



# WHITELEY Matters

Winter 2006

## TREE PLANTING ENHANCES WHITELEY SQUARE



**TREE** planting has now taken place on Whiteley's 'round' square. The sculptures will be installed in the spring.

Picture also shows the site of the pre-school that will be started soon and cater for 100 children.

## Two-lane approach bid to ease Whiteley tail-backs

**MANY** residents are aware of the queues that build at the Rookery Avenue approach to Whiteley Way in the mornings.

They will be equally aware of the 'informal' but rather tight two-lane arrangement that many motorists adopt at this point, says County Councillor Seán Woodward.

"I have asked officers from the County Council's Traffic Management Section to inspect the site for an initial review of its suitability for 'formal' conversion to a two-lane approach."

He wants them to look at how relative priorities at the junction could be marked to maximise the road width.

This will be necessary at the roundabout on Whiteley Way and at the Rookery Avenue approach, given that most traffic is seeking to turn right onto Whiteley Way.

We will report progress in our Spring edition.

# Council makes it all happen round about Yew Tree Drive

•One of the missing links connecting Whiteley with the A3051 Botley Road has been given planning consent by Fareham Borough Council.

•The Council has just given the go-ahead for the construction of a new doctors' and dentists' surgery and pharmacy on land occupied by portacabins.



**Going through:** Exit to Botley Road will be here.

**ONLY BUSES and emergency vehicles will be able to use the extension from Yew Tree Drive for the foreseeable future.**

This stems from a pledge made to villagers at Burridge in the 1980s that no traffic would be allowed on to Botley Road until Whiteley Way is completed, but that is years away.

Whiteley Way will eventually exit on to Botley Road near Fairthorne Manor.

Councillor Seán Woodward said the new link from Yew Tree Drive to Botley Road would entail building a £500,000 roundabout near the Elm Tree pub.

It will be financed jointly by Hampshire County Council and developers Persimmon before 50 of 200 homes being built off Dickens Drive are occupied.

Transponders will probably be fitted into buses and emergency vehicles so that bollards can be electronically operated to let them through.

However, the link will be built to proper standards so it can be opened temporarily to all traffic if major problems occur on the M27 around Junction 9.

Councillor Woodward said First Bus had promised to provide a much better service once the link is open.



**Going away:** New surgery will replace the shacks.

**IT IS UNDERSTOOD** that the dental practice from Solent Business Park will be joining Dr Roope and partners and Everett's Chemist in purpose-built high quality accommodation on the site.

The much-needed facility has proven possible because of the offer made by Fareham Borough Council to sell the land to Health Investments Limited for the scheme.

Commenting, Councillor Seán Woodward, Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council, said: "When I realised that the doctors had failed to secure the development they had hoped for on Solent Business Park, I proposed that we sell them the land they currently occupy.

"It is critical that we retain their services in Whiteley and to obtain a health centre with dentists and a pharmacy is a further bonus for Whiteley."

All that is required is to complete the land sale and the diversion of the bridleway behind the surgery.

## Residents happy with new Spar store and Post Office

**THE** new SPAR is trading well and proving to be an asset.

Residents are also happy with the new Post Office and we have asked for a pillar box to be provided quickly outside the new store, which should happen soon.

Councillor Seán Woodward has written to the Post Office chairman to try to

get the pillar box near the Pharmacy, which the Post Office currently wants to remove, retained to serve that part of Whiteley.

He persuaded the County Council to install signs from Whiteley Way to the Post Office so residents and business park employees are aware it exists and to make sure it is used.





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## New primary school offers Whiteley more recreation facilities

**DETAILS have emerged of what promises to be a super new primary school at Whiteley.**

The preferred site for the Church-aided school will use a small part of Meadowside Recreation Ground where the tennis courts are to accommodate the school buildings.

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "The plans show the footprint of a very well designed school building sitting entirely to the right of the footpath which runs from the Leisure Centre northwards.

"To the left of the path at the north of the site is the skatepark and hard play area for the school. Below that is a football pitch which I assume is for school use in school time and community use otherwise.

"The remainder of the recreation ground contains two full size football pitches and a cricket square.

"The tennis courts are shown moved to the south of the east-west footpath at the bottom of the recreation ground, so there would appear to be a net gain of a school, junior football pitch and skatepark.

"We hope that Whiteley Church will also have its facilities within the school with both exclusive and shared areas.

"This would mean that the Church would not be built on the allocated site (pictured) which is not large enough for a school and the adjacent landowners are unwilling to sell any extra land."

It is hoped that the September 2006 year R intake it will be accommodated in the spare classroom at Whiteley Primary School for a year then move in September 2007 into the new school, if the governors agree.



The County Council's consultation exercise on siting the new Church voluntary aided school is as follows: **January** - Consultation document sent to every home in Whiteley.

**Public Exhibitions** - Tuesday, January 31 from 1pm to 6pm at Meadowside Leisure Centre and Wednesday, February 1 from 8.15am to 1pm at Whiteley Community Centre.

**Public meeting** - Thursday, February 9 at 7.45pm in Meadowside Leisure Centre.

## Dickens Drive developers promise improvements



**Promises:** Persistence with Persimmon pays off.

**SEVERAL improvements to Persimmon's construction site off Dickens Drive have been promised over the coming weeks.**

Councillor Seán Woodward met the developer's managers to present a list of requests about the conduct of the site. Persimmon agreed to the following:

**1** Signs will be erected in Rookery Avenue showing where lorries should wait until 8am before attempting to access the site. Delivery contractors will also be supplied with maps showing approved access arrangements.

**2** Signs on Yew Tree Drive will be amended (and added in Dickens Drive) to make it clear that ALL site and sales traffic should use the arm of Sweethills Crescent nearest to the

doctors' surgery to access and exit. **3** The site parking compound will be extended to allow all site personnel to use it thereby removing parking from Dickens Drive and nearby roads.

**4** A wheel wash facility will be constantly manned on the site and a one-way system within the site will be implemented so that all lorries can be cleaned before going on to Dickens Drive.

**5** A notice board will be erected next to Dickens Drive giving contact details and up-to-date information about the construction programme.

Councillor Woodward said: "Clearly the area had received a massive clean prior to our meeting. Hopefully these standards will now be maintained, but please let me know if they are not."

## Random police patrols to catch erring parents

**PARENTS who defy 'Keep Clear' notices on the road outside the primary school risk prosecution.**

Police have been asked to mount random patrols.

The lay-by in front of the school was removed at the school's request to prevent dangerous parking, but parents still park there. Hopefully the appropriate enforcement will now follow.

It is important to improve safety for school children near the school entrance.



**Clear enough:** Park here if you want a ticket.

Most people are sensible and realise that for an hour a day every school in the land has traffic problems caused entirely by parents.

We might learn from the USA where children either walk or use a

school bus, but parents cannot deliver or collect their children, often within a mile of the school.

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