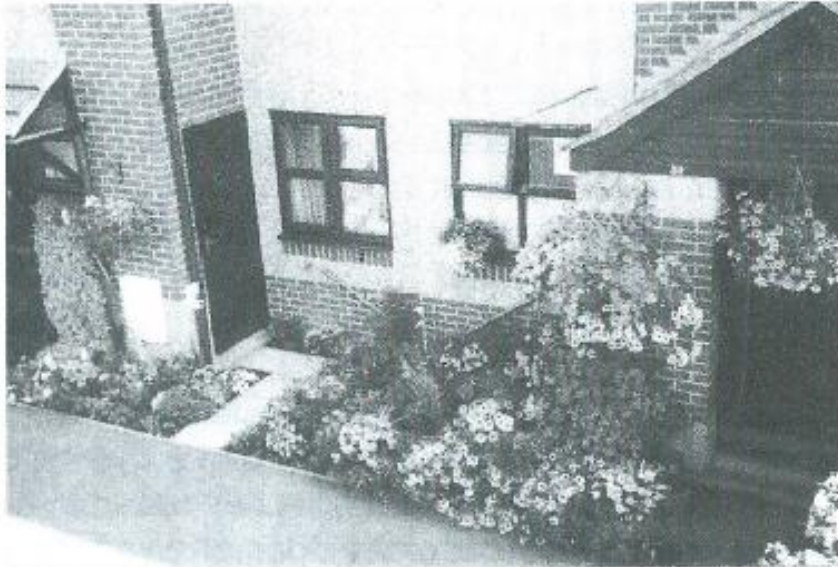


MILTON MATTERS

Issue No 17

Milton Neighbourhood Forum February 2002



Portsmouth in Bloom Winners for Road with Best Floral Frontage (under 30 houses) Morgan Road

NEXT FORUM

Wednesday

27th February 2002 at 7.00 pm - Dorothy Dymond Lecture Hall,
Milton Campus, Locksway Road

AGENDA

- * **Where Does The Money Go? - Roger Ching,
Portsmouth City Council's Director Of Finance & Resources**
- * **Ross Lee - Taxi And Licensing Officer**
- * **Update on local issues - this is the last Forum before the Council
Elections in May and the Ward Boundary changes**

SHORT'S DAIRY

I wonder if many readers remember the Dairy on the corner of Devonshire Avenue and Winter Road?

It was kept by two sisters - the Misses Short.

When my father came to live in this house in the 1909 period, these houses were nearly new. The section from Prince Albert Road to Eastney had not been built. Cows grazed in the fields and on the common land now known as Bransbury Park. The cows were milked in the part of the Dairy on the Winter Road side, then called Hill Lane.

In the shop on the corner, there was a large white china swan shape on the counter, containing eggs for sale. One day a curious cow walked into the shop doorway to find out what happened to her milk. While trying to turn round to get out of the door, she knocked over the swan-like bowl of eggs which were scrambled without being cooked!

In those days the butter was weighed after being cut from the big block. It was patted into shape by two wooden pats, then wrapped in greaseproof paper. Milk was measured by brass standard mugs at one gill; half pint; one pint; and one quart at 3d (pence) a pint. Cream was sold in small waxed tubs.

Houses were built on the fields in the last section of Devonshire Avenue so no more cows came to the Dairy. Motor cars were becoming popular so the new houses were built with garages into their back gardens with shared drives between each pair.

The farmers Hoar and Dumbrill came in from the country with horse-drawn and hand-pushed carts called milk floats. They had big churns to supply the Dairy and also delivered to the houses twice a day into the jugs of the householders. One of the Short sisters married and went to live in the New Forest. When her sister retired she went to join her.

Hoar and Dumbrill continued for many years until Unigate took over the round.

Mr. Mason who was an electrician, bought the dairy as a shop and sold all types of electrical goods. The back premises were used as their store. Two of his sons John and Bob, continued in the business and for some years also sold musical instruments. The corner has now been reconstructed into two houses.

DEVONSHIRE AVENUE

Southsea became a popular seaside town and a railway line ran from Fratton Station to a big station in Granada Road. The line was between Heidelberg Road and Frensham Road, Bath Road and St. Augustine Road and then through St. Ronans Road. The Railway opened in 1885. There was a bridge in Devonshire Avenue but it was called the Jessie Road Bridge. There was also a station there. The railway line was not used for passengers after 1914 but continued for military use during the First World War. The bridge was finally removed in 1923 leaving a very wide road. In the centre they built a gymnasium and squash rackets court, but after a number of years they were closed and taken over by the electrical wholesalers and the Co-op grocery store who are still there today.

The terrace of houses called Devonshire Gardens were then included into the Avenue and the whole road renumbered. Our house changed from 63 to 83 which caused several years of confusion for friends and relatives with correspondence being delivered to the new numbers by the postmen twice a day for the halfpenny and later, one penny stamp.

Winifred J. Beer

Onyx Environmental Trust Helps Revitalise Picnic Area

Avenues Community Association is pleased to announce that the Milton Common 'Picnic and Recreational Area Project' has been completed. All the required permissions and future maintenance has been accepted by Portsmouth City Council.

We managed to raise £24,000 with a major grant through the Landfill Tax Regulations which allow landfill site operators to contribute up to 20% of the Landfill Tax they collect, to help environmental projects which meet one or more of the Scheme's stated objectives. The Onyx Environmental Trust which was founded in 1997, has given a new lease of life to a section of Milton Common with a grant of £17,000 to build a picnic area with new tables and bench sets, complete with pathways leading up to it to allow easier access for families with pushchairs and wheelchairs. The turfed ball sports area with a safety sub-surface membrane and set of five-a-side goalposts for ball games was also constructed to cater for the local children. Douglas Davis, General Manager of the Trust said ' We are delighted to have helped fund the recreation ground and I'm sure that the local residents will enjoy the new facility'.

Our thanks go to the contractor Greenscape who carried out the work for us in an excellent and professional manner both in terms of value for money and speed of completion. Also thanks to PCC Leisure Services Senior Landscape Architect Mr P Burrard-Lucas for his help and guidance throughout the project.

We hope in some small way we have helped improve our local area to the benefit of all, young, old and disabled. Use and enjoy Milton Common, it belongs to us all!

Mrs Cilla Baxter, Avenues Community Association



FANTASTIC MILTON
IN BLOOM

Den and Lyn Copus of Morgan Road would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Portsmouth & Southsea in Bloom, to thank you all for the wonderful efforts made by so many Milton residents to enhance the beauty of our area with such fantastic floral displays, from full frontages to window boxes and also some really magnificent hanging baskets.

We spend hours just walking round admiring the outstanding cascade of colour and beauty brought to our area by you all. Some of the creations are so breathtaking and are appreciated by so many of our residents.

We also feel very privileged to assist Brian Kidd by judging various categories entered within our city and would like to encourage many more of you to enter your very worthy and beautiful efforts. There are so many of you that deserve recognition within the Milton district, so why not join us and enter in 2002 - please!

What do judges look for? Making best possible use of space with shrubs and plants. Colour, arrangements and attractiveness to passers by. Weed and litter free. Use of hanging baskets and containers. (From what we have seen as we constantly walk the area, you can not only meet, but on most occasions surpass the above)

The competition is great fun to enter. If you can rise to the challenge, contact Brian Kidd, Leisure Services, Civic Offices, Portsmouth PO1 2AD or phone 92 834148 (fax 92 834149) for an application form as soon as you can. **Come on Milton, let's be daring and bold and see what we can achieve!**

Summary of Milton Neighbourhood Forum, 15 October 2001 at Dymond Lecture Theatre, Milton University Campus

The Chair welcomed members and guest speakers before reporting on events since the last Forum.

- 1 Milton Park Event - The Committee raised £104 towards the cost of printing 'Milton Matters' magazine
- 2 City Plan - Objection has been raised against the renewal of planning permission for development of Langstone Campus for further student flats.
- 3 Foster Hall University Building - It is understood this land is to be sold shortly for housing
- 4 Rodney Road - Objections have been raised about the yellow lines and too many warehouse illumination signs.
- 5 St James Hospital Grounds - The land has been registered as a Town Green. The Department of Health has objected to the High Court but the City Council is defending the registration.
- 6 Langstone University Over 50's Lunch Club - At £2 per head this is held every second Friday starting on 26 Oct. from 12 to 1 pm. Contact Maria Garside 92 848484 for further information.
- 7 University Liaison Meeting - Representatives of the Committee and local residents expressed concern over measures taken by the University to control trespass by children. Further activities should be considered and communication will continue.
- 8 Resignation of Vice Chair - The Chair thanked Ken Rowlands who has been on the committee for several years but has now moved out of our area. The committee owes him a debt of gratitude for representing the Forum in every aspect and thanked him for all his support.

Election of Officers

The following were proposed, seconded and elected:-

Chair: Janice Burkinshaw	Vice Chair: Dave Wilcox
Treasurer: John Couch	Secretary: Hilary Collins
New Representative ; Jerry Shimbart	

Dog Control - Mr John Longhurst, PCC Enforcement Officer

A very interesting talk covered these key points. Portsmouth was the first city to adopt the Land Act to control dog handling. Dog fouling is an offence whether the owner is aware or not. Dog owners who break the law can be apprehended and fined up to £1000. There are 850 dog bins and 250 miles of roads in the city. Owners of dogs not on a lead can be fined £200 and it is against the law for a dog not to wear a collar and nametag. Stray dogs are taken to Lisa Clarke, tel. 02392 870322 and owners who are found are charged £30 for the first day and £50 for subsequent days which must be paid before the dog is released. Complaints against owners are strictly confidential. Only Police can handle dangerous dogs. The contact no. is 02392 216815.

First Provincial Bus Company - Mr Mike Smith, Area Director

Mr Smith came to explain how bus services operated in the city. Bus deregulation became law in 1981 and companies must run a profitable service hence some routes are subsidised by Portsmouth City Council. A decline in bus usage could cause further cutbacks. A major concern is an increase in vandalism, robbery and violent assaults on drivers which have a serious effect on services and profit

Some new buses will improve disabled access and an express route from Horndean to Commercial Road is planned for 2005.

Mr Johnson, PC Passenger Transport Officer said bus services are tendered annually and cost the City up to £500,000 p.a. in subsidies without which no bus company would be profitable.

Constant analysis of passenger requirements is necessary. The next round of tenders is due on 13 February 2002 and Portsmouth City Council invited comments on which services should be subsidised by 17 December. *(The Forum has submitted comments based on the opinions expressed at the meeting.)*

Contact points on bus issues, complaints, etc:-

First Provincial Customer Services,
Hilsea Depot, London Road, Hilsea, Portsmouth PO2 9RP
Tel. 92 652006

Tel. 92 655240 Lost Property -
Tel. 92 862412 Information on Services & routes

Visit First Bus Travel Shops inside Portsmouth & Southsea Railway Station as well as local bus stations, for detailed travel information.

The Chair thanked speakers and members for attending. Meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

S T O P P R E S S

Portsmouth University Langstone Campus, Furze Lane, The Forum has been informed that the planning application for 85 flats for up to 680 students and associated roads and parking, has been withdrawn.

The traffic problems of Salterns Avenue residents have resulted in a No Right Turn from Eastern Avenue into Salterns Avenue on a trial basis to determine whether this will reduce short cuts by non-residents.

The Appeal against the decision to designate part of St. James Hospital land a Town Green, will be heard in Bristol Crown Court on 15th and 16th April 2002.



to local Services in Milton

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LANGSTONE HARBOUR WATERSIDE FOOTPATH

A new leaflet to help walkers find their way along the shoreline footpath around Langstone Harbour has recently been released by the Langstone Harbour Board.

One of the Harbour's unique features is its good quality 14 mile footpath, mostly along the water's edge. It is hoped that the new leaflet will allow Langstone Harbour Waterside Walk to take its place alongside the Solent Way and the Southdowns Way as a popular public walk.

Copies of the leaflet can be obtained free from the Langstone Harbour Office, Ferry Road, Hayling Island, PO11 ODG on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

Sids

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