



# InTouch

**PARK GATE & PRIORY PARK – Autumn 2017**

## Extra 3,100 homes plan goes for consultation amid protest storm

**AMID A STORM of controversy and protests, the vital new draft Fareham Plan was approved by the Executive for public consultation**

It followed heated debates, deputations from residents and objections from councillors whose wards will be affected.

It covers the period 2011 to 2036 to include the Welborne element and extends the rest of the Borough from 2026 to 2036 – an extra 10 years – to have a single terminus date.

And it is essential to prevent scores of developers climbing on the bandwagon in a free-for-all as happened in **Lib Dem** controlled Eastleigh.

Councillor Keith Evans, executive member for planning and development, said housing requirements were co-ordinated by local councils participating in the South Hampshire area using a premeditated formula.

The method covers aspects such as population growth, age, household sizes and economic growth.

Fareham's requirement for the plan period is 8,300 houses and 85,000 sq metres of employment space.

He said: "We are 6 years into this timeline so some of the houses and some employment space has already been delivered or agreed.

"The net balance for which sites need to be identified and agreed are around 3,100 houses and 13,000 sq m of employment space.

"Developers and landowners have submitted over 200 sites to be considered, but if all these were used, we would have an extra 10,000 to 11,000 houses and an extra 65,000 sq metres of employment space. We have prioritised using brownfield sites in the town centre.

Council officers faced the massive task to assess

each site's suitability, sustainability and developability with reference to other bodies such as education and health.

Many sites were rejected with others identified with varying degrees of suitability, leading to development of a planning strategy with a 3-pronged approach:

**1** Large (or clustered) sites that would enable delivery of community benefits.

This resulted in proposed sites in Warsash (700 homes), Titchfield (400 homes), town centre (600 homes), North Portchester (350 homes), South Portchester (350 homes) and Stubbington (475 homes)

**2** The balance (about 500 houses) from smaller sites

**3** Try to spread the burden and impact across the Borough

The plan is a statutory requirement to meet annual housebuilding aims of the political parties.

In fact, **Conservatives** have the smallest target of 200,000 homes, while the **Lib Dems** want to build 300,000.

The consultation period ends on December 8 with all responses being considered in the preparation of the formal plan to be published by next summer.

This will be subject to further consultation before

everything is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate to arrange a public examination, probably at the end of 2018.

He added: "Any Borough Plan is contentious and frequently unwelcome to many, it brings changes to locations and areas, some good and welcome, but others, such as increased road traffic, not so welcome.

"I strongly urge all residents to find time to read the plan and respond to the consultations."

The plan with all supporting documents is available online and paper copies in libraries and the Civic offices.

The table below shows the total number of houses on sites across the Borough on which developers want to build. Most will have to be defended at public inquiries.

Fareham N	304	Portchester E	103
Fareham NW	133	Portchester W	921
Fareham E	785	Sarisbury	1,124
Fareham S	0	Stubbington	2,302
Fareham W	254	Titchfield	1,161
Hill Head	198	Titchfield Common	438
Locks Heath	0	Warsash	2,698
Park Gate	64	TOTAL	10,485

**Conservatives** stress the importance of affordable homes.

We have over 1,000 Fareham families on the housing waiting list needing Fareham homes.

These could be for rent (council housing @ 60% market rent, housing association @ 80% market rent), shared equity (part rent part buy), starter homes at a 20% discount on market value or even self-build.

\*See Fareham Today Special at <https://tinyurl.com/y8f3f54t>



**Project grants**  
Every year County Councillor Seán Woodward has a £8,000 grant fund available to him to distribute to good causes active in the Sarisbury, Park Gate, Whiteley, Burrige and Swanwick area.

If you are involved with a group which would benefit from funding to make a project happen then please contact him.

He recently made a £1,000 grant to Fareham Citizens Advice Bureau for an instant access advice scheme to train and equip counsellors with appropriate IT to work remotely.

He has also contributed £300 to Burrige & Swanwick Women's Institute for new age curling equipment to help them keep fit and enjoy life.

**Active team member**

Ian Bastable has joined the InTouch team and has been busy helping in the ward with canvassing for the General and County Council elections.



He is member of Park Gate Conservative Branch committee and is active in fighting inappropriate development of open spaces and in supporting the Council in delivering high quality services.

Ian, who lives in the area with his wife and two daughters, says he's looking forward to meeting residents and relaying their views to the Council and our MP.

**Museum reopens**

Westbury Manor museum reopened in July after £665,000 refurbishment.

The museum, which will be managed by the Hampshire Cultural Trust, has become a vibrant culture hub in the town centre.

On the first floor, three galleries tell the story of the town's heritage from its origins as a Stone Age settlement and its long traditions of strawberry growing and brickmaking.

**Top award for bowling 'green fingers'**

LOCKSWOOD Bowling Club, which was founded in 1990 by enthusiasts, won an 'outstanding' award in the Britain in Bloom 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category.

Councillor Brian Bayford, whose wife Councillor Susan Bayford was delighted to open the bowling club's conservatory in 2014 during her mayoral year, said it was always a



a pleasure for members to enjoy their sport in such a beautiful setting."

pleasure to visit the club and admire the beautiful garden.

The award was presented at a special Fareham in Bloom ceremony at Ferneham Hall in September.

Councillor Simon Martin added: "Lockwood Bowling Club should be proud of their award. It must be

**Developer gets a ticking off**

TICKS and possible infections lurk in this overgrown part of Admiral's Wood after the developer failed to plant wild flowers and maintain it.

Residents complained to Councillor Brian Bayford and the Council's Streetscene Department had to clear the area.

It quickly regrew with knee-high docks and other untidy plants, but should have been looked after as a condition of planning consent.

The area in the picture is not the worst and Brian Bayford hoped ownership would be transferred speedily to the Council so it can be properly maintained.



**Fareham leads the way in county recycling**

FAREHAM sends 33-35% of waste for recycling or composting and is a leading authority in Hampshire.

This is achieved through a fortnightly collection of dry recyclables from your property as well as an extensive number of recycling centres which principally collect glass.

The Council promotes improvements in recycling with regular talks and events held as requested to the Recycling Co-ordinator.

Park Gate Councillor Simon Martin, chairman of the Streetscene Policy and Development Review Committee, is keen to continue our momentum of improving recycling rates.

"Whilst the Council provides an excellent service, we as residents need to continue to improve our waste recycling.

"The increase in recycling will from time to time result in banks overflowing and it is important to notify the Council of any issues to avoid making the areas untidy and producing litter."

A case in question was at Middle Road and Priory Park, where recycling collection services were increased after residents' complaints about overflowing materials; in Priory Park, a new glass recycling bank is scheduled to be installed.

On the same subject, Fareham has recently appointed a Food Saver Champion to help educate residents on how to reduce food waste and to provide tips and recipe suggestions.

Simon, who is pictured using the local recycling bank, is currently one of those invited to complete a 'Food Diary' as part of this initiative.

To find out more, contact the Council on 01329 236100.



**Citizens Advice comes to Lockwood Library**



CITIZENS ADVICE FAREHAM has been operating out of Fareham Library for many years, offering a marvellous free service to local residents.

Trained volunteers provide support to all residents of the Borough and it is now providing a local service in the Lockwood Library on Tuesdays 10am to 2pm when residents can speak to an advisor face to face.

This new service will provide free, confidential and impartial advice to people on their rights and responsibilities.

Specialist advice is provided on a range of subjects and practical help can be provided with filling in forms or negotiating on a person's behalf.

Many local solicitors have joined up to offer free half hour appointments to clients on a Thursday evening.

Citizens Advice is also extending outreach work to home visits within the Locks Heath area.

Deborah Stringfellow, chairwoman of Citizens Advice Fareham, said one of the recommendations from recent community profile work was to consider providing accessible advice to Fareham people who may be unable to access the town centre library.

Citizens Advice Fareham is grateful to local Hampshire County councillors for funding the outreach work in the community.

For more information, call the advice line 03444 111306\* Mondays to Fridays 9am-5pm and Saturday 9.30am-1pm. If calling from a mobile, you will be asked to enter an area code. Fareham's is 01329.

Information can also be found online at www.citizensadvice.org where a chat service is available.

PHOTO: Councillor Susan Bayford learned about the excellent work undertaken by the service when she visited Biddy Mayo, Operations Manager and volunteer Beryl Lawrence at the Lockwood Library recently.

**Rare planes on show at Daedalus 100**

AIRCRAFT enthusiasts were out in force at the special event organised by Fareham Council to mark 100 years of aviation at Daedalus at Lee-on-the-Solent.

The September event attracted 2,500 visitors, who saw resident and classic aircraft on display.

Pilots from America, Australia and Sweden (pictured) flew in with some rare aircraft, among them a Beech Staggerwing which served with the Fleet Air Arm at the former base in 1944.

A larger event is planned for 2019, commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Hundreds of Spitfire, Seafire, Mustang and Typhoon missions were flown from Daedalus during the Battle of Normandy.



**Wi-fi hackers upset locals**

YOUNGSTERS hacked into wi-fi connections and caused late night disturbance to Park Gate residents.

Councillor Simon Martin said they had discovered connections in Middle Road were not password protected.

Police said it was part of the anti-social problems they had to deal with during the summer.

The Council's enforcement team has been working with the police to resolve problems of noise, littering and general bad behaviour.

Simon Martin said: "Residents managed to get the free wi-fi turned off at night, and it appears the problem has improved. It is surprising people don't have password security systems. Whether you are at home or work, make sure your connectivity is secure."

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**WE SERVE YOU ALL** Whether you voted for us or not, your Conservative councillors promise the highest standards of service to every one in the community. Contact us any time and we'll respond personally within 48 hours.

**COME AND JOIN US**

If you support Conservative principles and would like to vote to select your Council and Parliamentary candidates, to attend social and political events or help us by delivering InTouch in your street, then why not join Park Gate Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Brian Bayford on 01489 577772.

# Fareham same-day GP appointments scheme gets off to a steady start

**A NEW SERVICE** for Fareham people to make urgent same-day GP appointments welcomed its first patients in September as it got off to a smooth start.

However, only 40% of surgeries have so far agreed to participate and patients who use the others are encouraged to get their GPs to 'sign up'.

Fareham Primary Care Service (FPCS), based at a hub at Fareham Community Hospital, Park Gate, dealt with 60 patient calls in its first three hours after going live at 8am.

Four of the ten GP practices in Fareham are working together to develop a new way of offering urgent appointments to patients who want to see a health professional on the day they make contact.

The participating practices are Highlands Practice, Jubilee Surgery and Whiteley Surgery. Stubbington Medical Practice will also join the scheme, from January 2, 2018. Other practices may follow if the initiative proves successful.

Routine appointments at GP practices are not affect-



ed, and continue as before.

Dr Tom Bertram, the Titchfield GP who is clinical lead for the project which has been funded by the Better Local Care initiative, said: It's all gone very smoothly. I'd also like to thank everyone at the Community Hospital for getting the room, IT, and everything else in place. They have done a fantastic job."

Councillor Brian Bayford

said: "We have to thank our MP, Suella Fernandes, for setting up the Task Force at the Community Hospital which led to this new service."

Patients wanting urgent same-day appointments phone their GP practice as normal and, if they agree to their details being shared with the service, they will then be called back in order of clinical priority with a nurse/GP having a detailed conversation with them - which may result in the patient being given advice over the phone or offered an appointment.

**PHOTO:** Dr Tom Bertram Jubilee Surgery and Amanda Gray, practice manager at Highlands Surgery, discuss the new service with Dr Derrin Wilkins.

## County braces for council tax rises as Whitehall grant is phased out

**HAMPSHIRE'S council taxpayers face more increases over the next two years to make up for the ever decreasing government support grant.**

And there are likely to be some controversial cuts in services.

It means HCC will have to make £340m savings in 2018 and a further £140m in 2019.

County Councillor Seán Woodward says it faces a £40m grant reduction, plus £100m increased demand from rising numbers of elderly, rising education support needs and inflation.

He says: "This estimated shortfall is after assumed maximum allowed county council tax increases of 3.99% each year.

"Achieving the £340m savings has been hard but by careful and thorough review and re-organisation of operational processes, significant investment in technology, reductions in staff and management and increasing fees and charges, the HCC managed to minimise the direct adverse impact on front line services."

Some untenable options must be considered in the budget planning,

including reducing or eliminating bus subsidies, reducing grants for community projects, reducing the number of household waste recycling centres etc

He adds: "Savings have to be made but these options will be heatedly debated by councillors over the next 6 months looking to identify alternatives and to protect local service delivery."

•HCC had to raise council tax by 3.99% last year and it's likely to go up by 1% in 2018 and by 1.99% in 2019. The government grant ceases by 2020.

## Fareham's schools will benefit from fairer funding formula

**FAIRER national funding has been welcomed by Fareham schools.**

For the first time, Government funding for schools will be distributed according to individual needs and characteristics.

The Government is investing £1.3bn in schools over the next 2 years, on top of existing spending plans.

From April 2018, the new national funding formula will replace the out-of-date system that saw Hamp-

shire's schools get one of the lowest levels in the country.

All secondary schools will receive at least £4,800 per pupil and all primary schools will receive at least £3,500 per pupil in 2019-20, as well as a minimum cash increase in respect of every school of 0.5% per pupil, rising to 1%, up to 3% gains per pupil in 2018-19 and a further 3% in 2019-20 for under-funded schools.