

PAGANHILL

NEWSLETTER

ESTATE REGENERATION PROJECT

- **Key contacts**
- **Regeneration updates**
- **Sign mystery solved!**
- **Improved waste and recycling**



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
www.stroud.gov.uk



Welcome to the Paganhill Newsletter...

By now we hope you'll be enjoying the results of **Stroud District Council's regeneration of the Paganhill estate**. We're especially pleased that we were able to incorporate many of your suggestions when planning the work.

In this publication we'll explain how to get the most out of the new waste and recycling arrangements, give details of how to get in touch with services you may need including

“Improve the bins!”

“Weed the paths”

“More parking spaces”

“Better security”

the **Paganhill Community Group**... and explain the mystery behind the unusual Duderstadt sign.

It took just under three years to transform the estate at Paganhill – slightly longer than we originally planned due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

We held a residents' consultation event to view the plans and give feedback in January 2019, then work started at Archway Gardens in March 2019, and continued around the estate, ending in April 2021.

Thank you for bearing with us – the initial feedback is very positive with residents telling us that anti-social behaviour throughout the estate has declined, and they feel safer in their homes as a result of the improvements we've made - particularly installing new front doors, security systems and replacing walls with open railings. We hope you agree!

Stroud District Council

A message from Elaine, Project Officer for the work at Paganhill

“I'd like to say a big thank you for all your patience, your feedback and support over the regeneration project, and I really hope that we have made a big difference to your environment and health and wellbeing. You have an amazing community spirit throughout the estate and I sincerely hope that this spirit will continue to grow and grow.”



What improvements have we made?

Waste and recycling: we've taken away the unpopular and unsightly wheeled waste bins and bag system and created clearly marked purpose built containers with increased capacity throughout the estate. There will be no more spilled bags on the floor.



Flats: Security has been improved with new entrance porches to all blocks, and new secure door entry systems on some (Allen Drive and Duderstadt Close will be replaced later this year). All asbestos has been removed and replaced with uPVC. Front doors have been replaced with new fire doors. The exterior and communal areas of all blocks have been redecorated and new flooring laid. Balcony railings have been replaced with enclosed toughened glass, improving the appearance and creating a windbreak. The panels under the bedroom windows have been built out and insulated, so bedrooms will be easier to keep warm.



Courtyards: The broken walls have been replaced with railings which creates a more open feel, and will deter fly tipping. Paving slabs have been replaced with smooth Tarmac.



Sheds: cleared of rubbish and all doors replaced.

Archway Gardens Independent Living scheme:

the residents' lounge has been redecorated and the tired wooden cladding replaced with smart new panels. Railings have been replaced and new lighting installed.



Throughout the estate: fascias, soffits and rainwater goods (drainpipes) have been replaced and new paving laid where needed.



The historic Duderstadt Close sign has been refurbished and reinstalled (see page 6).



House

How to get the most of your *new* waste and recycling system

Waste and recycling was high on your priority for improvements at Paganhill. The old wheeled bins have been replaced with more attractive, purpose built wooden waste and recycling cabinets based on a design which proved a success in Wotton-under-Edge. The new cabinets are within easy reach of every home, are clearly marked and have a bigger capacity.

What happens if the wrong bin is used?

If the wrong type of waste is put in a bin the crews can't pick it up on their rounds. That leads to a delay in the bin being emptied, and extra waste sometimes spills over onto the path. We're charged every time we need an additional crew to pick up waste – we'd much prefer to spend that money on improvements to homes and grounds and we're sure you would too.

Fly tipping

Any waste that's not put in one of the bin cabinets and is left outside is fly tipping. It's illegal, unsightly and expensive to remove – we'd far rather spend the money on estate improvements instead.

We hope that the estate improvements will deter fly tipping, but if you do come across it please report it on the council's website: www.stroud.gov.uk/report

Clinical waste

Hazardous waste such as syringes, needles, lancets and sharps can't be put in the waste bins as they pose a significant health risk to other people and the crews who collect them.

There are now 4 types of clearly marked bin cabinets

You can order a yellow 'sharps' box from your GP, or buy them from a pharmacy for a small cost. Once full, boxes must be sealed and returned to your GP or a pharmacy that participates in a scheme, the closest to Paganhill is The Co-op Pharmacy on Cashes Green Road, or Tesco Superstore on Stratford Road.

What to do if you have a large item you no longer need. Why not...

- **Ask friends and neighbours** if they could make use of it.
- **Advertise it** on a Facebook 'for sale' site or Freecycle.
- **Offer it to a charity** such as the Furniture Bank <https://www.strouddistrictfurniturebank.org.uk/> or phone **01453 367260**
- **Book a Bulky Waste collection.** It costs £25 to have up to three items collected from your home. If you don't have three items, could you share the collection with a neighbour? Bookings can be made at www.stroud.gov.uk/bulkywaste. If you don't have access to the internet you can phone **01453 766321**.
- **Take it to a Household Waste and Recycling Centre** The closest is at Pyke Quarry, Horsley. Lots of items can be recycled including white goods (fridges, cookers etc), clothes, batteries, fluorescent tubes, gas bottles, car batteries, paint and cooking oil. Trips must be pre-booked at: <https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/>

Last year extra waste collections and fly tipping at Paganhill cost **£9,367** to have cleared

1

Mixed recycling (plastic, cans and glass)

Collected every fortnight



- No Thanks**
- ✗ batteries
 - ✗ carrier bags and cling film
 - ✗ polystyrene
 - ✗ drinking glasses and pyrex
 - ✗ window glass
 - ✗ light bulbs
 - ✗ plastic buckets/toys etc.
 - ✗ plastic wrapping (eg. pasta/rice, bags and cereal packaging)
 - ✗ crisp bags

2

Kitchen (food) waste - all food, both cooked and raw

Collected every week



From your kitchen caddy to outside bin
Collect food in your kitchen caddy and empty it into the outside food waste bin

- No Thanks**
- ✗ animal waste
 - ✗ pet bedding (eg. straw or wood shavings)
 - ✗ nappies
 - ✗ food packaging

*the images used here are to demonstrate what can be recycled. We are not suggesting you waste food.

3

Cardboard and paper

Collected every fortnight



- No Thanks**
- ✗ wrapping paper
 - ✗ plastic wrapping
 - ✗ kitchen roll

4

General waste (anything that can't be recycled)

Collected every fortnight

Anything that can't be recycled including:

- ✓ nappies
- ✓ animal waste
- ✓ pet bedding (eg. straw or wood shavings)
- ✓ plastic buckets/toys
- ✓ home Covid-19 tests (put the contents and plastic packaging into a bag first)

- No Thanks**
- ✗ food waste
 - ✗ plastics, glass, cans or foil
 - ✗ cardboard, paper or cartons
 - ✗ clinical waste, including syringes, needles and sharps



The opposite week to recycling



The mystery of the Duderstadt sign

Did you ever walk by a sign on the wall at Duderstadt Close and wonder why it was different to the other estate signs?

It's because it was a gift from the German town of Duderstadt, which was once twinned with Stroud Urban District Council (before it became Stroud District Council).

During the estate improvements the sign was taken down and kept in storage, then given a good clean and is now back in pride of place.

Keep yourself and your neighbours safe

We've improved the security to some blocks by replacing the front doors and entry systems. Every property now has two fobs.

It's really important that you use the doors responsibly: please don't let anyone in you don't know, and don't wedge the doors open which will make them ineffective as fire doors.

Are you insured?

Stroud District Council insures the building its tenants live in, but not the contents. Could you replace your furniture, belongings or personal items if there was an accident or theft at your home?

We've arranged a special deal with Crystal Home Insurance for our tenants with flexible payment options. It also includes the cost to replace your external locks if your keys are lost or stolen – which could cost around £50 to change a lock.

Contact Crystal Home Insurance for a quote at: www.crystal-insurance.co.uk or phone **0345 450 7286**

Grass

We've laid grass seed where needed around the estate and took the decision not to remove the dandelions that have already started growing there. They are good for the soil and for bees and once the grass grows and it's all mown you won't notice them!

Garages and car parking review

The future of the garages will be reviewed within the next 18 months. Once that has taken place we'll be better informed about where we could add extra car parking spaces – we'll keep you informed.

Fire doors

Your front door keeps you safe and secure. If you live in a block of flats you should have had a new front door installed which conforms to current fire safety regulations. We haven't been able to access a number of addresses to fit new doors however, so if that's you please contact Zoe urgently on zoe.whitehead@stroud.gov.uk or by phone on **01453 766321**.

If you rent your flat from a private landlord and haven't yet had a new fire door fitted, please ask your landlord to contact us.

Archway Gardens – now an Independent Living Scheme

Stroud District Council-owned sheltered housing schemes have been re-named Independent Living schemes. The change of name reflects the service we offer, and the needs of an increasingly independent older generation.

You can apply to live in an Independent Living scheme at www.homeseekerplus.co.uk If you don't have access to the internet phone **01453 766321**.



Wyatt House

Wyatt House care home closed in August 2019. It belongs to Gloucestershire County Council which hasn't yet made a decision about its future. The empty building is being put to good use on a temporary basis, to train new police dogs how to search and find a person in a building.

One way system

Several people asked if the road around the estate could become a one way system. We consulted with Gloucestershire Highways which has responsibility for roads, however it was decided that Paganhill was unsuitable for a one-way system.

New iPads help to connect residents of Archway Gardens

Many thanks to Mitie for decorating the lounge at Archway Gardens Independent Living Unit and donating two iPads for residents' use. Although the decoration was finished in April last year the lounge was closed due to lockdown restrictions immediately after the work ended.

Once the lounge is re-opened residents will be able to enjoy the new surroundings, and use the iPads to connect to family and friends.

Mitie replaced the fascias, soffits and drainpipes as part of the estate regeneration.

Get in touch

Repairs

When you report a repair please give as much information as possible about the problem. You'll be given an appointment so make sure you're at home, or let us know if you need to cancel.

- Online: <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/apps/report-a-repair>
- By text **07851 7299229** (start your text with the word REPAIRS)
- By email: property.care@stroud.gov.uk
- By phone: **01453 754852**
- Emergency out of hours repairs: **01453 222104**

Neil Boulton

Neighbourhood Management Officer



Contact me if you need help with:

- Anti-social behaviour, such as loud music or shouting
- Dog fouling or excessive barking
- Overgrown trees or bushes on communal ground
- Maintenance of the play area

e: Neil.boulton@stroud.gov.uk t: 01453 766321

Craig Fellowes

Neighbourhood Warden



Contact me if you need help with:

- Home security and crime prevention
- Hate crime and bullying
- Careline personal alarms
- Abandoned and untaxed vehicles

e: Craig.fellowes@stroud.gov.uk t: 07876 405833

Police

Your local Police Community Support Officer is Amy Webb.



e: Amy.Webb@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk t: 07816 212 451

Council Services



For up to date information on council services follow Stroud District Council.

Leaseholders

If you've bought your council flat or maisonette, either directly through the right to buy scheme or from a previous owner and have any queries about your lease and being a leaseholder please contact: righttobuy@stroud.gov.uk or visit our website for further information.



Paganhill Community Group

We're here for you

**Text or call 07828 168 857
or message us on Facebook**

Neighbours helping neighbours



WELCOME LAURIE!

Laurie Davies is our first **paid PCG Community Hub Manager**. Thanks to Stroud District Council and Gloucestershire County Council for funding for a two-year post.

OUR FUTURE...

Paganhill Community Group has been using The Octagon (the former Baptist church) as our Food Hub during Covid. However, our continued use of this building is currently being negotiated, so we are also looking at other options for a permanent base. We've got a plan and we want to know what you think! See <https://paganhill.org.uk/news/wyatt-house-a-community-venue/>. More information coming soon about our Community Hub!

COULD YOU BE A PCG 'GOOD NEIGHBOUR' ?

Paganhill Community Group is all about neighbours helping neighbours in Farmhill and Paganhill. It would be great to have a contact in each of the roads and blocks of flats to help us keep everyone up to date with what's going on, helping to spread the word. We're hoping to get some new notice boards around the area and in the stairwells in the flats. **If you're interested in becoming a Good Neighbour please text or call Jaqui or Laurie on 07828 168 85.**

THANK YOU...

We've been working hard to help represent SDC tenants over the past year with regular talks with the Council at community level. The Council has been supportive by lending us rubbish pickers when we cleared litter and finally sorting out the fly tipping which has blighted our community. Thanks particularly to Craig, **SDC's Neighbourhood Warden**. (And, of course, the Council has given us this page).

FOOD HUB...

We are at The Octagon Community Hub, Farmhill Lane GL5 4BX, sharing **FREE** food on Wednesdays 2-4 and Saturdays 10-12!
Opening times will change from the end of June. Check out our Facebook Page.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ TO RE-OPEN...

We're hoping to start the café again in July, this time at The Octagon.

WHAT'S GROWING ON?!

Our PCG Members have transformed some overgrown land at The Octagon into a community allotment and somewhere local people can sit in peace and quiet and enjoy the view. They welcome local residents to look round the garden or join in the gardening work once a fortnight on Wednesdays from 2-4pm.
Next dates are 16 June, 30 June.

Local resident **Shannon Carter** is growing seedlings to give to local people to grow veg on their balconies in her new **Balcony Challenge!** Seedlings and growing info will soon be available at The Octagon.

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP!

There are many ways you can find out what's going on in Farmhill and Paganhill. Paganhill Community Group is very active on **Facebook** and **Twitter** and we have **WhatsApp** Groups too. **Or just come and talk to us on Wednesdays 2-4 and Saturdays 10-12 at The Octagon.** You can also sign up for regular email newsletters from our Chair Jaqui Smith - just go to our website www.paganhill.org.uk, scroll down the page and fill in your details to go onto our mailing list.

Paganhill Community Group was set up by local people in Farmhill and Paganhill in the spirit of neighbours helping neighbours. Our Members give their time freely. We are not affiliated to the Council or any political party or religion. Apart from Laurie, we are all volunteers. **Why not join us? Or, if we can help you or a neighbour, let us know.** Find out more at www.paganhill.org.uk or text or call Jaqui or Laurie on 07828 168 857 for more info.