

Twerton PACT meeting, 12th May 2010

This is a write-up on the Twerton PACT meeting which took place on 12th May 2010.

PACT meetings begin with reports on what ground has been covered regarding the key issues raised in the previous meeting. These are as follows:

Dog Fouling

Bath now has a second dog warden named Jo Brain who was present at the meeting and is keen to work with the community over this issue. She said that it is difficult to tackle dog fouling because although people ring up and report an offender, they then refuse to give witness against that person in court. Therefore the dog warden needs details as to when and where dog fouling is occurring in order to monitor the areas covertly. Telephone Council Connect on 01225 394041.

Parking

We were told that the Twerton Councillors have met with officials from Highways but additional bays are not a priority due to current financial constraints.

At this point a resident complained about the lack of parking space at Wedgewood Road, which is apparently exacerbated by six disabled bays.

Play equipment

We were told that new play equipment has successfully been installed at Pennyquick Park but there are no plans to add any further equipment. The regeneration of the Southside Youth Centre is due to start shortly.

Two residents said that the BMX bike track has not been well built and is now collapsing.

Demolition of Pennyquick View

James Read from Somer Housing and Jamie Graham from Lovell Partnerships (Somer's building contractor) talked about the imminent demolition of the pre-cast buildings at Pennyquick View and Hinton Close. The demolition has been held up by bats hibernating in the empty buildings and by delays in the planning application process. Soon there will be an information day to show residents the plans for the new buildings.

Lovell will employ an on-site security guard and beacons around the building site. A special clocking-in system will ensure that the guard has to patrol the site. The previous security guard, whom residents described as ineffective, belongs to a company which Lovell no longer employs.

New priorities and issues

Residents said that the problem of young people and adults riding motorbikes around Redland Park has re-emerged and the noise is worsening.

The difficulty caused by inconsiderate parking around Cleeve Green and Newton Road was raised as an issue.

There was a request for increased foot patrols by the police.

A resident said that there was again a problem with a bad smell emanating from a drain at Newton Road.

It was noted that the travellers evicted from Entry Hill have taken up residence at the Stothert and Pitt cricket ground. However, nobody at the PACT had experienced any trouble from the travellers.

One resident mentioned the condition of the derelict play area at Redland Park. He had encountered some lack of clarity over whether it was the responsibility of the Council or Somer Housing to sort out.

The same resident indicated that where some of the fences at Redland Park are being replaced with metal railings, the railings are not connected up with the older wooden fences, causing the old fences to fall down.

Some of the above issues are already being dealt with, so it was possible to condense the remaining issues into three main sets of priorities to be actioned. These were:

- 1) Motorbikes at Redland Park
- 2) Parking at Cleeve Green and Newton Road
- 3) The disused play area and wooden fencing at Redland Park

The next PACT meeting for Twerton is scheduled for 21st July at 7pm and will be held in St Michael's Junior School at Newton Road.