

Tory leader tackles the Premier over development

FAREHAM Council's Conservative Leader Seán Woodward seized the chance to demand proper infrastructure when he met the Prime Minister.

The occasion was the recent signing of three new Multi-Area Agreements (MAA) at 10 Downing Street.

Elected members and officers from the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) attended the event, which was witnessed by Gordon Brown and ministers.



Seán Woodward (right) and County Council Leader Ken Thornber at 10 Downing Street.

As chairman of PUSH, Councillor Woodward said MAAs gave opportunity for groups of councillors to secure Government support and investment for their areas, working across boundaries to tackle economic issues.

He said: "As the only MAA area in the South East, it was important to attend the signing and to talk to the Prime Minister and senior officials

"It gave us opportunity to reiterate the need for infrastructure investment and Government support for South Hampshire."

No excuse for lack of infrastructure before building starts

'Get it right now' is message to Government ahead of new town

A NEW town that the Government has ordered Fareham to build west of the A32 must be properly planned.

The Borough Council and neighbouring authorities are adamant the vision is not blurred by the absence of the infrastructure before the building of up to 10,000 homes starts.

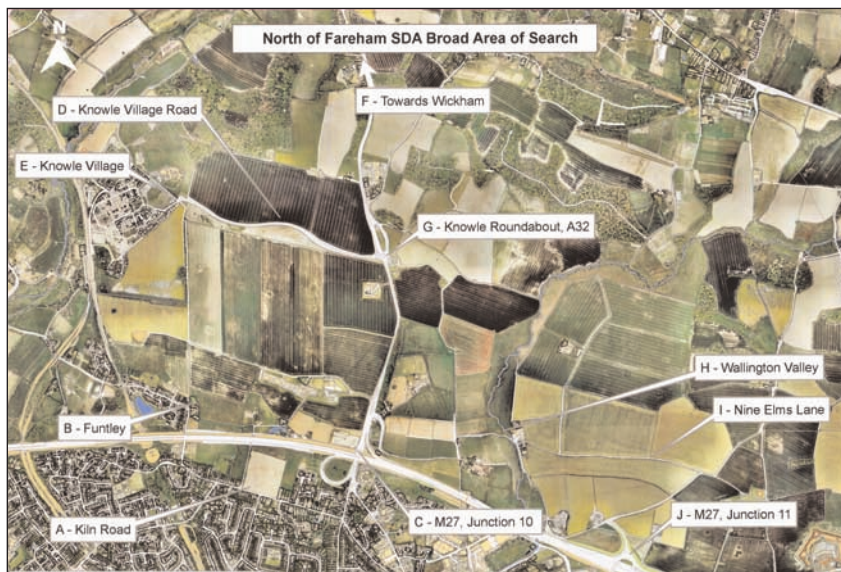
"We have to get the vision right because we want this place to be somewhere we can be proud of," said Councillor David Swanbrow, chairman of the newly-formed Strategic Development Steering Group.

The new town, whose exact location has yet to be decided, must be built as part of the South East Plan. It could house up to 25,000 people.

Building should begin around 2016 and will take at least 10 years to complete, but this schedule could be disrupted or diluted by the recession.

Nevertheless, the planning process has already started and councillors, led by Councillor Swanbrow as Fareham's Executive Member for Planning and Transportation, have been working for some time to produce the Local Development Framework that will replace the Borough Local Plan Review.

He said: "Developing a completely new settlement, however,



Vanishing countryside: This aerial view of green fields and farmland will be changed for ever when development starts on a new town north of the M27.

needs thoughts and ideas from a broad range of people and organisations from outside the council and perhaps the most important thing to get right early on in the planning process is a vision of what sort of a place it should be."

To that end, the Borough Council ran the first of several visioning events at Ferneham Hall at the end of March.

About 50 participants attended, representing organisations from Fareham and neighbouring districts, Hampshire County Council, the Environment Agency, the Highways Agency and other government bodies.

Councillor Swanbrow said: "Some very strong messages

came out of this first workshop, including the need for infrastructure to be in place early with good public transport links to Fareham and Portsmouth and beyond.

"It should also be a place that feels safe and comfortable to live in and have a varied mix of housing, plenty of green space and good employment facilities."

Unlike the Western Wards, where infrastructure had to be added piecemeal to what already existed, the new town site is undeveloped countryside.

He added: "The Government promised the infrastructure, so there's no excuse for it not being there before the development starts."

Too many heavy sacks result in changes to green waste collections

CHANGES to the green waste collection were necessary for Health and Safety reasons.

Fareham Council had to employ more staff to

reduce the amount each worker had to carry.

The Council is saving no money; any savings are being ploughed back into the green waste col-

lection service and trial schemes.

It is not a statutory service and Fareham is the only council providing the collection of one green

sack as an extra free service.

Neighbouring councils charge up to £25 for a green waste sack and up to £1 for each emptying.



WARD NEWS BRIEFS

Picnic in the park
Western Wards Campus at Brookfield School is planning a 'Picnic in the Park' on July 15 at the Locks Heath Centre.

It is hoped the event will encourage young people and their parents to come and see what our area has to offer in the way of sport, clubs and activities.

A community grant of £500 was given by the Borough Council towards the event.

New lamps for old
Vine Close has been included in the 2006/2007 programme by the County Council to replace lamp columns which have come to the end of their life and are becoming structurally unsound.

The replacement lighting system will be brought up to current standards by the provision of extra lights.

Deliverers needed
Can you deliver *In Touch* in any of the following roads: Heath Road North or any roads off; any roads in Priory Park.

There are usually 4 deliveries a year.

Ring Brian Bayford or Marian Ellerton if you can help.

Crossing wardens
There are vacancies for school crossing wardens in the Borough, which need to be filled.

The positions are paid and training and uniform provided.

Contact Hampshire County Council Road Safety Officer for details.

Parents find it hard to get their kids away from new playground

VILLAGERS and, more importantly, their children have given Burridge's new-look playground top marks.

Their appreciation was summed up by Simon Foord, of Botley Road, in a letter to Councillor Seán Woodward:

"My children have already been playing in it and gave it 10 out of 10. The only problem now is getting them to do their homework."

Fareham Council recently completed the refurbishment to put the finishing touches to the huge improvements made to this site.

This created the revamped Burridge Village Hall, tennis courts, changing rooms, car park and playground.

Councillor Woodward, who proposed the improvements, said: "I am delighted that this facility has been completed



Family fun: The Foords enjoy the new play area.

on the extreme west of our Borough. "Sometimes people on the edges of a district feel they miss out but that is certainly not the case for the residents of Burridge and Whiteley."

New package to improve school travel plan

A LIST of improvements has been drawn up for Brookfield School's travel plan.

County Councillor Seán Woodward has proposed the following points for investigation:

1 Lockswood Road speed limit – the proposed pool list has an item to revise the speed limit south of Peters Road. The section of Lockswood Road north of Peters Road will be added to the list for deployment of speed counters.

2 Changing the signposted route to direct Warsash traffic via the Lockswood Road distributor road rather than the mostly residential Brook Lane. This should reduce the level of traffic on the road – cars and lorries – who are just using it as a through road. Hampshire Highways worked rapidly to implement this suggestion and the changed sign is already in place (see picture).

3 A weight limit to ban heavy goods vehicles on Brook Lane from Lockswood Road to Warsash. This

will be added to the pool list for traffic investigations for prioritisation for the 2010/11 programme.

4 Speed enforcement on all of Brook Lane. Brook Lane will be added to the list of

roads for checking vehicle speeds and the County Council will also look at other traffic calming measures.

Yellow lines to prevent parking in residential roads near Brookfield School in school hours are also being pursued.

Councillor Woodward said: "This package of measures that I have proposed should, if implemented, bring some benefits to those who live on this road and the roads off."



It's this way: Seán Woodward points out one of the new signs.

Yellow + blue = green is the old directory recycling formula

OLD EDITIONS of Yellow Pages telephone directory can now be recycled in the blue top kerbside bins and paper banks.

Previously, there were several reasons why the directory could not be recycled, but Project Integra has resolved these issues

Executive Member for Streetscene Councillor Brian Bayford said:

"This is excellent news. It has always seemed such a shame to have to throw out the old Yellow

Pages when the new copy has been delivered, now it can be recycled and putting it in your blue top bin couldn't be easier.

"It will also help to contribute towards the government's tight target for 50% of all household waste to be recycled by 2010."

Forced to let key worker flats they can't sell

DEVELOPERS have been forced to let key worker flats at Park Gate that they cannot sell.

The flats in Middleton Mews, Station Road have been empty since they were completed over a year ago.

Atlantic Housing has informed Councillor Marian Ellerton that after several discussions with ward councillors, Fareham Council Housing Department and a representative from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, they have changed their policy and released them for rental

As a result, 24 have now been let to key workers with 3 remaining unoccupied.

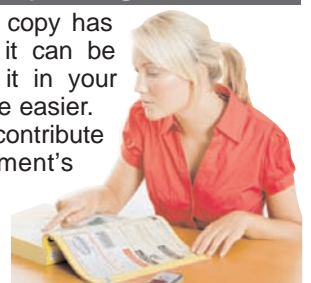
The key worker housing scheme considers employees of the NHS, police, teachers, fire fighters, prison officers and social workers.

Marian Ellerton said: "There has been a great number of key worker flats built throughout the area, with little interest in buying them."

A lame excuse

HAMPSHIRE County Council is working with bus companies to help make 'sorry the bus was late' less than a feeble excuse.

The Transport Plan (2006-2022) had a target to have 90% of bus services arriving on time by 2011.





Check your Conservative council's performance

VISITORS to Fareham Council's website can see a presentation about its services.

The new on-line 'Building on Success' presentation is informative and easy to watch.

Park Gate Councillor Marian Ellerton, Chairman of the Best Value Panel, said:

"Each of the Council's seven corporate objectives is highlighted to show how the council is performing.

"The content of the presentation has been based on evidence from our Comprehensive Performance Assessments results, the Annual Residents' survey, Best Value indicators and the Government's Inspectorate, which collectively give a good indication of how well the Council is achieving its objectives."

•You can check it out by logging on to: www.fareham.gov.uk/presentation

Christine and Jim set a shining example to the litter tossers

A PUBLIC spirited couple have been praised for giving up their time to clear up other people's litter.

Christine Saltonstall, from Park Gate, told the last Community Action Team meeting about the serious problem at the Coldeast site in Brook Lane.

This site is in at least three ownerships – National Health Service, Miller Homes and English Partnerships – none of which was interested in clearing up the mess.

Fareham Council cannot clean up private land, so Christine and husband Jim decided to set an example.

The Council supplied the pickers' sacks and protective gloves and collected the litter.

Over a two-hour period, the pair not only collected the rubbish that had been thrown over the fence, but also sorted out the recyclables.

There were three large black bags of aluminum cans and plastic bottles, two sacks of miscellaneous rubbish and one sack of glass.

Councillor Brian Bayford, Executive



Thanks: Jim and Christine Saltonstall set an example to the community with their clean-up efforts.

Member for Streetscene, said: "The cans and bottles will help the recycling targets for Fareham. What a great community effort. Thanks."

•Litter louts like those shamed in the story on Page 4 might take a leaf from the Saltonstalls' book.

'No' to semi detachment

PLANNERS refused to do things by halves when they faced an unusual application.

A Sarisbury resident wanted to demolish his semi and replace it with a detached house on the same plot.

One of the quirks of planning is that you cannot prevent demolition, even though one house is joined to the other.

Councillor David Swanbrow described it as "very unneighbourly" as it could cause months of anguish to the people next door.

However, even that was not a reason for refusal. He suggested it should be refused due to the detrimental effect to the street.

It was. Unanimously.

Danger could lurk underneath the spreading chestnut tree



ANOTHER prominent tree has had to be felled for safety reasons.

The horse chestnut had become a landmark on the 'Little Green' by the shops at Sarisbury Green.

The tree was suffering

from bleeding canker, a disease that has been spreading recently in horse chestnuts, so the Council had no choice but to have the tree felled as a branch could have fallen any time.

In 2006, a council was criticised by a coroner

after a branch from a diseased tree fell, killing a young woman. The council was found to be negligent in failing to fell the tree.

A replacement sapling will be planted during October-March planting season.

PARK GATE & PRIORY PARK CONSERVATIVES

We are very active with social and political events and membership drives. If you would like further details, to join us, or to help in any way such as distribution of *In Touch* newsletters in your road, please contact your ward councillors.

WARD COUNCILLORS Park Gate



Brian Bayford
1 Camargue Close
Whiteley PO15 7DT
Tel: 01489 880740
email: bbayford@fareham.gov.uk



Marian Ellerton
230 Botley Road
BurrIDGE SO31 1BL
Tel: 01489 570774
email: mellerton@fareham.gov.uk



COUNTY COUNCILLOR Fareham Sarisbury

Seán Woodward
8 Persian Drive, Whiteley PO15 7BJ
Tel: 01489 881030 email: sean.woodward@hants.gov.uk

Your man in Westminster



By Mark Hoban MP for Fareham

I am very proud of the young people in Fareham. Too often, young people get a bad press because of the actions of a tiny minority at the expense of the tremendous contribution that the majority makes to the wider community.

It creates a barrier between the generations. We need to redress the balance and emphasise the positive.

I am lucky that I get to see so much of what our young people are able to do. In the last few weeks, groups from Orchard Lea Junior School, Neville Lovett and Henry Cort have been to Westminster and I was struck by the range of questions they asked, demonstrating a keen interest in their community, nation and the wider world.

A few weeks ago I listened to young people at Portchester Community School set out their ideas on how we can improve facilities for them.

Their ideas were well thought through and demonstrated an understanding of conflicting pressures that councils face when allocating resources. What they said and did ran counter to the media stereotypes. Stereotypes dog every generation and group and where there are tensions between different groups these can be self-reinforcing.

We are too ready to be critical and we should be more willing to listen and recognise the qualities and talents of our young people. The only way to bridge the gap between the generations is to accept that the good outweighs the bad.

Young and old need to value each other more, and understanding each other's contribution to the community is a good starting point.

**•You may contact Mark via his office:
14 East Street, Fareham PO16 0BN
Telephone: 01329 233573
email: mail@markhoban.com**

Valuable work praised at opening of new Community Action offices

COMMUNITY Action Fareham has moved into new offices opposite Trinity Church at 163 West Street .

The independent charity supports voluntary organisations and provides a Home Help scheme and Advocacy project for people with mental health issues.

Other services include community transport and Dial A Ride for the elderly.

Shophmobility is also run by Community Action, giving disabled people access to town centre shops.

Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward officially handed over the keys onj March 31 to the Chairman of Community Action

Fareham, George Ringrow, at the new building where a plaque was revealed as a tribute to the special occasion.

Councillor Woodward said: "It was an honour and a pleasure to hand over the keys to this valuable organisation.

"These brand new offices, will offer Community Action Fareham further support to continue their important work within the Borough".

The Council invested £528,000 to provide the specially designed offices in a prominent position in the town centre, which are a big



Fresh start: Seán Woodward (left) and George Ringrow outside the new offices.

improvement on the former dilapidated premises in Osborn Road South.

Foiling the Borough's midnight rubbish tippers

THEY sneak down the lanes after dark to dump their rubbish in the woods.

It saves them the fee for legally disposing of industrial waste at a council tip.

The culprits are often rogue builders who add to their profits by billing their unsuspecting clients.

They have made countryside around Sarisbury a disgrace.

County Councillor Seán Woodward said: "As fast as the Council and landowners clear the fly tipping, more vehicles arrive under cover of darkness to dump more waste."

But it won't be



happening in future. The Council has made a prohibition order which will prevent vehicles enter-

ing the footpath and bridleway network from Sarisbury Green (Glen Road and behind the

He thought he'd got away with it

Fly-tipper Ivor James (45) suffered a double whammy when he dumped his rubbish in Glen Road.

Fareham Council officers were delighted to find his name and address on mail in one of the bags. James denied involvement.

But he couldn't wriggle out of evidence from a public spirited resident who caught him in the act on camera and noted his vehicle registration number.

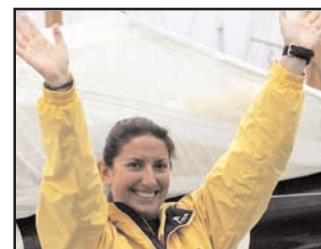
James, of Addison Road, Sarisbury admitted the offence and was sentenced to 100 hours' community service by the town's magistrates and ordered to pay the Council £645.76.

shops), Oslands Lane and Glen Road, Swanwick.

Signs and physical barriers will be in place, including lockable bollards for which keys will only be issued by Hampshire County Council to people with right of access.

Councillor Woodward added: "The order combined with the bollards will prevent this filthy practice. I'm hopeful the problem will be eliminated.

"Traders who charge people to remove this waste will now have to pay to dump it at the tip rather than on other people's property."



Fareham honour for Dee's daring deeds

DEE CAFFARI, first woman to sail solo non-stop around the globe in both directions, will be presented with the Citizens of Honour Special Achievement badge by the Mayor Ernest Crouch at a special tea in the Mayor's Parlour on May 5.

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