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Issue 09 | March 2008

# Newsletter

Delivered by CSAG volunteers to over 1700 households in the Keynsham East Area



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# Traffic management on the Wellsway

Sub-committee meeting of the PACT initiative reports on proposals to tackle local road safety problems.

Following the last PACT meeting, a sub-committee of residents recently came together to address the current concerns we all have about traffic management on the Wellsway.

Local resident Paul Sims was instrumental in bringing this priority, supported by KECSAG, in to a valuable discussion with five local residents, Mike Weston (B&NES Traffic Engineer), PC Greaves and B&NES Councillor Marie Longstaff.

According to the records, most incidents have been in the lower section of the Wellsway as it begins to narrow around Hurn Lane, where speeds have been monitored well in excess of 30mph. It was also noted that in the 40mph stretch of road higher up, speeds significantly higher had been recorded.



Paul encouraged residents present in the last PACT meeting to vote to retain this priority since good progress had been made to date and, to maintain momentum, more discussion was necessary.

Residents from the top end of the Wellsway (as well as other residents with suggestions) are asked to come forward so that their voice can be heard to help move this in to action.

If you would like to be involved in further discussions please contact KECSAG at [contact@kecsag.org](mailto:contact@kecsag.org) or if you have a viewpoint you would like to express, leave a comment using the form on the website at [www.kecsag.org](http://www.kecsag.org).

**The proposals that had been discussed:**

- The provision of a footway running down the side of the Rockhill Estate
- The provision of a chicane around the Courtney Road junction
- More frequent use of a mobile speed camera sited at Steel Mills
- The use of VMS (Variable Message Signs)
- Reducing the current 40mph speed limit to 30mph
- The use of 40mph and 30mph roundel signs on the carriageway to act as reminders to drivers
- The use of SPEC or speed cameras to control speeds
- Consideration to reduce the speed further to 20mph around the Rockhill Estate and at the zebra crossing area
- 20mph flashing signs at school times
- An additional pedestrian crossing to the south of Rockhill Estate located next to the Gooseberry Lane footpath
- To provide 'Keep Clear' road markings outside Rockhill Estate entrance to highlight the junction
- A "traffic emerging sensor" located at Rockhill Estate to activate warning lights

As a result of his observations, Mike Weston had concluded that initially there was a need to provide a footway down the side of the Rockhill Estate entrance. The estimated cost (£23,000) was well in excess of the current scheme budget (£10,000) and due to a large overall decrease in the budget, and the fact that this year's budget (2007/8) was still to be ratified, any alterations would probably not be implemented until 2008/9.

Thankfully it was acknowledged that there was a need to find a long-term solution to the problems along the whole length of the Wellsway, and although these were governed by the current financial situation, the group was going to push forward on this valuable discussion.

## ESSO, Tesco, yes/no?

**Planning permission is being sort for the conversion of the ESSO petrol station shop in to a TESCO Metro.**

The planning application outlines plans for changes to the forecourt layout to allow parking for several cars with provision for the access lane behind the site too. The application hasn't yet been approved but we await with bated breath and hope that consideration has been given to the current difficulty accessing the Bath Road from Chandag Road can be around school time.

## ANDREWS CONTINUE THEIR SUPPORT FOR KECSAG

Andrews Estate Agents, based in the heart of Keynsham, have stepped forward to continue their support of this KECSAG newsletter for another year.

This newsletter is produced and delivered by volunteers from Keynsham East and it's with the sterling commitment of Andrews for another year that this can happen.

**KECSAG wish to thank Laurence Irvine and his team at Andrews Estate Agents, 12 Temple Street, Keynsham.**

## FARMERS' MARKET

Fresh fruit, vegetables, cheeses and meat are a selection of produce available at the Keynsham Farmers Market in the Fear Institute building on the high street.

A new stand selling fish extends the list of what's on offer from local producers who meet there on the 2nd Saturday of every month.

The plan is that as the weather improves, around June, it will be held outside.



### Market dates:

Saturday 8 March

Saturday 12 April

Saturday 10 May

Saturday 14 June

Starts at 9am until 1pm

# PACT

Partners And Communities Together

No.3

## The PACT meetings continue to push forward your priorities...

The third Keynsham East Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meeting, took place in the Lansdown Hall at Wellsway School on the 10th December 2007.

### Crime and Disorder

Neighbourhood Beat Manager PC Chris Greaves presented a summary of the Crime and Disorder figures for the past three months, and then reported on one of the priorities from the previous meeting: anti-social behaviour around Manor Road and the Community Woodland.

Operation End had contributed towards reducing the number of calls from that area to just three. He did confirm that there had been calls from other areas but Operation End would continue in order to address these matters.

### Traffic management on the Wellsway

As detailed on the cover, Keynsham East resident Paul Sims reported the finding of the sub-committee of residents who had agreed to spend time exploring ways of addressing problems with traffic on the Wellsway, the second of the priorities at the last meeting.

### The promotion of Youth Activities in Keynsham East

Roy Gallop reported that this matter had been discussed at the KECSAG committee held in October, where they heard from Graham Baker (Senior Youth Worker), that cuts to the budget by B&NES, had resulted in the loss of a significant number of staff. As a result, plans for further activities based around the community building at the school could not be delivered due to the lack of funding for qualified staff to organise and supervise the planned activities.

At the invitation of Deputy Headteacher Simon White, a sub-committee made up of various agencies had met at Wellsway school to discuss ways of overcoming two main issues:

1. The short term problem of ensuring the money made available is used within time constraints imposed (ie within this financial year ending March 2008) to support youth and community activity.
2. Exploring ways of engaging with the Keynsham East PACT 'partners' and wider community, to find a realistic solution to the lack of funding for youth activities.

It was reported that:

- KECSAG had been awarded a grant of £4000 towards equipment for youth activities
- £500, granted to KECSAG for an activity that had been cancelled, would be retained and used for an alternative youth activity
- A donation of £500 awarded to Wellsway School is to be used on developing the use of the community building.

In response to interest shown by MP Dan Norris, KECSAG wrote to the House of Commons to highlight this particular PACT priority. The group received an immediate reply and the Chair and Vice Chair of the group met briefly with the MP on Friday November 16th. Although he was unable to give any immediate assurance that he could assist, he has promised to get back to us on this matter.

A similar letter was also sent to the Leader of the B&NES Council Cllr Francine Haerberling. You can download a copy of the letter sent to Dan Norris and Francine Haerberling, from our website at [www.kecsag.org](http://www.kecsag.org)

### New issues

Residents were invited to raise new issues which included safety issues around the Deveron Grove area by the Keynsham Residents Group, Parking problems around the Chandag Road/Severn Way junction during school hours and possible introduction of a Parking Time limit outside Chandag Road Shops.

After a vote, the priorities needing further action before the next meeting are:

#### 1. Traffic management on the wellsway

Sub-committee meeting to discuss how best to spend the allocated funds for traffic management and long term plans

#### 2. Youth activities in keynsham east

Graham Baker to present plans for a project to be considered by the sub committee and continued contact with Cllr Haerberling in relation to any developments regarding the Youth Service.

#### 3. Parking issues in chandag road/severn way

Implement some prohibitive road markings to the area and Wellsway School to send a letter to parents/6th form students reminding them of the need to park considerately.

**Date for your Diary**

Next PACT meeting:  
**Monday 17th March** | 7pm  
Wellsway School

# Wellsway VI Form

*...Building for the future*

Max Harvey, Director of Sixth Form, looks to a revitalised path ahead...

**Wellsway School's Sixth Form Centre is entering a period of change. It's an exciting time and we're only just beginning to realise how powerful this change could be.**

We've always known that we have a very strong group of students and not just in the academic sense. They are inquisitive and supportive, eager to learn from others, yet willing to challenge and constantly surpass expectations. Whether working with younger students, talking to visitors or even interviewing staff they are fantastic ambassadors, quick to sing the praises of the school and the wider community.

One could argue that if they are already successful then there is no need for change. However, when you witness Year 13 students supporting Year 11s with their coursework you wish more help could be offered to others. This change should encourage involvement and in turn benefit more people.

A new Learning Centre and a revamped Common Room will provide a firm base for their curricular and extra-curricular work. Personal tutors with a reduced teaching commitment will be on hand to provide greater support, working with individuals to anticipate problems before they arrive but the most significant change is in the officer structure.

Every year, there are votes for new School Officers with elections covering the posts of Head Boy and Girl as well as Chairs of Resources and Charity.

Their responsibilities have involved representing the school at different functions whilst holding regular meetings with staff to ensure the student voice is heard. However, these posts are being expanded to eleven to include responsibilities such as a

Business Manager, Student Learning Officer and Publications Officer (who will hopefully be writing this column in the next edition). The aim is to empower the students, encouraging them to take ownership of the opportunities that exist and improve the provision for all. One of the most exciting roles is that of Community Action Officer. Based on similar positions in universities, the aim is to forge links with groups within the local community and encourage students to get involved with projects or regular events. Initially, it will be important to start small and create pockets of success but the hope is that they will establish a network of volunteers who will contribute to Keynsham and the surrounding community.

There are many examples of good practice that already exist. When we interview students for the Sixth Form, they frequently celebrate the opportunities that are available. They are proud of what their community offers and we would like to recognise and support some of these activities in school.

We will initially be taking small steps. We accept that building for the future will involve a little more tortoise than hare at times but our ambition is great and it is fuelled by the passion of the students with which we work. We look forward to sharing our successes with you.



# Café Chandag

Threshers has long been a blot on the Chandag Road shops' landscape but that's all set to change as the shop is changing to a coffee shop and is due to open very soon.

Gossips will offer light snacks before and after school time and be a meeting place for parents throughout the day with baby changing facilities, TV, coffee (of course!) and homebaked cakes.

Open 8am to 5pm, it'll serve fresh snacks, paninni & sandwiches and they have a planning application for cooking food pending.



# New face to join the beat team

**PC Chris Greaves has moved from his position as Beat Manager for this area to join the main police team at Keynsham.**

Inspector Tim Stuckes said that there had been a good number of very high quality applications for Chris' replacement. A testimony to the work PC Greaves had done under the charge of Sergeant Alison Norman.

He wanted to stress that the work of the beat team would continue and he hoped that the new appointment would be in place by March.

He finally added that all Beat officers are shortly to receive training in restorative justice after a recent trial run. Read more on this on our website at [www.kecsag.org](http://www.kecsag.org)



Notice board update

**Regulars to the Chandag Road shop area will be aware that the Keynsham East Community Notice Board has now been installed for the benefit of local residents.**

Run and maintained by local residents including local councillor Gill Hellier, it is intended for announcements and information directly relating to Keynsham East and we want to know what you would like to see on the notice board so we can pass it on. Please contact us by emailing [contact@kecsag.org](mailto:contact@kecsag.org) or using the KECSAG telephone number on the back page.

# What's on the website!

We've tried to get as much in to this newsletter as possible but remember there is much more on the website at [www.kecsag.org](http://www.kecsag.org)



## This month...

- » Top tips on avoiding identity fraud
- » Join the battle against distraction burglaries
- » Report on the success of Operation End

**PLUS** information videos promoting road safety and fire safety in the home

Over the coming months we are going to be looking at what improvements can be made to the website. Let us know what you want to see by emailing us at [contact@kecsag.org](mailto:contact@kecsag.org)



## MESSAGE FROM **INSPECTOR TIM STUCKES**

There have been a few developments since your last newsletter so I am grateful for this opportunity to bring you up to speed. Your Beat Manager Chris Greaves has moved on to response team duties at Keynsham. He is still very much part of policing your area and I was pleased to retain Chris at Keynsham - his experience is an invaluable help to us. I have advertised for the Beat Manager post and I am encouraged by some high quality applicants. If I can I will try and involve Roy Gallop - your KECSAG and PACT chair in the selection process. More news next time!

PACT (Partners And Communities Together) continues to evolve and we have three successful meetings under our belt in your area. The fact that so many of you turn out for these open access public meetings to talk with police, Councillors and agencies is a testament to the community spirit in Keynsham East which I know is coveted by other areas on our district.

The next meeting is on **17th March, 7pm at Wellsway School.**

We were recently subject to an in-force inspection regarding our progress with Safer, Stronger Neighbourhoods here in Keynsham sector. This included our progress with PACT meetings, deployment of PCSO's etc. they were suitably impressed and Keynsham is now to be used as a benchmark for the rest of the force in Neighbourhood Policing.

Lastly - there has been much talk at the council regarding the movement of the skateboard park from its present location near the bowling green to swap it with the play park at Avon Mill Junction with Bath Hill. I am in favour of this for a number of reasons, not least the easy access and monitoring, but also the fact that it may provide a facility for youth in your area, as they are somewhat reluctant to stray over to the other side of town! I have managed to secure a small sum which would be enough to purchase a youth shelter on the site and discussions with the Council continue.

That's all for now.

*Inspector Tim Stuckes*  
Keynsham East

More information can be found on the police website at [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk) or via the KECSAG website at [www.kecsag.org](http://www.kecsag.org)

## Contact

The Keynsham Police and the KECSAG are keen to build up a true picture of all incidents affecting Residents' quality of life – we want to work with the local Community to try to address these issues.

Incidents can be reported (anonymously if desired) directly to the Police by telephone or by email or to the KECSAG, preferably by email, who are in regular contact with the Police.

**REMEMBER IF YOU DON'T REPORT IT, IT WON'T GET LOGGED AND WON'T GET DEALT WITH!**

Although you may not get an immediate response, please be assured that your report will be logged and that the Police will take action as and when they feel appropriate and are able to do so.

There are a number of ways you can contact the Police.

Officers will respond to calls when on duty – details for the neighbourhood policing team based at Keynsham Police Station are:

	OFFICE	MOBILE	EMAIL
PC Chris Greaves	01225 842 779	0779 413 2720	chris.greaves@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PCSO Chris Purvey	01225 842 779	0791 752 9435	chris.purvey@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PCSO Sarah Hewlett	01225 842 779	0782 528 0033	sarah.hewlett@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PCSO Jo Stagg	01225 842 779	0781 079 1309	joanna.stagg@avonandsomerset.police.uk

For a permanently manned service for non-emergency calls at Avon and Somerset Police HQ

**Call 0845 456 7000**

**REMEMBER: In the event of an emergency or if you are reporting a crime in progress you should dial 999**

To contact a member of the KECSAG committee:

Email: [contact@kecsag.org](mailto:contact@kecsag.org) Roy Gallop (Chair)

Or by telephone: Pat Morrison (Co-ordinator) **0117 907 9433** or Mary Sutton (Treasurer) **0117 986 4472**