

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

WHITELEY – 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 Séan 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 Séan 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



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 now be met by Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group and volunteers will run the store at minimum cost to the Red Cross.

Grants available

County Councillor Séan Woodward still has £4,000 available from his County Council budget, which is available to help local organisations and charities.

If you think your group could benefit, contact Séan for details.

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 provides a good resource for residents to learn 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 WhiteleyInTouch@gmail.com.

Leisure centre on schedule for June public opening

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

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

Councillor Séan Woodward said it would not prevent the centre opening to the public in June.

A topping-out ceremony was held in December, carried



out by the Mayor, Councillor Mike Ford and watched by Western Wards councillors.

As the photo shows, steel work for the building and the swimming area are complete and the learning pool is under construction.

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.

Cornerstone Primary School to be moved to new development area



A £12m PLAN to relocate Cornerstone Primary School to North of Whiteley is under discussion.

It is proposed to move it from its temporary site as an early part of the 3,500-house North of Whiteley development.

Following talks with the North Whiteley consortium, Hampshire County Council is in discussion with the Portsmouth and Winchester Diocese and the Governors of Cornerstone Primary School on the proposals.

The Architects' Department is working on a scheme with

the governors, the Diocese and Hampshire Children's Services to open the school in 2018.

This scheme shows how a three-form entry (630 place) primary school can be accommodated on site and what form it would take. This is the same size as Whiteley Primary School.

The Diocese held a drop-in session at Cornerstone Primary School to show the parents and the community where the school will sit in the new development and how it would fit into its new site.

InTouch Team Leader Jon Butts, pictured on the right with Councillor Séan Woodward, said: "It has been long promised by the North of Whiteley development consortium that the temporary 210-place Cornerstone Primary School will be moved into permanent accommodation at a very early stage in the North of Whiteley development.

"This should be a large 630 place-primary school that can cater for the additional needs of the existing Whiteley community as well as the early phases of the approved development North of Whiteley.

"The next challenge will be to have a secondary school built to serve the area as early as possible."

Hoping for a big freeze to have an ice swim

THEY'LL be hoping for a dip in temperatures at Lower Swanwick in February.

The International Ice Swimming Association of Great Britain was due to hold the first 1km ice swimming national championships at Andark diving lake on the 20th.

Next day, the Andark winter swimming event comprising a series of shorter races was due to be held.

Fareham Council and County Councillor Séan Woodward contributed matching £600 grants.

Government subsidy scheme will speed up broadband in Whiteley

WHILE improvements to broadband in Whiteley will take place between now and 2018, Hampshire has piloted the Government's Universal Service Commitment scheme.

Residents experiencing under

2Mbps of broadband can apply for a subsidy code towards the cost of installation of a satellite system.

This scheme is designed to provide an interim satellite solution capable of speeds of around 20Mbps.

It covers the cost of installing the

satellite dish and router up to £350. Yearly costs are the responsibility of the resident and start at around £400 for a basic service.

More details can be found on our website: <http://www.hampshiresuperfastbroadband.com/residents/usc/>

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, Séan 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.

County Councillor Séan Woodward said:

"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."



BOROUGH COUNCILLORS Whiteley



David Swanbrow
7 Mulberry Lane
Sarisbury SO31 7LJ
Tel: 01489 572723
email:dswanbrow@fareham.gov.uk

Séan Woodward
8 Persian Drive,
Whiteley PO15 7BJ
Tel: 01489 881030
Email: swoodward@fareham.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR Fareham Sarisbury



Séan Woodward
8 Persian Drive
Whiteley PO15 7BJ
Tel: 01489 881030
Email: sean.woodward@hants.gov.uk

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 Jon Butts 07464 847852.

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>



CONTACT SUELLA

14 East Street
Fareham PO16 0BN
Tel: 01329 233 573
Suella@suellafernandes.co.uk
www.suellafernandes.co.uk

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.

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.

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.



At the Chancellor's door



Learning to fight fires



Meeting Friends of Fareham Community Hospital