer Council for Water, the independent consumer watchdog, have joined forces to fight 'The Unflushables' through an award-winning campaign. It's designed to help customers understand the impact of internal sewage flooding both on homes and the environment, as well as some easy steps people can take to stop it.

Because the good news is it really isn't a difficult thing to help prevent: simply put all your unflushable items in the bin instead of down the toilet.



You can also cool leftover cooking fat, oil and grease and then either scrape it into a container, such as a used yoghurt pot, or pour it into an empty bottle and throw it in the bin. Thank you Milton, for caring 5

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Tel. 023 9287 3788 Email: miltonvillagehall@gmail.com

Office: 9.30am-12.30pm Mon-Fri Website: www.miltonvillagehall.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP 2019

If you receive Milton Matters you can become a member of our Association!

Our new programme of trips/activities is due out in March so make sure you've joined (or renewed) by the first week of March to take advantage of membership benefits!

Membership costs just £7pp per year (part year in the first year) and entitles you to discounts on private hall hire, priority booking & cheaper prices for trips/events and special offers/discounts in Pure Ground Coffee Shop! Don't delay, contact us today!



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DAY TRIPS & HOLIDAYS! COMING IN MARCH!

Just some of the new trips/activities coming in the Summer programme.

Theatre Trips inc. We Will Rock You, Nativity The Musical & Mary Poppins

Day Trips inc. Simply London * Camden Canal Cruise * Jazz River Cruise

Short Breaks inc. Music Cities of the North * Call The Midwife Tour

CURRENT REGULAR ACTIVITIES at Milton Village Hall *(Red = New)*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
Music Mad	Music Mad	Music Mad	Weight Watchers	Yoga	A5 Tots Soccer	Keep Fit
Little StepsGym		Bingo n Brunch (m)	Little Steps Gym	Cribbage Club	Little StepsGym	AA
Tai Chi	Beetle Drive (m)	50+ Keep Fit	Tots Soccer	DesignMake Create	Improv Comedy	
Curling	Yoga	Little Steps Gym	Quiz Time (m)	Beginners Line Dance		Light House
Zumba		Breve Easy Community Choir	Pilates	Yoga		Church
TapDance		Aerobics	Line Dance	AP Performers		
Walking Netball				Ballet		



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THANK YOU! Our Local Services in Milton

As we absorb the effects of losing major stores in other parts of the city – Marks & Spencer – Knight and Lee – Debenhams under review – and the shock of UNeedUs family store closure, I do reflect on how fortunate we are to retain a thriving local shopping area in Milton Market. Not only do our traders go out of their way to provide essential services close to where we live but the individual shopkeepers offer personal service at a very high standard.

How many garden centres would offer the free home delivery service for compost, heavy plants and Christmas trees that Andrew and Sue at Fruit & Flower stores give to customers? How many supermarket photo-processors would offer the time and advice that Phix Pix will give you whether you are having an old damaged photo repaired or putting together an order of service for the funeral of a loved one, including photographs and memorial discs? How many hairdressers will adopt an annual charity and organise a glamorous charity ball, quiz, hold a charity day and raise £5705 for Alzheimers' research as Hilites Hair Studio did last year. And how many butchers will cheerfully donate vouchers for prizes as Bransbury Butchers does?

In return local people turn to Milton Market for reassuring continuity of service. It was with great regret that we all learned of the death of Mr Gilbert whose sweet shop is known throughout the city as a genuine 'old fashioned' sweetie shop like those I used to visit 70 years ago. How wonderful that the family are making every effort to keep the shop alive. It was devastating when Frances' cake shop closed due to retirement but someone else already working in Milton Market could not see this facility fade away and Tina stepped in to give us a bright, cheery, well-stocked shop for bread, cakes, drinks and takeaway lunches. Although we sadly lost Cards R Us, where you could find anything you needed for a celebration, it has been great to see Furious Weasel step in to offer tattooing in a pleasant, clean shop which is another asset to Eastney Road.

When Moorehouse ceased to trade, the gap in the street was a challenge to fill, but what a huge investment the Southsea Brewing Co. has made in refitting the shop as The Brewers Tap to sell craft beers which they brew at Southsea Castle and to offer a new feature in Milton Market, they have developed an upstairs micro-pub where customers will be able to enjoy the beers, enjoy local company and have just a short walk home with no driving!!

But it does not stop there. When the Neighbourhood Forum suggested some community events at Milton Market, the traders were quickly on board to give local residents the Halloween Fun Day on the nearest Saturday to Halloween.

THANK YOU! Our Local Services in Milton

For the past 4 years we have enjoyed pumpkin carving at the back of the fruit shop, a disco on the street arranged by Hilites Hair Studio with a face painter, puppet man, choirs and dancers. The Rainbow charity shop staff decorate the windows in Halloween style and dress to kill with surprises in the changing room! Chris and Arthur at PhixPix@at Vintage Pig design a great poster and publishes it free due to generous advertisers. Photos with Bella, Arthur's dog in Halloween costume are offered to visitors outside their quirky window display. Biscuit decorating at Winnies Bakery, special menus at Café Beano, all require time from the shops to plan their efforts to buy in what is needed – hoping of course – for good weather on the day. Pound Wise clear their entrance for Izzy Wizzy Witch balloon modeller and the staff take on horrific faces to complete the picture.

The glue that holds the attention of the crowds and keeps them focussed on what our row of shops can offer is of course , the Quiz which Sue prepares. The prize of a hamper of goodies and vouchers donated by all the aforementioned shops plus Grande Wines, Co-op, Deep Blue Fish & Chips, Daisy O'Neil, Green Rose Beauty, Scissors, Rowlands, is a great attraction and well worth the effort. Even if you don't win it, you have visited all your local shops in a unique part of Portsmouth where local people are providing a service that local people want and need. Long may you continue to thrive and prosper and support us in Milton. *Cont..*



The Pumpkin Man

Bob's Lively Disco



It is not only the shops which support such events - we also



depend upon Milton Village Hall, Eastney Community Centre and the Beddow Library where staff enter into the Halloween Spirit and make entertain everyone of all ages welcome with magic shows, fancy dress competitions and music. This year we even had a 'unicorn' offering rides in Bransbury Park. Quite a hit with the Deputy Lord Mayor!



At Christmas we enjoyed another event, the Milton Christmas lights 'Switch On' with Santa Claus in the Library Santa's Grotto and pantomime stars from Groundlings Theatre there to help us appreciate the lights in our own shops

Janice Burkinshaw, Chair





Karen and Karen and the staff team at Wind in the Willows would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. We are moving from our current premises at West Lodge in St James Hospital to Hester Road (the adoption centre site)

and will be opening soon (hopefully March 2019).

We provide nursery and child care services for children aged 3months - rising 5 years and we are open from 7.15am - 6pm Monday - Friday 51 weeks per year. As the Hester Road site already has car parking facilities for staff and parents we do not envisage any concerns regarding additional traffic or parking. As well as this as our parents drop off and collect at various times we do not feel that this will be any cause for concern for local residents.

We already enjoy working within the local community. In particular, we have a strong partnership with Shearwater Care Home, whom we visit weekly. We sing and make crafts with our 'nannies and grandads' and enjoy snacks of juice and biscuits.

You may have already seen us at 'Picnic on the Green' a community event we celebrate each year. However, please do not hesitate to call us on 02392 822956 or pop in and see us should you have any questions.

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WHEN ST JAMES HOSPITAL BECAME UNITED STATES ARMY BASE HOSPITAL NO.33

In June, July and August 1918 troop ships transported 870,988 American soldiers to Europe to fight in WW1. A large portion of the troops were routed through England but even before leaving America they were fighting a war against disease. Thousands arrived in England already stricken with influenza.

United States Army Base Hospital No. 33 established at Portsmouth Borough Asylum was one of many hospitals where American casualties of WW1 were treated. The main building and several detached villas were surrounded by 8 acres of farmland. War wounded requiring surgery were returned from France to Southampton on hospital ships then sent on to the base hospitals via motor ambulance and hospital trains. Casualties from the front might reach Locksway Road within 36 hours from the time they were wounded.

It is difficult to appreciate the extent to which influenza and other diseases depleted the arriving troops. In September the SS Olympic (sister ship of the Titanic) arrived with 6,000 troops on board, a great number suffering illness. Sixty-six tents were secured from the British to set up in the courtyard of Base Hospital No.33. Convalescent patients immediately transferred to the tents and the wards cleared for the reception of the influenza patients. Within one week, 797 cases were transferred – 144 of whom were nurses and female members of the Signal Corps. Influenza and meningitis were rife.

Sadly many died but one soldier was British. Private Bertram Kinsell of 343rd Infantry Regiment, 26th Division US Army died of pneumonia 29 September 1918. This Portsmouth man from 'Highbury' Ophir Road had travelled to the United States in 1913 sailing from Southampton. He worked at a factory Decateur, in Rock Island, Illinois. He was, like his father, a cabinet maker and had a brother William. Bertram volunteered for the US Army on 5 June 1917. He was tall with black hair, grey eyes and of medium build. His Division went to France in September 1918 but never got into the line. It is likely that the short time he was in France he never saw action before he was sent back to the UK for hospitalisation. He is buried in Kingston Cemetery in a War Grave which unusually also holds his father (died Feb 1919) and mother (January 1924).

The photograph shows the Americans guarding the gates to prevent the epidemic spreading but the disease did affect the whole population and is said to have killed more people than died in WW1. The main entrance to what is now St James Hospital, was opposite Stowe Road. There were originally two lodges but only West Lodge remains today. The trees around it were those planted by the first patients in 1879.



Hospital Gates during the American occupation, 1918.

Dr Caroline Scott and Thelma Turner Hill have long felt that the story of the US soldiers and their connection with St James should be recorded with a plaque on the gate. They raised funds for the plaque and gained the support of Major Mangaracina of the US Army and Navy who visited Portsmouth, to meet the Lord Mayor, Lady Mayoress,

councillors and supporters and unveiled the plaque on 22 June this year. It says

IN MEMORY OF THE BRAVE YOUNG AERICAN SOLDIERS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES HERE AT ST JAMES FIGHTING FOR EUROPE'S FREEDOM IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-18 PORTSMOUTH HONOURS AND REMEMBERS YOU



The Old House at Home hosted the guests following the event and their support was much appreciated. Phone Caroline on 02392 291118 for more info.



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Healthwatch Portsmouth to investigate knowledge and use of extended hours health services

At the last Open Forum we heard about the new system for doctor appointments. Feedback is now being sought so please help out! Over the next few weeks researchers from Healthwatch Portsmouth will be seeking to gain a picture of whether people know about new extended hours Doctors services.

If you have ever struggled to get a Doctor's appointment at a convenient time you might be interested in the new services which offer appointments for urgent/same day consultations up to 10pm every night at the Lake Road hub surgery in Buckland. These appointments are available by booking for a GP appointment through your usual Doctors surgery or by contacting the NHS directly on 111.

Healthwatch will be asking patients if they know about the new services, whether extended hours appointments are routinely offered by staff dealing with appointment bookings and any experiences of the new services. Researchers will also be trying to find out how important it is for you to see your usual GP or whether you don't mind a different Doctor as long as you get the treatment.

Researchers will be carrying out a brief 10 question survey in GP surgeries so look out for a copy in your surgery to take away. You can fill in the form anonymously and return it in the FREEPOST addressed envelopes that will also be available in the surgery. Further information and links to the survey for your surgery will be available soon on the organisation's website www.healthwatchportsmouth.co.uk.



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TUESDAY	10.00AM – 2.00PM	4.30PM – 8.30PM
WEDNESDAY	10.00AM – 2.00PM	4.30PM – 8.30PM
THURSDAY	10.00AM – 2.00PM	4.30PM – 9.00PM
FRIDAY	10.00AM – 2.00PM	4.30PM – 9.00PM
SATURDAY	10.00AM – 2.00PM	4.30PM – 9.00PM

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PROGRESS ON THE MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



We are pleased to announce our Neighbourhood Plan is almost ready for submission to Portsmouth City Council in its final form. Special thanks must go to Paul Docking our hard working Secretary who juggles many roles (in addition to his F/Time day job) including Project Manager, Plan Writer, Consultant Liaison and Joint Treasurer. Consultant Liaison means using our pitifully small grant to hire a Planning Consultant for guidance on Neighbourhood Plan format and legal compliance. He also manages our Government Approved Contractor to help in preparing the prescribed Neighbourhood Planning Regulatory reports. The latest issue

Paul resolved was in creating a bespoke Company for us to meet our financial obligations notwithstanding we'd been meeting them since 2015. Paul, Martin Lock, and I, are now Directors with legal liabilities none of us want just to finish a Community Plan

As I've said before this 2 year Project became far too complex to complete within that period for such a small group of volunteers so it's a relief the end is within reach. Now we must undertake a final public consultation, at our expense, to allow any last-ditch changes to the Plan before going to Examination by an approved Planning Expert in late Summer/Early Autumn 2019 Time will tell whether "Localism" becomes just another example of political rhetoric or a real way to improve Local Communities. For us, the principle aims and objectives of our Plan are what we started with following receipt of community views back in 2015/16.

Both Town and Neighbourhood Planning could contribute far more significantly to improving Local Communities with a shift in National political will. By flipping the current emphasis of Private "Wealth" over Public "Sufficiency" to Public "Wealth" over Private "Sufficiency", neither the NHS or the University could pursue their own narrow short terms goals at our expense. Langstone Campus would rightfully remain for Education and St James' Hospital for Health care/related uses. That's because they represent assets of Public Wealth for the benefit of all of us and not for the benefit of remote and unelected Property Development Companies. Our Community paid for the Hospital and, indirectly, paid for Langstone Campus too. Why should Developers/Property Companies and a Publicly subsidised University gain "Wealth" ahead of us? We invested in these sites:- we should have the right to Plan them for "Social Uses". We refer to that as "Social Capital".

PROGRESS ON THE MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN cont..

Anyway, returning to the reality as it is, we've refined the structure of our Plan to fit Town Planning protocols but we've remained committed to improving Milton as a place to live and work in; for families to grow up in; their children to go to school in and for the elderly to retire in. We want to keep as much of its open and green character as possible; retain and, if possible, improve its Harbour frontage and prevent damage and destruction to our historic buildings. We want to do all this while embracing new development meeting sustainability objectives without compromising the environment, or indeed our health. The latter is especially difficult considering we're suffering high levels of air pollution in Eastern Road, Velder Avenue and Milton Road. The Council acknowledges pollution is rising from increased traffic along these roads.

In this respect, Central Government finally surrendered its resistance to reducing national air pollution levels early in 2018 after losing not just once, but three times, to an Environmental Charity in the High Court. Consequently, the Council has been Ministerially Directed to take action to reduce our excessive pollution levels as soon as possible by a means most likely to achieve it. Portsmouth should have reduced pollution to legally compliant levels by 2010. The Council is expecting to exceed them until 2022. About 100 people annually are dying prematurely because of it.

We've always known the largest single cause of our high pollution levels are emissions from private cars but car-dependency has become a way of life for most of us. Pollution is the consequence. Hopefully though, this might mean we get greater support for our Plan's aims to propose less car-dependent land uses with a lower quantum of development. Regrettably, the latest Council Consultation on the draft Local Plan adopts a base figure of 460 new houses for the Hospital and Campus collectively over the next 15 years. We will all yet again need to make our comments known because otherwise our Neighbourhood Plan risks losing significance. This 460 figure is unsustainable as is the Council's 10,000- 17,000 figure for the City generally. Something must give because Portsmouth is obviously nowhere near big enough to cope with this magnitude of new development.

As we see it, our Policies proposing Education for Langstone Campus with the Sports-Fields continuing as Sports-fields, but for general public-use (in the event the University do manage to find elsewhere), are the only real options compliant with all of the environmental constraints on Langstone Harbour. However, we must acknowledge there could be a benefit in retaining the later 1990's accommodation blocks for use as a "Retirement Village" because that use too is also compliant with Langstone Harbour's conservation constraints. A "Retirement Village" should not greatly intensify demand on our local highway network either.

For St James' Hospital we can only propose a mix of health-care, elderly/dementia care

PROGRESS ON THE MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN cont..

or St James' Hospital we can only propose a mix of health-care, elderly/dementia care and housing because of the same highway and environmental constraints. The Listed Buildings carry significant liabilities and constraints and the landscaped grounds should be preserved. The initiative to submit a bid for the Site by the current Lib-Dem Administration must be applauded and we can only hope they eventually succeed.

I've mentioned in "Milton Matters" before, there can be no "Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development" for large scale housing development either on St James' Hospital or on Langstone Campus. Without evidence the consequential harm to the Habitats on Langstone Harbour locally could be successfully mitigated or offset elsewhere, the Council would be breaching International Law to Plan for it. Their consultation document doesn't offer any credible mitigation measures and we hope the likes of Natural England and the RSPB will pick up on that too.

The Council's Consultation can be viewed on their Website under "Local Plan" within "Planning". CLOSING DATE FOR COMMENTS IS 25 MARCH 2019

Our working draft Plan is posted on <http://miltonplan.org.uk/>

The next Milton Open Forum will be on Wednesday 20th March at Mary Rose School when I am intending to be able to announce our Neighbourhood Plan is ready for a "pre-submission" Consultation. That's when you can view it and make any final comments before it goes to the Council. I will be pleased to discuss it with you at the Forum. It is unreasonable to expect Community volunteers to continually consult their Community about their Plan and then be required to successfully return a majority at a Referendum before their Plan can be adopted if the State, with all its resources, can then go on to ignore the Community!

Rod Bailey

Chairman Milton Neighbourhood Planning Forum

2019 EVENTS



BAFFINS POND ASSOCIATION



- Saturday 19 March – Litter Pick**
- Saturday 20 April – Easter Egg Hunt**
- Saturday 20 July – Community Fun Day**
- Saturday 17 August – Teddy Bears Picnic**
- Saturday 21 September – Litter Pick**
- Saturday 12 October -Conker Bash**

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FORUM ISSUES

Buses – Good News – At the last Forum, we heard from Cllr. Lynne Stagg that the Council was doing its utmost to overcome some of the cuts made to the local bus services. Many of you will realise now that they have been successful, re-directing money within the council to meet First's terms and we now have the Service 13/14 back on Sundays. A new service 12 will link Tipner, North End, to Tesco Fratton.

Doctor Appointments – The new system for appointments at Lake Road was explained. See page 15 to give your comments on its success or otherwise. Bodies are very keen to communicate with our community in Milton through this magazine, so hopefully you are receiving information through which is useful and relevant.

Aquind Electricity Project We have invited Aquind the company planning the new electricity supply cabling through our area. The Council is not the body which gives it planning permission, this comes from the Government, but the Council is aware of the concerns of residents so have a new website you can look at for more information. Interconnectorportsmouth.co.uk In addition, we have invited representatives of the company to our next Forum to give us all an update and hope they will attend. It is not easy to get a firm commitment these days – you must be a very demanding audience!

Demetris Papanicolaou – We were saddened to hear of the passing aged 99, of a foundation member of the Forum and long serving community supporter. Demetris believed that the community would benefit from a local magazine – and made it happen. He also felt that a community café as a meeting place would benefit us all and lived to see Pure Ground established in our Village Hall. We valued his support and send condolences to his family and friends.



Picnic on the Green – Saturday 22 June – There will be D-Day celebrations on the dates we normally hold the Picnic (8 June) so we are looking into moving this to 22 June. Watch for leaflets, posters and next issue

Cleaner Air – Cllr Stagg will update the Forum on the Council's latest campaign.

City Plan – Just to emphasise Rod Bailey's article on Page 19. The draft City Plan is now up for consultation. View it and plans for Milton on [Portsmouth City Council/Local Plan](#). Your views may count. Consultation closes 25 March. We shall be featuring it at the Forum on 20th March, but that does not leave very much time to respond.



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[Neighbourhood Planning Forum website http://miltonplan.org.uk](http://miltonplan.org.uk)

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