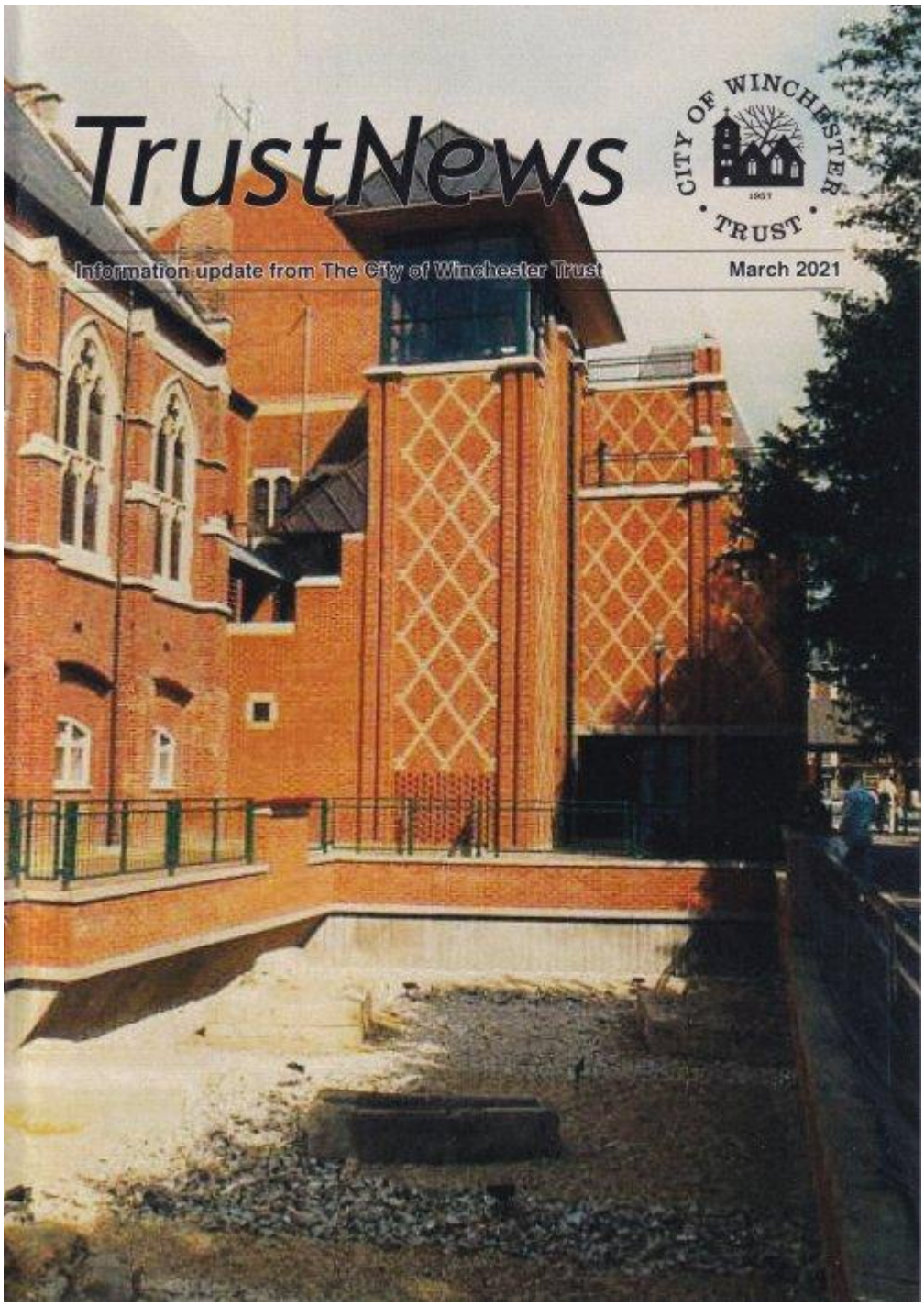
East side of Guildhall image - TrustNews Mar 21



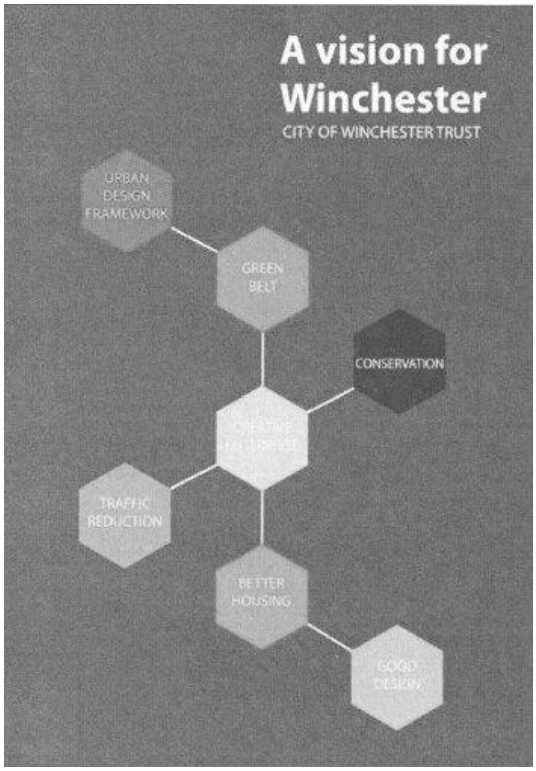
East side of the Guildhall, with foundations of Nunnaminster (later St Mary's Abbey) founded about 900 by King Alfred's widow Ealhswith. CWT photo

Chairman's Jottings - TrustNews Mar 21

Every time the Trust News date for article submissions comes around, I go into a slight state of panic and wonder what on earth there is to write about, particularly as

the same development subjects come around and around with very little appearing to be resolved. No doubt progress on development sites has been disrupted by the Covid virus lockdowns, as well as the difficulties in forecasting the type of growth required post Covid.

One of the many subjects we endlessly debate, is the need to plan and coordinate movement around the City and the development of individual sites. In 2018 the Trust published 'A Vision for Winchester'. The first Vision was for the production of a Citywide Urban Design Framework.



A vision for Winchester

This would coordinate and set out the movement strategy for the City and show arrangements to control and reduce traffic, routes for pedestrians and cyclists, pedestrian areas and open spaces, bus and coach routes, taxi stands, and inner and outer parking sites. Into this coordinated movement context, would be shown the links, access and servicing arrangements for each individual site proposed for development.

With this Framework, masterplans can then be prepared for significant development sites. These would, in the City centre, be for the Cattle Market in Andover Road, Station Approach, the Central Area (Silver Hill) and River Park, and elsewhere for sites such as the Sir John Moore Barracks site at Flowerdown, on the northern edge of the City. We have at the moment a series of separate studies, such as the Movement Strategy and A Vision for Winchester and individual development proposals progressing without a Framework. Our call is for Winchester to have a coherent and comprehensive approach towards transport and land use planning for the City.

Keith Leaman

Planning Appraisal Group - TrustNews Mar 21

We are very pleased that Graeme Stevenson has taken over from Mary Tiles as the chair of the Planning Appraisal Group. Graeme studied at Kingston School of Art and practiced as an architect in Winchester from 1980 until 2015, providing services to private and commercial clients in Hampshire and London. His projects ranged from residential schemes to office and regeneration developments, incorporating contemporary and traditional as appropriate to environmental and historic contexts, and he won three architectural awards. He has been an active member of the North East Hampshire Design Review Panel. Now retired, Graeme has retained his RIBA membership and continues to take an active interest in the evolving roles of architecture and planning and their impact upon the built environment. We are very fortunate to have him on board.

Once again we would like to thank our four volunteer review panels for continuing to carry out, despite the difficulties caused by the lockdown, their important work of reviewing the planning applications that are submitted to the City Council every month. If you have an interest in planning and development in Winchester and would be interested in joining a panel, please contact our secretary Tessa at secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk. The role involves an hour or so once a month.

Most applications involve small alterations and extensions to residences, but there are an increasing number of applications being submitted as permitted development, the rules on which are set by central government and so cannot be legally refused by City Council planners. This is of concern to the Trust, particularly as the Government is looking to expand what is allowed under permitted development. The Trust has recently responded to a Government consultation on this issue; you can find our response on our website - go to www.cityofwinchestertrustco.uk and then scroll down to the Latest News section.

Tessa Robertson

Shione Carden - TrustNews Mar 21



Shione Carden

As many of you will now know, Shione Carden died on the 4th of February. She had been taken to Winchester hospital with severe pain in her right hip and gradual loss of consciousness, and was quickly transferred to intensive care at Basingstoke Hospital where she died of sepsis without regaining consciousness.

Shione was born in India in 1934, her father having an appointment there as an engineer. The family returned to Northern Ireland on the outbreak of war and she spent her early years there before her father accepted an appointment in Derby where she completed her education. She then went to London and worked in the Foreign Office; it was during this time that she met Michael whom she married in 1957 in his final year as a student. Five years later they moved to Reigate after starting a family and then to Winchester in 1967 where Michael joined the Carpenter-Turner Architectural Practice, which became Burford, Marlow and Carden, and eventually the Radley House Partnership.

Shione became steeped in both architecture and Winchester which, of course, meant that she was an ideal candidate for the then Winchester Preservation Trust. Once Shione's children left home she decided to take a degree in environmental science, travelling to East Africa as part of her research - Michael acting as bagman. As a result of her studies, as many of you will know, Shione was both knowledgeable and very concerned about environmental issues.

As a member of the Trust, Shione discovered that an important strand of our work was examining planning applications and commenting on the design implications. She also recognised that the system in place was not very efficient, so she bravely undertook to reorganise the system, not an easy task when it involves so many people. The system we have in place today is Shione's and it is due to her that the comments are respected and have an impact on decision making by the Local Authority.

Thank you Shione tor making your talents available to the Trust, it has been a tough job to follow your lead, and we shall all miss you.

Keith Leaman

Revision of Winchester's Local Plan - TrustNews Mar 21

Strategic Issues and Priorities Consultation

Winchester City Council paused the review of the District□s local plan last year to address the two government planning consultations but has now restarted the process, publishing a Strategic Issues and Priorities document on their website in the middle of February for 8 weeks of public consultation which closes on 12 April (see WCC link below). The Trust has formed a group to compose its response and members are encouraged to respond individually. To help with this, we will arrange to make our views available for Trust members before the consultation ends.

There has been a lot of publicity about 'Royaldown', a development of 5,000 houses proposed to the South West of Winchester. While any landowner can promote land for housing or economic development, and many do, such as the continuing idea of a new town at Micheldever, in my view it is highly unlikely that either of these will be selected given the reduced housing requirement for the District and the number of developable sites in Winchester, including Sir John Moore Barracks and the station and cattle market areas and the central area.

But the current consultation does not extend to individual development sites; sites will be considered later, so the speculation is likely to continue for months to come. This consultation sets out and asks questions about 9 different issues which should be addressed by the new plan and there are some broader questions like how development should be allocated across the District, excluding 40% of the area which falls within the South Downs National Park that has its own local plan. It is good to see that the effects of climate change re highlighted and run through the whole consultation.

If anyone has any comments or questions about the consultation please get in touch with us.

WCC link: www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/winchester-district-local-plan-2018-2038-emerging/strategic-issues-document

John Beveridge

Government consultations on changes to the Planning System - TrustNews Mar 21

Government consultations on changes to the Planning System

From early August through to the end of October a small group worked on the Trust's response to two government planning papers published for public consultation ('Changes to the Planning System' and 'White Paper: Planning for the Future').

Housing Numbers

The topic which generated a lot of publicity was the new formula for calculating the number of houses allocated to each local authority in England. The Trust was one of many that opposed the formula in our response to the consultations and wrote to our MP, Steve Brine about the reforms as well. Many Conservative MPs including Steve attacked the new formula in a debate at Westminster as it resulted in the more rural areas being allocated many more houses. We were relieved that the Government agreed to reconsider the formula as a result of the strength of the parliamentary and other opposition and in December a ministerial statement set out revised proposals.

Although things may change later, the Government has largely returned to the old formula. In Winchester District, instead of an increase of more than 60% in the number of dwellings, the area is now required to plan for a much more modest

increase of about 10%. In the case of Winchester itself the annual rate is expected to rise from the current figure of 200 to, between 220 to 245 a year, depending on how the overall numbers are allocated around the District. This means accommodating between 1,229 and 1,729 dwellings up to 2038. These are the numbers which apply tor now but they may change later in the review of Winchester's local plan.

Reforms to Local Plans

The White Paper proposes wide ranging and substantial changes to the way local plans are prepared and what they should contain, with the objective of producing a simpler, faster and more predictable system. There was little detail making it difficult to understand how the changes would work and whether they would avoid unintended damaging consequences. Our response was one of 40,000 and we are waiting for the Government to digest them all and publicise any changes.

We think they are unrealistic in suggesting local plans can be produced more quickly, in 30 months, particularly as they are now expecting more information to be included for areas allocated for development which is currently provided when planning applications are made. They also want much more public involvement at this stage and much less when planning applications are made but they are allocating less time for consultation than we have normally experienced in Winchester with the preparations of local plans. We think it is unrealistic and wrong to try and restrict public comment and involvement when planning applications are made which has always been an important democratic feature of the planning system.

For a long time the Trust has criticised the standard of place making and the design of buildings, so we welcome the proposals to improve both of these with the use of design codes produced at both national and local level. Much depends for their success on the way they are introduced and implemented and how local authorities are resourced to employ officers with the necessary skills and seniority to oversee the production and use of the codes.

A completely new concept is the classification of all land into three types: 'Growth' which is suitable for development such as happened with the Kings Barton development; 'Protected' such as countryside and conservation areas which will retain their current treatment; and 'Renewal' areas which will apply to undesignated urban areas. It is unclear how these renewal areas will be managed as there is so little detail. Perhaps local plans will set out the type of development that would be acceptable in principle to reflect the character of different neighbourhoods. If it is significantly different from what is familiar then residents are likely to oppose changes and will need to react through the opportunities for consultation.

John Beveridge

Mark Dodd died peacefully in Winchester Hospital on November 29th, aged 90. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends. Mark was Controller of Overseas Services at the BBC and moved to Winchester in 1983. He was fully engaged in the life of the City he loved. He was an active member, and for some time a trustee, of the City of Winchester Trust and he enjoyed walking in the surrounding countryside. He was also a gifted painter and often exhibited at local shows. He is survived by his wife Shirley, five sons, nine grandchildren and one great grandson. Donations, if wished, to the Woodland Trust.

Traffic Circulation and Reduction - TrustNews Mar 21

I read with interest the articles in last year's issues of TrustNews, and would suggest that, unless some “outside of the box” thinking takes place about finding a solution, resolution will not be found by tinkering around with detail. Perhaps the following might stimulate some qualified, but original thinking:

A. there is, of course, a North/South path through Winchester, parallel with St Cross Road and Jewry Street - the railway line. In this day and age, creating a road over, or under a railway line, is neither impossible, nor difficult, and there are many examples all over the world. There are road/rail crossings at Stanmore Lane. Romsey Road, and Andover Road, where access could be provided by way of flyovers and slip roads.

B. the southern end could join the system in the area of the roundabout at the end of St Cross Road, and the northern end would access the A34 and, perhaps, on to M3 – filtering any northbound M3 traffic from the A34/M3 junction.

C. East/West lines are more difficult, but with a radical approach to North Walls/City Road and demolition of sections of the North side thereof, road widening would be possible to provide two way traffic and connecting, at the Durngate end, with the existing circulatory system out of the City.

D. Multi-storey car parks would be provided, available to those going to the City centre, with an electric tram service to and from the High Street - single track with a passing area - along Upper Brook Street [those dispossessed of car parking would have their vehicles accommodated in reserved spaces in the new Parking facilities, or in the Brook Street Car Park.

E. ideally, one would move the County Council to the periphery of the City - Bar End? - turning the vacated space into residential (where better to live if one commuted to London) and commercial office accommodation, reducing traffic at busy times. This would provide vibrancy and demand in the City centre, encouraging shops to open - one might even have a City centre butcher's shop, or fishmonger.

F. George Street and Jewry Street would remain one way for local traffic, buses and deliveries only, exiting west up City Walls to the gyratory established there. It would not be inexpensive, certainly, nor would it be popular with all [making omelettes and breaking eggs applies], but something on those lines would resolve the problem.

John Seager Green

Walking and cycling improvements? - TrustNews Mar 21

Have your say on proposed walking and cycling improvements for Winchester.

Hampshire County Council is asking local people in Winchester for their views on proposals to improve walking and cycling infrastructure across the city centre.

The proposed schemes being consulted upon are:

North Walls - proposals include reallocation of road space to widen the footway and provide a two-way segregated cycle lane along North Walls from Hyde Street to Middle Brook Street.

City Centre North-South – proposals include widening the footway on the west side of Jewry Street by the Discovery Centre; maintaining existing temporary road closures to prevent through vehicular traffic movements at three locations along Hyde Street; permitting cycling on both St. Peter Street and Parchment Street; allowing cycling on Middle Brook Street on the pedestrianised section from Friarsgate to Silver Hill.

The Upper High Street and High Street - proposals to enable southbound cycling on Upper High Street from Station Road to Sussex Street along with some widening of the footway in places and enabling eastbound cycling on the top section of the High Street from The Westgate to Staple Gardens.

Romsey Road at Clifton Terrace - proposal to install a temporary signal-controlled 'puffin' pedestrian crossing to make it easier for pedestrians to cross Romsey Road at this location. To accommodate the new crossing, Clifton Terrace would be made 'No Entry' from Romsey Road and traffic would be only permitted to tum right when exiting from Clifton Terrace. Traffic will also be prohibited from entering Clifton Hill from the Clifton Terrace junction.

The feedback survey is open until Sunday 21 March. The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete.

The consultation is on the HCC web site at www.hants.gov.uk - under ‘Services’, click on ‘About the Council’, then ‘Have your say’, then ‘Consultations’. On the page about proposed walking and cycling improvements for Winchester you‘ll find links to an information pack and the response form. (https://www.hants.gov.uklaboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/winchester-improvements) Paper copies (including large print) can be obtained by calling 0370 779 7200.

Winchester in the Archives - TrustNews Mar 21

'A visitor who sees Winchester for the first time early in the morning on a sunny summer day will probably admit at once that he would have to travel far to find a more picturesque and, indeed, glorious background to the old buildings, towers, and spires in the foreground. Seventy years ago this wooded valley was bare downland.'So wrote Alderman Thomas Stopher, Winchester architect (1837-1926), in his opening paragraph of ‘Reminiscences of the City of Winchester Seventy Years Ago’. It was published in 1920, in Volume 9 of the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society, founded in 1885.

Many organisations have created digital archives of their publications. This article features a sample of the contents of three archives that cover aspects of the history and architecture of Winchester.

Hampshire Field Club: Hampshire Studies archive - www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk

1892 Vol 2 - The Old House in Cheesehill Street by G H Kitchen

1929 Vol 11 - St Catherine's Hill and the Origin of Winchester

1941 Vol 15 part 1 – Winchester Cathedral Close by T D Atkinson

1943 Vol 15 part 3 - The Appeal of Architecture by R H Luce

1953 Vol 18 part 1 - King Charles and Winchester College by M Toynbee

1961 Vol 22 part 1 - A notable family of artists: the Caves of Winchester by Barbara Carpenter Turner

1971 Vol 28 - A Gazetteer of Brick and Tile Works in Hampshire by W F C White

1974 Vol 31 - The lost theatres of Winchester 1620-1861 by P Ranger

1989 Vol 45. - The History and Archaeology of the Hyde Brewery: Part 1 The Archaeological Survey by M Doughty

Winchester Cathedral Record Archives - www.wincathrecord.org

1932 - St Swithun's Gate and The County and City Memorial

1958 - Had Winchester Cathedral a Central Spire? by John Harvey

1975 - The Cathedral Architect by Corinne Wilson

1992 - Robin Home McCall: Town Clerk of Winchester 1948-73

2011 - New Minster and the move to Hyde Abbey in 1110

The Georgian Group (founded in 1937) - www.georgiangroup.org.uk/journal

2002 Journal (Vol XII) - The lead-work at Winchester College School by Paul Holden<

As many of us have found during the 'lockdown', online browsing reveals a treasure trove of information. If there are other online archives that Members have found useful to further their knowledge about Winchester, please let us know.

Richard Baker

Update on City of Winchester Trust Archives - TrustNews Mar 21

Rick Anderson and I took over the Trust Archives at the end of 2019 and we decided on a major rebuild. A plan was made to remove all the contents and replace the original racking by new shelving and replacement box files. This plan had to be abandoned with the first lockdown. A joiner was given the job of removing the old racking, painting the room and building new access and shelving during the first Lockdown.

Once this was completed the existing files were reintroduced in their original coverings whilst we decided on the final box files to use. Lockdown 2 and 3 have resulted in little progress with this activity.

During Lockdown 1 the collection of slides donated by Andrew Rutter (over 700 slides) were digitised and added to the Collections on the Archives website. During the summer 2020 and subsequent lookdowns the collection of photos donated by Andrew Rutter (over 1600) were digitised. In addition all the photos in the Archives photo files and in the 128 Boxes were also digitised. A new collection called the 'Total Collection' was created including all these photos and all the previous slide collections. This is now on the Archives website and provides a complete display of all the slides and photos in our collection. There are over 9,000 images divided into 100 albums.


Rick Anderson in the new Archives

Barrie Brinkman

Sir John Moore Barracks - TrustNews Mar 21

Sir John Moore Barracks, which currently houses the Army Training Regiment, lies between Littleton and Harestock with the main entrance off the Andover Road. The Ministry of Defence has decided to close the base and it is to be vacated between 2022 and 2024. The MoD's Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), with consultants Avison Young, is planning to sell the barracks and the surrounding lands of Flowerdown for development of one sort or another. Public information can be found at https://avison-young.foleon.com/john-moore-barracks/john-moore-barrackslhomel (a Google search for "sir john moore barracks" should find this site). A consultation was held in December (the Trust's response is on our website under 'Latest News' and another, wider consultation is expected in the spring. Below is an aerial view of the site.

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Sir John More barracks site

Key: 1 - Military training area;

2 - Chapel;

3 - Site Access;

4 - Parade Ground;

5 - Indoor Sports Facility;

6 - Accommodation;

7 - Officers Mess.

The red line is the site boundary.

Acknowledgements to Avison Young and the DIO

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