

PACT - Tuesday 21st April

PACT attracted its largest ever Alvechurch audience at its April meeting, when nearly 80 residents heard feedback on previous priorities and the results of a village *walkabout* by the Panel in early April.

Three key areas had been identified for action in January 2009.....

Speeding through Rowney Greenthe Police had monitored traffic speeds and very few vehicles had exceeded the 30 mph limit. A Community Speed Watch scheme will soon be set up with local residents being trained by the Police to monitor traffic speeds.

Anti-social behaviour and vandalism ...the Police had recorded 4 incidents in Bear Hill Drive (1 in The Gaunts)none were serious.

Crossing facilities and parking issues near the new schools....these are currently being monitored by the County Council Highways Unit and the Police.

Police representatives then outlined the role of our local Community Support Officer (Mark Hyder) in response to questions from the Parish Council. General CSO powers are laid down in each area by the Chief Constable, then influenced by Bromsgrove District Council.

A Panel *walkabout* on 4th April (the Police call them Environmental Visual Audits or EVAs) highlighted 2 important local problems....ongoing road safety issues in Birmingham Road, largely linked to the new schools....and anti-social behaviour problems in Swans Length, linked to the MUGA. In both places the Panel met with residents' groups and heard their views. The *walkabout* also identified (a) a need for Persimmon Homes to keep the old school site in Tanyard Lane cleaner and less accessible to local youngsters, (b) a need for the District Council street cleansing team to clean Bear Hill more often and (c)

The 3 PACT priorities identified in April (based on the *walkabout* and residents' views at the 21st April meeting) were.....

Road Safety in Birmingham Roada meeting will be held in May with Councillors, residents, Police and the Schools to find the best approach to speeding and parking problems.

Anti-social behaviour near the MUGA - Swans Length residents have been asked to record vehicle registration details and report all incidents to the Police, who will monitor the area.

District Council litter squads will focus more on keeping the MUGA area cleaner. .

Priority 3.....

Concern was expressed by the audience about the lack of representatives from Bromsgrove District Council and Worcestershire County Council on the 21stand the Chairman was asked to check why Councillors and senior officers had not sent deputies to the meeting.

Could you be a Panel member ? The success of PACT depends on the Panel of Police, Councillors and community representatives meeting 4 times a year. We need 2/3 local residents to strengthen the PACT team.....please email the Village Society on avsoc@tiscali.co.uk if you can help. The next PACT meeting is on Tuesday 14th July - 7pm in the Village Hall.

Andy Humphries
Chairman - Alvechurch PACT panel