

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

WHITELEY – Autumn 2015

Urgent ‘surgery’ needed to cure parking chaos



CHAOTIC scenes in and around Whiteley surgery have brought calls for urgent action.

But there's little either Fareham Borough or Hampshire County Councils can do about it.

And it could take a turn for the worse if the surgery expands.

It's the result of the move of Locks Road surgery to Whiteley combined with the opening of Yew Tree Drive bus gate.

Parking restrictions had to be imposed in Yew Tree Drive, which is now a morning and evening rat-run.

Hampshire's transport chief, County Councillor Seán Woodward, said parking provided at the surgery met planning regulations when it was built, so neither the planning authority (Fareham) nor the highway authority (Hampshire) can demand improvements.

He asked a planning officer to talk to the surgery management to try to persuade them to ease the situation.

“Our suggestion is that provision of an IN and an OUT would remove much of the conflict and occasional queuing on Yew Tree Drive and dan-

gerous reversing manoeuvres.

“However, our hands are tied considerably unless the surgery applies for further planning permission. We cannot do more than request their help and that of their landlord.”

There is room for extra consulting rooms to be brought into use in the building.

“Should this happen, it would add further pressure to the car park and its access, but there's little we can do from a traffic management perspective beyond flagging up our concern,” added Councillor Woodward.

Superfast Broadband upgrades will reach 95% of Hampshire premises

BT OPENREACH in conjunction with Hampshire County Council will be upgrading connections to over 34,000 premises across the county between January 2016 and September 2018.

It will make Superfast Broadband available to more than 95% of premises in Hampshire.

As an interim measure, premises currently with speeds less than 2Mbps can apply for a free satellite installation at the end of this year.

We have highlighted the importance to improve broadband across Whiteley and the project recently upgraded

infrastructure serving parts of Silver Birch Way and Bluebell Way and 8 more cabinets will be upgraded between January and December 2017.

County Councillor Seán Woodward said: “Superfast Broadband is business-critical. It is also important in enabling home-working as well as allowing children to complete homework and to stream entertainment into homes.

“I encouraged BT Openreach to upgrade internet in Whiteley which brought the basic 8MB service to most homes.”

For more details, log on to www.hants.gov.uk/broadband

England's 3rd lowest district council tax – that's CONSERVATIVE budgeting

NEWS ROUND



Still cash in Seán's kitty

Seán Woodward has £6,000 left in his 2015/2016 grant fund available to local organisations to bid for. He has given grants to:

- Fareham Arts Festival – programmes and publicity £500
- Education Business Partnership – Teen Tech competition £500
- Burridge AFC – grass cutter/aerator £1,250
- Moving On Project – support for young people £650
- Brookfield School PTA – Soundscape Music Project £1,000
- Holy Trinity Church, Fareham – flag pole and Union Flag for refurbished clock tower and more community use £1,000
- Cornerstone Primary School PTA, Whiteley – library £1,000
- Whiteley Community Centre – cupboards for Yew Tree Room £1,000

Contact Seán if your organisation needs cash support for a project.

Siting suggestions invited

Six flashing speed limit signs deployed along Botley Road, Burridge, Swanwick Lane, Swanwick and Yew Tree Drive, Whiteley are to be made permanent.

But it costs a lot to change the batteries every fortnight, so they need their own power supply.

County Councillor Seán Woodward has asked residents to suggest the best places to site them for maximum deterrent effect.

New smoke alarms law

Private landlords across Hampshire are being urged to apply for free smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in the wake of new laws aimed at saving lives.

All private landlords must install a smoke alarm on each floor and carbon monoxide detectors in rooms with a solid fuel appliance, including wood burners and open fires.

Failure to comply could result in fines of up to £5,000.

Community centre gets new kitchen, toilets

WHITELEY Community Centre in Gull Coppice will have extra toilets and a new kitchen.

The Borough Council recently gave the Community Association a £10,000 a matched funding grant for the work to be carried out.

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "The centre has been open for 14 years and really is operating at capacity.

"It was decided that extra toilets accessible from Whiteley Hall were needed, which necessitated moving the kitchen.

"The result is fantastic and I'm delighted the Council was able to oversee the project and pay most of the cost."

PHOTO: Mark, Reverend Philippa, Carly, Ali and Seán.



Residents discuss traffic calming options

WHEN the bus gate from Whiteley was permanently opened to Botley Road for all vehicles except HGVs, we promised a consultation and funding for traffic calming on Swanwick Lane which has taken extra traffic rat running between Whiteley and Lower Swanwick.

Lower Swanwick and Swanwick residents were asked to comment on a report detailing the options.

An exhibition was held at Brookfield School on October 29 followed by a public meet-

ing when residents gave their views.

A scheme will be now drawn up and consulted upon in the spring for implementation in the school summer holidays.

PHOTO: The flashing sign in Swanwick Lane is triggered by a speeding driver.



City sees sense over 3,500 Whiteley homes plan



A NON-DECISION by city councillors could have lost the area a £14m grant for vital Whiteley road improvements.

Winchester City's planning committee talked for hours about the crucial application for 3,500 homes North of Whiteley.

And then voted to refuse it; but nobody could think of a reason why!

Fortunately, they got their act together at their October meeting and residents heaved a sigh of relief.

The grant from the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, which depended on the North of Whiteley development consent, is safe, provided the developers don't drag their heels over the start date.

This is the schedule they must stick to:

Year 1 – Start provision of new junctions of Whiteley Way on to Botley Road at Curbridge and start improvements to Whiteley Way from M27 to Parkway North/Rookery Avenue.

Year 2 – Complete improvements to Whiteley Way from M27.

Year 3 – Complete Bluebell Way and con-

nect to Botley Road; all works to Whiteley Way including dualling to be completed.

Year 4 – Whiteley Way/Curbridge Way completed and connected to Botley Road.

Councillor Seán Woodward, who is also a Director of the Solent LEP, said "I am pleased that the grant which we agreed will now be used, greatly accelerating the provision of the critical roads infrastructure for Whiteley, especially to provide the northern access to Whiteley which has been awaited for so many years.

"The next battle is to get Highways England to provide the much-needed improvements to junction 9 of the M27 for which the preparatory works have already been done, but there is now a delay to get the final go-ahead.

"The sooner we take local control of the responsibilities of Highways England the better.

"The organisation also wanted to have the new dual carriageway for Whiteley as bus lanes for a maximum of three buses an hour and I had to persuade them how foolish this would be following which they withdrew their proposal!"

Hospital red tape scandal exposed

FAREHAM Community Hospital, which cost £25m, has been open for 5 years – but only Monday to Friday for 45 hours a week.

The NHS ruled that before the second half can be developed the existing unit should be fully functional.

Now the scandal behind this red tape has

been revealed. Whenever extra services were proposed, the Community Health Partnerships demanded users pay an extra fee at commercial rent for the space.

So the Red Cross medical loans store had not been used for 5 years as £6,000 pa rent was required.

The Clinical Commissioning Group has

now agreed to pay the rent and the loan store will open from January 2016, but Fareham MP Suella Fernandes argues that the hospital will never operate fully if this bureaucracy continues.

The F & G Clinical Commissioning Group fully support the issues raised by and further discussions are to be held.

After-flight path boosts flying visits to Fareham



PILOTS and passengers landing at Daedalus can now take an easy short walk off the airfield to the seafronts at Hill Head and Lee-on-the-Solent.

It makes Daedalus a much more attractive destination and location for visitors by air from across the UK and Europe.

Lee Flying Association chairman Jon Butts said: "This is a simple, quick win for the aerodrome. Local businesses will benefit from additional visitors reaching them to discover what our area has to offer.

"We hope it will not be much longer before local people are able to come onto the airfield to watch the aircraft landing and taking-off and perhaps get a bite to eat."

Fareham Council Leader Seán Woodward (pictured with Jon Butts) said: "Since we took ownership of the aerodrome we are moving as quickly as possible to increase the attractiveness of Daedalus as a location of choice for aviation be that for leisure or for business."

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS Whiteley



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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, 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 David Swanbrow on 01489 572723.



Council forced to meet government inspector's requirements up to 2036

Local plans must merge to fit in 2,000 more homes

FAREHAM will have to fit in 2,000 extra homes by 2036 to meet a government inspector's requirements.

It means two local plans covering Welborne and the rest of the Borough will now have to be combined to roll this forward.

The Welborne Plan, which runs from 2016-2036, covers the 1,000 acres which will include the new community of 6,000 homes and 6,000 jobs

The rest of the Borough plan, which currently only runs to 2026 and covers the remaining 17,000 acres, proposes some 1,800 homes, most of which are either already built, have planning permission or will go on brownfield sites where proper infrastructure is in place.

So the plan for the remainder of the Borough must be rolled forward a further decade and be amalgamated with the Welborne Plan.

Not surprisingly, it means that extra sites

need to be found to provide for those extra years.

Changing lifestyle patterns, rising population, increasing longevity and the growing popularity of the South to live, work and retire are part of the statistics.

The development plan for the rest of the Borough was also subject to a public inquiry and scrutiny by the same Government inspector, David Hogger, who declared it and Welborne to be sound, so the Council adopted it.

Fareham is by no means alone. As one of 12 councils comprising the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH), it has a duty to cooperate when the Government assesses housing needs.

A major factor in the equation is the huge rise in the ageing population and the need to accommodate them.

From 1981-2011, Fareham experienced a 300% rise in people aged 85+ – the highest in Hampshire.

Then add lack of affordable housing and 1,350 families on our waiting list to the equation.

brownfield sites such as those in the town centre will be the key to meeting many of the Government demands, but may well be under pressure from developers to release greenfield sites to reach its quota.

PUSH is preparing a South Hampshire housing strategy, which will be open for public consultation in early 2016.

Once approved, Fareham Council will start the processes towards adopting its own local plan, setting out how to provide land needed for housing. It aims to implement this in 2018.

Fareham MP Suella Fernandes said: "Under Labour housebuilding collapsed and we now have a housing crisis.

"A Greater Britain means more families having the security and stability of owning a home of their own. We need a national crusade to get homes built and everyone must play their part.

"Our Help to Buy scheme helped 120,000 people buy their own home but we still need to increase supply in order to bring the average house price down."

*A special edition of the Council's news magazine Fareham Today is being sent to every household to explain the situation in detail.

An ageing population means we need housing for 3 generations rather than 2 and that's a huge increase in our housing requirement

Forecasts for 2036 for South Hampshire show the 75+ population will have risen by 91% and young people aged 16-29 by 14%.

The Council says

Fareham is 10th highest in the South East of ages 20-34 still living with parents because they can't afford a home of their own



SUELLA FERNANDES

MP for Fareham

YOUR voice in Westminster

Contact Suella on 01329 233573 or suella@suellafernandes.co.uk



SUELLA is launching the **Fareham Young Conservatives.**

If you're aged under 35 and are interested in national and local politics and want to meet other young people, come along on Saturday, November 21, 7pm for 'Politics in the Pub'.

For details email suella@suellafernandes.co.uk

Our first female MP promises 'Integrity, approachability and dedication'

SUELLA is delighted to have been elected as Fareham's first female Member of Parliament.

She said: "I would like to thank everyone who voted for me and I am most grateful to have had their support."

She promised to serve the people of Fareham as a full-time Member with 'integrity, approachability and dedication'.

After her election Suella said: "The residents of Fareham have helped make history and save the UK from a

Miliband Premiership by helping me secure a majority of over 22,000 – the largest in 23 years.

"People have chosen economic stability over chaos, David Cameron's leadership over instability, jobs over deficit, aspiration over dependency.

"I am honoured and humbled to have such a ringing vote of confidence from the men and women of Fareham who have entrusted me to represent them in Parliament."

Website: www.farehamconservatives.org.uk Email: office@farehamconservatives.org.uk