



In Touch

with our community

PARK GATE & PRIORY PARK – SUMMER 2006

Don't miss the bus! You can help shape Fareham's future...

THE BACK end of a bus isn't usually this attractive, but this smiling face is what you'll see if you get stuck behind one.

Facing up to Fareham's future is the Council's duty, but it wants everybody to help put together the new Borough Plan.

Ward Councillor Marian Ellerton said: "This is an exciting opportunity to get involved in planning our future, so using borough-wide buses to encourage community involvement seemed like an excellent way of spreading the message."

Work on Fareham's Local Development Framework (the replacement for the current Local Plan Review adopted in June 2000) is moving on apace.

This process will guide the future of Fareham for the next 20 years so it is important that residents have a chance to have their say on the options that will affect not only them but their children and grandchildren.

The future of the borough will be set out in broad terms in the core strategy, and the Preferred Options document issued during June sets out possible options that have been developed during earlier stages in the process when residents and organisations were able to respond to the Issues and Options document.

A series of one day exhibitions was set up across the borough - mostly in local shopping centres - to give as many people as possible a chance to have their say, and three workshops were held, two in the



On the buses: Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward (left) and Executive Member for Planning and Transportation Councillor David Swanbrow unveil the advert.

Civic Offices and the other in Fareham Hall.

The consultation closes on July 31.

Councillor Bayford said: "It's crucially important that our residents are given the chance to tell us whether our ideas reflect their thoughts and are on the right road.

"That's why we need to highlight that they are our partners in the future of Fareham.

"During this consultation period there

were almost 20 events being held. These gave our residents borough-wide the opportunity to get involved, to see what we are suggesting and to tell us if we're heading in the right direction."

•Copies of the Preferred Options document are available at libraries throughout the borough, or at www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf.

...But the Government made sure you had to run to catch this one

JUST 48 hours' notice were given by the Labour Government that it aims to cram over 50% more houses into the South East.

A paper was published on its official website on June 21 - two days before the deadline for

public comment on the South East Plan - stating the intention to increase the original figure of 28,900 houses per year over the next 20 years to 45,000.

It would mean South Hampshire's annual total rising from 4,000 to 6,571, giving a

total of 132,000 instead of the 80,000 proposed.

Fareham Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward said:

"This would be the equivalent of one extra Whiteley per year every year for 20 years in South Hampshire on top of the exist-

ing proposed figures.

"If we do not hold the line at 4,000 houses per year it is hard to imagine there being a blade of grass left in South Hampshire in 20 years time."

Public examination of the SE Plan is due in the autumn.

We keep *In Touch* throughout the year - not just at election time



WARD NEWS BRIEFS

Early cut

Fareham has a national reputation for the quality of its parks and open spaces and it is regretted that, owing to the wet winter, grass cutting had to be started on February 20 – a month earlier than usual.

This has led to delays meeting the standard of service expected, particularly strimming around lampposts, street signs etc.

Extra agency staff have been recruited to clear the backlog.

Badgers Copse

The play area has not yet been taken over by the Council until the developers meet all the conditions imposed by the planning consent.

When the site is under the control of the Council the first priority will be to provide additional seating.

Councillor Brian Bayford has this under constant review in consultation with residents.

Bloom time

In 2005 Fareham's streets and open spaces were highly judged by the Southern in Bloom team which awarded 7 prizes, including runner up for 'best small town'.

The team will be visiting Fareham again soon and every effort is being made to improve upon last year's tally.

Every resident can help by keeping gardens tidy and avoiding the dropping of litter.

If you know of an area that needs special attention please advise Councillor Brian Bayford.

New baby unit meets a crying need for pre-school places at Park Gate

A NEW baby unit catering for 30 children under two years has been opened at Woodlands Pre-School, Barnes Lane, Sarisbury.

It has created more spaces for two to five-year-olds and the nursery has now expanded to 108 places.

It was opened by Fareham Borough Council's Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward, who commented: "I was delighted, having opened the pre-school just last year, to be invited to open the baby unit.

"The fact that the pre-school is already full is proof positive that it is filling a desperately needed gap in the market. I wish staff and children all the best for the future."

Owners Michael and Angela Vulliamy are proud of what they have achieved in a short time and said Woodlands was very much about children and their parents, and they tried to do their best by creating separate areas for each age group.

"This has been achieved by having a close working relationship with our parents and listening to their comments through



All smiles: Staff pose with Seán Woodward after he opened the new unit.

open evenings and questionnaires. "We struggled at the beginning as we had opposition from our surrounding neighbours, but in the past few years we feel we have proved to them that we are an asset to the community.

"We have created good quality childcare places."

Prescott's snubs to planners swamps Park Gate with flats

JOHN PRESCOTT has again treated Fareham with contempt by upholding appeals against the planners' refusal to allow more flats at Park Gate.

The applications were to build flats within a mile of Middle Road and the Borough Council refused them all, with the full support of local Councillors Marian Ellerton and Brian Bayford.

But on appeal to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister the Council's decision was overturned.

This means builders have not been bound by strict controls on street cleaning, traffic at unsociable hours and other problems affecting residents nearby, which would have been imposed had planning permission

originally been given by the Council.

Councillor Bayford said: "It's a no-win situation. A further consequence of the Whitehall decisions is the tendency of the developers to show contempt for the need for planning permission for other works.

"This has included the retention of hoarding in Station Road and the siting of a sales office complete with flagpole and other signage in Lower Duncan Road. Retrospective planning permission has now been sought."

Councillor Bayford, a member of the Planning Development Control Committee, argued that such decisions made in Whitehall ignored local knowledge and gave no consideration to local needs for infrastructure.

Stringent conditions imposed on operators

AFTER a long battle for improvements at the Rookery Farm site, Hampshire County Council granted a further temporary permission in June.

County Councillor Seán Woodward requested stringent conditions, all of which the Regulatory Committee accepted.

They included reductions in working hours and annual recycling throughput from 200,000 tonnes to 140,000 tonnes, plus noise, dust and lighting limits. A liaison group will be set up, chaired by Councillor Woodward, to ensure future concerns are rapidly brought to the attention of the operators.

Brian thanks voters for massive majority

BRIAN BAYFORD was delighted with the local election result in Park Gate which saw him re-elected with a resounding 1,000 majority.

His total of 1,343 votes showed a 72% share of the poll, which was the second largest in the election.

He said: "I wish to thank you very much for re-electing me to Fareham

Borough Council to represent Park Gate in the May elections.

"Conservatives remain in control of Fareham Borough Council and I pledge to continue to represent Park Gate's residents to the best of my ability.

"If I can be of assistance please do not hesitate to get InTouch!"

Graffiti clean service offer to private premises

THERE has been a big increase in graffiti in the past months.

The council cleans graffiti from public premises, but private premises are not included.

In many cases the offending material is on a gable end, wall or fence not viewed by the property owner and there is no incentive to arrange for cleaning.

Executive Member for Streetscene, Councillor Brian Bayford, is seeking legal advice to agree a formal protocol so that private premises can be cleaned with the agreement of the owner.

It is hoped that this new service to residents can be implemented, at no charge, later this year.

Countyside protection deal sought in Coldeast land sale

LAND at Coldeast Hospital is about to be sold to a major housebuilder.

This ends uncertainties about the part of the site with planning permission for 250 houses which the government granted on appeal several years ago.

The part of the area sold (Lot 1) will accommodate 150 houses as the remainder of the consented site is still in health use with the Sylvan Clinic and other facilities.

Lord Wilson School will continue on the land it currently occupies.

The rest of the Coldeast site, with the exception of the land allocated for Fareham's long-awaited community hospital, is known as Lot 2 and incorporates the mansion and over 100 acres of countryside.

Salisbury and Park Gate Ward councillors have entered into detailed negotiations with the landowners, English Partnerships, to persuade them to make a freehold gift of most of the land to Fareham Borough Council for use as parkland and informal recreation. Councillors Brian Bayford, Marian Ellerton, David Swanbrow and Seán Woodward said in a joint statement:

"We believe that the vast majority of the Coldeast site should rightfully come to Fareham Borough Council to be safeguarded in perpetuity for free public access.

"The area around it has seen significant housebuilding in recent years and this area should form an oasis of calm which can be enjoyed by all residents. We will do everything in our power to acquire this land for the benefit of everyone."

The mansion could be converted for residential use and the parkland restored to its former beauty. There is also scope for some formal leisure uses including sports pitches and, if the Locks Heath swimming pool does not come to fruition, a public swimming pool and fitness centre, community centre etc.

Original footpaths through the site will be reopened. There is also a requirement for a cemetery to replace that at Holly Hill which is nearly full.

The key is likely to be what element of extra development should be permitted at Coldeast in order for most of the site to come into Council ownership. Residents will be fully consulted.

No need to pine as landmark is declared safe



THE TRIAL of the lonesome Monterey pine is over and the 80ft tree at Carter's Corner, Park Gate has been given a clean bill of health.

A survey by the County Council found it was safe and free from fungal infection.

Subject to an inspection every few years it should remain as a Park Gate landmark for many years.

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.

ANY PROBLEMS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Please write the details here and give the exact location

.....

Your name

Address

..... Postcode.....

Tel Email

Please cut this out and post it or email or phone your councillors who are listed here.

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Your man in Westminster



By Mark Hoban MP for Fareham

The Government used the World Cup to bury bad news. They sneaked out proposals to build 45,000 houses a year in the South East on the day England played Sweden.

No wonder they wanted to hide this as it would mean in South Hampshire alone building 130,000 houses over 20 years compared to the current plans for 80,000. The scene is being set for the Government to overrule these plans and force through higher numbers and when I asked the minister who has the final word on this to rule it, she refused.

We know we need more houses in the South East: people are living longer and more of us are living on our own. These factors push up the demand for houses.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for young people to get on the housing ladder because of rising house prices. New homes are inevitable, but who should decide how many are built?

At the moment, the final decision about how many houses will be built in our community will not be taken by local councils, despite the work they put into developing plans.

A minister sitting in Whitehall will decide how many houses will go in Fareham and how many of them will be built on brownfield sites (including back-gardens) and greenfield sites.

I think this is wrong. It is time that local people had a much greater say over development. You and I will have to live with the consequences of development, not the civil servants and ministers sitting in Whitehall. We will have to deal with the traffic jams from the front door to the school gates to the office car park, when Government fails to spend enough money on the roads needed to support all the extra housing. It is right that we have a stronger voice in those decisions so that we can decide how best to meet the needs of our community.

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

Fareham tops county waste recycling table

FAREHAM residents have wasted no time in helping the Borough Council to meet Government recycling targets.

In fact, householders have responded so well that the Council has exceeded the 30% target.

In the quarter to April, a figure of 37.8% was achieved – the highest in Hampshire and one of the best in the country.

Councillor Brian Bayford, Executive Member for Streetscene, commented:

“This is due to the efforts of many residents in fully using the blue-top recycling wheelie bins and to the extra free service offered by the collection of green waste.”

However, the target to be achieved by 2010 is 50% so further plans are being made to support and advise residents who are unsure of what to recycle and those who do not take advantage of the recycling facilities.

Owing to the success in meeting the Government target a special grant has been allocated by a Government agency (WRAP) to further encourage recycling.

This will be used to provide a monitoring and ‘door-stepping’ programme by a specialist team. The

team will identify areas and residents with problems and provide assistance to help and advise.

There are about 90 blocks of flats or maisonettes that are currently

unable to be properly serviced due to inadequate space or difficulty of access.

Priority is being given by the Council to resolving these problems and the ‘door-stepping’ team will also be involved.

All new flat developments in the Borough are required to meet guidelines on space and servicing for waste management.

Some residents have requested extra

green sacks, which can be provided up to a maximum of 3.

These will be collected by the ‘dusties’.

However it is not possible to collect green waste in anything but the bag provided.



Not the way to do it: ‘Dusties’ will only collect garden waste that’s in official green bags.

WHAT’S AVAILABLE TO YOU

1 x 240 litre green top bin (for those with a 140 litre)

2 x 240 litre blue top bins (for recycling)

Green garden waste sacks

Ring 01329 824387 or 824389.

For further information, call Councillor Brian Bayford on 01489 880740

Poached carp a better risk than roast venison

POACHERS have switched their prey in Holly Hill Woodland Park from deer to fish.

They’ve discovered there’s more profit in live carp than dead venison.

Large numbers of carp or koi (the Japanese name) live in the park’s lakes and on still sunny mornings their vibrant colours can be seen as they rest near the surface.

Some reach over half a



metre and children feeding bread to the ducks are surprised when the carp move in and grab it first.

Salisbury Councillor David Swanbrow said: “These big fish must be very tempting to anglers and some have

been caught by police while attempting to catch them and their rods and tackle confiscated.

“A big carp, if well marked, can be worth several thousand pounds to collectors, which makes the temptation to catch one even more alluring.”

Councillor Swanbrow, a member of the Friends of Holly Hill Woodland Park, said anybody who spotted poachers trying to catch fish should use their mobile to phone the police on 101.



Carpark: Scores of carp live in the lakes.