

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

SARISBURY – Spring 2016

Zero Borough Council tax increase for 7 years

We saved Band D residents almost a year's tax

Now we're forced to ask for a modest rise

BUT.. All good things have NOT come to an end

THERE'S been no rise in your district council tax since 2009.

It's because your **Conservative Council** doesn't waste a penny of your money, carefully budgeting to maintain top-class services.

This time, due to on-going reductions in Government grants which will disappear altogether over the next 4 years, we're asking for a very modest rise.

A pre-budget survey showed an overwhelming **85% support** for our strategy.

Council Leader Seán Woodward says: "Despite the Chancellor's austerity burden falling on councils, it certainly does not mean all good things have to come to an end in Fareham.

"Look what we have delivered in those 7 successive zero years;

look what's in store for the future.

"Had we reflected 24% inflation in your council tax during that period, it would now be £173 and Band D residents would have paid an extra £123 over the 7 years.

"Even with the loss of half our grant support from central government, we have managed to preserve essential services and freeze council tax.

"Effectively you have enjoyed saving almost a whole year's Fareham Borough tax bill."

The average Band C property will go up by just 1p a day to enable us to preserve essential services

Band D properties will rise by £5 making the bill £145 per year.

Add the County Council, Police and Fire & Rescue demand and the overall bill will rise £50 pa.

We honour our pledge to youth



Seán Woodward explains to Toni Lummis (centre) and Lucy Mills at a vibrant YCAT meeting how the Council is fulfilling its promise to support the Borough's youth.

We have appointed an officer to engage with young people and put £30,000 into a pot which is available to youth clubs for specific projects. And that's not all...

- The splendid £9m Holly Hill Leisure Centre opens at Sarisbury this summer
- We will not be raising town centre car park charges for the 6th successive year
- Free parking everywhere else, including seafronts and shopping centres, will be maintained as promised

**WISE INVESTMENTS
KEEP TAX DOWN** →

Our £8m property investments bring in returns of over £0.5m (7%)

Renting out surplus space in the Civic Offices realises £200,000 pa

Find cash for vital M27 junctions NOW – transport boss tells minister

IMPROVEMENTS to J9 and J10 of the M27 are critical, Hampshire's transport chief told a government minister.

Preparatory work for the multi-million J9 scheme ended in 2014.

County Councillor Seán Woodward, and Meon Valley **Conservative** MP



George Hollingbery stressed the urgency when they met Andrew Jones, who's responsible for Highway England's motorways and trunk roads (pictured).

"It is unacceptable for HE to walk away from its responsibilities by starting work, then abandoning the site.

"Whiteley and Welborne are to take 9,500 houses, there is investment from Solent Local Enterprise Partnership to dual Whiteley Way from Rookery Avenue to TESCO and to install lights at the Rookery Avenue roundabout.

"This traffic needs to use an improved junction 9 to leave the area," he said.

He also told the minister funding was vital to make J10 an all-moves junction.

England's 5th lowest district council tax – that's CONSERVATIVE budgeting

NEWS ROUND



Bins installed

Residents have contacted us regarding the footpaths near the new Holly Hill Leisure Centre and the need for litter/dog poo bins.

The footpaths and cycleway have been transferred to the Borough Council and bins installed.

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "We will monitor the use of the site to see whether more are needed and, if so, the best location for extra bins."

Red Cross loan store delay

The opening of a new Red Cross medical loan store at Fareham Community Hospital has been delayed until March.

Work is in hand to make it happen soon, so Western Wards patients will no longer have to travel to Fareham Health Centre to borrow crutches, wheelchairs etc.

Leasing charges will be met by Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group and volunteers will run the store at minimum cost.

Deliverers needed



Many residents value the production of InTouch which has been delivered regularly by volunteers in the area for over 30 years.

It is written by the InTouch team, paid for by your councillors and informs residents about what your councillors and MP are doing and how it may affect you.

We are always keen to find new people to deliver in their road to lighten the load and to ensure that delivery is prompt.

If you could help deliver 4 editions a year in your road, then please contact **Jon Butts at SarisburyInTouch@gmail.com**

On schedule for June opening

THE OLYMPICS may delay the official opening of the showpiece £7m Holly Hill Leisure Centre.

The Council hopes to invite an Olympic swimmer to perform the ceremony, but this will probably have to wait until the Games are finished.

However, it will not prevent the centre opening to the public on a date to be fixed in June.

The building will incorporate main and teaching pools, fitness suite, spinning and dance studios, wet and dry changing facilities, foyer, ancillary offices and plant room and car park.

Both pools and the steelwork were completed on time in December, when Councillors Seán Woodward and David Swanbrow (pictured) climbed up steps to see the progress..



Borough enhanced by tree planting



PART OF what makes Fareham a nice place to live is the way it looks after its trees.

The planting season for trees usually starts in October and is over by the end of March, allowing trees to establish new roots before the spring.

Councillor David Swanbrow said: "This planting season, the Borough Council has planted 130 new trees, some to enhance the local environment and others to replace trees that had to be felled or have just died.

A young tulip tree on the 'little green' at Sarisbury died last year and has been replaced by a *magnolia heaven scent* in the same location.

PHOTO: John Crook, a committee member of Sarisbury Residents' Association which takes a special interest in The Green and its trees, with the new tree.

David Swanbrow says farewell

THIS WILL be the last InTouch for which I will be writing articles.

The reason is that my last 4-year term in office ends in May and I have decided not to stand again.

For most people there comes a time when it feels that you have done what you can and felt good about it, but if you carry on for longer things can only go downhill.

That time has come for me. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time representing the people of Sarisbury Ward and Fareham Borough Council, but question whether I would be making the right decisions in 4 years' time if I were to stand again.

I have been fortunate in holding important positions on Fareham Borough Council from the first day that I was elected.

I have been Mayor, I have been chairman of the Planning Committee, I have chaired a panel that develops planning policies and oversees planning policy decisions,

I have been a member of Fareham's Executive (sometimes referred to as a Cabinet

in other councils) responsible for Strategic Planning and in that position guided Fareham's Core Strategy - the basis for all other council plans - through to examination in public prior to adoption.

I am currently chairman of the Scrutiny Board which allows me to examine all sorts of council policies and decisions and also to quiz a number of outside bodies.

I have also been a member of several other panels and committees including the group of councillors overseeing the development and construction of the new leisure centre.

In the years that I have been one of your councillors I have been able to help residents in a number of ways and that is one of the most satisfying parts of the job.

I am sure that my successor will feel the same. Lastly I would like to thank my fellow councillor, Seán Woodward, my wife Jane and all of you who have supported me over the years. You have made being your councillor a fabulously pleasant and fulfilling experience.

Positions fixed for new speed limit repeater signs

WE asked for residents' views on final locations for 6 speed limit repeater signs (SLRs) on Botley Road, Swanwick Lane and Yew Tree Drive that were installed after the permanent opening of Yew Tree Drive to all traffic.

Following feedback, permanent signs

have now been ordered and the units will be able to each store a rolling 60 days of data on vehicle volumes and speeds.

The final positioning of the SLRs will be similar to where the temporary signs are located and we expect them to be installed around the end of March.

Controlled crossing



WE HAVE been pursuing a controlled pedestrian crossing at Allotment Road/A27 near the existing school crossing patrol. It will involve new link footways to Allotment Road.

Surveys have been completed, so the new crossing will be constructed during the summer holiday period.

The £100,000 scheme is funded from developer contributions relating to Cold-east, Bridge Road and Edenbridge Way.

County Councillor Seán Woodward said: "I hope this will provide more encouragement to parents to walk their children to school thereby reducing the appalling daily congestion outside Sarisbury Church of England Junior School."

Residents back traffic calming measures

SWANWICK LANE residents say traffic volumes and speeds have risen since the Yew Tree Drive bus gate opened.

InTouch team leader Jon Butts (pictured) said the County Council carried out a study to identify possible traffic calming measures, which were presented at a well-attended public exhibition at Brookfield Community School.

HCC received 93 consultation responses and 122 written comments. Regarding speed, 80% said there was a problem, mostly at morning peaks; 85% felt there was a problem with traffic volumes at peak times.

There was support for all options, apart from the section between Anglers Way and Lower Swanwick (39% for, 45% against).

Strongest support was for measures shown from Lower Swanwick east of house No 177 (57% for, 30% against) and from east of the M27 bridge to east of New Road (45% for, 18% against).

Possible calming measures from the A27 to east of Old Swanwick Lane showed 49% of respondents for, 38% against.

HCC is studying the comments to assess which concerns can be met by traffic calming designs. A further consultation meeting will be held in April, with implementation in the summer.



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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 Sarisbury Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Jon Butts on 07464 847852.

WE SERVE YOU ALL

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

WELCOME
to my newsletter



I cannot quite believe that I am writing the first edition of my 2016 newsletter already. I have thoroughly enjoyed representing the people of Fareham for the past 9 months and I am looking forward to the challenges the New Year brings. It is a pleasure to have been able to immerse myself in such a great community and I thank you all for being so welcoming to me. My team and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy New Year. I hope to be an effective advocate for Fareham in Parliament, working for more opportunities in education, better access to health services and greater investment and jobs here.

Suella



FERNANDES MP for Fareham

Please support my campaign to bring A-Levels back to Fareham

THOUSANDS of teenagers from Fareham have to travel very far if they choose to study A Levels.

I am working with Cams Hill School, supported by all local schools, to prepare an application to the Department of Education to become a Free School Sixth Form, offering A Levels in the heart of Fareham.

Headteacher Gwennan Harrison-Jones (pictured) is leading the team and wants volunteers to support the application.

We also need evidence of the demand for the A Levels in Fareham so please write to me indicating whether, if you have school-age children, you would be interested in sending them to Cams Hill for A Levels.

It is important that the whole community supports Cams Hill in this proposal which will benefit hundreds of teenagers for years to come. The first team meeting is in the Spring, so let me know if you would like more information at:

<http://www.suellafernandes.co.uk/campaigns/education-levels-fareham>



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Surgery dates

I will hold surgeries at different venues across Fareham. Please call to arrange an appointment to meet me. Surgery, Friday, March 18 Victory Hall, Warsash. Friday, April 29 Community Room, Tesco, Fareham.

Keep up to date

To stay up to date with all of my recent visits and speeches in Parliament please sign up to my newsletter at www.suellafernandes.co.uk/newsletter

Arrange a tour

I am happy to arrange tours of the Palace of Westminster for groups of my constituents. To book please contact my office with a minimum of three months' notice, as they are very popular.

FAREHAM CONSTITUENCY NEWS

Broadband petition to Chancellor

Many constituents have problems with broadband, for example in Taners Gate and Whiteley, so I met with communication companies and British Telecom to discuss connectivity and mobile coverage.

I joined MPs from all political parties to deliver a letter to Number 11 Downing Street calling on the Chancellor to continue investing in extending broadband coverage.



At the Chancellor's door

Wearing my firefighter's helmet

I was delighted to spend the day with the crew based at Fareham Fire Station, where I took part in the firefighters' normal day.

We discussed local and national challenges facing the service with Hampshire Chief Fire Officer Dave Curry and Station Commander Danny Miles. I am grateful to the Fire and Rescue Service for hosting me. The quality of training and dedication by the crew is exceptional.



Learning to fight fires

Task Force launched

I have launched Fareham Community Hospital Task Force to discuss local health issues and push forward my campaign for increased facilities at the hospital, where I was pleased to spend a day working with volunteers (pictured) who do so much to help staff and patients.

Residents tell me more services are needed at the hospital. I raised the issue with Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt when he visited in February.



Meeting Friends of Fareham Community Hospital