

# Heart of Efford News

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Issue 5

October 2006

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## Update on HECP Committee changes...

Our Constitution provides for a Committee of eight elected Resident Members, two elected Local Services or Local Business Members, and the three Ward Councillors. Each of these has full voting rights but the Constitution ensures that Resident Members will always be in a majority.

In addition we may co-opt (invite onto the Committee) up to six non-voting members to help the Committee with its work.



### New Resident Member

Unfortunately one elected Member, Phil Walke, has resigned so the Committee has chosen **Caroline Jones** to

take his place  
(pictured below).

Caroline lives in Channel Park and is a School Based Parent Partner supporting parents and carers at Plym View Primary School. She is also a member of the recently formed Plymouth Family and Parent Forum, which represents the views of parents and carers with regard to Children's services, and is also involved in the Plymouth 14-19 Strategy for Education and Skills.

### New Co-opted Members

The Committee has co-opted the following members:

- **Ali Dixon** – Efford Children's Centre Outreach Worker
- **Kim Dorian-Kemp** – Head Teacher, Highfield Community School
- **Laurie Doyle** – Head Teacher, Plym View Primary School
- **Tracey Lynn** – Efford Play Tots Manager
- **Mike Woods** – Torridge Way Tenants & Residents Association Chairperson.



The purple pod has arrived!  
See page 3 for details.

### Existing Committee Members

- **Steve Payne** – HECP Chairperson
- **Kath Hancock** – Vice Chair
- **Barry Lucas**
- **Cindy Jennings**
- **Maria Bunker**
- **Michael Bridgewater**
- **Fred Thorne**

We also have a wide-ranging network of 'stakeholders' who are interested in, and associated with, our work who are kept informed about our meetings. These are representatives of organisations that are involved in the community or the regeneration process through their work as service providers or decision makers in other sectors, e.g. Devon & Cornwall Police, the Public Health Development Unit, Plymouth City Council services, Plymouth & South West Co-Op, etc.

### Inside this issue:

- Master Planners update – 'hub' launch
- Community Artists are here!
- Get involved at the Youth Centre
- Frail elderly scheme – Torridge Way

## Update on HECP Committee changes (continued)

### Heart of Efford Community Partnership meetings

**General Meetings**, open to every Member of the Partnership – that is, everyone who lives or works in the Efford neighbourhood – will be held at least three times a year. One of these will be the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in March. At these meetings your Committee will give an update on what has been happening. There will be opportunities for you the Members to raise your own issues and to ask questions.

**Committee Meetings** will continue to be held more frequently to further the aim and objectives of the Partnership.

**The Aim of our Partnership** is to further the interests and improve the quality of life of all who live or work in the Efford neighbourhood. This is to be done by:

- Listening to, consulting and sharing information with everyone in the Efford neighbourhood
- Promoting and implementing initiatives to further our aims
- Being the lead body for all consultations relating to the Efford Building Communities Initiative and other local regeneration issues
- Becoming a focus for community life.

### What have we been up to?

- Working with Shillam & Smith, our Master Planning Consultants, towards setting up their 'consultation hub' (*see separate item*).
- Working with Shillam & Smith selecting Community Artists to assist in their consultation process (*see separate item*).
- Preparation of a Big Lottery bid for just under £500,000 to support our

own HECP development manager, outreach worker and admin support for a five year period. We need this to achieve all we plan to do, in support of your local Committee of volunteers.

- Developing, with partners, ideas for a Heart of Efford Youth Partnership that will run alongside us, with an elected committee of young people.
- Planning a programme of General (open) Meetings for everyone to attend.
- Working on how best to communicate with you all in the community, to keep everyone informed about everything that is going on in the neighbourhood.

### How to contact us

- Through your Committee Members, or Debbie Burton our Neighbourhood Regeneration Officer, for any information or how to get involved.

## New Children's Centre Manager for Efford



Ernie Edgcumbe New Children's Centre Manager

The new Children's Centre Manager for Efford is Ernie Edgcumbe. Ernie started work in early August. He comes from Plymouth and is quite familiar with Efford and the surrounding areas. He has worked as a Community Development Worker in Mutley and Greenbank and has a wide range of experience working with large voluntary and community organisations such as the YMCA for the past 18 years.

Ernie is at present temporarily based at Plymouth City Council at Windsor House whilst he looks for an office base in Efford for the Children's Centre Team.

*"I feel very excited and privileged to have been given the opportunity in the coming years to work together with local people to serve the needs of children under 5 and their families in Efford and the surrounding areas. I am totally committed to providing the best possible facilities and services in the Efford area that will give our local children the best possible start in life"* says Ernie. *"Hopefully I will be based somewhere in Efford from about the end of September, but in the meantime I will be spending as much time as possible in Efford meeting local people and starting to get an idea about the needs of local families and also what facilities and services for families currently exist in Efford."*

### Wide range of services

A Children's Centre is a place where children under the age of 5 and their parents/carers can receive a range of services, information and help from a wide range of professionals. In the future the Efford Children's Centre must provide the following:

- Early Years Education and Childcare
- Child and family health services

- Family Support and parental outreach
- Parental involvement
- Links with Job Centre Plus

By providing the above services, the Efford Children's Centre could in the future offer services like

- Help to parents and carers with accessing training, work and advice
- Effective links with further and higher education colleges
- Basic skills training and parenting classes
- Specialist services for disabled children
- Benefits advice including information on the things like Maternity Grants and Nursery Education Grants

The new Children's Centre Manager will be making contact with a wide range of people in Efford in the coming weeks and months. In the meantime, should you wish to discuss anything or meet with Ernie, please do not hesitate to call 01752 307182 or email [ernie.edgcumbe@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:ernie.edgcumbe@plymouth.gov.uk)

# Efford Building Communities Initiative Masterplan

Update from Shillam and Smith Architecture and Urbanism Consultants

## Consultation 'Hub' launch

Despite some setbacks in getting the consultation 'hub' installed – we will be launching the 'hub' now on Friday 6th October. The 'hub' is a brightly coloured container that has been purchased and renovated by 'Wernick Hire' and will be located in the grounds of Highfield Community School. We wish to thank Highfield for accommodating the consultation hub where there will be exhibitions of our work so far and a chance for residents to come along and talk to one of us, give us your views and fill in a questionnaire.

Please come along and get involved in making positive changes to Efford. Tea, coffee and healthy snacks will be available free to all and we are planning a series of events at the consultation hub – keep a look out for published list of dates and times outside the hub.



Renovating the hub - by Wernick Hire

## Public Art Project

Most exciting of all we have commissioned, in collaboration with the Plymouth Art Centre and the HECP Committee five artists to work with local people, especially children, young people and the elderly. We hope that the artists will inspire our imaginations to help us all consider what Efford could become. Their work will be temporary and located all around the area. The artists will work



Artists on a 'walkabout' with Committee Members

in different media including dance and performances and have already been on a walkabout through Efford with HECP Committee Members – thanks go to Michael, our Tour Guide!

Efford should be proud that the competition for inclusion in this project was so strong – we received 22 applications from artists ranging from the very local to applicants based all over the British Isles as well as Italy, Poland and India. Members of the HECP Committee who helped to select the artists said that the process had been quite an eye opener!



Efford Artists, left to right, Anna Hart, Jayne Murray, Sue Smith, Cleo Broda, Jeff Stratton.

There will be an official launch of the art project and the Consultation 'hub' on Friday 6th October attended by

your local MP Linda Gilroy, Councillor Kerswell, Councillor Vincent, Councillor Miller and Efford's oldest resident and youngest nursery child. Please come along and join in the fun!

## Project Update:

Since we were commissioned we have undertaken a detailed survey of the area, mapping for example the quality of spaces and buildings. This physical analysis has been presented to the Heart of Efford Community Partnership Committee and will be available to the community in our consultation 'hub'. Analysis has also been done looking at the quality of health in the area and the services and support available. Gaps have been identified and we welcome the communities comment.

Our consultants have held a series of specialist workshops looking at issues of entrepreneurship and social enterprise, and are working on reports to advise on these issues. We have also been working closely with the HECP Committee to assist its start-up, in setting criteria for working including developing a vision and priorities for the HECP Committee.

During October there will be a lot of activity – please look out for notices in the community...

## Recent press – a response...

After reading a recent letter in the Post Bag section of the Evening Herald regarding the issue of bored young people, we felt this gives us a good opportunity to respond and tell you all about the work we are doing to start to address some of the issues we face as Efford residents.

**Our Chairperson Steve responded to the Post Bag letter in the Evening Herald but writes for the Heart of Efford News:**

*I felt I must respond to the letter on behalf of the Heart of Efford Community Partnership. The recently elected resident-led Committee, which I Chair, is committed to working in partnership to better the quality of life of people of all ages in our neighbourhood. We are beginning to liaise with youth services and young people in Efford to understand what they would like to see in the area to better engage our youth.*

*A process of consultation in which young people, with everyone else, can take part is about to begin. We are working with consultants Shillam and Smith and have recently appointed a number of artists to work in the community throughout October to help people express their hopes for Efford.*

*We are also about to open a Consultation 'hub' in the grounds of Highfield Community School where, as part of an on-going 'Master Planning' process people are invited in to have a cuppa, to give suggestions about changes they feel necessary for Efford to improve peoples lives. As part of our HECP Committee work we will be holding a general meeting for all Efford residents in Highfield Community School on 5th October - starting at 6pm where all HECP members (anyone living or working in Efford) can come along to hear about our work and raise any issues they feel need addressing. I hope that residents will take the opportunity to come along to our general meeting and during the consultation period.*

*All the ideas gathered during consultation will be included in the 'Master Plan' that will be adopted by Partners. Service improvements and regeneration funding will then target areas of most need - for example - youth activities - that will bring about positive change for the people of Efford. All in all there is a very bright future not only for the young people but everyone in the Efford community.*

**Steve Payne**  
Heart of Efford Community Partnership

## Get involved at Efford Youth Centre

We are enthusiastically working alongside the HECP Committee in all areas relating to youth engagement and provision of services. We are working on plans to work with young people and the HECP Committee to develop a 'Youth Partnership' that will work alongside the HECP Committee – allowing young people to have a voice in the changes that need to happen in Efford too. You will hear more about this soon when plans start to develop but if there are any youth activists who wish to get involved in this please come along to our drop in at the Youth Centre on Wednesday nights to hear more.

There is plenty happening at the Youth Centre - we have a busy programme of activities at the Centre during the week, starting with a 'Project Night' on a Monday evening, which includes an eight week programme of activities relating to healthy living,

eating and activity, a seven week street dancing and performance programme – also related to healthier lifestyles, a 10 week programme centred around designing an Efford Youth Website featuring noticeboards for young people in Efford to log what's good and bad about Efford. We are also working with some young people to access some funding to renovate an old garage and change it into a chill out area for young people.

### Make a date for your diary...

There is also a young carers junior club (6pm – 7.30pm) and senior youth club (7.30pm – 9.00pm) on Tuesday evenings, junior (5.30pm – 7pm) and senior (7.30pm – 9pm) youth clubs on Wednesday evenings and street based work on Thursday evenings.

For more information, or if you want to get involved in any of the work, please call the Efford Centre on 01752 776853.

## Goodbye, Pete!

Sadly, we've had to say goodbye to Peter Hopkins, our Project Manager who has left for greener pastures. Pete has worked for Plymouth City Council for 23 years, most recently in the East End Regeneration Team as well as for the Efford Building Communities Initiative. He has been a good friend to Efford and has made a huge contribution to the success of our project.

Thanks Pete, for your dedication to our cause, for your negotiation skills over regeneration issues in Torrridge Way, and for the excellent working relationships you have built up with partners and members of the community who have got to know you well.

We'll miss you ... but we wish you all the best in your new job.

**Michael Bridgwater**

# Poetry Corner

A new spot for any budding poets in Efford – a chance to express yourself through words.

## Relive the Memories of Efford

Remember when you were a child  
 The magic of Efford oh so mild  
 All the people were as one  
 All the people were such fun  
 Has you became of teenage age  
 To Efford youth club you would engage  
 The fun and laughs we used to have together  
 All there as one no matter what the weather  
 How we used to all gather in Torridge Way  
 Chatting to each other it made our day  
 When we were old enough the place to be  
 Was the Royal Marine oh what glee!  
 There wasn't a better place than that pub  
 Where to us all it was our communal hub

Maria Bunker  
 17-08-06

## Autumn Has Come

Autumn leaves fall off the trees  
 Honey bees start to please  
 Leaves change colour and  
 Brightness turns to wonderness  
 Plants have ants on them  
 Plants have cans on them  
 Plants grow till a  
 Scarecrow pops out at autumn  
 It was raining and  
 Someone was complaining  
 About the weather cast  
 He said go sort it  
 Out you are a weather cycle path

Thank you Lord  
 For giving us gifts  
 And getting cards  
 To give us lifts  
 Ashleigh Kuhn, Aged 11

# Getting to know us – Steve Payne

A new feature to our newsletter – a chance for you to get to know us better, hear about our work, what inspires us and what is involved in being an HECP Committee Member. Our first piece is from Chairperson Steve Payne, who writes about his hopes for the future of Efford.

### Steve writes:

*"When I came to work on the estate over 6 years ago I found the people to be very welcoming and there was a real positive community spirit in the area, despite the run down appearance particularly of Torridge Way and its ageing facilities. I became involved with the then Efford Community Forum, whose initiative it was to apply for a major government grant to regenerate the area. I like others could see the need to upgrade and improve our facilities.*

*Following the good news that we had received the grant I became a*



Steve Payne, HECP Chairperson.

*member of the steering group which was set up to take forward the regeneration. Although at times it seemed that we made slow progress I was delighted when we were able to hold the elections for the Heart of Efford Partnership Committee earlier this year. This group which has at its core local people will be at the forefront of driving forward change within the community. I was*

*subsequently elected chair of this group.*

*My job as chair means being involved in leading our regular partnership meetings and in representing the partnership at various occasions.*

*I am excited that we are now at the stage in the project in which we can engage fully with local residents in order to identify how best we can change the estate for the better. My hope is that during this consultation as many people as possible will express their views.*

*Finally for those who aren't aware, in my day job I am the Vicar of St.Pauls, Efford. It is an integral part of my faith to work to improve the quality of life of the people whom I am privileged to serve.*

*I am looking forward to a bright future for all of us here who are proud to be residents of Efford'*



# Elderly Care Scheme

September 2006 will see the new development at the old St Paul's Church site on Torrridge Way entering its fourth month. Kier Western are pleased to confirm that the project, which is due for completion in November 2007, is currently on programme. We have taken advantage of the good weather and progress has been good over the summer period.

The tower crane has become a new addition to the Efford skyline and is an essential piece of plant for distributing the large quantities of material around the site. This month will see the completion of the first

*It's a big one!*



*Building work progresses on frail elderly scheme*

floor construction, which will mean that the team of builders will have laid over 400 cubic meters of concrete, 115,000 bricks, 5,000 blocks and more than 400 meters of drainage.

Residents close to the site will be pleased to see that the contractors are using the old Royal Marine pub site for their parking, which should relieve some of the congestion on Torrridge Way, just in time for the start of the new school term.

Construction sites are inherently dangerous and site safety is of critical importance to Kier Western, we would therefore ask the local community to help us in ensuring that there is no unauthorised entry onto the site at any time. We have been in regular contact with the Efford Community Partnership Committee and we look forward to working alongside them during our time here in Efford.

Regards  
**Conrad Heath**  
Project Manager, Kier Western  
Tel. 01752 787320

*Conrad Heath,  
Project Manager*



# Introducing your new Police Community Support Officers

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as the Police Community Support Officers for Efford.

As you may be aware Police Community Support Officers roles are to address crime, the fear of crime and behaviour in Efford that reduce

the quality of life. We are available for your questions and welcome invitations to meetings with any community groups or associations. Our aim is to offer continuity and provide a service built on specialist knowledge of your area and local problems.

Neighbourhood policing is driven by intelligence received by the public. All intelligence is valuable. We can be called on 08452 777 444 or if you prefer, crime stoppers on 0800 555 111. When you call them or us any request for anonymity will be treated with the greatest of respect. Something seemingly minor that you know or have seen may be the final piece of intelligence required to, for example, obtain a search warrant or effect an arrest.

Please visit the Devon and Cornwall website at [www.devon-cornwall.police.uk](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk) and find the link for your Community Support Officer.



**PCSO 30125 Shelly McLaughlin**  
**PCSO 30124 Tom Bayly**  
**Community Support officers**  
**Efford, Plymouth**  
**[shelly.mclaughlin@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:shelly.mclaughlin@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)**  
**[thomas.bayly@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:thomas.bayly@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)**  
**08452 777 444**

## Diary Dates . . . Diary Dates . . . Diary Dates

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|--|--|
| • <b>Area Committee</b>                          | Thursday 5th October 6pm   |
| • <b>DELL Forum</b>                              | Thursday 17th October<br>Monday 21st November 7pm in Highfield Community School  |
| • <b>HECP Committee meetings</b>                 | Thursday 5th October and Thursday 2nd November 5pm in Highfield Community School |
| • <b>HECP General meeting</b>                    | Thursday 5th October 6pm in Highfield Community School                           |
| • <b>Consultation Hub launch</b>                 | Friday 6th October 11am in Highfield Community School                            |
| • <b>Horseshoe Residents Association Meeting</b> | Tuesday 31st October<br>and Tuesday 28th November at 7pm in Paternoster House.   |

## Library information

- Efford Library Bookstart Rhyme Time for under 5's on October 6th at 2.15 pm.
- Laira Library – Closed from September 2nd until October 2nd for refurbishment. Coffee Morning on Wednesday 4th October at 10 until 12. Story time on Wednesday 12th at 3.30 until 4.15pm.

**There is a community Information folder held at Efford Library which has lots of information in and people are welcome to add local activity/club information/etc if they so wish.**



## News in brief...

### Change of position of Bus Stop on Torridge Way

As you may have noticed a new bus stop was positioned outside the Torridge Way shops but unfortunately this made it difficult for traffic and for passengers. So, due to feedback from residents the Heart of Efford Community Partnership contacted Plymouth City Council Transport Department and the Bus companies and they agreed to put it in a more convenient place for all.

As yet the bus stop isn't fully marked out but while the building work is going on it would be really helpful if people could avoid parking in the vicinity of the bus stop. Thanks for your co-operation.



Cars parking at the Bus Stop

## School News...School News...

Highfield Community School and Plym View Primary School have both undergone Ofsted inspections recently and the reports came out

mid June with both schools doing well. Copies of the reports can be accessed on the Ofsted Web Site at [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## New Pre-school Group

A new parent / carer and preschool child drop in session is about to start in Efford. This group will be focusing on children with behavioural concerns. The group will take place at 'Play Tots' attached to Plym View School on Blandford Road. The first session will be on Wednesday 20th

September at 1-2.30pm and then every other Wednesday until the 13th December. There will be activities such as painting, play dough, jigsaws, physical play and craft activities – also there will be an experienced health advisor on hand for advice and guidance.

## HECP Website



Thanks to the ongoing work from a local resident Harry, our website is still being developed and is accessible at [www.hecp.org.uk](http://www.hecp.org.uk).

Harry is working on the design and layout of the site as well as posting content that is relevant and current. We are ensuring that information is available regarding the HECP and the work we are involved in and welcome any suggestions and feedback as to what information people in Efford need on an Efford website. You will be able to find minutes of meetings, newsletters and updates from the work ongoing in Efford.

We would also like to ask organisations who wish to provide information about their work in Efford or wish to create a link on the site to contact us through Debbie Burton, regeneration officer.

### Contact Details

#### Efford Community Partnership

**Steve Payne**  
Chair of HECP  
Tel: 01752 785576  
Email: [SPayne55@aol.com](mailto:SPayne55@aol.com)



**Kath Hancock**  
Vice Chair of HECP  
Tel: 01752 773187



#### Elected Ward Members

**Cllr Bernard Miller**  
'Buena Vista'  
17 Efford Road  
Efford  
PL3 6NE  
Tel: 01752 776452  
Email: [bernard.miller@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:bernard.miller@plymouth.gov.uk)



**Cllr Andy Kerswell**  
43 Thames Gardens  
Efford  
PL3 6HD  
Tel: 01752 269472  
Email: [andy.kerswell@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:andy.kerswell@plymouth.gov.uk)



**Cllr Brian Vincent**  
416 Blandford Road  
Efford  
PL3 6JB  
Tel: 01752 316902  
Email: [brian.vincent@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:brian.vincent@plymouth.gov.uk)



#### The Efford Team at Plymouth City Council

**Debbie Burton**  
Neighbourhood  
Regeneration Officer  
Tel: 01752 306521  
Email: [debbie.burton@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.burton@plymouth.gov.uk)



Heart of  
**Efford**  
Community Partnership