



# WHITELEY Matters

Autumn 2007

## New nursery helps meet Whiteley demand for childcare



Fareham Council Leader Seán Woodward is pictured with manager Jo Bish and 'Roo' opening the new 126-place Kiddi Caru nursery at Gull Coppice, Whiteley, which caters for children just a few months old up to school age and is run by the Childcare Corporation.



### 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](http://www.whiteleyforum.net)

### Centre makeover

After nearly 6 years open the Whiteley Community Centre has had a makeover.

Every room has been redecorated and major improvements have transformed the garden into a children's playground.

The cost was met with grants from Fareham Council and SITA Trust with labour for the garden improvements provided free by Graham Moyle Contractors.

A play house has also been provided by Whiteley Community Pre-School who had approached Councillor Seán Woodward with a request for play equipment for the garden.

He said: "The facilities at the centre, which is extremely successful, needed an upgrade.

"The garden was an eyesore and virtually unusable in winter. It can now be used all year round."

# £100m investment plan to give Whiteley a new district centre

**PLANS** to invest over £100m in a new district centre for Whiteley have been unveiled.

Owners of Whiteley Village Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) and British Land claim the cash will bring a mix of new facilities and services.

Currently, residents have to travel outside Whiteley for many everyday goods and services and the new Whiteley district centre will reverse this trend and help residents 'stay local', say the developers.

The plans are likely to include: **New shops and community facilities; upgrading of the Tesco supermarket; new health and leisure complex; 60-bedroom hotel; more houses; improvements to local transport with new bus facilities.**

Many residents will recall a public meeting attended by 200 residents at the Solent Hotel in 1998 organised by Councillor Seán



Woodward when plans for the 172,000 sq ft factory outlet were unveiled to great disappointment.

Residents expressed grave concerns about the potential for traffic problems from what was claimed would be a centre attracting tens of thousands of visits daily from across the South.

The other major concern was the lack of shopping within the scheme for a relatively new community which at that time had to leave Whiteley for every item.

Councillor Woodward said: "The traffic problems never happened as the centre was doomed

never to be an overwhelming success and Whiteley was set to be without the shopping centre it deserved.

"With the exception of Tesco and the Meadowside Leisure Centre, the district centre never delivered planned community facilities which were supposed to include a library, doctors' surgery and shops where residents could do a weekly shop similar to

the Locks Heath Shopping Centre.

"It was this that led us to provide facilities at Gull Coppice to make up some of that deficit.

"I very much hope that these plans, insofar as they relate to local shops and community facilities, will come into being to make Whiteley's district centre into the local facility that was expected a decade ago.

"This time it is imperative the planners ensure that the planning permission they issue tightly controls what is eventually provided on the site."

## OFFBEAT



By

**Pc Dave Spacey**  
Park Gate Police

**IT HAS** been a relatively quiet period around Whiteley, with no reports of major assaults.

Juvenile nuisance problems of a minor nature appear to be recurring on Friday and Saturday evenings within the Whiteley area and are currently being targeted by the Neighbourhood Policing Team based at Park Gate Police Station.

On the weekend of October 6 a group of 20 youths were moved on from the Yew Tree Drive area and a further 32 cans of lager were seized.

Most of these youths were not local but had travelled to the area because a private party at a house had been circulated via the internet and mobile phones.

A guest list that should have been 4-10 youths nearly ended up as 30-40 youths had there not been police intervention.

Please bear this in mind should your son or daughter be planning a party at your home address in the future.

My second CAT meeting – this time at Sarisbury Green – revealed no nasty surprises in relation to the area.

Points mainly brought up were litter, speeding cars, parking and poor access in and out of Whiteley.

I tend to think that there is a better communication between the Police and the local community now as a result of the SNT and problems in your local community are being addressed as they arise.



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## Council is granted extension to Whiteley limited access policy

**LIMITED access to two main roads in Whiteley will be preserved until the main link is completed.**

Residents feared the expiry of some planning policies could lead to Rookery Avenue and Yew Tree Drive being opened on to Botley Road for all traffic.

It stemmed from when the Fareham Borough Local Plan Review (2000) became part of the Local Development Framework, with its policies being saved for three years.

Councillor Seán Woodward said that when the three-year period ended on September 27, 2007 the policies not saved by the Secretary of State for a further period expired and could no longer be relied upon in making decisions on planning applications.

On March 30, Fareham Council asked the Secretary of State to save specified policies beyond the three-year period and a Direction was recently received confirming which policies could be saved.

The list includes the access to Whiteley (T9) which states that neither Rookery Avenue nor Yew Tree Drive can be opened on to Botley Road other than for buses and emergencies before completion of Whiteley Way past Tesco to join the A3051 Botley Road at Curbridge opposite Fairthorne Manor.

Most residents insisted the policies were adhered to because they feared drivers could then use Yew Tree Drive from outside Whiteley as a by-pass to the Segensworth Roundabout and M27 junction 9.

"Fears expressed included large volumes of traffic passing the Gull Coppice Local Centre which was unfamiliar with the area and the many hundreds of children using it daily," said Councillor Woodward.

## Swim star runs Whiteley academy

**'LEARN to swim with the best' is the motto of former England swimmer Aaron Rogers', who is now teaching children to swim at LBhealthcare, Gull Coppice, Whiteley.**



Swim here with the best.

With over 20 years' experience and having fronted a large swim school at Southampton University for over 5 years, he decided to run his own academy.

His lessons incorporate the new National Plan for Teaching Swimming (ASA Awards Scheme), ensuring no more than six children per teacher.

Call 07943 00 44 88 or visit [www.swimschoolacademy.com](http://www.swimschoolacademy.com) for details.

Lessons run Monday-Thursday 16:00-17:00 and Saturday 09:00-11:00.

## Sculptured benches make delightful features



A very young couple try out one of four new sculpture benches commissioned recently by Fareham Council.

They are sited on neighbourhood greens at Sweethills Crescent and Clydesdale Road, on Yew Tree Drive near the Sweethills Crescent junction and on a greenway near Yew Tree woodland.

They are carved from solid tree trunks and make delightful features.

## Time to get rid of these 'absurd Whiteley policing boundaries'

**CURRENT policing boundaries in Whiteley are "absurd", says Councillor Seán Woodward, who has written to Hampshire's Assistant Chief Constable to ask for change.**

The problem arises because part of Whiteley lies within Fareham Borough and part in Winchester District.

"The use of district boundaries for policing boundaries is in theory laudable and is in 99% of cases entirely practical," he wrote.

"However, in the case of Whiteley, which straddles the boundaries of the districts of Fareham and Winchester, the public perception is one of no joined-up thinking as the Fareham half of Whiteley is policed sensibly from Park Gate, whereas the Winchester half is policed rather remotely from Bishop's Waltham leading to lesser response and perceived difficulties in coordination."

Councillor Woodward, a member of Hampshire Police Authority, said he had spoken at various meetings over the last 18 months with the Operational Command Unit Commander, Peter Goodall, and the Borough Commander, Steve Wallace, about the unhelpful situation regarding the policing of Whiteley.

He continued: "Of course, in an emergency Park Gate officers would attend anywhere in Whiteley but in terms of the public presence of PCs and Police Community Support Officers on the ground it would be far better to have Whiteley policed as a single entity.

"There is a sensible precedent for breaching district boundaries in the Horndean area and I believed I had agreement some time ago to bring about the same sensible solution in Whiteley.

"I would be grateful if you would expedite the appropriate amendments to the policing boundaries to bring about a more coordinated approach to policing in Whiteley and to remove the public perception that policing in the area is more interested

in lines on maps than practicalities on the ground which I know is not true."

He also wrote to the Leader of Winchester City Council, Councillor George Beckett, urging him to bring in a Drinking in Public Places Order to cover Winchester's half of Whiteley.

All Fareham Borough is now covered by such an order which is now working very well across the Borough (see Page 1).

But police are currently denied these powers on the Winchester side. It is hoped that Winchester will impose the same legislation in due course.

Councillor Woodward added: "I hope the two issues of policing and public drinking can, with the co-operation that I have requested from Hampshire Constabulary and Winchester City Council, be policed in a consistent fashion by the same officers without needing to respect the district boundaries."



**Seán Woodward:**  
"Winchester should follow our lead."