



# WHITELEY Matters

Summer 2007



**Under way:** Work is progressing to give Whiteley a bus route to Botley Road.



### 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)

### Calming scheme

After consultation Fareham Council has approved a traffic calming scheme for the arm of Sweethills Crescent running past the children's playground.

It will involve a series of strategically placed speed platforms and be paid for by Persimmon as part of the Dickens Drive development.

It should be in place during the 2007/2008 financial year.

### Views sought

The Council has set aside £100,000 towards a splendid play area for the new development of 300 houses being built off Dickens Drive.

We are keen to receive ideas as to what it should contain.

Already we are committed to some good equipment and a kick-about area for local children.

## Bus routes reviewed as Yew Tree Drive link advances

**BUS company First were asked to review services 26, 28 and 76 when building of the Yew Tree Drive link starts under two headings – 1 At no extra subsidy cost; 2 With costed enhancements.**

Their answers were as follow:

1 A draft timetable showed about the same number of journeys as current, but the 26 route to/from Hedge End diverted via Whiteley instead of Park Gate, route 28 extended via the bus link to/from Locks Heath centre instead of terminating at Sweethills Crescent and the peak time 76 routed via the bus link instead of Whiteley Way.

Park Gate residents have alternative services to/from Fareham but would lose their direct link to Hedge End.

2 Service 26 would stay on its current route, service 28 would run hourly (with the extension to Locks Heath centre) instead of the current 2-hourly frequency and (if funds allow) there would be an evening service on the 28.

It is not yet known whether developer contributions will cover enhancements as there is no spare cash in the County's bus subsidy budget. Further benefits may ensue once the link is completed.

### Works buses

Existing services for National Air Traffic Services will be able to use the bus link. Any other business, with County Council approval, will be able to use the link.

### School buses

Swanmore school bus 629 can be rerouted via the link, thus enabling Whiteley children to get to Swanmore

without walking to the Elm Tree stop. The County Council does not subsidise the 629 so cannot dictate the route; the Park Gate end is well outside the Swanmore catchment.

Any other school buses will, with County Council agreement, be able to use the link including school buses chartered by parents.

### Community Transport

Can use the link.

### Emergency services

Can use the link at all times.

The County Council is commissioning a study covering many public transport issues in the area, including:

- New housing at Coldeast and Hunts Pond Road
- Growth points funding and development of limited stop bus routes
- Segensworth business improvement district and aspirations of Whiteley businesses
- Bus stops at Swanwick station

County Councillor Seán Woodward said: "The new bus link will help to improve public transport access to Whiteley and I hope local businesses will continue to work with the County Council to introduce measures that give employees improved options of how they travel to work, including allowing works buses to use the new link to avoid the busy M27 junction 9 traffic."

When construction works are completed, the rising bollard system will be tested and commissioned. Police can override the order in an emergency and open the link to all traffic.

OFF BEAT



By  
**Pc Dave Coleman**  
Park Gate Police

**WELCOME to Community Support Officer Andy Leeks, who's joined the neighbourhood policing team with Special Constables Whitworth and Beckwith, who can be deployed to help with the new alcohol control area.**

I'm pleased to say that crime reported to Hampshire Constabulary is down 17.2% compared with this time last year which equates to 310 fewer victims in the Fareham policing area.

A beat surgery held at the Community Centre in June revealed residents' concerns to be youth nuisance at Gull Coppice and the play park at Sweethills Crescent, which are regularly targeted by police mobile foot and bike patrols at priority times

on Friday and Saturday evenings.

If you have any concerns about youth nuisance problems outside your property and feel that a police or community support officer is required, please contact myself or Andy Leeks on mobile number 07757 211528.

It must be stressed that this number is only to be used to deploy members of our neighbourhood policing team direct to an ongoing issue.

When we are not contactable or deployable residents should phone 0845 045 4545 for non urgent matters or 999 for emergencies.

Monthly beat surgeries will continue to be held within the Whiteley area and Andy and myself look forward to meeting you.



## WHITELEY Matters

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### Contractor will help towards updating community centre



**Improvements:** Seán Woodward, pictured outside Whiteley Community Centre, says they are needed.

#### A GENEROUS contractor has agreed to contribute towards improvements at Whiteley Community Centre.

Graham Moyle will carry out the exterior work with the Community Association paying only for the materials.

Play equipment and items of interest will also be provided for children.

The garden is prone to flooding and the grass has suffered due to heavy use by the pre-schools and others.

The scheme will be paid for by grant aid from Fareham Council (£30,000) and SITA Trust (£10,000) both to the garden and the Community Centre and its environs. The improvements include:

- Levelling and surfacing the garden, protecting all the mature trees
- Installing a sundial feature and children's play equipment
- Terracing the flower beds so they can be planted out by the pre-school children
- Redecorating the Community Centre internally
- Paving the seating area in front of the centre
- Providing an exterior bin store

Sarisbury Councillor Seán Woodward said: "The Community Centre is the heart of the Whiteley community and has many users, mostly children.

"It is 5 years since we opened the centre so it is not surprising that it requires renovation.

"It is appropriate that many improvements should be made to the facilities enjoyed by the children as well as other users."

## Yellow boxes may ease traffic flows at Whiteley Junction 9 bottleneck...

**BOX MARKINGS** may be put at Fareham's two most congested motorway junctions, thanks to pressure from Conservative County Councillor Seán Woodward.

He had been trying for years to persuade the authorities to use the yellow boxes to ease traffic flows at Junctions 11 (Wallington) and 9 (Whiteley), but always met with negative response.

Now that may be about to change.

Councillor Woodward said: "The County Council has looked several times at the scope for yellow box markings at M27 junction 9 and has recently been examining installing one at the exit from the eastbound off-slip.

"The Highways Agency has been looking to implement measures

that could improve traffic flow at several locations and we put forward M27 junction 9 as a potential site for a yellow box junction marking.

"A box marking here would require authorisation by the Department for Transport and we submitted designs for approval."

The Department had reservations about their likely effectiveness, but it is now prepared to consider allowing the box marking.

If approved work will be programmed once funding has been arranged.

The eastbound slip road was identified as possibly benefiting from a yellow box because of the specific cross-over movements on this short section of the roundabout between the slip road and Whiteley Way.

The County Council feels it is not the merg-

ing of two streams of traffic travelling in the same direction that the Department considers normal roundabout conditions.

This is not the same on the exit from Whiteley Way, where traffic is delayed by exit-blocking, primarily as a result of delay at Segensworth Roundabout and where box marking would have little effect.

The provision of a yellow box marking would not guarantee any improvement in access, particularly at Whiteley Way where the cause of much of the congestion is blocking back from Segensworth.

Yellow box marking at the Solent Hotel roundabout would not be allowed because the regulations require a roundabout to be permanently controlled by traffic signals.

### ...And £2.6m traffic management scheme at Segensworth Roundabout should also help

**WORK starts at the end of the summer on the £2.65m improvements to Segensworth Roundabout and Witherbed Lane, Whiteley.**

Developers, including those at Solent Business Park, will contribute £2m towards the cost and work is expected to last 5 months.

The scheme aims to ease snarl-ups caused by traffic converging at the roundabout from seven approach roads, including the A27/M27 link at Junction 9, the A27 to Fareham and the A27 to Park Gate and Sarisbury.

In an average weekday, 60,000 vehicles use the roundabout, which is the key access to Segensworth industrial estates, 3,000 homes and the business park at Whiteley and the superstores, and 5,700 vehicles an hour use it at peak times.

Traffic levels and existing configurations lead to queues on the approaches, especially those arms of the junction which are priority controlled, such as Barnes Wallis Road and

Southampton Road.

The traffic signal controlled arms of the junction also have traffic queues, in particular on the A27 approaches. This junction also forms the main vehicular access to Whiteley, adding to the heavy traffic demands placed on Junction 9 of the M27.

The main aim of the scheme is to improve the management of traffic at the A27 Segensworth Roundabout.

By adding additional traffic lanes at key locations at the roundabout and further traffic signal control it is expected that traffic flows can be improved.

Sarisbury County Councillor Seán Woodward said: "I look forward to the improvements being completed as soon as possible given all of the s c h e m e s

which have been previously considered and rejected."

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