

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.

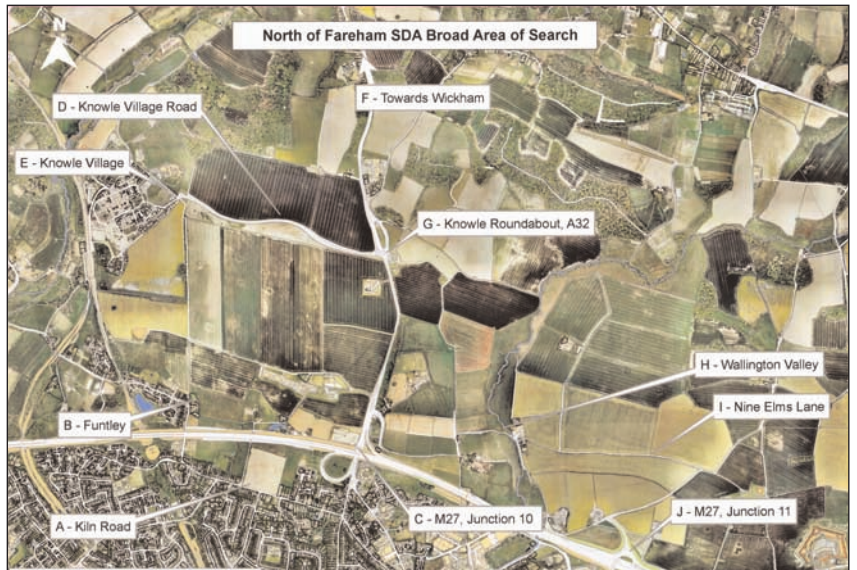
"We have to get the vision right because we want this place to be somewhere we can be proud of," said Councillor David Swanbrow, chairman of the newly-formed Strategic Development Steering Group.

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.



Whiteley on-line

If you would like to get "on-line" with members of the community in a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere to discuss issues about living in Whiteley, Hampshire or any other topics of interest then there is only one place to go.

Log on to Whiteley Community Forum at www.whiteleyforum.net

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 Fareham Borough Council towards the cost of the staging and a PA system.

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.

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 services arriving on time by 2011.

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.

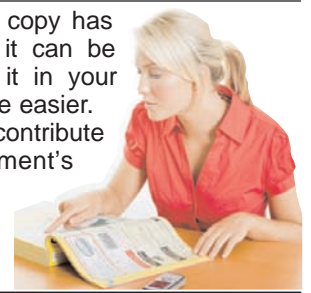
Previously, there were several reasons why the directory could not be recycled, but Project Integra has resolved these issues

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."



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

VILLAGERS and 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:



Playground joy: The Foord family smiles say it all.

"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."

Work to assess future Whiteley traffic scenarios

A TRAFFIC simulation model known as SATURN is under construction and, after it has been tested, will be used to assess various access scenarios, including the possible opening of Yew Tree Drive and/or Rookery Avenue, and the impacts on the local roads.

It will enable informed decisions to be made on mitigating measures necessary due to any road openings and to inform development around Whiteley.

Local Plan policies, plus land acquisition and legal issues, are preventing the creation of additional road connections to the A3051 Botley Road.

A survey will be undertaken later this year of all affected residents in Whiteley, Burridge, Swanwick and Park Gate advising them of the likely impact on traffic on Yew Tree

Drive, Botley Road and Swanwick Lane should Yew Tree Drive and/or Rookery Avenue be opened before completion of the Whiteley Way distributor road.

After County Councillor Seán Woodward expressed concerns about Whiteley Way's closure in an emergency, it was agreed an emergency traffic management plan should be put in place using the bus gate at Yew Tree Drive.

Once diversion signs detailed in the plan are in storage, the plan will be adopted and issued to relevant authorities.

Councillor Woodward added: "The infrastructure is in place for Yew Tree Drive to be opened to all traffic when appropriate; however, Rookery Avenue is still not deliverable as the land required is not in the ownership of the highway authority."

Security gates plan to keep out vandals

SECURITY gates are to be installed to prevent vandalism behind Whiteley shops.

Whiteley local centre management company, the owners of the shopping area in Gull Coppice, complained that vandalism and antisocial behaviour has been happening under the accesses behind the shops.

They want to install security gates which can be closed at night.

This will provide a secure parking area for cars belonging to residents of the flats and make loitering in all weathers in the accesses impossible.

The company consulted Councillor Seán Woodward, who supported their proposals.

"While the incidence of anti-social behaviour and vandalism has significantly reduced in Gull Coppice since joint efforts between the police and Borough Council, I welcome any security improvements.

"I have also asked the management company to enforce a time restriction on their car park to ensure that it is available for shoppers rather than for all-day parking.

"They have agreed to investigate this."



One wheel on pavement will get you a £30 fine

POLICE are to crack down on pavement parking in Whiteley.

It is becoming an increasing problem and the police will be issuing routine £30 fines to drivers with so much as one wheel on the pavement.

This is obstruction and is thoughtless.

It forces pedestrians, particularly those pushing prams or with wheelchairs, to walk in the road and is quite unnecessary.

It can also prevent homeowners having free access to their own driveways. Councillor Seán Woodward said: "The problem is obvious. Pavements are for pedestrians and roads are for cars.

"Perhaps some drivers think they are helping traffic flow by pulling up onto the pavement.

"Others are simply lazy. Either way it is an offence and of great inconvenience to pedestrians."

Measures agreed to stop Whiteley School parents obstructing traffic



DOUBLE yellow lines are planned to deal with indiscriminate parking near Whiteley Primary School.

Councillor Seán Woodward has, with the strong support of the police, persuaded Fareham Council to implement double yellow lines on the inside of the loop of road serving Whiteley Primary School and Whiteley Community School (pictured above left).

Parents have been obstructing traffic, especially school buses.

He is also working with the County Council to improve pedestrian safety and reduce congestion at the school by



providing a large drop-off and collect facility on Rookery Avenue (above right).

This is a wide road with a roundabout at both ends capable of coping with being a drop-off facility to prevent parents using Gull Coppice.

A footpath should be easy to provide entering from Rookery Avenue adjacent to the all-weather pitch without the need to remove any trees.

Councillor Woodward said: "This will give a choice to parents. They can walk their children to school and use the Gull Coppice entrance or, if they must drive, they can drop off their children at a footpath entrance from Rookery Avenue."

A planning application will be made shortly inviting public comment.

Way ahead clear for new cycle route

WORK on an off-road shared use cycle track on A3051 Botley Road from Rookery Avenue to Duncan Road, plus on-road cycle route on Duncan Road to Swanwick station, should start this summer.

An agreed departure from standard has meant that works previously expected on the railway and motorway bridge parapets are no longer needed, which is expected to save approximately £100,000.

Detailed design is currently underway, and a project appraisal is expected to be approved shortly which will enable works to start.

Swap you! Another way to recycle the unwanted

A 'swap shop' will be held at Whiteley Community Centre from 10am - 2pm on Saturday, May 9 where residents are encouraged to bring along their unwanted items to swap for something useful to them.

No electrical, very large or broken items will be accepted.

There will also be waste and recycling

officers on hand to give recycling information and to answer any queries.

Executive Member for Streetscene Councillor Brian Bayford said: "This is a great opportunity for the local community to come together and swap their unwanted items with something more useful to them."

Number change

FROM April 1, the 101 number has been run as a police only non-emergency number in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

You should use 101 in the same way as 0845 0454545 – whichever is easier to remember.

SARISBURY & WHITELEY 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

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:
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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.

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

Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward officially handed over the keys on 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

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."

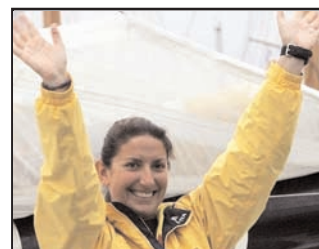
He thought he'd got away with it

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.



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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