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# Open Day at the woodland

**FREE!**

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# Newsletter

Delivered by CSAG volunteers to over 2200 households in the Keynsham East Area



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# Wellsway School extends their hand to the wider community

One of KEGAG's key objectives over recent years has been to promote the development of links between Wellsway School and the wider community living in Keynsham East.

The opportunity to achieve this has now moved a step closer by way of a greater Extended Schools Provision.

From September 2010 in line with the Government's 'Every Child Matters Agenda', Wellsway School expects to be open from 8.00am until 6.00pm during the week and during some weekends and holidays.

The school is aiming to broaden its existing range of activities and services both to young people and the local community.

To take this work forward the school has recently appointed Derek Pickup as an Extended Schools Development Officer who will develop the extended schools agenda on a day to day basis.

Derek says, "Wellsway already provides a broad range of opportunities, particularly around sport activities for both young people and the community, and we will

now be seeking ways in which we can expand our existing services by working with other agencies and the community to deliver a world class service. We are currently developing the 'Wellsway Local Partnership for Children', drawn from those agencies who are working together locally for children. The partnership will include representatives from Chandag Junior and Infant Schools as well as Marksbury Primary School.

Derek's appointment at the school is for a period of two years and he is keen to hear from members of the community. If you would like more information, or would like to talk with Derek, email him at: [dpickup@wellsway.bathnes.sch.uk](mailto:dpickup@wellsway.bathnes.sch.uk) or telephone 0779 266 3476

### Volunteers for Schools

**Do you have a couple of hours a week spare to help in one of our local primary schools?**

Chandag Junior & Infant schools are looking for volunteers to help children with activities such as reading, computing, cooking and helping out on trips. They are looking for people who can give a regular commitment for one or two hours a week. It's very rewarding and provides a great experience for both children and volunteers.

If you would like to learn more please contact Derek Pickup.

### Burglary on Bath Rd

**There has been a report of a burglary on the Bath Road in Keynsham and, yet again, a distraction burglary in the area.**

Media reports have warned that, historically, recessions see an increase in theft/burglary and naturally, we encourage all Keynsham East residents to assess their current level of home security and be extra vigilant and report any suspicious activities to the police.

We have a video on our website at [www.kecsag.org](http://www.kecsag.org) that covers the sort of areas you should be considering and what action you can take as well as information on avoiding distraction thefts.

### New funding for newsletter!

**Recent concerns that we would not be able to continue to produce and deliver this newsletter to Keynsham East residents have been resolved - for the time being!**

Following appeals in recent editions for financial help to keep the newsletter going, we are delighted to announce that John Greenwood Associates has stepped forward and offered to fund the costs of production for the next twelve months.

The fact that the newsletter is seen as a tremendous asset to the Keynsham East community is a great boost to editor and designer Jez Bridgeman, and to all the KECSAG members who get up and about to walk the streets of Keynsham East delivering the newsletter to your door.

Thank you very much Chris and John!

### Waste Day Change from June

REMEMBER... From Monday June 8th your rubbish, recycling, cardboard and garden waste collection days will be changing so that everything will be collected on the same day!

**RUBBISH**

**RECYCLING**

**CARDBOARD & GARDEN WASTE**

**WEEKLY**

**WEEKLY**

**FORTNIGHTLY**

# Welcome...

It was a delight to arrive to Chair the latest KECSAG meeting (Tuesday 5th May) and see so many people present. I was a little concerned when a number of our regulars gave apologies for absence due to clashes with other meetings and one member reported in sick with familiar symptoms that I'd been reading about recently. Fortunately he had not been in contact with pigs nor visited Mexico, so I was confident he'd make a full recovery. Seriously though, it was another well-attended meeting with a full agenda and contributions from nearly everyone who was there.

It was particularly nice to welcome to a KECSAG meeting for the first time, two student members of the Wellsway School Student Council. Young people at KECSAG meetings offer a fresh view, and Laura Doble and Jennifer Harbour did that. They outlined their hopes that the Student Council, and in particular the Community Action Team, will "do what is says on the tin" – be active working in and with the community during the next 12 months. **Watch this space...**

The meeting also welcomed Derek Pickup the School's recently appointed Extended Schools' Coordinator. I had met briefly with Derek a week earlier and was encouraged by his eagerness to recognise and work with, and for, the wider school community of adults, as well as developing further opportunities for young people. As a direct result of this contact, and with the support of Derek, KECSAG has recently applied for a grant from the Town Council to help with the funding of a series of low cost computer-related courses for adults to be based in Wellsway School. If the bid is successful, we hope this will take place during the Autumn.

Most of the residents of Keynsham East enjoy a peaceful and quiet life in this pleasant corner of B&NES. Now and again something happens to disrupt this lifestyle, and one of those things can be the effect of large groups of youngsters on the streets at night. Unfortunately, recently, this has become a problem, particularly on some Friday nights, illustrated quite graphically a few weeks ago on Friday May 15th when a very large and aggressive group of youngsters congregated in the area and proceeded to wander around various streets before eventually moving down through the area to the Memorial Park.

Community Safety continues to feature at the top of KECSAG's agenda. This is matched by the commitment of both B&NES and the Neighbourhood Police Team to work towards building communities where people feel safe and secure. However, just as residents need the Police to attend when called, the Police need the support and co-operation of residents to notify them when these activities are occurring.

Please continue to contact the police using the contact details on the back page when necessary.

*Roy Gallop* - Chair of KECSAG

The next KECSAG meeting takes place on **Monday 20th July** in the Community Room at 7pm. These are meetings open to any resident of Keynsham East – and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

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



Around 40 residents and local authority representatives were welcomed by Paul Sims (Chair) at the eighth meeting of PACT on Monday 16th March at Wellsway School.

REVIEW OF ISSUES FROM DECEMBER

## Regional Spatial Strategy

The meeting opened with a brief presentation by Anne Upton from Save Our Green Spaces, an organisation that has been set up via small groups across the country in response to the Regional Spatial Strategy. Anne was also seeking someone to set up a group in Keynsham.

## Chandag Road area Parking Issues

PC Harris explained the proposed plans and thanked the members of the public who attended the consultation meeting in January. Plans will now go to a formal public consultation.

There will be a loss of 7 parking spaces to make Chandag Road safer. The plans will be enforceable, not advisory. Two hour bays are deemed sufficient for the local shops, and consultation had taken place with Wellsway School with regard to improved parking. Points raised from members of the public included; Vehicles should not be allowed to park on both sides of the road, that the measures should go to 'trial', and concern was raised that vehicles may just start to park on 'back' roads

## HGVs on the Wellsway

A weight restriction warning sign had been costed by B&NES, and was in the region of £2000. Once funding is agreed, the signs will go up.

## Anti-Social Behaviour (Chandag Road Shops)

PC Harris reported that, on the whole, the area had been quiet. There had been a recent incidence of youths gathering, a 'knock on' effect from youth's being moved on from the Salford area. Large groups had been dispersed, with letters being sent to parents requesting that they monitor the behaviour and location of their children. PC Harris will also be visiting Wellsway School to have a discussion with youths in the appropriate age group.

## Wellsway Traffic Management

Paul Sims expressed disappointment that, two years into this work, no material progress has yet been made. Actual progress was marked by part of a VMS sign being put in place, minus the sign itself which is awaiting delivery, and a lot of background work. Despite repeated requests for information and updates from the relevant Department in B&NES, no information had been received. It was noted that Burnett, with little apparent effort, had received significant input in the form of road markings, a reduced speed limit and signage in spite of the fact that there are only two houses fronting on to the road. No explanation for this had been received although it had been requested from the Traffic Department. The question of fatalities was mentioned but it was believed that there had also been fatalities on the Wellsway. Paul Sims confirmed that PACT had received exemplary ongoing support from the Police and support from B&NES as a whole is now required if the PACT partnership is to work properly in future. Inspector Stuckes also reported disappointing conversations with B&NES and their lack of support for PACT priorities, hence Traffic Management being raised as a priority again.

### OTHER UPDATES

Kathleen Hovland of Keynsham Residents Group stated that good progress has been made on safety issues raised in December but that Wessex Water's request to have the estate accepted as a case study has not been accepted. However, Kathleen then went on to detail frustrations between KRG, B&NES and Kendall Kingscott and has found it difficult to establish various liabilities in some instances (such as path damage by tree roots) and now KRG has been excluded from all consultation. PACT were thanked as following the last meeting RHA acted quickly to provide a good wall light in the lane between Deveron Grove and the communal flats.

Cllr Gill Hellier reported that funding had now been secured for the rebuilding of the existing Skate Park, £75,000 had, been made available, and the work should be starting in September.

Keynsham East P.C.S.O Chris Purvey-Blain, has recently been awarded the title of Avon and Somerset Constabulary PCSO of the Year. The meeting expressed strong appreciation for his work and congratulated him on his achievement.

### NEW PRIORITIES AGREED

- 1 ALTERNATIVE ENTRANCE TO WELLSWAY SCHOOL
- 2 CHANDAG ROAD AREA PARKING ISSUES
- 3 THE WELLSWAY, TRAFFIC SPEED MANAGEMENT

Date for your Diary

Next PACT meeting:  
**Monday 15th June** | 7pm  
Mendip Hall, Wellsway School

The meetings are open to ALL residents in the Keynsham East area and there is also the opportunity for anyone present to ask for a new priority for the local authority and partners to address or evaluate.

# Community Room gets improvements

In 2008, KECSAG was awarded a grant of £500 from the Town Council to help pay for some alterations to the community room based at Wellsway School. The aim was to try to make the layout of the room slightly more flexible, primarily to encourage greater use by the youth service and youngsters from the area.

To cut a very long story short, these plans proved to be unworkable, so the focus shifted to try to make the room a little more attractive for users.

An approach was made to the Keynsham Community Association requesting them to consider matching the funding from the Council, and after due consideration, this was approved.

After a series of meetings between Gill Hellier, Sheila Crocombe, Roy Gallop and Deputy Head Simon White, it was agreed that the purchase and installation of some curtains with black-out linings would be appropriate, with the added possibility of a coat of paint to reduce the austere effect of the white emulsion!

In addition it was agreed that proper signs, indicating where the community room was sited, might not only help people to find it when attending a meeting there – but might also make more people aware of the existence of a community room that is available for bookings for a variety of activities.

Work should soon be underway – or may even already have been completed by the time you are reading this!!

A sincere “Thank You” to all those people who contributed to the completion of the project and particular thanks to the Town Council and the Keynsham Community Association for supplying the funding in the first place.

# Wellsway School see opportunity for NEW school entrance

Regular readers of this newsletter will probably be aware of the good news concerning new facilities at Wellsway School.

Earlier this year Wellsway School were given permission and funding to build a sports hall for school and community use and although they are still in the early stages of planning, they expect the hall to be built adjacent to the all-weather pitch in the next academic year.

The new, long-awaited Sports Hall, will provide a fantastic learning environment for the students and opportunities for our local community to take part in a range of activities.

With this new facility, the school plans to also consider the impact on the environment,

traffic flow and disruption for neighbours and they sincerely hope that this will be kept to a minimum during the course of construction.

Headteacher Andrea Arlidge said, “In connection with the recent PACT concern regarding the school entrance, the new development may also provide an opportunity to consider the relocation of our entrances and exits for cars, coaches and pedestrians.

“We would be very pleased to be able to incorporate this into our plans for a new sports hall subject to consultation, planning and the level of funding received.

We will be pleased to provide more news on this exciting development as we progress.”

## B&NES YOUTH SERVICE RE-ORGANISED - AGAIN!

There has been another major shake-up of the youth service across B&NES. Graham Baker, the Senior Youth Worker who was active in Keynsham, particularly at Time-Out, has moved to a ‘countywide’ role.

The Youth Service has now moved to having two ‘clusters’ – one for Bath, and the other under the umbrella of North East Somerset, which includes Keynsham. Each managed by a Youth Officer, and the Keynsham area manager is Val Smith.

Paula Bromley is the new Principal Youth Officer and commented, “As you can imagine this means that Val will have a much wider remit than Graham did... We do have a full time youth worker and a team of staff / volunteers at Timeout and we have a small but dedicated detached team.”

Despite being part of a wider geographical area, it appears that Keynsham has not lost a great deal of youth work contact time, if any. However, just how much of this is dedicated to work with young people in Keynsham East remains to be seen!

## Bumper turnout for local elections

Well done to the 30% of Keynsham East electors who turned out on March 26th to vote for just the one vacancy on the Town Council - a splendid effort!

The result of the election for a new councillor for Keynsham East was:

**Clive Fricker - Conservative - 584**  
**Roy Gallop - Independent - 314**  
**Duncan Stuart Hounsell - Lib Dem - 221**  
**Mike Tucker - Labour - 138**  
**Clive Courtney - BNP - 73**

Given that it was an election for just one town councillor on a pretty unpleasant day in March, it is pleasing that over 900 of the 1330 votes went to local residents (Clive Fricker and Roy Gallop) who are directly linked with KECSAG and the good work it is doing.

For those of you who are not familiar with the successful candidate, we invited Clive to comment on his appointment... “I have been active for over thirty years in Keynsham resident organisations including my present role as Treasurer of KECSAG. Consequently Thursday 26 March was a significant day for me when I gratefully received the support of 584 residents to become a Town Councillor. These voters can be assured that I will represent their interests to the best of my ability, a promise that is extended to those who voted or not.



Keynsham East faces difficulties such as traffic and urban development that must not be allowed to spoil the secure and pleasant environment in which we live. However we must also play a full part in the development of Keynsham as a whole. We need a vibrant, well managed town, protected by surrounding green belt, that can provide retail and employment opportunities now and in the future - a place where visitors are welcome and one that all residents are proud to call home.

As a team we will work in the Council, together with colleagues from all parties, for an even better Keynsham.”

## The friends of Manor Road

12th JULY invite you to an Open Day 10am to 2pm  
At the woodland

Located in Plaishts Meadow (follow the arrows either from the Minsmere Road entrance or the Manor Road entrance) There will be opportunities to get involved with plant surveys in the flower meadow, a pond survey, guided walks around the woodland and some children’s activities. **Bring a picnic!**

The event is **free of charge** but we will be asking for donations to fund woodland wildflowers to be planted in the autumn.

For more information please contact: Nigel Jacks 0117 9864713



## MESSAGE FROM INSPECTOR TIM STUCKES

Recently it was my privilege to be the guest of honour at Wellsway School to present the Progress Files at the leavers ceremony there. I was struck by the reports of the caring and supportive attributes of this particular year of 16 year olds which I believe bodes well for the future in our area. As ever, we need young people to be involved in their community and be prepared to talk about local issues affecting quality of life, so please encourage them whenever you can.

Crime is at a low level at the start of the summer across the Keynsham Neighbourhood! After a slight rise in April we are now back down to our usual 20 odd crimes a week. This is made up of some minor damage and some low level assaults with, in one recent week, only one car stolen and no house burglaries, so things are looking up! BUT, firstly, we do still have a problem with cars being broken into occasionally so please clear your car out when you leave it parked on the street (and don't leave your sat nav on display!), and secondly you will see that the cashpoint has been attacked again at the Co-op overnight a few weeks ago. In fact, there has been a spate of cashpoints being attacked in isolated places across the force area recently and this is being investigated as possibly part of that series.

Speeding motorists remain on the agenda and is the single thing that is raised as a priority consistently across the B&NES area. You will no doubt have noticed the new speed camera on the A4 at Saltford which has had a considerable impact since its re-installation. We now have a very expensive speed 'gun' at Keynsham which we plan on using on occasional operations in those areas you have highlighted through PACT, once officers are trained.

The policing pledge I mentioned last time, remains an area of focus for us. It is our promise to the public and sets out the levels of service you can expect from us (see our website for details). We want to improve public confidence in our service and one way we can do that is keeping you informed. If you have attended PACT meetings, many of you will be on the KINS Network (Key Individuals), a database enabling us to tell you about our activity in your area. For example, just the other day, one of our convicted criminals admitted to two burglaries in Woollard Lane in our area recently. It was nice to be able to convey that message to local people directly. If you are interested in being on the Kins Network then please contact Clare Clements in our Neighbourhood Team office. It costs nothing and is a great way of being able to stay in touch with what the police are up to!

Lastly I have had a look at the CCTV coverage in Keynsham on a recent visit to the Guildhall control room in Bath. They have upgraded some of the cameras and there really is very good coverage of the central area now which should be a good deterrent to those intent on committing crime here. As ever, if you hear or see anything suspicious, we will be glad to hear from you.

That's all for now.

*Inspector Tim Stuckes*

More info 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 a true picture of all incidents affecting Residents' quality of life and 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.

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

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.

Officers will respond to calls when on duty – details for the neighbourhood policing team are:

	OFFICE	MOBILE	EMAIL
PC Ian Harris	01225 842 779	TBA	ian.harris@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PCSO Chris Purvey	01225 842 779	0791 752 9435	christopher.purvey@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PCSO Clare Clements	01225 842 779	-	clare.clements@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PCSO Sarah Hewlett	01225 842 779	0782 528 0033	sarah.hewlett@avonandsomerset.police.uk

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

**Call 0845 456 7000**

To contact a member of the KECSAG committee:  
Email: [contact@kecsag.org](mailto:contact@kecsag.org) Roy Gallop (Chair)  
Or by telephone: 07794 132 720 (Co-ordinator)

## Antisocial behaviour update!

During the past few months, some of the usually quiet and peaceful areas of Keynsham East have been disturbed by large gatherings of young people, particularly on Friday evenings. A similar problem existed in Saltford earlier this year, and has been largely resolved by some effective Neighbourhood Policing.

As part of that policy PC Ian Harris, the Beat Manager for both Saltford and Keynsham East, sent a clear message via the Wellsway school Ammonite to Saltford residents, Some of the key points of that message may now be applied to the current situation in Keynsham East:

*"The Police have started using powers granted under the Crime and Disorder Act to obtain the names and address of the youths so that steps can be taken to prevent this continuing. In the first place a letter will be sent to the parents informing them that the child was within a group and their behaviour will be described. This is in the hope that parents exercise their responsibilities and ensure that their child is not continuing to behave in this manner. Can I ask that you are aware of where your child is of an evening and ensure that they do not contribute to this problem..."*

If you are a parent of a child who may be associating with groups of this kind...

**OR** you are a young person who does go around with a group like this...

...please be aware of the consequences of these actions, particularly to the many residents whose lives are disrupted by elements of this antisocial behaviour.

If you are a resident who is concerned about gatherings of groups of large numbers of young people – please do not hesitate to telephone the police IN ADVANCE of any disorderly conduct on **0845 456 7000**

If at any time you feel that your safety is being threatened, or that a crime is being committed, then dial 999.

**...AND FINALLY**

## Calling all Clubs and Community groups!

The KECSAG website is reaching out to all groups and clubs in the area with a **FREE** offer of a page on the site.

There's **no catch** and **no charge**. We simply want to build up a collection of contacts and details that everyone can find helpful and informative to benefit the community.

This is yet another way in which we feel the area can benefit itself by supporting local groups (however small!) and bring each other together in a common cause. So, if you are a member of any club or group in the area and want to reach out in to the community, let us know and we'll set up a page for you.

Simply email us at [contact@kecsag.org](mailto:contact@kecsag.org)