



Conservatives

In Touch

with our community

PARK GATE & PRIORY PARK – SUMMER 2010

Brian thanks Park Gate and Priory Park supporters



Brian Bayford: 'I will help and advise all residents.'

COUNCILLOR BRIAN BAYFORD has sent the following message:

"My best thanks to all who supported me in the recent elections. I pledge to continue to help and advise all residents as I have for the last 9 years.

"As will be noted, I was unanimously elected by my councillor colleagues to represent Fareham as Mayor for the forthcoming year and have already met a wide variety of residents.

"These support our community with numerous voluntary works including the Scouts and Guides, Sea Cadets, parents at schools, Lions Clubs and Rotary to name but a few.

"I will continue to serve on the Planning Committee and also on the Streetscene Policy Review and Development Panel.

"I have also been appointed to a number of 'outside' agencies and will continue to be a governor at Brookfield School."

RESULT

BRIAN BAYFORD (Con)	2,362
Haysom (Lib Dem)	1,186
Price (Lab)	556
Maj	1,176
Turnout 69%^o	

Axe for 'garden grabbers' as Tory planning reforms bite

GARDEN grabbing planning policies set by Labour are among the first to be axed by the Government, thanks to Conservatives laying the foundations.

The Coalition wasted no time getting rid of six unpopular measures and two pieces of unwanted guidance.

As moves to transfer planning powers away from remote Whitehall mandarins and back to local councils gather pace, Councillor David Swanbrow, Fareham's Executive member for Strategic Planning and Environment, said:

"They must be congratulated for their swift action on planning issues that have frustrated councils and residents alike. They promise that further changes are on the way. This can only be good."

He welcomed the decision by Greg Clark, the minister responsible for decentralising decision making, to scrap minimum density targets on new development; he has already issued a new planning policy statement to that effect.

Mr Clark also made changes allowing councils to reduce dramatically 'garden grabbing' where gardens have been lost to inappropriate development.

"For years, the wishes of local people have been ignored as the character of neighbourhoods and gardens has been destroyed, robbing communities of vital green space," said Councillor Swanbrow.

It will allow Fareham Council to resist developers building high density one or two bedroom flats where the need is for family houses.

Before the election, the Conservative green paper promised to scrap the South East Plan, but councils would be expected to base their plans on what they submitted to the plan rather than what was forced upon them by Whitehall.

Civic salute to armed forces



Fareham honoured our servicemen and women on Armed Forces Day with a ceremony in the town centre on June 21.

A parade was led by Royal Marines drummers and the Mayor of Fareham, Councillor Brian Bayford, took the salute while the Armed Forces flag was raised over the town, to remain in place for the week.

They also said they would introduce laws allowing objectors to appeal against decisions to approve planning applications that were contrary to a council's published plan.

Councillor Swanbrow added: "It will take time to implement all their ideas but they have made several good starts.

"Already, Eric Pickles (Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government) has issued a letter saying that decisions on housing supply - including provision for gypsies and travellers - will rest with local planning authorities rather than the government.

"Planning inspectors must now take this statement as a material consideration at appeals."

Fareham's bid for silverware in prestige national contest

GREEN fingers are being crossed to see whether Fareham can win a prize in the prestigious Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom contest.

The town was invited to enter because of its repeat successes in the South &

SE England in Bloom.

Judges from South & SE England in Bloom will be in Fareham at the end of July, but the results will not be known until mid-September.

The town will be judged on August 4 in the Britain in Bloom competition, with the

results being announced at a ceremony held by the RHS at the end of September.

Fareham in Bloom gardens open day will be on Sunday, July 25 and the presentation evening will be at Ferneham Hall in October.

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

WARD NEWS BRIEFS

How to get a grant

County Councillor Seán Woodward invites applications for the £10,000 grant that he has available for worthwhile projects in the Sarisbury Division.

Grants can be for assistance for community groups and others, but not for running expenses.

He has just provided £2,000 for Sarisbury Infant School PTA towards developing the outside area for foundation stage children to include a covered area so they can be outdoors in all weather.

Jim Murray

Tributes have been paid to former Fareham Mayor and ex-councillor Jim Murray, who has died aged 80.

Council Leader Seán Woodward described him as a man who devoted his time to public service.

He was due to be made an honorary alderman for his 26 years as a councillor and this will be conferred posthumously later this summer.

Cars steam cleaned

Motorists who park in Fareham Council's car parks will soon be able to have their cars steam cleaned while they do their shopping.

Econowash won the tender to provide a car washing service in the 44 council owned car parks across the Borough and will be using the power of steam to clean cars using biodegradable products and only two litres of water per vehicle.

The Wonderwash will cost £7.99 per car.

Sarisbury kids' class act in the street name game



Name and fame: Isabelle Woodward, pictured above (left) with Fareham Mayor and Mayoress Brian and Susan Bayford, shares hers with Council Leader Seán Woodward, standing beside Cathy Knapman from Miller Homes. Isabelle rejoined her Year 3 class mates for the picture above (right).

PUPILS from Sarisbury Church of England Junior School played a key role in naming the Borough's newest road.

Montefiore Drive in the Admirals Wood development at Coldeast is the winning road name chosen by Year 3 pupils in a competition.

They joined Fareham's Mayor and Mayoress, Councillors Brian and Susan Bayford and Council Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward to officially open the road on May 21.

Isabelle Woodward, who won the name game, coincidentally shares her surname with the Council Leader, although she's not related.

Thanking Year 3 pupils, Councillor Woodward said: "Montefiore is an important local name and it is fitting that this new road is named after the family who owned the Coldeast estate and played a significant role as benefactors within the Sarisbury community."

Senior sales manager for main developers Miller Homes, Cathy Knapman, said: "We have had a close association with the school for quite a while and were delighted to be involved in this excellent competition."

"Tours of our development have taken place with some of the classes from the school to help them with a project they were undertaking. We take our responsibilities to the community very seriously wherever we build."

County seeking ways to cope with future freezes

REMEMBER the big winter freeze up? The County Council is carrying out an exhaustive review to see how to respond better if similar extreme weather occurs again in our area.

County Councillor Keith Evans said: "We all had bad experiences last December and January - abandoned cars, icy roads, dangerous footpaths, unable to get to work, children not at school."

He is vice-chairman of the review panel which is gathering evidence and comments from a wide range of authorities and groups.

Keith said some of the facts revealed so far include:

- Even with double the recommended levels of salt reserves (we had 12 days' worth), the County was down to only one day's supply at one stage

- As the emergency progressed, Hampshire was receiving only 10% of the re-supply that the government said we should get

- The County gave support to some neighbouring counties and to Portsmouth and Brighton & Hove.

- Highways are closely examining the implications of increasing the road clearance programme and to ensure that important locations such as large schools, hospitals, large health centres, major employment centres etc are future priority targets.

- Agreements are also under consideration to help with the clearance of bus depots and large car parks.

- There will be a very significant increase in the number of local grit bins

He added: "I am sure that the County's winter resilience plan will be significantly strengthened. The final report of this review group will be issued in September."

New children's centre due to open in January

WORK ON a new SureStart Children's Centre should begin at Brookfield School, Sarisbury in October.

Sovereign Children's Centre, named after the local variety of strawberry, should open in January 2011.

Chairman of the Interim Partnership Board County Councillor Seán Woodward said: "Action For Children will manage the services provided by this centre for the people of Park Gate, Sarisbury, Whiteley, Burridge and Swanwick."

"Children's centres play a key role in improving outcomes for all young children and reducing inequalities between the most disadvantaged and the rest."

They are aimed at parents and carers with children under five, but will work closely with organisations such as extended schools, giving families easy access to age appropriate services throughout childhood.

They provide a range of services depending on need and parental choice, offering information, advice and support to parents and carers, plus integrated childcare and early learning, health services, family support, parental outreach and employment advice.

The local community is strongly encouraged to play an active role in children's centres. Parents' and carers' views form an important element of children's centres governance in Hampshire, represented through Parents' Forums.

Each centre has a Partnership Board, comprising representation from centre users (including the Parents' Forum), service providers, local schools and voluntary/community members.

Survey produces mixed views over opening Yew Tree Drive to all vehicles

YEW TREE DRIVE bus link was opened onto Botley Road in May 2008. This aimed to give priority to public transport in the Whiteley area.

Since then, people have asked whether traffic congestion around Whiteley could be reduced if the link was open to all vehicles.

At present, Fareham Borough Council has a policy in its Local Plan stating that in order to minimise the impact of additional traffic on Burr ridge and Swanwick, the bus gate should not be opened to all traffic until Whiteley Way is completed and provides a link to the A3051 north of Curbridge.

To test the impact of opening Yew Tree Drive to all traffic, Hampshire County Council used a traffic simulation model known as SATURN to look at different access scenarios.

This model uses the results of surveys and local traffic counts to give a prediction of traffic movements at the busiest time of the day (8am-9am).

Views were sought on whether opening the road for all traffic would be the best approach to managing traffic growth in Whiteley and the surrounding area.

Out of 3,155 questionnaires sent to homes in Whiteley (Fareham), Park Gate, Burr ridge and Swanwick, 1,152 were returned (37%). The questions asked were:

Q Should road links from Whiteley onto the Botley Road be reconsidered before Whiteley Way is completed?

A Whiteley (Fareham) residents voted 69% for and 31% against; Burr ridge, Swanwick and Park Gate residents voted 47% for and 53% against.

Q In the longer term do you think Rookery Avenue, once completed, should be the main southern

access road link?

A Whiteley (Fareham) residents voted 74% for and 26% against; Burr ridge, Swanwick and Park Gate residents voted 41% for and 59% against.

Q In the short term do you think Yew Tree Drive should be trialled as an alternative link for all traffic?

A Whiteley (Fareham) residents voted 67% for and 33% against; Burr ridge, Swanwick and Park Gate residents voted 49% for and 51% against.

County Councillor Seán Woodward commented: "Overall, more residents voted in favour of reconsidering road links onto Botley Road before Whiteley Way is completed and of having a trial opening of Yew Tree Drive for all traffic.

"However, the results also demonstrate the marked divergence of views expressed either side of the Yew Tree Drive bus link."

The consultation results will be used to aid discussions and the decision-making process."

A further 3,000 houses are planned by Winchester City Council north of Whiteley. Discussions with the transport consultant acting on behalf of the development consortium support the retention of the bus gate for at least the short term.

They say opening the bus gate to all traffic now may remove a facility required in the longer term.

If County Council Executive Member for Environment, County Councillor Mel Kendal, supports this view, then Fareham Council will not be asked to consider changing the Local Plan policy.

If the County Council wants to proceed with a trial opening, a planning application must be made to the Borough Council in whose hands would be the final decision.

Police target anti-social offenders

POLICE are clamping down on anti-social behaviour in the Western Wards.

Vehicle nuisance, alcohol abuse and general misbehaviour are being targeted.

Sergeant Dave Spacey told the Western Wards Community Action Team meeting at Victory Hall, Warsash in June that speeding vehicles were being targeted and police want to know about areas of concern. Barnes Lane's problem and speeding in Greenaway Lane were being dealt with.

Recently approved projects for funding included £559 to Sarisbury Residents' Association for a tree to replace one that has died on Little Green.

Next meeting will be at Sarisbury Green Social Club, Bridge Road at 7pm on November 17.

Solent Speakers' Club presents award of excellence to Fareham Council Leader

AN HONORARY award was presented to Fareham Council Leader Seán Woodward by Solent Speakers' Club.

Club president Gavin Meikle said it was in recognition of his personal and official support.

"It acknowledges his role as an exem-

plar of excellence in communication and leadership within our local community," he said.

The presentation was part of a special evening at Lysses House Hotel celebrating the success and achievements of individual members.

Solent Speakers was established in 2002 to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills which, in turn, foster self-confidence and personal growth.

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.

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Our man in Westminster



By **Mark Hoban**
MP for Fareham

We will work in national interest to clear up mess inherited from Labour

nalled from the start of the negotiations that we had to respect the verdict of the electorate and work together with the Liberal Democrats to find solutions to the profound problems facing our nation.

As David Cameron has made clear, Britain needs strong, stable and decisive government at this point in our history. It was in the national interest that we achieved this coalition agreement on a secure basis, enabling us to govern securely in the national interest.

We must recognise that all coalitions involve compromise. However, I would like to reassure you that the key principles on which we fought this election have formed the basis of this agreement.

It commits the next government to a significantly accelerated reduction in the budget deficit, to cut £6 billion of government waste this financial year and to stop the jobs tax.

The agreement also allows us to carry out key elements of the reform agenda we outlined in our manifesto, including welfare and school reform.

We have protected our nuclear deterrent and there will be no amnesty for illegal immigrants, nor the handover of any additional powers to the EU.

But the past few days have not just been about compromise. There is significant common

ground between us and the Liberal Democrats, such as our commitment to building a green economy, decentralising power and protecting civil liberties - including scrapping ID cards.

This will be a Government that puts the national interest first and takes determined and resolute actions.

We have already seen this in the difficult decisions that we have had to take on the public finances. As Treasury Minister, I know just how empty the coffers are and the scale of the challenges we face to get the economy moving again.

I am afraid that the last Government spent money as if there was no tomorrow.

Unfortunately, they have left you with the bill. That is why we have had to make difficult decisions on taxes and spending to balance the books whilst doing all we can to support economic recovery.

You can be assured that the tough decisions that we have had to take are aimed at one goal: clearing up the mess that we have inherited from Labour. It is a tough job but one that needs to be done.

**•Contact Mark via his office:
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I am very grateful to the residents of Park Gate for their support in the recent General Election.

Regardless of whether or not you voted for me, I look forward to serving all of you as your Member of Parliament for the next five years.

The outcome of the election locally was very clear but it was not so clear nationally.

In the election, the Conservatives gained nearly 100 extra MPs, a bigger gain than in any election since 1931. This was a remarkable achievement. However, we fell short of an overall majority.

The Prime Minister, David Cameron, sig-

Keeping Fareham tidy costs millions

IT COSTS £1m a year to keep Fareham tidy.

In 2009-10 the Council collected 1,771 tons of street litter, says Councillor Keith Evans, Executive Member for Streetscene.

There are 543 acres of public open space to keep clean, 230 miles of roads and footpaths to sweep and clear and 650 litter bins to empty.

Street cleaning varies from daily in the town centre to once a fortnight in outlying areas.

Refuse collection costs just under £2m a year, 8 crews collecting a bin every week from each of 47,000 households.

19,684 tons of household waste were collected in 2009-10 and 8,168 tons of recyclates, and every household needed 1,047lbs of waste to be collected and disposed of.

Council faces difficult balancing act in light of Government cuts

FAREHAM Council is reassessing its priorities in view of the government's plan for 20% cuts over the next four years.

It will redouble efforts to find as many savings as possible while having the least impact on front-line services.

Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward said each year this became ever more challenging, especially for a Council which sets almost the lowest level of council tax in the country – despite receiving one of the lowest levels of government grant.

He said Fareham was pleased not to have to increase the council tax this year and aimed for a similar result over the next couple of years, being mindful of the extreme financial pressures faced by many of our residents during the recession and its aftermath.

The Council is currently re-evaluating its priorities as well as con-

tinuing its philosophy of always trying to achieve more for less.

He said: "We are always looking for ways to reduce expenditure and to find new income streams.

"We take a great interest in what our residents tell us are their priorities, both the things that they tell us are their top priorities as well as what they tell us are not their priorities for spending.

"Top priorities always include waste collection and recycling, keeping our streets clear of litter and maintaining parks and open spaces to a high standard, whereas the lowest priority is always Westbury Manor Museum.

"We will be looking closely at our partnership agreement with Hampshire County Council, which runs the museum in our building, to investigate how this service may continue to be delivered in a way which respects the priorities of our residents."

Nicked by new boat watch site

BOAT crime is being targeted by a new website called Hampshire Marine Watch. And it's already paid off.

Fareham Police collared a man in possession of navigation gear and used the website to return the property to its owner.

The Council's Community Safety Partnership's website is designed to improve communication between organisations in the boating community.

In the first month over 1100 'hits' were received to the web site which clearly demonstrates the interest in this area.

For further information please visit www.hampshiremarinewatch.co.uk