



WHITELEY Matters

Spring 2006

Bags of dog mess are tossed into trees

VANDALS hit a disgusting new low in Whiteley when they took bags of dog mess from bins and tossed them into nearby trees and bushes.

Fareham Council had to replace the bins with vandal-proof ones at taxpayers' expense. The Council's

Enforcement Team of six officers will patrol the area, issuing fixed penalty tickets for this sort of behaviour.

They also enforce fly tipping, littering, abandoned vehicles and dog fouling and have issued 83 fixed penalty tickets this year, of which 72 were for litter.

IN BRIEF

New sign

At the request of the school, Councillor Seán Woodward arranged for an extra sign to the school from Yew Tree Drive adjacent Gull Coppice.

This will help delivery drivers who tend to drive straight past.

Calming traffic

Fareham Council has installed counters on Sweethills Crescent to gauge speed and volume of traffic to help decide an appropriate form of traffic calming.

Speed cushions are the favourite, but the speed and volume of traffic will determine the eventual solution.

It will be paid for by Persimmon as part of the planning consent to build further houses off Dickens Drive.

Business park

Arlington are soon to submit a planning application for the element of Solent 2 Business Park which falls in Fareham Council's area.

The land off Rookery Avenue has taken over 15 years to come forward for development and will help towards the eventual completion of Rookery Avenue through to Botley Road, Swanwick.

Planning consent for B1 business use already exists for offices and light industry. Due to the large amount of preserved woodland on the site, the ultimate size of the development is limited but will contain around 10 office blocks and car parking.

Drop in for a coffee and a warm welcome



LONELY? Just moved to the area, left at home with young children or feeling isolated?

Whiteley Church has started a new venture called 'The Open Door'.

Come along to Whiteley Community Centre for a cup of coffee and a chat, with an opportunity to make new friends, all within a warm and friendly atmosphere.

'The Open Door' is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 12.00pm. Give us a try where you will be made to feel very welcome.

Clamp down on 'rat runs' in £270,000 Whiteley package

A £270,000 package of schemes is in hand to improve access in the Whiteley area for pedestrians and cyclists and encourage these sustainable transport modes particularly for short journeys.

In conjunction with the Yew Tree Drive bus link scheme, the proposed measures will encourage greater use of public transport.

Additional measures will deter the use of 'rat run' routes by commuter traffic. All the schemes will support local businesses' travel plans and the aims of the Whiteley Area travel plan which is currently being developed in partnership between the Highway Agency's Influence Travel Behaviour Team, Hampshire County Council and the Whiteley Business Forum.

The proposals include:

(i) Pedestrian footway links and a toucan crossing on Whiteley Way near the Marjoram Way roundabout, to improve pedestrian and cycle access between Whiteley employment areas and the

Whiteley Village Shopping Centre

(ii) Whiteley to Swanwick Station cycle route from Rookery Avenue to Duncan Road to improve pedestrian and cycle links between Whiteley and the Park Gate and Segensworth areas

(iii) Low cost measures to improve the interchange facilities at Swanwick Station such as improved bus information and additional cycle storage

(iv) Closure of Springles Lane to eliminate illegal through traffic in contravention of the existing traffic regulation order which prohibits driving along this narrow country lane.

Additional traffic management measures at the junction of Leafy Lane and Parkway may also be developed with the Whiteley Business Forum to discourage further commuter use of Leafy Lane.

The proposals are at an early stage and are being progressed for delivery within the 2006/07 programme.

It's nearly all systems go at Gull Coppice

IT'S ALL starting to come together at Gull Coppice.

Fareham Council has been chasing Childcare Corporation about the new pre-school.

An email from their contractors, Ashe Construction, promised they would start on May 1 or earlier if possible.

The new shop owners have also been contacted. They are still slowly fitting out, but the latest date they had was March 20 for the hairdresser's to open, around Easter for the fish and chip shop and beginning of May for the Chinese, Tiger Lilly.

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "We understand some of the problems are delays from statutory undertakers and getting the catering equipment."

CCTV prices are now in and agreement should be reached with the four parties shortly.

As the column the camera will be mounted on exceeds 4 metres, planning permission will be required. Hopefully it can be installed in May.

It is important to get the area monitored to deter antisocial behaviour and provide evidence for prosecutions.

The sculptor hopes to finish the public art around Easter, but the Council is reluctant to install it before the CCTV is in operation.



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Council: 'Tell us how to spend £500,000 bonanza'

IMAGINE winning half a million on the Lottery or Premium Bonds. What would you do with it?

Fareham Council is in a similar position, although it can't spend it on a new sports car or a world cruise.

The Council's windfall of over £500,000 is all coming to Whiteley and councillors want residents' suggestions how to spend it in the community.

The cash came from sale of land for the doctors' and dental surgery and pharmacy to Health Investments, the developers.

This is because the site was originally given to the Council by Pelham Homes in lieu of public open space as a housing site.

The intention was to sell it for housing and use the cash for other infrastructure projects within Whiteley. Now that it has served its purpose as a temporary site for the doctors, chemist, post office and convenience store the proceeds must be used directly for the benefit of social infrastructure within Whiteley.

Possible projects include playground refurbishment, enhancement of public open space or woodland and other community facilities.

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "This money has been raised by the sale of land in Whiteley originally given to finance facilities in Whiteley, so it is appropriate that Whiteley people should help decide how it should be used. I look forward to hearing their ideas."

Mail box is sorted, but it wasn't exactly post haste

THEY pushed it from pillar to post, but eventually Royal Mail bowed to local pressure.

Originally, they wanted to remove the pillar box from the site of the old SPAR to the new store, although it was well used.

The ideal solution (as reported in the last edition) was a new box at the new SPAR.

So Councillor Seán Woodward posted a letter (in the old box) to Royal Mail chairman Allan Leighton.

The top postman took the point and Royal Mail agreed to do exactly as requested – eventually.

"They have assured us that 'lessons have been learnt' over the length of time this simple request took to resolve," said Councillor Woodward.



Pupils are being turned away, but

City council won't budge over new school site

THIRTY pupils a year are being turned away by the present Whiteley Primary School.

Whiteley stands to lose a £4m grant if Winchester City Council refuses to transfer a small piece of land.

Pleas from parents, backed by a request from Hampshire County Council to build a replacement next to Meadowside Leisure Centre, fell on deaf ears.

County Councillor Seán Woodward said everybody was hoping for a change of administration after the City Council elections in May enabling the issue to be reconsidered.

A recent public consultation showed most people favoured a new church voluntary aided primary school.

The County Council considered a report on March 20 in which Councillor Woodward commented: "Ideally, I would not wish to encourage building on public open space.

"I am satisfied following a search for suitable sites carried out by Fareham and Winchester Councils on behalf of the education authority that no other suitable site is available.

"I am also aware that the £4 million granted to the diocese for the school will be lost if moves are not made to establish it in May 2006."

He strongly supported the scheme provided all recreation facilities were reinstated or replaced.

Winchester's executive rejected the request, despite support from residents, the Church and Whiteley (Winchester) County Councillor Fred Allgood.



Old school: Seán Woodward and his young son outside the present Whiteley Primary School, but it's Winchester Council which is sitting on the fence.

What the County Council wants	What Winchester City Council wants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •210-pupil CofE school with church in corner of Meadowside recreation area; built on 5% of land •Reposition tennis court, skatepark, playground, cricket and football pitches •New shared junior pitch •Replace open space lost on County Council land at Leafy Lane •New £5.5m primary school for N. Whiteley if 3000 more homes are planned. Government providing £4m, County Council £1.5m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Put school in middle of recreation ground •New £1m cricket, football facilities at Leafy Lane, including changing rooms and pavilion, paid for by County Council but creating more traffic •Allow space to expand Meadowside Leisure Centre and the school •Retain tennis court and skatepark in situ •New junior football pitch and designated parking areas. Cost £10m, but delays may cost £4m of government funding

Whiteley bus-only link comes a step closer

A PROJECT appraisal to enable release of the County Council's contribution towards the cost of the new roundabout on Botley Road and the bus-only link to connect to Yew Tree Drive, Whiteley, was approved by Hampshire County Council in January.

It is subject to Persimmon entering into an agreement for the works. Fareham Council granted planning permission for the proposal in December.

It will provide a limited access link road for buses, pedestrians and cyclists from the existing Yew Tree Drive within the Whiteley development area to the A3051 Botley Road near Swanwick.

Developers will pay half the cost and Hampshire County Council the rest.

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