

PACT - Tuesday 14th July

Three key areas had been identified for action at the April PACT meeting.....

Road Safety in Birmingham Roada multi-agency meeting was held at the Schools on 13th May to look into speeding and parking problems. A road safety plan was produced with help from local residents but the County Council Highways Unit did not believe most of the proposals would help. Flashing warning signs have recently been installed and will be electrically connected by September.....and "explicit" letters have been sent to all parents reminding them where and where not to park when dropping off / picking up their children. The County do not think there are significant speeding issues in Birmingham Road, compared to other sites across Worcestershire, and believe that excess speed is largely a perception rather than a reality. A number of local residents challenged that view at PACT! .

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) near the MUGA - local residents complained strongly about the MUGA being so close to their homes, that it was not closed overnight and that District Council staff were not actively involved with young people using it. The Police were also criticised for not preventing increasing amounts of ASB....swearing, drinking and vandalism....despite the fact that they had been operating more patrols on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Illegal / inconsiderate parking around the village....the Police have been monitoring this and spoken to a number of drivers.

4 priority areas were identified on 14th July as needing action by the PACT panel

Anti-social behaviour near the MUGA....the Police are starting Operation Treacle near the Alvechurch and Wythall MUGAs to identify the worst ASB offenders. 3 extra local response officers will be available to work on this. This is a positive reaction to the concerns of local people.....Bromsgrove DC will also look into what resources could support the initiative from their Neighbourhood Co-ordinator and Youth Development resources. Night time closure of the facility will be looked into.....and CCTVs are a possible next step. ***The Community Surgery on Thursday 6th August (2-5pm in the Library) is an opportunity for residents to comment further.***

Speeding....this is still seen as a problem on several Alvechurch roads, through Hopwood and Beoley. The Police will start Speed Perception exercises with Alvechurch (and Wythall) residents as part of a Community Speed Watch initiative.

Scarfield Hillthe County Council will look at areas where the road surface is deteriorating and repair where necessary.

Old School site, Tanyard Lane....this is still the responsibility of the County Council until any planning permission for housing is granted to Persimmon Homes. The County were asked to clear litter from the site and make it look much tidier.

Could you be a Panel member ?** The success of PACT depends on its Panel of Police, Councillors and community representatives. Two local residents have recently joined the Panel team....but there's room for a couple more ! Email the Village Society on avsoc@tiscali.co.uk if you can help. **The next PACT meeting is on Tuesday 13th October - 7pm in the Village Hall - and will include a presentation on SMARTWATER....a method of security coding your property similar to DNA profiling.

Andy Humphries
Chairman - Alvechurch PACT panel