



Conservatives

In Touch

with our community

WHITELEY – SUMMER 2010

Seán says 'thank you' to Whiteley supporters



Seán Woodward: 'Tremendous victory for Sarisbury Ward.'

COUNCILLOR SEÁN WOODWARD has thanked supporters who re-elected him to serve a seventh 4-year term on the Borough Council in the May elections.

"It was a tremendous victory for Sarisbury Ward

"Your vote has enabled me to achieve the highest number of votes I have ever received in a Borough election. It is also interesting to note that, for the first time, over half the number of voters registered to vote in the ward voted Conservative, irrespective of turnout.

"There are many challenges facing us in the coming years – financial, development, continued provision of high quality services for low-est possible cost to name three.

"I pledge to continue serving the residents of Sarisbury, Swanwick, Burrige and Whiteley to the very best of my ability. As always, if there is any issue with which you would like my help, please do not hesitate to get in touch."

RESULT

SEÁN WOODWARD (Con)	2,785
Savage (Lib Dem)	1,311
Maj	1,474
Turnout 74%	

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



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

Governor wanted
A vacancy has arisen for a governor for Whiteley Primary School.

If you are interested in this extremely worthwhile voluntary position, please contact County Councillor Seán Woodward.

More information on <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/education/governors>

Question time
We are holding the next Councillors' Question Time at Whiteley Community Centre in Gull Coppice on Monday, September 27 at 7pm.

If you would like to ask Councillors David Swanbrow or Seán Woodward any questions on matters affecting Whiteley, whether they relate to Fareham Borough Council, Hampshire County Council or Hampshire Police Authority, then this meeting is for you!

Sarisbury kids' class act in the street name game



Name and fame: Isobelle 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. Isobelle 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."

New access gives kids exciting woodland walk to Whiteley School

A WALK in the woods should give Whiteley kids a more adventurous trip to school.

Their path to Whiteley School will be a boardwalk through ancient woodland to a new entrance from Rookery Avenue.

The plans have taken two years to come to fruition and will be completed during the summer holidays in time for the new school year in September.

They are supported by the school governing body, headmistress, police, Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council ecological officers and planners.

The £32,000 cost will be met by the Safer Routes to Schools budget.

The school travel plan will be rewritten to advise parents that if they wish to bring their children by car then this should not be to Gull Coppice, but to Rookery Avenue where there is a safe area to drop off and a very wide road with a roundabout at each end where parents will not cause an obstruction.

•The gate to the boardwalk will be locked, except between 8.30am – 9am and 2.45pm – 4.30pm on school days.



Speakers' club award

AN HONORARY award was presented to Fareham Council Leader Seán Woodward by Solent Speakers' Club on June 29.

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

"It acknowledges his role as an exemplar of excellence in communication and leadership within our local community," he said.

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

Watch where you park and don't be 'copped' in the Coppice

PARKING restrictions will come into force in Gull Coppice at the beginning of August.

There will be a two-hour limit in the lay-bys from 8am to 5pm on weekdays and the rest of the road will be double yellow lines.

Restrictions will be enforced by Fareham Council's civil enforce-

ment officers who currently police the disabled bays in Gull Coppice.

They will also be policing any obstruction of dropped kerbs or parking on the pavements.

Whiteley Councillor David Swanbrow commented: "I have received many complaints about dangerous parking in Gull

Coppice. People park with complete abandon over pavements and around entrances and this has to stop.

"I am pleased that the Police support the making of this order and I can assure motorists that it will be rigorously enforced in the interests of highway safety."



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 BurrIDGE 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, BurrIDGE 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; BurrIDGE, 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; BurrIDGE, 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; BurrIDGE, Swanwick and Park



Staying shut? Seán Woodward with one of the questionnaires that produced mixed views and no short-term prospect of the link opening to all vehicles.

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.

"Fareham Council as the planning authority and Hampshire County Council as the highway authority will use the consultation results 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 Yew Tree Drive bus gate for at least the short term.

Their view is that opening the bus gate to all traffic now may remove a facility that is required in the longer term.

If this view is supported by the County Council Executive Member for Environment, County Councillor Mel Kendal, then Fareham Council will not be asked to consider any change to the Local Plan policy.

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

Get a car park steam-clean while you shop

MOTORISTS will soon be able to have their cars steam cleaned while they shop.

Econowash won the tender to provide the service in the 44 council-owned car parks across Fareham.

They will use steam to clean cars using biodegradable products and only two litres of water per vehicle.

Council Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward said: "Econowash will use mobile steam cleaning equipment, allowing them to move easily and safely between cars."

The Wonderwash costs £7.99 and Econowash will be based at 1 Station Approach, Fareham where they will also offer a full valeting service.

Jim Murray dies

TRIBUTES have been paid to former Fareham Mayor and ex-councillor Jim Murray, who died last month, 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.

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

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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email: mail@markhoban.com**

I am very grateful to the residents of Whiteley 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

Visit our website www.farehamconservatives.org.uk

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