

MILTON MATTERS

Issue No 6

Milton Neighbourhood Forum

Dec 1997



Milton Church - Circa 1860

NEXT FORUM

3rd Dec 1997 at 7.00 pm - Milton Campus Lecture Hall

- AGENDA**
- * Paul Spooner - Economic Development / Job Creation
 - * David Hampton - Cycleways - an update
 - * Vanadism in Milton Park
 - * Open Forum

MILTON MATTERS

I expect you have been reading the articles which appear from time to time suggesting that Neighbourhood Forums are dying.

That isn't the case in Milton when we are threatened by major changes to our present environment. You all demonstrated that when the ASDA supermarket was proposed.

However, we cannot survive on big issues and counter protests. If the Forum is to influence policy making in the City we need to have views and opinions expressed regularly, and from a wide section of the community. It may not always seem that the Council is taking notice of what is said against a particular proposal, but in time, we do see changes in trends. Earlier this year the Chief Education Officer came to our Forum and heard your concerns about the allocation of school places.

We shall await with interest the way that places are allocated this coming year but a recent press statement did indicate that what has been said by parents in the city is being taken on board in a very difficult situation.

We do want to hear from you on issues that affect you to see if there is any way that the Forum can help. Clearly there are many issues which your Ward Councillors will deal with directly but we would like to give the opportunity to more people to come and speak to us.

We do hope that those of you who are unable to attend Forum meetings in the evening took the opportunity to turn up at the Drop in centre at the Milton Village Hall on 13th November.

If there is enough interest we will hold another in the New year.

Let us know too if you feel that the Forum is meeting your needs or otherwise, or if you have any suggestions for the future.

Cyclists vs The Motorists



Should the City Council be providing dedicated Cycle Routes around the city ?

Are those that do exist in the right place?

Should cyclists be required to use cycle routes where provided.

Should motorists be banned from some roads.

Why are so many not using the routes that are in place?

David Hampton - who has a City wide responsibility for Cycle ways will be at the Forum Meeting to provide an update on how the strategy is being progressed around our streets.

You will all have heard of and read numerous arguments for and against the role that cycleways play. This is your opportunity to put your views directly to those who are there to implement them.

If you are unable to attend or do not wish to put your comment directly to David Hampton then why not send them in using the Freepost Address or contact any of your Forum representatives.

If you have any interesting facts about Milton, any poem or article, of human interest or any comments on the Neighbourhood Forum, please send them to
The EDITOR, Milton Matters, Milton Neighbourhood Forum, FREEPOST,
Portsmouth, PO1 2YZ

Summary of Forum Meeting 25th June 1997

1. Chairperson's Opening Address

Janice Burkinshaw welcomed members, councillors and the guest speakers Mr Dave Collins - Environmental Health, Mr Geoff Lawton - Special Olympics, Supt. Martin Powell - Hampshire Constabulary and Mr Chris Murray - City Planning Dept.

Janice then gave an update on developments since the February Forum Meeting :

- 1.1 ASDA Superstore - proposal withdrawn, tree preservation order secured.
- 1.2 Langstone Campus - additional accommodation approved for 680 students but recommendations include tests for contaminated land, protection of Brent Geese, works to be completed within 5 years, parking permits restricted to 10 % of students.
Additionally the summer usage of accommodation may be changed to SAGA holidays and the University is to make a £60,000 grant towards local cycleway improvements.
- 1.3 Traffic - Vernon and Claydon Avenues are now closed at their junctions with Priory Crescent.
- 1.4 Police Liaison group - The Forum continues to provide representation whenever possible.

2. Election of Officers

Hillary Collins was elected as Secretary with Peter Mills of Morgan Road and John Ilsley of Kingsley Road were elected as Area representatives.
All votes were unanimous.

3. Changes to the Constitution - David Pointon, Lead Officer

David explained the need to extend the existing constitution include formal guidelines for the make up and role of Sub-Committees of which our Traffic Sub-Committee is an example.

The amendments were accepted unanimously.

4. Traffic Sub-Committee Report - David Wilcox

The committee has been meeting monthly since 19th February 1997
Its brief has been to identify traffic related issues throughout the Forum area with the aim of formulating a co-ordinated scheme to ease these problems. To achieve this, views have been sought not only from residents but also businesses, schools, bus

operators etc. In addition to this the group has sought to obtain improvements in the provision of disabled parking, paved areas and yellow lining.

It was stressed that much more support is required from local residents and a leaflet has been distributed with Milton Matters asking for your perception of Traffic Problems in the area.

Janice Burkinshaw explained the Census form and it came to light that a number of residents had not received "Milton Matters".

5. Noisy Neighbours - Dave Collins

A detailed coverage of the report from Dave Collins is contained in a separate section of this edition.

6. Special Olympics

Geoff Lawton gave an interesting insight into the forthcoming Special Olympics event, supporting his talk with two films including the competitors view.

2% of UK population suffered learning difficulties from which came 230 sports groups and some 3,000 competitors

Portsmouth has an outstanding recent track record of staging big events and this one will involve 3,000 athletes and over 700 helpers / coaches covering a wide variety of events and venues.

Apart from the games, organisers had to plan accommodation, transport, medical facilities, catering, games information, social events and the recruitment / training of 1,500 voluntary helpers.

The main aims are

- a successful event
- improved awareness
- enhancement for ongoing opportunities.

7. Keeping the Peace - Superintendent Martin Powell

Mr Powell introduced himself as a local man with 25 years police experience who wanted to hear about our problems.

He categorised police work thus:

7.1 Re-Active - Someone calls in with a problem - mostly but not always dealt with.

7.2 Pro-Active - Home Office driven with set targets e.g., reducing house burglary or violent crime.

Also pre set objectives by Police Authority and Local Authority.

In response to questions from the floor Mr Powell demonstrated examples of where the police could and could not take action within the laws of the land.

e.g. Noise is not necessarily a crime but abusive behaviour is.

Other questions concerned a lack of liaison with Neighbourhood Watch groups and a lack of response to parking problems.

The Superintendent explained that with only two beat officers for our area it was difficult to balance priorities.

8. St Mary's Hospital East Wing - Chris Murray - City Planning Officer.

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust has submitted an outline planning application for a housing development. This principle for housing on the site is established and the Planning Department must decide between medium or high density housing.

Plans will include a percentage of retained open space and an improved traffic junction in Milton Road.

Mr Murray answered questions and suggested that as the City needs more housing it is better to build on existing 'developed sites'.

Mr Murray gave a brief resume of the St James Site development.

9. Any Other Business

Questions were raised about paving problems (Ref Traffic SubCommittee) and the area of undeveloped land adjacent to Godwit Road.

To The Editor

I would like to say a big thank you for putting my letter in the Milton Matters. I let my niece and her family read it, they live in Copnor. The showed it to a lot of their friends, I was very proud. My husband also thought it was very good, I told him I'm not just a pretty face (Ha Ha).

I thought you might like to hear the rest of my story of the War

----- * * * * -----

We left the Boat House at Milton Locks. We were given a place at Paulsgrove, then it was called Wymering, The Old Race Course, Coopers farm etc. We shared a house with another family also bombed out. We had two rooms for eight of us and four in the other family they also had two rooms but we did have a garden to play in. The railway was at the bottom of the garden. It was very noisy at times at night with the bombs as well but it was a home. We lost everything in River Street. so we were lucky to have this place.

My mother did nursing. She left us with the other lady in the house and went to work at Q.A. Hospital. she helped look after the wounded soldiers - Blue Boys as the were called.

They wore blue serge uniforms, many had lost arms or legs poor lads. My sister Phyllis was a dancing teacher (Tap Dancing). After the war she got all the children to gather in the road. We did a concert for the Blue Boys we had black shorts and tops made from blackout stuff my mother and friends made for us. The local butcher let us have the cloth from the meat, it was washed, bleached and dyed, we wore them round the waist for sashes. My father made taps for the shoes from old tins, some painted their shoes red, my sister had painted hers white.

We have a photo of it with one of the Blue Boys watching the concert. Some did not have a home to go back to. At least we hope we gave them a good time that day as I can remember they did. They were all taken back round the streets in their wheelchairs to Q.A. Hospital getting big cheers from the crowds. I can also remember a collection being made for them for "Cigs". We also did another concert at Q.A. later on special request.

That's my story of the War

Mrs M Ross.

The Noise Service

There are 9 field officers who deal with noise complaints of which 5 form the night Noise service team. The city is divided into two teams covering the eastern and western sides of Portsmouth. During normal office hours complaints are dealt with by the respective teams but at night there is only one officer and a security guard on duty.

Each noise complaint is recorded on a computerised register and the complaints are sent an information pack which outlines the service provided. In addition the officer, who is allocated the complaint (case officer), will also make personal contact with the complainant and discuss the details of the complaint and also arrange suitable times to visit.

Once registered on the system each complainant is given the telephone number for the night noise officer. This gives the complainant instant access to the night service should the noise be happening and hopefully the officer can witness the noise at first hand.

What can the Noise Officer Not Do

Current legislation does not allow the council to take action for noise created by motor vehicles on the highway (except car alarms); aircraft noise (except model aircraft); noise created on the street (except loud speakers being used for certain activities and between specific hours) or railway noise.

What can the Noise Officers Do?

The basic requirement of current noise legislation is that there has to be evidence that the noise complained of is such as will or has caused a 'Statutory Nuisance'. Unfortunately there is no legal definition of what a 'Statutory Nuisance' is, however, it is accepted that the common law definition of nuisance i.e. 'Anything that materially affects a person's enjoyment of property' can be taken as being a 'Statutory Nuisance'.

In order for the service to take action an officer has to hear the noise and in most cases also take noise measurements with a noise meter to assess the level of noise. Once this evidence is obtained the officer will decide whether it is a statutory nuisance. If it is decided as such then an 'Abatement Notice' will be served on the person or persons responsible.

If the nuisance persists the officer has to again witness the noise and then the offenders can be prosecuted. In extreme cases e.g. persistent loud music or a very noisy party carrying on into the early hours the cause of the noise e.g. a hi-fi or radio etc. can be seized by the officer and removed from the offender's premises.

When the noise is created by a trade or business and an abatement notice has been served and ignored then the company can be prosecuted.

If the noise is associated with works of construction or demolition the hours of work, types of construction/demolition methods and the types of equipment can be restricted by the service of a notice. Failure to comply can result in prosecution.

How to make a Noise Complaint.

The three main ways to make a complaint about noise or anything else involving our other services are:-

1. Ring the Council Offices, 834167 for noise, during normal office hours i.e. Mon- Thurs 8:30 am to 5:00 pm and 8:30 am to 4:00 pm on Friday. You will be given a brief explanation of the procedure which will be further explained in an information pack which will be sent to you shortly afterwards.

2. Write in outlining your complaint in as much detail as possible and addressing it to Environmental Health and Trading Standards Service, Civic Offices, Guildhall Square, Portsmouth, PO1 2AZ; by return of post you will receive an information pack outlining the procedures that will be adopted to progress your complaint.

3. Call in at the office during the above office hours and talk with an officer, if available, or another member of staff who will explain the procedures and also give you an information pack which contains all the necessary information for progressing your complaint.

Please don't hesitate to contact us even if it is only for advice or confirmation of your rights as a citizen of Portsmouth. We are here to help you enjoy your home in peace and quiet.

The Millennium

An alternative view of how we should celebrate the turn of the Century -
Our thanks go to Samantha, Emma and David from Meon Jnr. School

What I'd like the millennium in the year 2000 to be like.

I'd like people to celebrate and have celebration food, but most I'd like people to love each other and look after each other.

Samantha Curry

I think people should be happier in Portsmouth. That's one reason why I'm writing this. The tower that Portsmouth City Council are going to build will probably be spectacular. I feel that there should be a law that no animals can be killed for fun. Also we should all stop throwing rubbish around because it is bad for the environment. I think we should have a big fireworks display on the evening of the Millennium. Maybe build a statue as well. Finally we should plant 2000 trees

Emma Moggridge

In the year 2000 I will be twelve years old. I will probably go to my nan and granddad's house and have a little party with my family. We may give each other presents because it is the only millennium that we will ever see.

I would like to make a time capsule with some of my old toys, books and photos of me and my family in it. In the year 2000 I hope that people who are homeless find a home and get a job to feed and clothe themselves.

David Tudor

MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

CHAIRWOMAN

Mrs J Burkinshaw
202 Moorings Way
Milton PO4 8YN

VICECHAIRMAN

Mr K Rowlands
28A Priory Crescent
Milton PO4 8RN

SECRETARY

Ms H Collins

LEAD OFFICER

Mr D Pointon
Procurement Services
Civic Offices
Guildhall Square PO1 2BJ

EDITORIAL TEAM

Mrs P Partridge

Mrs J Burkinshaw

Mr A C Knott

Mr D Papanicolaou

Mr J Couch

Mr K Rowlands

Ms H Collins

Freepost Address

Neighbourhood Forums
Portsmouth City Council
FREEPOST (SCE 4514)
Portsmouth PO1 2YZ

FORUM REPRESENTATIVES

Mr R Brown
259 Locksway Road
Milton PO4 8JN

Mr P Mills
28 Morgan Road
Milton PO4 8JS

Mr M C Hiscock
1 Sovereign Drive
Milton PO4 8XX

Mrs L Mills
28 Morgan Road
Milton PO4 8JS

Mr D Papanicolaou
11 Apsley Road
Milton PO4 8RH

Mrs O Ilesley
61 Kingsley Road
Milton PO4 8HL

Mr J Couch
14 Vernon Ave
Milton PO4 8SA

Mr L Wakefield
10 Velder Ave
Milton PO4 8RT

Ms P Sawyer
123 Mayles Road
Milton PO4 8NR

Mrs P Priest
10 Broom Square
Milton PO4 8LP

Mrs E Brown
13 Longshore Way
Milton PO4 8LS

Mr J Ilesley
61 Kingsley Road
Milton PO4 8HL

Mr D Wilcox
31 Broom Square
Milton PO4 8LP

Mrs P Baxter
49 Salterns Avenue
Milton PO4 8QJ

Mrs P Partridge
103 Goldsmith Ave
Milton PO4 8DT

Mrs Oastler
35 Shelford Road
Milton PO4 8NU

WARD COUNCILLORS

Councillor A Bentley
143 Prince Albert Road
Southsea PO4 8EL

Councillor V Bye
18 Worsley Street
Eastney PO4 9PR8

Councillor F Charlton
7 Nutfield Place
Fratton
Portsmouth PO1 4JX

Councillor R Cole
67 Napier Road
Southsea PO5 2RA

Councillor N Sizer
9 Langstone Road
Copnor PO3 6BP

Councillor Mrs J Spurgeon
20 Edgeware Road
Milton PO4 8PT

**Please Contact
Any Forum Rep or Ward Cllr
for More
Information or Assistance**

