Title Picture - TrustNews Mar 11



Advertisement for requests for the Heart of the City Awards

Chairman's Miscellany - TrustNews Mar 11

It has been a busy time since I expressed my thoughts at the beginning of December. We suffered unusually fierce weather and for a long time. We teetered around the City, nervous in our cars as they slid about on the untreated icy side roads and even more nervous as we walked of icy pavements. The latter caught Shione Carden just yards from her home, causing a broken hip. Characteristically, she saw that as a challenge and was seen boarding a bus, with two sticks, not long afterwards. Progress has been maintained - to the benefit of the Trust and the City which it serves.

I do hope that when you read this there will be measurable signs of spring. At the very least, longer light in the afternoons. Weather apart, a lot has been happening. The Public Inquiry into, in effect, the refusal of development permission for 2000

houses on Barton Farm began on 8th February and will be over by the time you read this. The Trust was represented by Michael Carden and by Harvey Cole, whose generous offer to speak about the unreality of provision of “affordable homes” was grasped with enthusiasm by the Trust. Both spoke with great authority and confidence and put our views with quiet determination. The result of the inquiry will not be known for some time.

Looking to the next few months, There is another programme of “walks” organised by John Beveridge which includes such mysteries as Winchester 1818 and Wellington. Of necessity, it has been necessary to introduce restriction of numbers for some of the walks. There are also some excursions planned. You will see that some of these ask you to pay a small deposit when you book. There are two reasons for this. The first is that some excursions require detailed planning and involve other organisations and people. We need to be sure of our numbers to know whether the visit is viable before it proceeds. The second is that we may need to commit to paying fees to outside speakers which will be payable even if the excursion does not take place. We hope that these plans are well supported which will encourage more ambitious plans in future years.

Finally, congratulations to the planning enforcement department of Winchester City Council for their success in causing the facade of 7 St Cross Road to be restored to a presentable state. The work which had to be done was in the long term interests of this prominent small building and to the benefit of the city.

Iain Patton

Planning Appraisal Group - TrustNews Mar 11

As all interested members will no doubt be aware, the Barton Farm Public Inquiry began on 8 February. The decision the Inspector will make on this crucial development is more important to the future of Winchester than any other being made at present, although it should be appreciated that the cumulative damage resulting from many apparently unrelated smaller schemes could also have a detrimental effect on the fabric and setting of our city. An example of this is the scheme in the outskirts of the city for 3 dwellings to be built around **Copperfield, Lanham Lane**, which we found unacceptable and has now been withdrawn.

At present our unfortunate planners are having to work in the vacuum resulting from the changes (many of them welcome) that are due to be made to existing planning legislation, which makes reaching decisions on current developments very difficult.

We supported the City’s decision to refuse the conversion of the existing house at **28 Chilbolton Avenue** to 11 dwelling units because we felt the accommodation provided would be sub-standard, although apparently legal; this scheme has been allowed on appeal by the Inspector because she felt it would not be detrimental to the amenities of either the neighbours or the area as a whole.

The scheme to build 5 blocks of accommodation for the students of the University of Winchester is wending its way through the system, now described as being on **land at the rear of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Romsey Road**, rather than in Burma Road, West Hill Green, the address given in the last TrustNews. Apart from one or two minor quibbles, the panels felt this should be a successful development and that the siting and layout of these large blocks prevented them from seeming too monolithic.

Two applications that have been outstanding since March have at last been decided. The proposal to build two blocks of student accommodation at the **junction of Sparkford Road & Close** and the replacement of **110 & 112 Cromwell Road & the allotment behind** with ten dwellings have both been refused by the Planning Committee, the first being against the officers' recommendation to permit.

A second scheme has been submitted to change the shop front at **Stanmore News, 86A Cromwell Road**. Although the windows would now have the small panes that are characteristic of the other shops in the area, it is still proposed that the entrance should be moved because of the problems supposedly suffered by "flustered" elderly customers when the shop is busy. No drawing of the internal layout was provided to justify the proposed alteration of the existing central doorway, so it could not be judged whether or not relocating the entrance would help. Every shop in this crescent-shaped parade has a centrally placed entrance, including the unfortunate modern shop front of the Post Office, and we again objected, feeling that offsetting the entrance in the way proposed would be out of keeping with the original design concept for the street scene, as well as being detrimental to the appearance of the building.

Another scheme that surfaced more than once during the past few months involved the enlargement of the existing rear dormer and the addition of a rear extension at intermediate first-floor level at **7 Clifton Terrace**. On both occasions it was claimed that precedents had been set by other rear extensions in the terrace and an enlarged rear dormer that had regrettably been allowed at No 9 some time in the past. The rear of the terrace is visible from Clifton Hill, and all the other houses in this listed terrace have small two-light rear dormers similar to the present one at No 7, so although the size of the dormer had been slightly reduced in the second proposal we continued to object to it as being detrimental to the character of the Conservation Area and the appearance of the terrace. The scheme has just been refused for a second time.

Peninsula Barracks

A number of new directional signs have been proposed for **Peninsula Barracks, Romsey Road**. Although individually tasteful and acceptable we felt there would be far too many of them, especially if they were in addition to the signs already in place, and eight seemed to provide information already given elsewhere; there are also to be some interpretative free-standing maps, but it was not clear whether they were to be additions or replacements to those that are already there. We objected, suggesting that further thought should be given to the signage being proposed. The installation of external and internal air conditioning units is also being proposed for **North Block, Peninsula Barracks**, to which we have objected on the grounds of

inadequate information, feeling that the description of “a cage and galvanised box” for the external unit and a drawing showing it as a large cube obscuring the sill of a ground floor window were insufficient for a Listed Building in this sensitive position.

Staple Gardens is about to have a facelift: the unexciting Staple Chambers is to be demolished for a block with offices on the ground floor and 11 flats above. The architect gave us a helpful presentation of his interesting scheme, and we welcomed the high level of sustainability and the fact that the positions of TV satellite discs and burglar alarms were to be prescribed as part of the application.

An influx of broadband cabinets is about to descend on Winchester. They could scarcely be called things of beauty, and will be large (1.6m high x 1.2m wide x 450mm deep), and their proposed siting did not indicate that any thought was given to how they would look in the street scene. We found only two of the chosen sites acceptable: one at the top of **St Swithun Street** and the other at **Alresford Road/St John** at the back of a reasonably wide pavement and with a background of trees and shrubs. We objected to the other five positions proposed for these ugly boxes: at the back of the pavement close to the railway bridge parapet on **Romsey Road**, in front of the low retaining wall of the Southgate Peugeot dealership in **St Cross Road**, in front of the attractive brick and flint wall of the Old Coach House in **Edgar Road** near the corner with Ranelagh Road, in **St John’s Street** where it would intrude on the appearance of the Joyce Gardens area, and in **King Alfred Place** where its position in front of a strip of private land would make it appear isolated and visually intrusive. Technology can be a wonderful thing, but we should not let it ride roughshod over our historic city!

Shione Carden

Barton Farm Public Inquiry - TrustNews Mar 11



Barton Farm Development Plan

The Public Inquiry into Cala Homes proposal for 2000 homes at Barton Farm is taking place as this TrustNews goes to press. The Trust is following the proceedings closely and Michael Carden has presented the following statement on behalf of the Trust.

1. The Trust is the civic society for Winchester town, founded in 1957 as the Winchester Preservation Trust but subsequently changing its name to avoid the impression that we are opposed to change. We have always held that

what we aim to preserve is the character of the City and that much of its character has been derived from continuing change over the years, which should not be arbitrarily halted in any particular period. Our concern therefore is that change should be managed to retain and enhance the City's character. The Trust has some 800 members with an administrative council of 15.

2. We regard the Barton Farm development to be of an unprecedented scale for the periodic growth of the City, with a number of harmful implications for its Infrastructure, which (apart from an aspect of affordable housing to be dealt with in a statement by Harvey Cole) are all mentioned by other groups and individuals, so that heeding your request I shall not repeat them. But we must stress the effect of filling-in one of the 'green wedges' that are fundamental to the exceptional landscape setting of the City that Kim Wilkie, the internationally renowned landscape architect, regards as unique in this country and only surpassed in Europe by the city of Florence. In his summary for the SBF Group Gavin Blackman called for national recognition and protection of the remaining towns that have such settings. Quite independently the Trust has embarked on a campaign to introduce via Civic Voice (the successor to the Civic Trust), legislation for what we have called Heritage Town Status with similar characteristics to the successful Conservation Area legislation that halted the well-intentioned but disastrous destruction of our town and village centres 50 years ago.
3. Finally, we noted your question about the City's commendable Blueprint initiative and Nigel Green's reply. We should like to add that the City of Winchester Trust joined with two other groups (Winchester Action on Climate Change and Winchester Area Community Action) to respond to the City's invitation that, in the absence of a town council, we should give our views on the future development of the City. In addition to a series of intensive joint group meetings to study the issues, we held an open meeting to test our conclusions in public. The resulting written response was returned to the Council. I will only quote one of the five recommendations:
"Before the LDF is written all existing evidence, together with further predictions, should be drawn together in the form of a comprehensive Urban Capacity Report, which is in an accessible form for public engagement, showing all potential urban land in the City and surrounding villages that might become a vailable for development. The object is to show the extent to which housing and commerce might be contained within the urban areas, and to assess how much additional green field land might be required."
4. This we believe is the essence of Localism; it would be premature to prejudice its influence by allowing such a huge development as Barton Farm to proceed on the basis of out-of-date, gap-filling planning criteria that permit extravagant use of land. Soon-to-be-necessary sustainable densities could more than halve the land-take and potentially save the 'wedge' and reduce the wider use of open land.

Following Michael Carden's evidence, Harvey Cole presented a statement on behalf of the Trust regarding affordable homes. He argued convincingly that Cala's claim that the provision of affordable homes was a major justification for the development was unfounded because the numbers could not solve the growing shortfall. Nevertheless he urged that if the development were approved, there should be a

condition that the 40% proportion of affordable homes must be provided at each phase of the development and not left to the end.

Heart of the City Awards - TrustNews Mar 11

Love Winchester? Love its buildings? Then tell us!

The City of Winchester Trust in partnership with the Hampshire Chronicle are asking for the people of Winchester, residents and visitors, to nominate their favourite buildings. The top nominated buildings and structures will then be put to the public vote to discover which building wins the hearts of those who love Winchester.

The buildings must be within the city of Winchester but can be any building of any age or type. Nominations should fall under one of these categories.
Design Delights
Amazing Ancients
Hidden History
Creative Contemporary
Personal Places

Nominations open on 1st March and will close on 8th April 2011. The top nominated buildings will then be subject to a public vote, opening on 1st May. The winners will be announced at a special event, hosted by the Mayor of Winchester on 25th June which is national Civic Day.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for people who love Winchester to tell us which building is their favourite and we hope these awards will encourage people to talk about the fantastic places and structures that we have here in Winchester" said Iain Patton, Chairman of the City of Winchester Trust.

Special articles in the Hampshire Chronicle

Nominations in the Personal Places category will also be considered for inclusion in a series of special articles in the Hampshire Chronicle during July featuring those buildings that mean so much to the people of Winchester but which may have a personal rather than public importance. Please send a paragraph about your personal place with your nomination (max 500 words).

Nominations can be made in a number of ways.

By post To Heart of the City Awards,
The Heritage Centre,
32 Upper Brook St,
Winchester, SO23 8DG

By phone Leaving a message on 01962 851664

By email HCAwards@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

Web Leaving a message on the Trust's website at :
www.cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

Please make sure you include the building, its address, the category, plus your name and contact details with the nomination. All who nominate a building will be entered into a prize draw to win some fantastic donated prizes including tickets to local attractions. Details of the top nominated buildings and how to vote for your favourite will be available after nominations close on 8th April.

So get nominating, tell us the building that you love in Winchester! It might just win a Heart of the City award!

HAMPSHIRE CHRONICLE

Itchen Navigation Project - TrustNews Mar 11



Itchen Navigation

The Itchen Navigation towpath provides a footpath which gives wonderful access to the banks of the Itchen for us all.

So, what is a navigation? A canal is a completely new cut, whereas a navigation is an improved river, made by using and improving the river and digging new cuts. The Itchen Navigation runs from Wharf Bridge in Winchester to Woodmill in Southampton, a distance of about 17 km (10½ miles) and was constructed in the late 17th century, mainly to transport coal and other goods from Southampton to Winchester. Barge owners paid a toll to the owners of the Navigation and the tolls

helped maintain the locks and banks. Partly owing to competition from the railway, the last barge travelled in 1869.

By the early years of this century, although the Navigation was becoming a great place for wildlife, water was leaking through the banks and the footpaths were being worn away and flooded. The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is leading a five year conservation project on behalf of a wider partnership including the Environment Agency, Natural England, the Inland Waterways Association and local councils. The Heritage Lottery Fund are providing two-thirds of the project funding with partner organisations and public donations making up the balance.

In selected areas the project team is repairing the banks and improving the footpath. The end result will be stable riverbanks, conservation and enhancement of important wildlife habitats, a better footpath and more information for the local community about why the Itchen Navigation is so special in terms of wildlife, history and recreation.

The project has completed bank engineering works in several areas, including Brambridge-Allbrook and Shawford. At the time of writing, the path between Hockley and Twyford Meads is closed for work. A wildlife-friendly approach called ‘bioengineering’ is being used with great success. The banks are built up with chalk and vegetation is transplanted to the front, held in place with bundles of hazel (called faggots). Once established, the vegetation protects the bank from erosion as well as providing a nesting area for water birds, food for water voles, and a place for insects and small fish to live. You can observe the plants establishing along the banks at Shawford, Brambridge and Allbrook.

Work has been carried out to uncover and preserve some of the major locks along the Navigation, including Mansbridge and St Catherine’s Locks. Four new milestones designed by artist Abigail Downer have been installed (at Mansbridge, Stoke Lock, Shawford and Garnier Road) to commemorate the charging of the tolls on the Navigation.

For more information about the history of the Navigation, the project and events or if you would like to get involved, visit www.itchennavigation.org.uk or contact the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust on 01489 774400.

Mary Parker

The Square - TrustNews Mar 11


Decorated Bollard

The City and County Councils recently consulted the Trust on their proposals to reconstruct, repave and control traffic in The Square. The Trust's response is reproduced below.

The Trust is very impressed with the work recently completed in the High Street and pleased to see that this is now to be continued into The Square.

We support the use of York stone flagstones for the footways and the use York stone paviors in part of the carriageway. We are disappointed that the paviors are not proposed for the whole length of The Square but recognise the financial constraints.

We fee l strongly that whatever material is used for that centre section, it should be easy to maintain and easy to match. The special light coloured material which we were shown seemed too specialised and impossible to match once disturbed by the utilities. We do not think surface dressing is appropriate either. We would support the reuse of the existing blocks in this part of the scheme. We think that the parking bays should be the same material as the main carriageway to minimise the number of different surface treatments.

We note the proposal to plant two trees within the scheme. Whist we support the use of street trees we do not feel they are essential in this street.

It is imperative that existing features such as the gas lamp and the stone kerbs in Great Minster Street are retained but we would like to see traffic signs (No entry etc) mounted more neatly with poles and lighting brackets of better quality and design. Within the Trust, there are very mixed views about decorated bollards, however, all agree that decorative artwork should only be used if it is to be regularly renewed and maintained.

We support any proposal that reduces traffic in the central area of Winchester and welcome these proposals to exclude traffic at certain times. However we feel that the exact timing of restrictions should be resolved through consultation with those businesses and residents most directly affected.

The Scheme has now been approved for construction in 2011 subject to the approval of traffic regulation orders to reduce traffic impact and the receipt of a

financial contribution from Winchester City Council. Consideration is also being given to introduce a 20 miles per hour speed limit through the Square. A final decision is also awaited on the carriageway surfacing material.

Summer Evening Walks 2011 - TrustNews Mar 11

We are publishing the programme of walks in two parts this year, with the first half in the March edition of Trust News and the second half, from the end of July to the beginning of September, in the June edition. The subjects listed in this edition are historical, covering a variety of aspects of Winchester's past. The later part of the programme will include some up-to-date topics, so I hope you will find much to interest you in the selection we have arranged.

As always we rely heavily on members and friends of the Trust and I am very grateful for the suggestions and recommendations for guides and subjects. Some we have been able to include this year and others we will try and accommodate in the future. Do please continue to make suggestions.

The Trust Council has been thinking about the numbers we can comfortably and safely accommodate on each walk and it is clear that on some occasions the popularity of the subject has meant we have exceeded what is a sensible number. We have had comments about this from both guides and those attending.

We have in previous years encouraged everyone planning to attend a walk to book by contacting the Trust in advance at the Heritage Centre. We would like to repeat this request for 2011. You can do this by email or telephone message and should do this no later than 9.30am the day before a walk, which will be on the Wednesday of each week. This will help us to gauge the popularity of each walk and decide whether to limit numbers. Priority will be given to those who book in advance and, if numbers are found to be too many, we will have to say no to those who attend without notice.

It is not easy to predict which walks will attract high numbers, but based on the experience of previous years and the nature of the walk we have indicated in the programme where booking in advance is particularly advised.

We will keep these arrangements under review and are open to any comments made by our members.

As always, non members are very welcome. Meet at 6.20pm for a 6.30pm start.Suggested donation £2 to the Trust.

John Beveridge

2nd June	**From the Castle to Peninsula Barracks** Meet St James Terrace (North end) Booking in advance advised	**Andrew Rutter** Retired City Council Conservation Officer
9th June	**Winchester in 1818** Meet at Heritage Centre Upper Brook St	**Richard Baker** Retired Architect and Planner
16th June	**The Great Hall** Meet at the entrance in Castle Avenue Booking in advance advised	**Jim Humberstone** Retired County planning and Conservation Officer
23rd June	**From Westgate to Fulflood** Meet at the Westgate	**Phil Yates** Local author and historian
30th June	**Orams Arbour and its Neighbourhood** Meet by water fountain at Eastern edge Booking in advance advised	**George Saumarez Smith** Director Robert Adam Architects
7th July	**Hyde and Seek** (Hyde through the centuries) Meet at Hampshire Record Office	**Mike Craze and Colin Cook** Registered Winchester City Guides
14th July	**Winchester College** Meet at entrance in College Street Booking in advance advised	**Simon Goddard** Chartered Surveyor
21st July	**From Waterloo to Winchester** Wellington's connections with the City Meet at Westgate	**Geraldine Buchanan** Registered Tourist Guide

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Events - TrustNews Mar 11

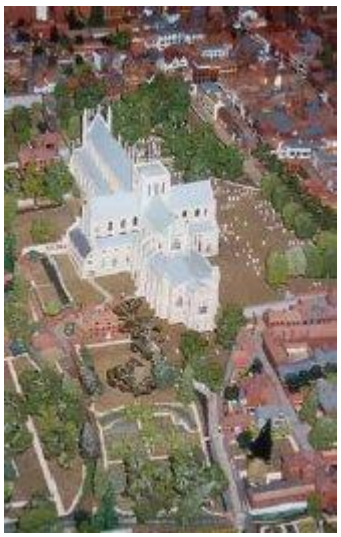
The Trust is planning some interesting events for 2011 which are open to all members.

12th May	Study of Pre-Raphaelite glass. Starting at Winchester Cathedral. Drive to garden in New Forest for picnic and then to Lyndhurst Church. Guide in each church. Own transport.
June	(Date to be fixed) Visit to New Place, a Lutyens house near Shedfield, now a Hotel, with lunch there. Own transport.
TBA	(Date to be fixed) Visit to the BedZed development in South London. Those who attended the AGM last September will recall the presentation given by Sue Riddlestone, Executive Director & Co-Founder of BioRegional. This will be a guided visit with a fee of £25 per person. Transport by train possible, taking advantage of the "4 for 2" tickets

Sept	A trip to Malvern. Planning of this is in early stage and continuance will depend on expressions of firm interest. We would be assisted by the Malvern Civic Society. There is much to see: Malvern Abbey is splendid, associations with Elgar, a tour of this Victorian spa town in its beautiful setting, a walk on the hills above the town, Morgan Motor company and nearby Ledbury. There is a wonderful house by C.F.A.Voysey nearby. An overnight stay will be necessary (Malvern is about 2.5 hours from Winchester) but this will give the opportunity to visit other places on the way there or back or to extend the trip.

Please register your interest with the secretary who may require a deposit of £10 (returnable if the event is not viable). Further details and updates will be circulated by e-mail. Members without that facility should register with the secretary.

We must save this model! - TrustNews Mar 11



Roger Brown Model of Winchester

Following his retirement as County Planning Officer in 1987, Roger Brown spent over seven years constructing a fabulous model representing Winchester as it was in the 1870's. Coming in at nearly 15 feet in diameter the model needs a large space for display and all attempts to find a permanent home have so far failed. It is currently stored in boxes and its future remains very uncertain. The Trust recognises that this model is a valuable asset with potential interest to tourists, historians and teachers as well as local residents. We are working hard to find a custodian of the model so that it can be preserved and displayed. If you have any ideas or suggestions please contact the secretary.

Organisation - TrustNews Mar 11

President	His Honour Christopher Clarke QC
Vice President	Lord Ashburton KG KCVO DL
Vice President	Donald Insall CBE FSA RWA FRIBA FRTPI SP dipl (Hons)

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Vice Chairman/Policy Group	Michael Carden MBE AAdip RIBA
Vice Chairman	Robin Merton
	John Beveridge
Chair Planning Appraisal Group	Shione Carden BA
Chair Policy Group	Patrick Davies
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Websiter	Barrie Brinkman
PR & Publicity	Sharon Watson

Useful Websites - TrustNews Mar 11

http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/ provides details of Listed Buildings throughout the country. The inspiration behind this website came from the realisation that there isn't a simple, UK-wide database of listed buildings that's accessible via the Internet. It is an unofficial site but appears to be pretty accurate, if a little awkward to use.

What a Load of Rubbish! - TrustNews Mar 11

Thursday 10th March
Project Integra

Waste Management in Hampshire
John Redmayne

Thursday 14th April
"Rubbish on Our Streets"

Members meeting led by
trust Council members

All talks take place at the Heritage Centre
32 Upper Brook Street, starting at 7.00pm.

Suggested donation of £2.50 per person. Tea & Coffee will be available

Space at the Heritage Centre is limited,
so please arrive in good time to avoid disappointment.
Space will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

For more information please contact the secretary on 01962 851664
or email secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

New Members - TrustNews Mar 11

A warm welcome to the following new members
Mrs C. York
Mr G. R. Wilson

A reception for new members will be held at the Music School, Winchester College on 14th April. Invitations will be issued shortly.