

## **Alvechurch and Beoley PACT relaunch Meeting**

Held 23/09/10 at Lower Committee room, Alvechurch Village Hall

### In attendance:

Andy Humphries	Chairman PACT
Sgt Ben Hembry	West Mercia Police – Wythall
PC Simon Albutt	West Mercia Police - Wythall
John Cypher	Chairman, Alvechurch Parish Council
Anne Overs	Alvechurch Parish Councillor
David Matthews	Alvechurch Parish Councillor
Roger Hollingworth	Leader, Bromsgrove District Council
Jean Luck	District Councillor, Bromsgrove District Council
Chris Santoriello Smith	Senior Community Safety Project Officer BDC
Kate van der Plank	ACT
Darren Veness	ACT Lead Youth Worker
Jean Herbert	Bear Hill Drive Co-ordinator
for David Steadman	
Maurice Kenny	Rowney Green Association
Ray Yarnell	Alvechurch Village Society
Richard Peach	Editor , The Village magazine
Sue Brotherton	Alvechurch Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator
Hilary Hughes	Alvechurch Neighbourhood Watch
Yvonne Goode	Clerk, Alvechurch Parish Council

### Apologies:

Dr G Lord	County Councillor
Karen Jordan	Head Teacher, Alvechurch Middle School
Sandy Jenkinson	Rowney Green, Neighbourhood Watch
Trevor Bland	Chairman, Beoley Parish Council
Geoff Heal	Hopwood Residents Association
Liz Lemen	Mill Court Neighbourhood Watch

## **Introduction**

Andy Humphries introduced the meeting as the current PACT Chair.

AH and SGT Ben Hembry outlined that PACT had run in Alvechurch very successfully with well-attended meetings being run quarterly. There had been lively debate with a number of very positive items coming out of it such as the MUGA discussion which was broken away for separate scrutiny (although perhaps not early enough). In addition, the Alvechurch meetings (along with Wythall) are some of the largest meetings across the forces

One of the areas identified though was the difficulty of getting a strong PACT panel, although the strength of turn out for this meeting was positive.

In addition, too many issues were raised at some meetings making them difficult to manage.

Often the PACT panel became the subject of 'blame' for the issues.

Going forward it is envisaged that the panel will be made up of representatives of the community. It should be stressed that only the community working together can resolve some issues - ACT are a good example of the community forming its own solution.

It was noted that some people felt targeted on the panel and if anyone felt they did not what to be called on to be on the panel to let AH know.

It was suggested that a Code of Conduct for PACT meetings be devised. This would also help manage expectation. This could set out standards for debate and types of debate.

It was noted that this PACT started out as Alvechurch and Beoley and it was requested that this reference be retained.

### **Future structure**

It is suggested that three meetings per year are held (previously 4)

These are spread around the Parish of Alvechurch, Hopwood, Rowney Green and taking in Beoley as mentioned above. Venues could include the school, Tanyard Lane community centre, Beoley village hall Hopwood community centre, RG Peace Hall.

Attendance numbers mean that larger venues must be considered, as attendance has been in excess of 80.

Panel Members may vary. These should be a representative of a group of people or body so individuals are not committed to the panel.

Panel members meet outside of PACT to review existing and proposed issues.

Chair – AH advised that he had been looking to step down as Chair in the near future, as he had intended to serve for 2 years and was happy to do so with immediate effect if someone else wished to take this role.

It was felt with all the other changes then PACT would benefit from the continuity of AH remaining as Chair.

It was noted that certain groups were not represented at this meeting (although invited) and it was important to ensure all bodies continue to be involved.

Richard Peach advised that he wanted to be involved, however could not report impartially **and** be a panel member,

### **Agenda items**

It was agreed that PACT should be used more for reporting back on issues, including those that could be resolved having been picked up from the cards and resolved in between PACT meetings. The agenda items would be published in advance, which would allow those thinking about attending to see if there were relevant issues.

The open forum worked for residents but allowed the meeting to be sidelined.

### **Mobile PACT**

Mobile PACT will be run alongside PACT meetings. This will hopefully counteract the point about the lower frequency of meetings. Reaching more venues and outlying areas. In view of this, it was felt that the PACT meetings should for the present continue to be held at Alvechurch Village Hall as residents appreciate the easy access to the village hall and that there more issues tend to arise, pertaining to Alvechurch.

Other partners have committed to joining the police in mobile PACT such as BDHT (they are using BDHT's mobile office). Any potential panel members are invited to join the police in mobile PACT.

The Mobile PACT held in the Square had been successful, as the police had approached members of the public inviting them to comment.

The mobile PACT at RG was less successful despite a leaflet drop

It was requested that the times are varied including evenings and school times

It was requested that the Beoley venue is on the Village hall car park not the Village Inn top car park, which is too remote

Mobile PACT has been advertised on APC notice boards and will be advertised more widely.

Mobile PACT can offer a more private consultation than a public forum, but the item could be brought to a PACT meeting. A number of similar issues could result in the issue being brought to PACT meeting.

Amy Wearing advised Action for Children are canvassing outside of schools at present - they are happy to hand out enquiry cards and details of mobile PACT.

### **PACT issues**

Enquiry forms are available from a number of sources. These are to be widely distributed.

At present, the police receive these, collate issues, and are happy to continue doing this. Some issues may be able to be handed over to the relevant party and resolved before the next PACT.

It was agreed that at the start of PACT meetings positive feedback should be given on resolved issues, giving a more positive feel to the meeting.

The PACT Panel should be flexible enough to pick up any urgent issues, if not on the agenda, but it should not be railroaded by a group of people. The issues should be advertised in advance so that people can decide if the meeting is relevant to them. This is particularly relevant if meetings are held elsewhere - e.g. Alvechurch issues being heard at a Beoley venue.

It can be publicised via The Village magazine.

Are electronic enquiry forms available? Could these be linked to the websites of APC and resident associations?

The PACT panel should meet 4 weeks before the PACT meeting to allow the choice of issues to be fixed, then the agenda produced, and the meeting publicised

It was questioned whether there is a need for PACT meetings at all, as in the past some have become negative and blame ridden (especially now there is mobile PACT) It was noted that PACT in this area has been the most successful form of public involvement. The aim should be to keep it but make it more positive.

### **The first meeting is scheduled for 12/10/10 7pm Alvechurch Village Hall**

#### **Items for the agenda:**

History on relaunch (AH)

Explain the aim and style of the meetings (AH/BH)

Report on operation Krypton reporting on the reduction in ASB (BH/SA)

Youth Project – ACT (KvdP) and the younger age group - Action for Children (AW)

Enquiry cards to be handed out at the meeting, suggestions for new issues will not be invited at the next meeting. PACT meetings are to be scheduled for 60 minutes although slightly longer should be allowed for this first relaunch one. Strong Chairmanship will be required for the first meeting

After the meeting, the Panel will remain for a 10 minute post PACT review.

Publicity is required to 12/10 (and all mobile PACTs) all partners to publicise as much as possible on websites, notice boards and windows.

The next mobile PACT is 06/10/10 in the Square 9.30am onwards.

Notes will be circulated to all attendees (by e mail where possible) and to all interested parties.

PC S Albutt advised that he will require details of contacts to obtain Data Protection forms.

The next PACT meeting is to be arranged for the end of January.

All were thanked for their attendance and interest.