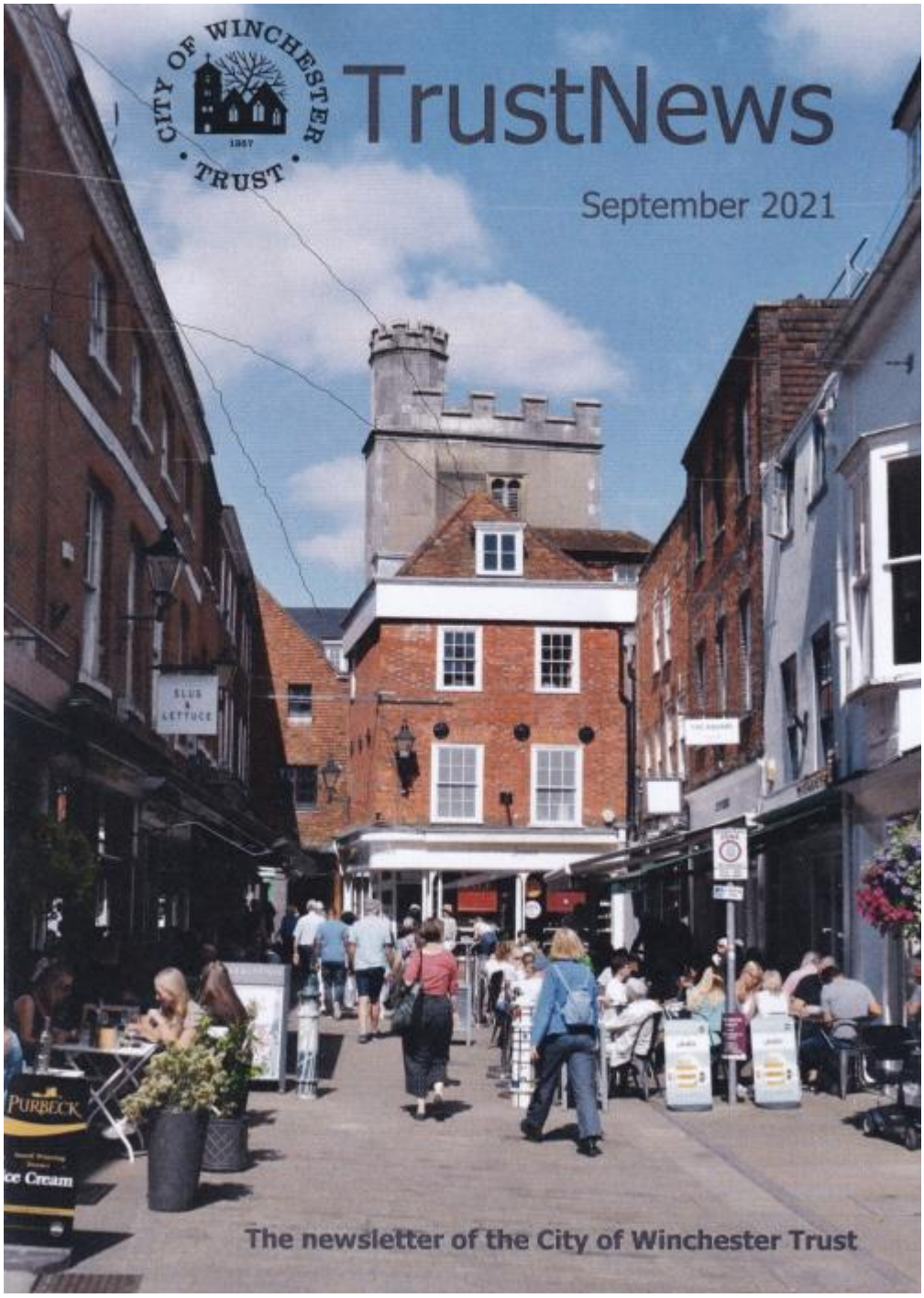
The Square towards St Lawrence Church - TrustNews Sep 21



View from The Square towards St Lawrence Church

Chairman's Jottings - TrustNews Sep 21


View of Cathedral

TrustNews

Welcome to the new look TrustNews.

John Stanning, who has taken responsibility for masterminding TrustNews for several years, has decided to retire for a much needed rest from organising the content and meeting deadlines, to chasing after volunteers who have promised articles but failed to meet deadlines: not always a simple task!

Thank you, John, for doing such an excellent job - it has been very much appreciated.

The baton has now been handed over to our secretary Tessa Robertson, who has taken on the production of TrustNews with the help of a small group of us in gathering interesting articles and making suggestions for content. Any ideas for articles would be gratefully received. You can email your suggestions to Tessa at editor@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk.

2021 AGM - Tuesday 5 October

We are very pleased that this year's AGM will be held â€˜in personâ€™ at St Peter's Pastoral Centre, Jewry Street. I look forward to welcoming you details are available.

Thoughts on place making and architectural style

Since architecture fanned out to embrace a wider public, there has always been a schism between styles. More recently this schism has revolved around “classical” versus “modern”. I personally don't think it matters. What does matter are other ingredients before considering the architectural style, for example hard/soft landscape spaces, scale, roads, footpaths, car parking etc. In other words, how one moves around and makes the experience a pleasure. Buildings add a three-

dimensional backcloth, helping to define and enhance the layout. Buildings should guide the eye, provide unexpected but pleasant surprises, highlights etc, all adding to the enjoyment and experience of walking about an area. Whether buildings are one style or another should not matter as long as they provide a convincing, well-considered, satisfying result.

However, there is today a major problem to upset the “delight” factor which seems to permeate everywhere, and that is the car. Huge efforts are needed to cater for cars in a satisfactory way. It is difficult to find a good solution to this conundrum.

Keith Leaman

Planning Appraisal Group - TrustNews Sep 21

PAG Chair **Graeme Stevenson** reports on the group's work over the last quarter.

It seems now, at last, that the PAG panels are able to return to face-to-face meetings at the Heritage Centre. It is to their credit that the members have been able to maintain purposeful discussion and assessments of the planning applications, every week, over the past 18 months of lockdown. Virtual meetings, whether by Zoom or exchange of emails, are never conducive to meaningful or conclusive debate. However, the panels were not daunted by the ordeal and we were able to continue one of the Trust's vital roles, keeping the City Council Planning Department updated with the Trust's comments on each and every planning application for the City.

Over the past quarter, most of the planning applications have been to do with private domestic projects and fewer commercial developments. Nevertheless, an increase in the desire to extend or alter buildings in a more unconventional and contemporary manner (not to be discouraged!) has taxed the panels' judgment where the use of inappropriate materials and architectural concepts have been proposed. On balance, the range of many modernisation schemes, both traditional and contemporary, has been well conceived, and found acceptable by the Panels.



Construction work at the multi-storey site in Bar End (Photo G Stevenson)

The multi-storey car park project on the Coventry House site at Bar End continues to be contentious. The first planning application, which Winchester City Council approved for itself in April 2021, has now been submitted to the High Court for Judicial Review. The Trust objected to this application and supported the concerns expressed by local residents and the South Downs National Park Authority. A second application has now been lodged by the City Council which purports to address some of the objections to the first application. This second application does not, however, address the Trust's original objection.



Construction work at the multi-storey site in Bar End (Photo G Stevenson)

Meanwhile, undeterred, the Council has started work on the site; this, presumably, being within the terms of the earlier planning consent for parking provision at ground level only. It is disappointing that the proposed multi-storey building will accommodate only slightly in excess of twice the number of parking spaces proposed at ground level.

It is hoped that with the reinstatement of quarterly meetings between the City Council's Planning Department and the Trust, we can look forward to more in-depth discussions. These will provide a platform for clarification of current planning procedures and responses to any planning dilemmas the Trust might have.

Once again we thank the PAG panel members, who are all volunteers, for carrying out their important work. We have a number of vacancies on our panels at present, so if you have an interest in planning and development in Winchester and would like to become a member of a panel, please contact Tessa at secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk. It's not a big commitment - just an hour or two per month - and no experience is necessary - training will be provided.

The Trust welcomes informative comments from local people, but must avoid being influenced by vested interests or personal matters. Individuals who believe their interests are being affected by proposed schemes are advised to Contact their Ward Councillors, who have more inï¬‚uence over such matters. If you would like to see details or Trust objections to planning applications and their fate, please go to the monthly PAG reports on our website.

Silver Hill to Central Winchester Regeneration to Saxongate - TrustNews Sep 21

Richard Baker gives an update and charts the history of this frustrating development project



View from Friarsgate towards the Bus Station

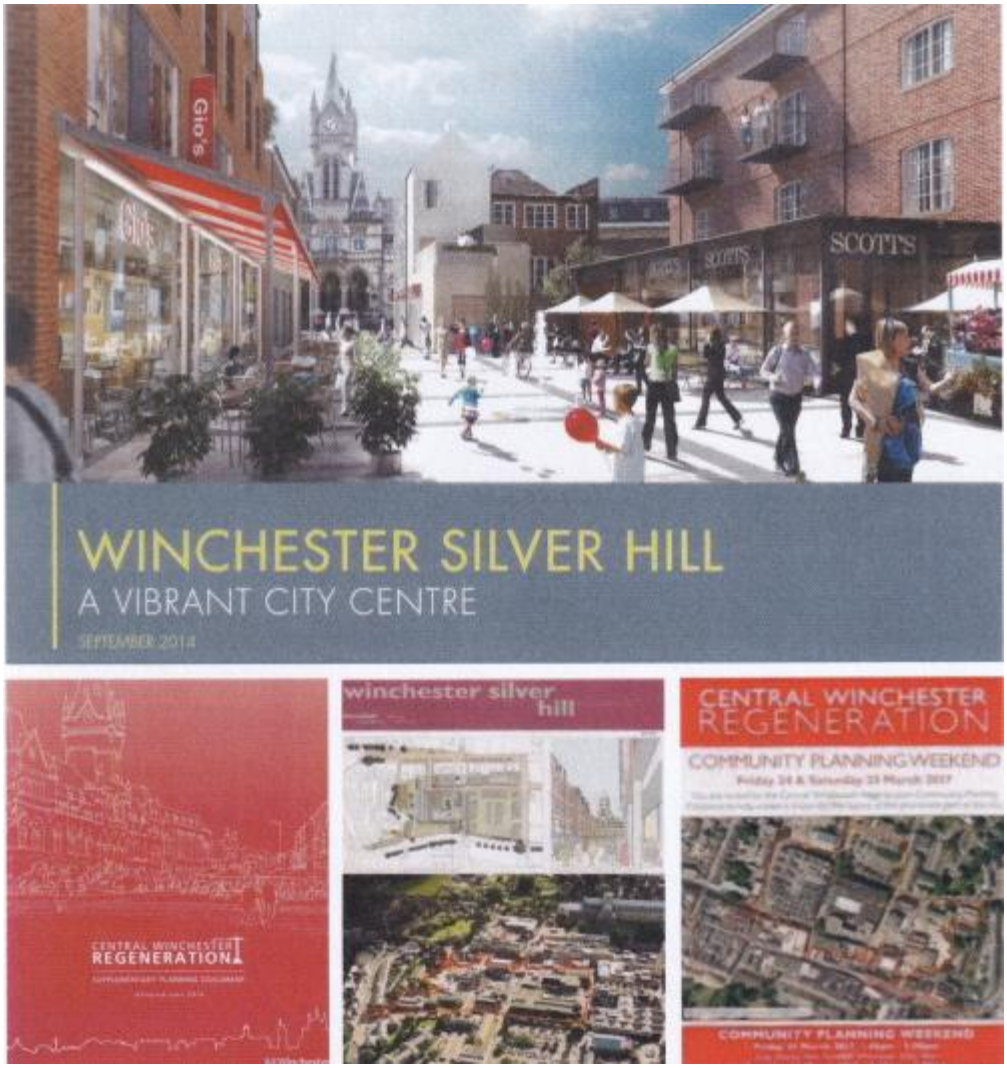
For 26 years the Trust has attended numerous Council meetings and made many representations, to influence and secure a development in central Winchester worthy of taking its place in the middle of our historic City.

At a meeting of the City Council Cabinet in July, members were asked to endorse a report setting out the Council's business case and development options for the regeneration of the Central Area.

The Trust wrote to all members of Cabinet expressing strong concern about the direction being taken on the development and the planning processes being recommended for approval.

In the letter, the Trust urged that the Council take two measures to get this project on track and maintain compliance with the guidance set out in the Supplementary Planning Guidance adopted in 2018.

The first measure is to have a development process that engages with multiple developers, and not a single developer. The second measure is for the Council to produce a masterplan for the site. Both these measures would enable the Council, both as landowner and planning authority, to maintain strong control over the development.



Just some of the plans, glossy brochures and Consultations produced during the long-running saga

Regretfully, the process that the Council is now choosing to follow, of working with a single developer and not producing a masterplan, is one that the Trust cannot support.

Richard Baker

Central Area Timeline - TrustNews Sep 21



Central Area (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

1995 - Winchester City Council considered the planning and transportation future of the rundown Silver Hill area

1997 - Consultants Llewelyn-Davies, appointed by WCC, produced a draft Planning Brief

1998 - Thornfield Properties and Stagecoach entered into a joint venture agreement

1999 - Planning Brief went out for public consultation

2001 - Following legal advice WCC started discussions with Thornfield to encourage the redevelopment of the site and maintain significant control of the process

2003 - The WCC Local Plan Committee considered a revised draft Planning Brief which went out for public consultation, was modified following comments and adopted by full Council

2004 - Following a period of discussion and negotiation, a development agreement was signed between WCC and Thornfield

2006 - Planning application ref: 06/01901 (562 documents) made by Thornfield Properties, architects, Allies and Morrison, permitted

2009 - Thornfield Properties (London and Henley) granted planning permission, for amended plans ref:06/01901, for mixed use development

2009 - Thornfield entered into administration

2013 - Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government confirmed compulsory purchase order to facilitate the acquisition of all the relevant lands within the Silver Hill site

2014 - TIAA Henderson Real Estate, architects Allies and Morrison, granted planning permission ref:14/01912 (1372 documents), for variation of 2006 permission to develop 2ha mixed use site for Silver Hill to replace bus station with 'on street bus bays', plus changes to arrangements for land uses

2015 - Judicial Review brought by Kim Gottlieb against WCC

2016 - Contract between WCC and TH Real Estate, previously known as Henderson, was terminated, following a High Court ruling that the Council had acted unlawfully by allowing the developer to revise plans without putting the scheme back out to commercial tender

2016 - February - publication of Claer Lloyd-Jones report entitled, 'A Perfect Storm', which cast blame on the management systems within WCC

2016 - December - WCC appoint John Thompson and Partners (JTP), architects and planners, to reconsider the future of the 4.5ha site

2017 - March - Community Planning weekend

2017 - March - City Council purchases freehold of bus station from Stagecoach

2018 - June - WCC adopts Supplementary Planning Document for Central Winchester Regeneration

2019 - Council appoints Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL), supported by Arup as its strategic placemaking consultant



Central Area (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

Richard Baker

What is 'Winchesterness'? - TrustNews Sep 21

Keith Leaman has a go at defining it.


Eastgate Street (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

When addressing a description for development in Winchester, Winchester City Council often uses the word 'Winchesterness' (a term I am not keen on) to help describe its expectations for development areas. What exactly does this mean? Asked to describe 'Winchesterness', the general public would almost certainly give a variety of descriptions for their idea of what Winchester should look and feel like.



Colebrook Street (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

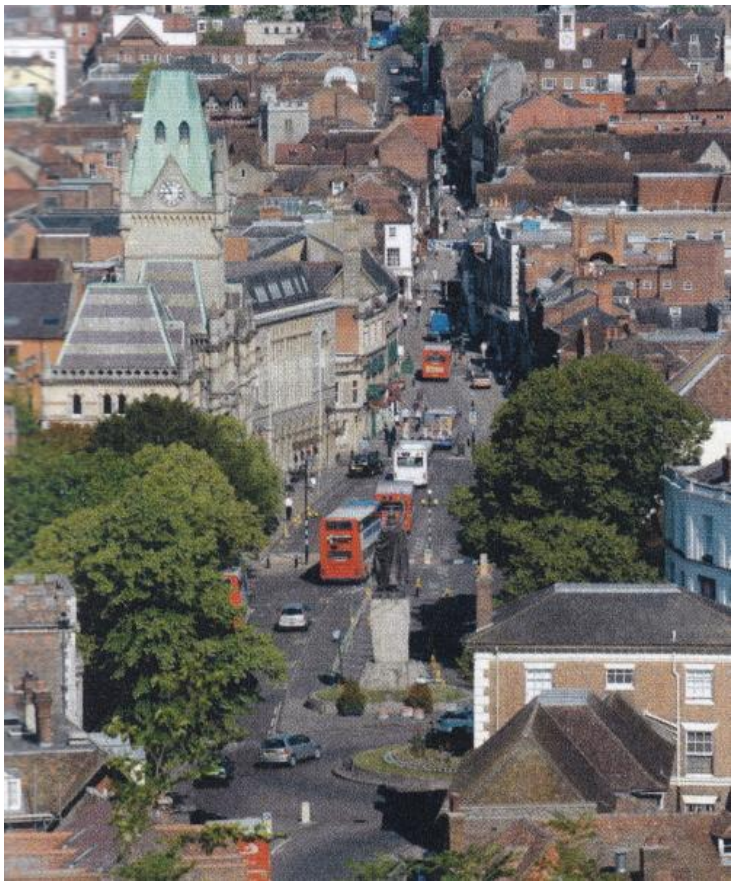
One of the characteristics of Winchester is that its streets are all different in scale. In addition, the style and size of buildings differ, and materials vary. For example, St Thomas Street differs from Jewry Street, which differs from Parchment Street, and so on.



High Street (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

The City, for me is defined by the street layout, with the High Street spine and the narrow Saxon period layout spreading to the old city wall position. The buildings obviously follow the street form, many varying in width, although the predominant

scale is that of a vertical pattern, not a horizontal one. Where this occurs, the pattern tends to jar the eye. An example of this is the building at the north west corner of St Georges Street where it meets Jewry Street, which is not 'Winchesterness'!



The Broadway and the High Street (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

It is interesting to consider the HCC building that takes up much of Tower Street. Not so long ago this stood out with its alien horizontal banding, but the building has recently been refurbished with vertical bays of brickwork, and this results in a huge visual improvement, particularly when viewed from the other side of Winchester.

How can the character of Winchester be defined?

Narrow, ancient street pattern, punctuated with surprises such as passages leading to different visual experiences, a variety of materials, a variety of styles, varying scales in both widths and heights. Building heights are generally a mix of two, three and four storeys, with steeply pitched roofs (the pitched roof is an important feature of Winchester, particularly in the Centre, as this whole area can be viewed from the slopes that rise away from the centre. Other important ingredients that add delight are detailing, spaces and trees if you look down on to central Winchester from St Giles Hill, it is surprising how many trees there are. They are a major contributor to the overall character which is Winchester.

These, for me, are some of the ingredients that make up the mix that is the character of Winchester. It would be interesting to hear your ideas on what you consider the character of Winchester to be. So please send in your examples!

Keith Leaman

Can historic buildings play their part in tackling climate change? - TrustNews Sep 21

A new report says they can - but only if the government takes action.



New Court Trinity College, Cambridge (Photo: Tim Soar)

A new report* published by Grosvenor Britain & Ireland and written together with Donald Insall Associates, argues that historic buildings can play a leading role in the fight against climate change.

Around 500,000 buildings in England alone are protected by statutory listing, and hundreds of thousands more are situated in conservation areas. They cover many building types from stately homes to public buildings, terraced streets and blocks of social housing.

Excellent work to make historic buildings more energy efficient is already being done by some architects, contractors, building owners and research institutions. Four examples, ranging from residential homes to listed industrial buildings, are included in the report to show what can be done (see photos). But this work is very often done despite the planning system rather than because of it.

Policy that is inconsistent and inconsistently applied, fragmented guidance and a skills gap offer little help to building owners, leaving a substantial percentage of UK building stock vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and preventing them from contributing to the Government's net zero aims.



De Beauvoir Block, Hackney, London (Photo: Nick Kane)



Clapham Terraced House, London (Photo Arboreal Architecture)

The potential carbon savings from making these buildings more energy efficient could be vast. The report estimates that improvements to listed buildings in England and Wales, combined with unlisted historic dwellings in conservation areas, could deliver carbon savings equivalent to 5% of the UK's carbon emissions associated with all buildings in 2019.

But for this to happen, the report says that five core issues have to be addressed: policy, guidance, cost, supply chain skills and capacity in local government. The report urges the Government to use the impetus of planning reform and this

autumn's COP26 climate summit to commit to aligning heritage protection and environmental sustainability much more closely in the National Planning Policy Framework, and to include policies for carbon reduction in relation to all designated heritage assets, excluding scheduled ancient monuments.

The report's conclusions have been developed over the last six months in discussion with a group of partners including the National Trust, Historic England, Peabody, Southern Housing Group and The Crown Estate. Historic England was also a consultee and the report reflects many of its views.

Cordula Zeidler, Consultant, Donald Insall Associates, and co-author of the paper, said: "Historic buildings are beautiful, inherently adaptable and have stood the test of time. We must build on these great qualities and allow them to evolve to become more energy efficient and resilient to climate change."

"This report, Heritage & Carbon: how historic building can help tackle the climate crisis, can be downloaded at www.grosvenor.com/heritageandcarbon

---

Reducing your home's carbon footprint - TrustNews Sep 21

Stuart Mills from Winchester Action on Climate Change on a new initiative.



Staple Gardens, Winchester (Photo WinACC)

Have you been thinking about reducing your home's carbon footprint?

Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC) has recently launched Winchester Area SuperHomes, an exciting new project aimed at reducing domestic energy use across the District.

Energy use in the home is responsible for around 20% of direct carbon emissions. Winchester Area SuperHomes supports homeowners to transform the energy performance of their properties by retrofitting and so reduce their carbon emissions.

Retrofitting means changing your home so it needs less energy to keep warm, and changing the heating from gas, oil or solid fuel to electric. There are lots of ways to do this - from insulating walls, ceilings and floors to installing technologies like heat pumps.

Winchester Area SuperHomes will provide help with some costs for homeowners on low and middle incomes (but is open to homeowners on all income levels). This will include some of the survey and design costs.

But the real benefit is being linked into a project that provides:

- Access to qualified and accredited Retrofit Coordinators and installers
- Technical back up from the National Energy Foundation
- Support from WinACC Project Officer
- Support to access grants



Parchment Street, Winchester (Photo WinACC)

The first step is for our Project Officer to arrange a home visit or video call to explain exactly how Winchester Area SuperHomes works. We will then put you in touch with a qualified Retrofit Coordinator who will carry out a survey of your property and produce a Whole House Retrofit Plan. This is a detailed assessment of your property and will include a costed list of the measures you could take to reduce your home's energy use and carbon footprint.

There are several subsidies available for home energy retrofit - and we can help you apply for them. The Renewable Heat incentive covers most of the cost of installing a heat pump and is not means tested. For homeowners on low incomes, the Green Homes Local Authority Delivery scheme can provide grants of up to 10,000 pounds.

We are also working with Winchester City Council's Historic Environment team to ensure that a positive approach is taken towards retrofits in conservation areas or on listed buildings.

To find out more, and book a video call or home visit, go to winacc.org.uk or email wash@winacc.org.uk

Stuart Mills

The future of Winchester and its high street - TrustNews Sep 21

Dr Paul Spencer, Executive Director, Winchester Business improvement District (BID)


Dr Paul Spencer

During the past 18 months, businesses have had to deal with unprecedented situations and challenges most business people would never have expected to be facing before the COVID-19 outbreak. However, many have become resilient and are adapting their operations to work for them, their staff, and their customers and clients.


High Street, Winchester (Photo Winchester BID)

The pandemic has accelerated trends in online shopping, flexible working and home working, which has had a significant impact on town and city centres, with footfall falling and vacancy rates rising in many places. But there has also been a renewed appreciation of our local areas, and more people choosing to support local businesses.

A new role for city centres?

Place leaders up and down the country are rethinking the purpose of their centres, and the need for multi-purpose locations, combining retail and hospitality amenities with residential, education, healthcare, cultural, technology, community and more. We are also rethinking office space for collaboration, creativity and culture. Transport links are being reconsidered as well as additional infrastructure requirements, and what needs to be done to ensure our towns and cities continue to be vibrant places to live, work and visit.

Recovery in Winchester

Thankfully, Winchester is beginning to show signs of recovery. Footfall remains below 2019 levels at the moment, but is improving and will reach pre-pandemic levels as more office workers, students and visitors return. Vacancy rates are falling, and we have seen existing businesses expand into new premises, businesses which left the city returning, and new businesses opening (some examples include Forte

Kitchen and The Hatch, inn The Park, Shoal, Starbucks, Jigsaw, Basil Leaf Deli, River Mini Market, Mountain Warehouse, Sass and Edge, Bella Ling, Anita's Kitchen, Trethowans, Carl Scarpa, GM Salon, Winchester Makers and Barnet and Tutti). The city centre vacancy rate is 10.2% while the national average is 14.1%, and Winchester's high street vacancy rate has fallen from 12.4% six months ago to 8.5% in mid-July.



The Square looking towards St Lawrence Church (Photo Winchester BID)

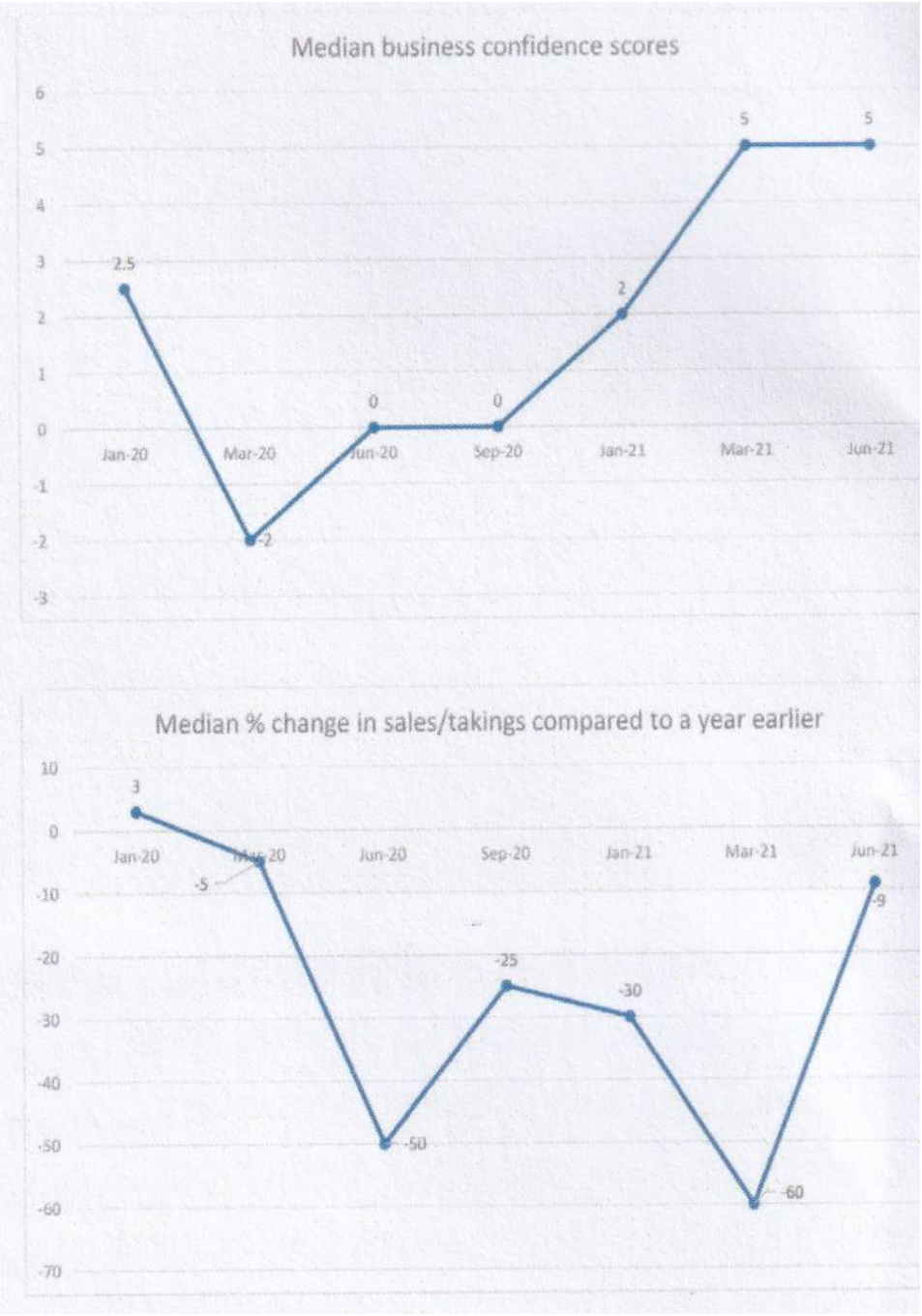
Rising business confidence

Winchester Business Improvement District (BID) undertakes quarterly Business Barometer Surveys. The latest report indicates that business confidence is now on a rising trend and stronger sales performance is expected in the second half of 2021. The financial position of many businesses has improved, although there remains concern for some as government support is withdrawn and loans start to be repaid.

Nationally, online sales fell at their fastest rate ever in June 2021, decreasing by 14.1% compared to June 2020. They are expected to rise by 9% this year and to remain static in 2022 -a marked contrast to online sales growth of 46% in 2020.

As consumer confidence grows, we are seeing a greater willingness to return to the high street. Online sales are expected to account for approximately 28.1% of total sales in 2022, which means that in-store sales will be over 70% of total sales - the future is not online only, it is about consumer choice.

Looking to the future



Source: Winchester BID 39th Business Barometer Report

Looking ahead we need to rethink our town and city centres, redesign how they work and ensure they evolve to meet the needs of the future. We must be imaginative - particularly in how we assess the potential for larger vacant spaces and repurpose them. We can also learn and take inspiration from other places. Gloucester and Oxford universities are looking at empty department stores for laboratories, lecture theatres, libraries and seminar rooms. A new development in Maidenhead will include half as much retail space but double the number of units and flexible terms to create opportunities for independents and new businesses. Stockton has announced plans to replace part of its high street with a riverside park, and a new scheme in Trafford involves repurposing underused spaces for homes, offices, retail and leisure.

There are many examples of places which are taking radical steps to reinvigorate their town and city centres - which ones inspire you and what would you like to see in Winchester?

If you have a view on Winchesters high street, please do send it to editor@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk for our new Letters page


High Street, Winchester (Photo Winchester BID)

Dr Paul Spencer

Neighbourhood Planning - the way forward - TrustNews Sep 21

Neighbourhood plans can be an effective tool to ensure that communities have a say in the vision for their town. The opportunity for local communities to prepare neighbourhood plans was introduced by the Government some twelve years ago.

As the Government says, "Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead."

"Unlike the parish, village or town plans that communities may have prepared, a neighbourhood plan forms part of the development plan and sits alongside the local plan prepared by the local planning authority. Decisions on planning applications will be made using both the local plan and the neighbourhood plan." (www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning).

As of 2020, over 2,500 neighbourhood plans have been adopted or are in progress. In Hampshire, several councils have embraced this new tool with enthusiasm. Test Valley has 19 adopted plans, including plans for Andover and Romsey. Basingstoke has 11 adopted plans with six more in progress. East Hampshire has four adopted (including a plan for Alton) and four in progress. Winchester District has only one (Denmead).

The preparation of neighbourhood plans involves those who live and work in a town or other community and is led by a forum of not less than 21 people, with guidance from planning professionals.

Lewes, a town of around 36,000 people, a similar population to Winchester, and with some common characteristics, adopted its neighbourhood plan in 2019.

Richard Eastham from Feria Urbanism, the consultancy that provided technical support for Lewes's plan, is the guest speaker at the Trust's AGM in October (see details). His talk will outline how Lewes's neighbourhood plan process was organised, managed and brought to a successful conclusion, with the plan endorsed by a large majority of the community.



Local Plan Review - TrustNews Sep 21

John Beveridge provides an update on progress and next steps for Winchester's new Local Plan.

Winchester City Council's cabinet was updated in July with a report on the timetable for the next steps in the review of the Local Plan, with everything being delayed by about nine months.

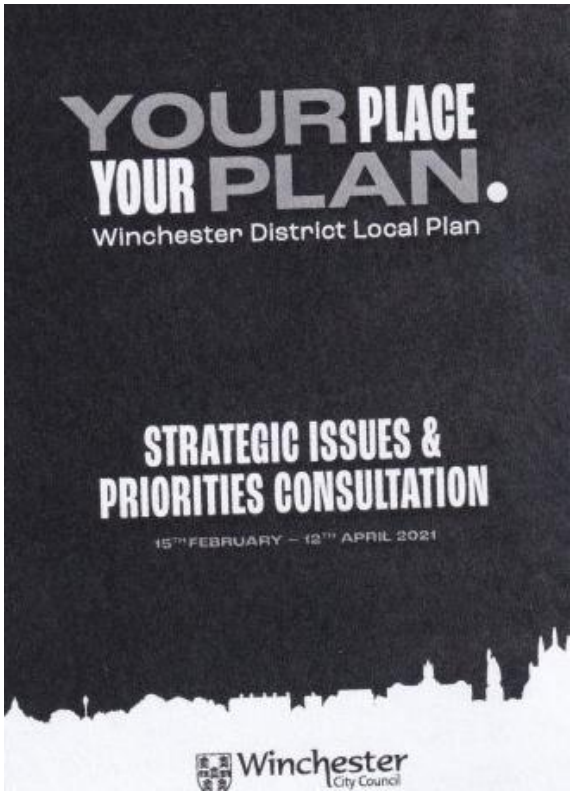
The total number of responses received by the City Council to the Strategic issues and Priorities consultation earlier this year was 2,202, and they managed to reach 104,800 people about the consultation by using social media for the first time on Local Plan matters.

The City Council will take until June next year to finish their assessment of the replies to the consultation, and then in August 2022 they aim to publish the first draft of the next Local Plan on which there is likely to be a two month period for public consultation.

There are two issues that the Trust considers to be particularly important which get a brief mention in the City Council's paper. As part of the Review they are going to consider matters of design, which the revised National Planning Policy Framework has emphasised as being particularly important.

They also refer cryptically to the need to include spatial planning for our city within the new plan. For some years the Trust has lobbied the City Council about the need for a strategic plan for the whole city that addresses all the inter-connected issues

such as the redevelopment of important sites in the centre and the management of traffic and movement. While we welcome their willingness to look at spatial issues in Winchester, we are sceptical about the district-wide scope of a Local Plan and all the issues it has to address being able to accommodate all the details that need to be controlled and directed in the city. This would be better done as a separate exercise leading to a planning document for Winchester alone.



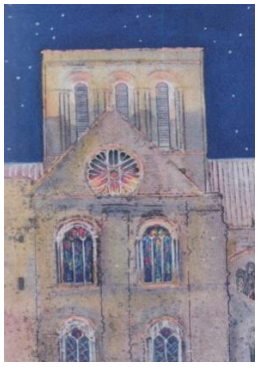
John Beveridge

Christmas cards - TrustNews Sep 21

This year's Christmas cards will be available from our online shop* and the Trust office, and from the charity Christmas card shop run by Winchester Combined Charities Card Society.

This year we will be selling a selection of our popular cards from years past, in both mixed design and single design packs.

The location of the charity Christmas card shop had not been confirmed as we went to print but we will send out an email as soon as we know.







*Our online shop is at www.cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk/shop

Farewell - TrustNews Sep 21

Phil Yates remembers three longstanding supporters of the Trust.

Christopher Pile

Christopher Pile died on 12th May at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital following a short illness, aged 79.

Chris, as he was known to his friends, was a chartered mathematician, electrician and civil engineer with Plessey (UK) Ltd Havant. He had a variety of hobbies and interests, including steam trains. The rear garden of his house was dominated by a model railway, and when in use his tortoise had to be removed from the tunnel!

He was a popular member of the Trust and for two years organised the summer walks programme. Chris was well respected by everyone who knew him.

Helen Maxwell-Lefroy

Helen Maxwell-Lefroy died peacefully at St Catherine's View Care Home, Stanmore on 17th May, aged 100.

Helen celebrated her centenary the previous month surrounded by 788 cards! This arose through an organised plan by her carer at the home, Laura Sheldrake.

Helen was a direct descendant of Anne Lefroy, a friend of Jane Austen. Helen gave lectures far and wide on the life of the famous authoress, and was at onetime the Honorary Vice-President of the Jane Austen Society.

Helen was a member of the Trust and for a period was on the Planning Appraisal Group. She was a near neighbour of ours in Tower Street and we have fond memories of her.

David Williams

David Williams died at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital on 31st May at the age of 79.

After graduating as an architect from Kingston Technical College, he spent some time abroad in his profession, and later specialised in breweries and pubs in this area consequently helping me put together the third addition of “Time Gentlemen, Please”. He also studied the history of Winchester. He was a member of the Trust and attended meetings regularly. I always found him very approachable and helpful.

*available from the Trust office or our online shop.

Phil Yates

George Tusa - TrustNews Sep 21

We pay tribute to a good friend of the Trust.

It is sad to record the death of George Tusa on 11th August 2021 while visiting his daughter in France. He suffered a broken hip as a result of a fall and died later in hospital. He was 89 years of age.

George was a member of the Trust for many years and until his resignation in July was a valuable and conscientious member of the Planning Appraisal Group panel I chaired. He could be relied on for a quiet and considered comment on each planning application.

Iain Patton

George and his wife Daphne joined the Trust nearly 40 years ago. We had come to know them well and had the pleasure of staying with them in France where George was a member of the Paris staff of IBM at the time (I suspect it may have been then that Shione succeeded in recruiting him as a member of the PAG panel!). More hospitable hosts it is hard to imagine, confirmed by their wide circle of friends and the numbers that attended his memorial service.

Michael Carden

Notice of Annual General Meeting - TrustNews Sep 21

All members are warmly invited to attend the City of Winchester Trust's AGM, Which will be held on Tuesday 5th October at 6.45pm for 7.00pm at the Pastoral Centre, St Peters Church, Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RY.

The speaker after the AGM will be Richard Eastham, who will speak about his experience of Neighbourhood Plans, and their potential usefulness for ther towns such as Winchester.

North Walls Recreation Ground - an opportunity for enhancing nature - TrustNews Sep 21

The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is urging the City Council to prioritise nature at North Walls.



Winnall Nature Reserve in summer (Photo Chris Page HIWWT)

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is urging the City Council to prioritise nature when redesigning the Recreation Ground surrounding the old leisure centre.

The Wildlife Trust believes that the review offers a real opportunity to provide Winchester with a natural, multipurpose green space which brings people into contact with the meadows and rivers that make the area so special.

However, the Wildlife Trust is concerned that some of the proposals in the review raise expectations and may have potential negative consequences for nature and wildlife. The north and east edges of the Recreation Ground fall within the impact risk zone of the Winnall Moors Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The Wildlife Trust is therefore concerned by the potential urbanisation of this area and the promotion of activities which could impact the integrity of the SSSI, as well as disturbing wildlife and affecting visitors' enjoyment of the nature reserve.

In its response to the consultation, the Wildlife Trust stresses that a number of the proposals could have an adverse impact, including the promotion of wild swimming in the Park Stream in the SSSI risk impact zone and the proposed paved 'plaza' area by the redesigned Park Avenue entrance.

This paving would cause a loss of public green space and may increase noise pollution towards Winnall Moors Nature Reserve. Instead it is proposing a natural alternative, such as a wildflower meadow maze, south of the bowling green.

The Wildlife Trust is also urging the City Council to consider more natural features, including a natural play and tree climbing zone, native wildflower meadow features, river habitats and recreation enhancements such as water play and river dipping zones and viewpoints across to the nature reserve. They also recommend new ways to connect people with the natural environment such as waymarking, guided walks and support groups.

The Wildlife Trust is asking Winchester City Council to consider the following when redesigning the Recreation Ground:

- The safeguarding of the wildlife that depends on the River Itchen and Winnall Moors SSSIs
- The need to connect people to nature in ways that are appropriate and avoid disturbance to sensitive species
- Ways of encouraging people to take action to help wildlife and rebuild biodiversity
- Taking action on climate change and its impacts on wildlife and local communities, for example by providing cooler spaces for heatwaves and rainfall interception to provide flood resilience.

The Wildlife Trust points out that if well designed, new and improved green spaces can also form an integral part of the Nature Recovery Network, providing more space for nature, buffering sensitive areas and providing habitat links and wildlife corridors.



The River at Winnall Moors ((Photo Deryn Hawkins)

www.hiwwt.org.uk

Summer walks round up - TrustNews Sep 21

Covid - 19 restrictions may have meant a reduced programme, but this year's summer walks have been as popular as ever. Here are reports on three of them.

Bushfield Down

Bo Priestley, who has taken a detailed look at this area situated at the southern edge of Winchester, conducted a party of members around much of this large site. Bo pointed out the important views, features and wildlife considerations that make the area such a delight to wander around and experience. The views towards central Winchester where you can see just how large the Cathedral is, and towards the downland opposite, are spectacular.

Bo also pointed out just how important it is to manage such a beautiful site to obtain the best possible encouragement for wildflowers, insects etc. to thrive. It is not difficult to understand Bo's passion for the area, and she certainly passed this passion on to a fascinated audience.


Bo Priestley and walkers at Bushfield Down (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

Thank you Bo for such an informative evening and leaving us all with much to think about.

New Sport & Leisure Centre

It was raining so hard on arrival that it was not difficult to pick out fellow Trust members in the spacious entrance hall from their umbrellas and somewhat bedraggled appearance, so it was fortunate that after a brief introduction by Andy Hickman (Programme Director for WCC), we were taken round inside by the centre manager.

He did a great job patiently and proudly explaining all the fabulous facilities, from the 50m pool divisible into two variable lengths, complete with viewing gallery, and the second smaller pool with an adjustable underwater floor (allowing the pool to be set at any desired depth), to the range of sports and training equipment halls, all extremely well equipped and supervised. Andy then took us around the nearly rain-free outside areas, explaining features of the building and its relationship with the surroundings.

Canon Street

We all know our host on this walk, Trust member John Pilkington, whose incredible travels range from Patagonia to the Mekong and seemingly most exciting places in between. He nevertheless revels in Winchester and its surroundings as if they were in the same league.

Consequently, we all learnt much about this historic street on a warm summer evening, with various diversions including the mysterious little Rabbit Hutch Lane and the better-known Culver Road that originally ended in fields around St Michael's church. We learnt how the area abounded in little shops and other less reputable houses, catering for all the locals' needs where they seemed to share the road with numerous piggeries. The street was out of bounds to Winchester College boys, yet provided a home for indigent women in the elegant Hamilton House, reputedly built by the Duke of Hamilton for his sons to attend the College in the 18th century.



John Pilkington takes Trust members around Canon Street (Photo City of Winchester Trust)

The Garnier Road pumping station - TrustNews Sep 21

Dr Martin Gregory of the Hampshire Industrial Archaeology Society, who was thanked by Judith Martin at the end of her article in the June issue of TrustNews, writes:

"The site of the Garnier Road pumping station, including Barton Mill and some water meadows, was sold to the College in 1860 by a Mr. Beaven. The College then sold the part on which the pumping station was built to the Mayor and Aldermen of Winchester in 1877 for 650 pounds.

The rest of the story is in two articles I wrote in the HIAS Journal in 2005 and 2006."*

The articles can be downloaded from www.hias.org.uk

Winchester's museums - TrustNews Sep 21

In a new occasional series, we highlight the best of Winchester's museums. First up are the six museums that make up Winchester's Military Quarter. Christine Pullen, curator of The Royal Greenjackets (Rifles) Museum, tells us more.

Winchester's Military Quarter is a group of six outstanding military museums situated within a couple of minutes walking distance from The Great Hall. They occupy a part of the historic site where Winchester's Castle, the King's palace and military barracks once stood.

The museums are one of Winchester's hidden treasures. Each museum has something different and special to excite and inspire visitors of all ages.


Short Block, home of the Gurkha and HorsePower museums (Photo: Winchester Military Museums)

HorsePower is the regimental museum of The King's Royal Hussars. Visitors can learn how the horse cavalry of the past has developed into the modern armoured regiment of today, The King's Royal Hussars. The history covers the Peninsular War, the Charge of the Light Brigade and the two World Wars. Displays include colourful uniforms and World War 1 trench warfare and the actual cupboard where a soldier was hidden from the enemy for over three years.

The Royal Hampshire Regimental Museum is situated apart from the other military museums in the imposing surroundings of Serle's House.

This museum tells the story from 1702 onwards of the 37th (North Hampshire) and 67th (South Hampshire) Regiments before they merged in 1881 to become The Hampshire Regiment, and in 1946 The Royal Hampshire Regiment, the county regiment of Hampshire.

The Regiment's Memorial Garden, laid out in 1954, fronts the museum, and is a peaceful place in which to sit and reflect.

The Royal Green Jackets (Rifles) Museum records the origins, history and exploits of The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, The King's Royal Rifle Corps and The Rifle Brigade before they merged to become The Royal Green Jackets in 1966. In 2007 The Royal Green Jackets became a part of today's Regiment, The Rifles.

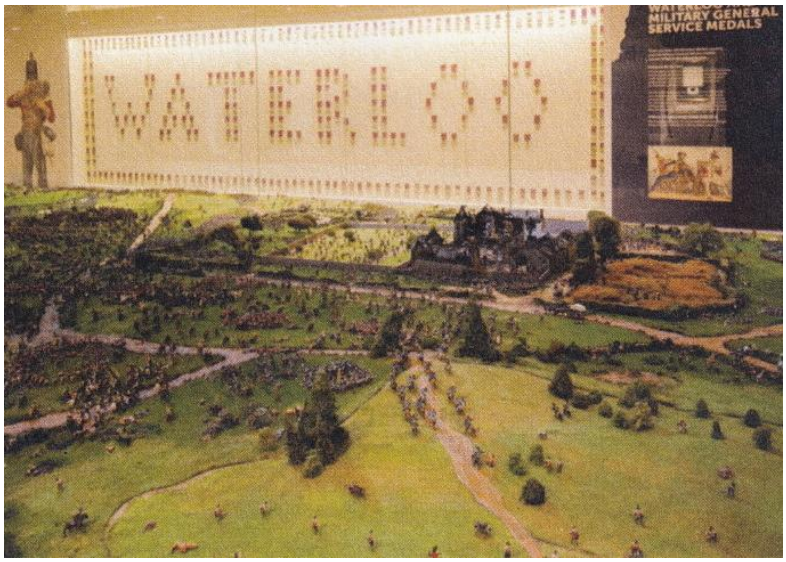
This museum provides a popular focus on the introduction of the rifle into the British army and the formation of the 95th Riï¬,es on which Bernard Cornwall's books and the TV series Sharpe's Rifles were based. There is also a magnificent diorama of the

battlefield of Waterloo, featuring over 30,000 model soldiers and horses. Among the 12,000 objects on display are 31 Victoria Crosses.

The Rifles Museum records the living heritage of the British Army's newest and largest infantry regiment, The Rifles. Formed in 2007 from the merger of The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, The Light Infantry, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment and The Royal Green Jackets, the exhibition focusses on the current activities and the ethos of The Rifles and their experience of soldering in the 21st century, particularly in Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Gukha Museum can be found in the same building as HorsePower. This museum takes you on a journey of discovery recording 200 years of loyal and distinguished service of Gurkha soldiers to the British Crown, beginning in 1814 and enduring to this day. Nepal, the country from which Gurkhas continue to be recruited for the British army, remains Britain's oldest ally in Asia.

At this museum you can learn about numerous battles and campaigns in which Gurkhas have courageously fought, and view a display commemorating the twenty-six awarded Victoria Crosses. You can also learn about the culture, religion and social structure of these brave warriors, armed with their kukris, the national weapon of Nepal, and still used in combat today.



The Waterloo Diorama at The Royal Green Jackets (Rifles) Museum (Photo: The RGJ (Rifles) Museum)

The Museum of the Adjutant General's Corps is situated in the former guardroom of the barracks. The corps was formed in 1992 from an amalgamation of units including the Army Legal Corps, The Royal Military Police, The Women's Royal Army Corps and the staff clerks of The Royal Army Ordnance Corps and The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. The principal purpose of the corps today is to provide administrative support to the army.

This museum tells the fascinating stories over many centuries of the various corps that now form The Adjutant-General's Corps. The displays include an example of a

prisoner's cell laid out with the detainee's kit exactly as it used to be, and a War Department driving permit once issued to HM The Queen.

Opening times for the museums can be found at www.winchestersmilitaryquarter.org

Christine Pullen

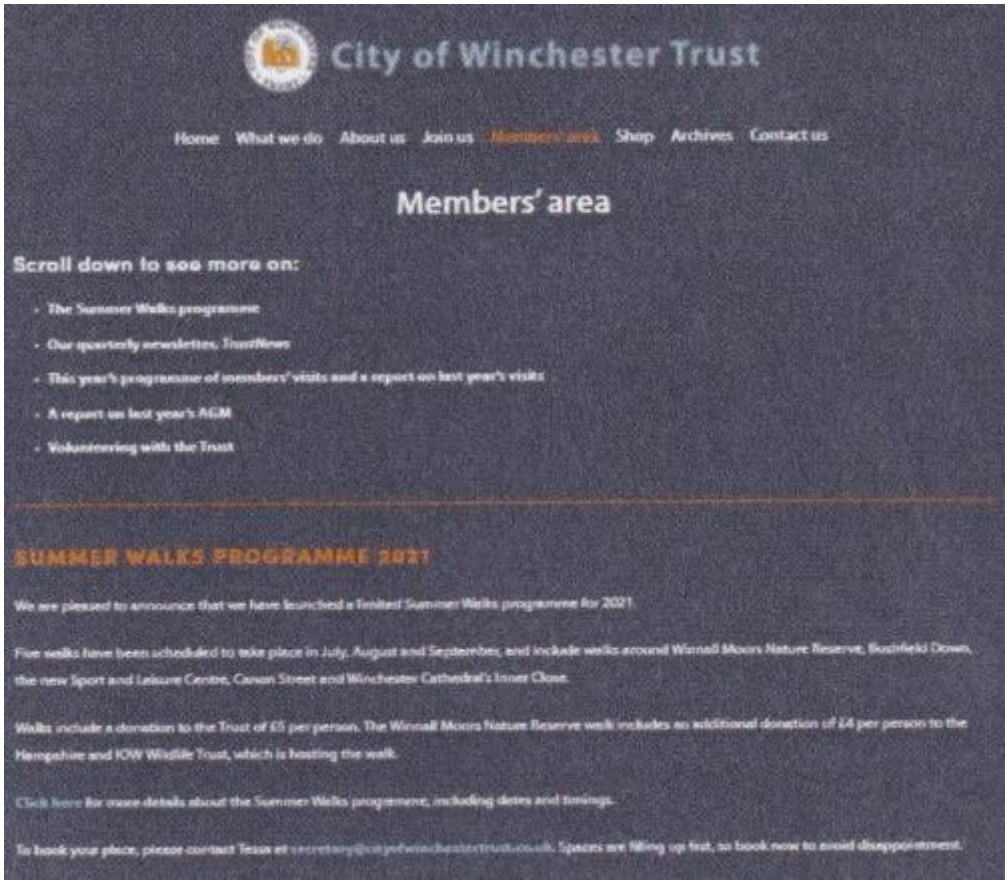
A reminder about the Trust's website... - TrustNews Sep 21

The Trust's website is a useful source of information for members and the general public alike.

If you need more information on the Trust and its policies and activities, the website is the place to go. Here you will find our responses to local and national consultations, our comments on planning applications in the City and much more. You can also access the Trust's archive of old photographs and documents. And if you can't remember what time or where one of our Summer Walks starts, you can find the information on the website.



We are always keen to welcome new members, and we've made it easy for people to join the Trust via the website. They can join, set up a direct debit and even Gift Aid their membership in just a few clicks. Why not ask a few friends to sign up?



The website also has an online shop, where you can buy Trust books and reports, prints and cards and postcards of archive photos. Andrew Rutter's and John Bulford's iconic cards and prints of Winchester and a downloadable version of Andrew's definitive book Winchester - Heart of a City (now out of print) are just some of the items available.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS - TrustNews Sep 21



Friday 10th - Sunday 19th September 2021

It's fun, fabulous and **FREE!** Celebrating local history, architecture and culture this year's mix of in-person and online events reveal hidden places, tales of the past and a chance to experience something new. Many of you can just turn up to, but others must be booked in advance through the online box office on our website:

www.winchesterheritageopendays.org

Some of the events, venues and organisations in this year's line up include:

Winchester College: Tours, Exhibition & Treasury Children's Trail, Hyde900: Displays, Tile Workshop, Talks & Cookery Demonstrations, Classic Cars & Vintage Bus Displays, Whitchurch Silk Mill Food Festival, Gilbert White's Brewhouse, Pilgrims' Hall, Valuation evening at City Mill, Open Days at the Great Hall, Winchester Museums & Hospital of St Cross, 'Edible England Events', Online Exhibition & High Street Trail, Bellringing, Medal-Making, Storytelling, Pop-up Poetry & Cinema, 2Time Theatre, Jeremy France, Winchester Muse, Historical Huzzahs, Behind-the-scenes tours at Leckford Estate & The Watercress Line, Proudfoot & Co, Inn the Park, Montezumas, Rick Stein, P&G Wells, Winchester Poetry Festival, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Friends Meeting House, City of Winchester Trust, Alresford Museum and many more!

Printed guides will be available from Winchester Visitor Information Centre



Can you identify these places in Winchester? - TrustNews Sep 21

(Answers on the next page)



Question 1



Question 2



Question 3



Question 4



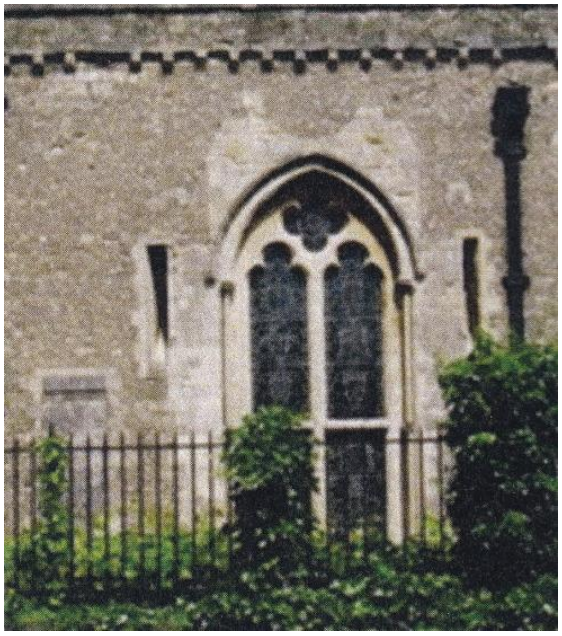
Question 5



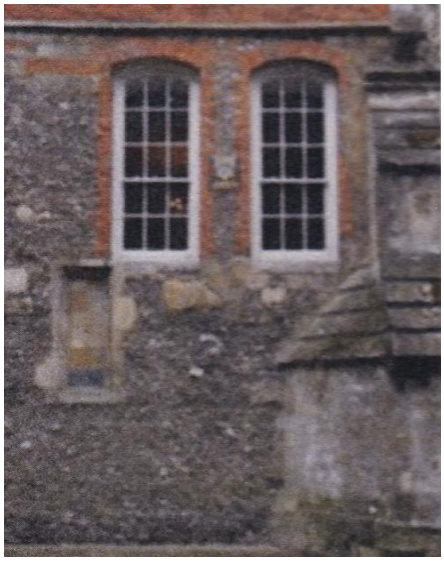
Question 6



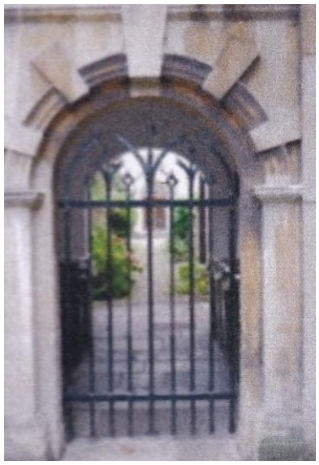
Question 7



Question 8



Question 9



Question 10

Answers - TrustNews Sep 21

Question 1 - Above Prior's Gate, Winchester Cathedral Close

Question 2 - Gar Street

Question 3 - Almshouses, Symonds Street

Question 4 - Water Garden, Colebrook Street

Question 5 - Medieval house, St Johns Street

Question 6 - St Johns houses, Colebrook Street

Question 7 - Water Lane

Question 8 - The Great Hall

Question 9 - Winchester College, College Street

Question 10 - Entrance to Milner Hall, St Peter Street

Footer - TrustNews Sep 21

The content of TrustNews is copyright Â© City of Winchester Trust Ltd unless otherwise noted. However, views expressed in articles are not necessarily the views of City of Winchester Trust Ltd. The Editor welcomes letters or other contributions: please contact editor@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

The City of Winchester Trust Ltd, Winchester Heritage Centre, 32 Upper Brook Street, Winchester, SO23 8DG

Tel: 01962 851664 - e-mail: secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk -- www.cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk