

North Worcestershire Division
Alvechurch and Wythall Local Policing Team
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PARTNERS & COMMUNITIES TOGETHER (PACT) in ALVECHURCH

PACT started across the countryand in North Worcestershireover 4 years ago.

Its objectives are for communities to come together to identify and share local issues, agree which are priorities and manage public expectations.

PACT is run by a Panelrepresentatives of our local Parish and District Councils, West Mercia Police, the Village Schools, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, Alvechurch Village Society, 3 local Residents' Associations and Alvechurch Communities Together (formerly known as the Youth Project). Richard Peach is also involved to report on PACT in The Village magazine.

Local arrangements were reviewed in Spring 2010 and PACT is now being jointly sponsored by Alvechurch Parish Council and our Local Policing Team. Most administrative support now comes from the Parish Council.

HOW DOES IT WORK ?

Geographically PACT covers the Parishes of Alvechurch and Beoley. Community meetings will normally be held in Alvechurch Village Hall but may rotate to allow a focus on different areas. From 2011 onwards, 3 PACT meetings will be held each year....in April (to coincide with the Annual Parish Meeting), September and January.

Mobile PACT “surgeries” are now being held monthly by the Police to supplement full PACT meetings. These sessions are for those who prefer to report issues on a one-to-one basis.

Feedback from residents' has shown that PACT meetings need to be shorter (around an hour)and that too much time was previously taken up identifying new issues at meetings. These comments also said that speakers need to make their points quickerand that issues must not become personal. *Please be aware of this if you speak at a PACT meeting.*

A typical PACT meeting will therefore include...

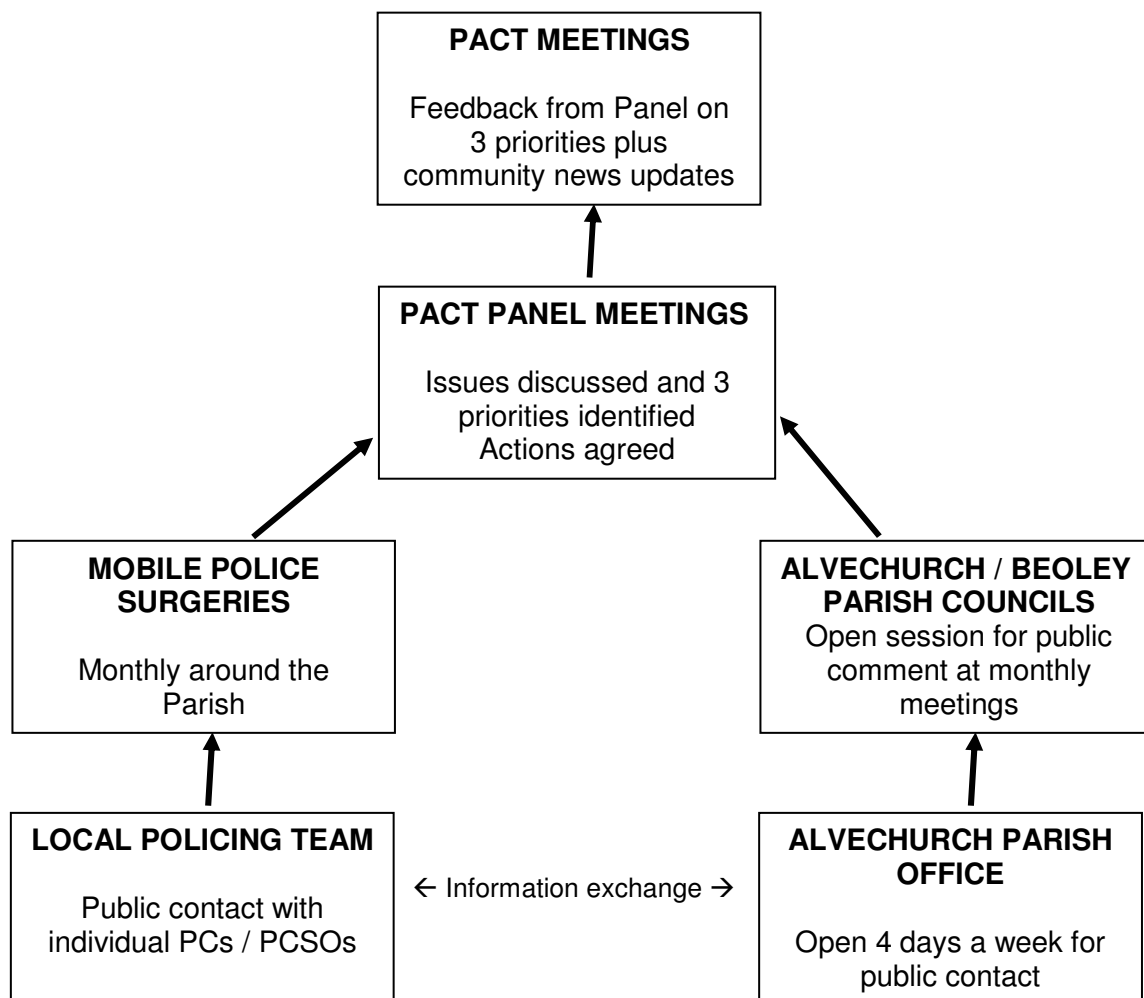
- Feedback on previous issues by Panel members.....approx 20 minutes
- News update on current community issues.....approx 20 minutes
- Confirmation of top issues for action.....approx 20 minutes

HOW DO I REPORT AN ISSUE TO PACT ?

Issues will now be identified before PACT meetings....if you want to report an issue, use the pre-printed postcards or forms from the Parish Office, go to a mobile PACT surgery or telephone the Police or the Parish Council.

The pre-printed postcards / forms are available at Alvechurch Parish Office, the Library or the mobile PACT surgeries....or from any PACT Panel member. As soon as possible they will be added to local web sites.

The Panel meets about 4 weeks before each PACT meeting to check progress on previous issues and collate issues raised on postcards or formsand from other sources. Any issues that can be progressed fairly easily will be passed to the relevant organisation.....and the top 3 issues raised will be the main items at the next PACT meeting. The Panel meets again after a PACT meeting to agree actions. Identifying priorities before PACT meetings will save time at those sessions.



HOW EFFECTIVE HAS PACT BEEN ?

Numbers attending previous PACT meetings in Alvechurch are one indicator of success. Over the last 4 years PACT has played a key role in helping to strengthen our Local Policing Team, improve traffic calming in parts of the Parish, reduce some of our litter problems and start to address our anti-social behaviour issues.

The Panel will always tackle issues being raised and strive to resolve them. Please appreciate though that some issues are complex, resources available are now even tighter ...and that some problems can best be approached by communities coming together to arrive at a solution. PACT is most effective when *Partners and Community* work closely *Together*.

HOW IS PACT PUBLICISED ?

PACT meetings are advertised in the Parish Office, on notice boards, the Local Policing Team web siteand in The Village Magazine, Grapevine and other local web sites, which will also have brief summaries of meetings.

***Need to know morecontact the Alvechurch Parish Office....0121 447 8016
or one of the PACT Panel members***