



# WHITELEY Matters

Winter 2007

## THE EFFECT OF WHITELEY SCHOOL DELAYS

Hook-with-Warsash Primary	-12	St John the Baptist CE Prim'y	47
Locks Heath Infant	4	Titchfield Primary	11
Salisbury Infant	-3	Whiteley Primary	-27
Park Gate Primary	-8	TOTAL	12

The table above shows the situation for the Year R intake in September. For example, Whiteley Primary is over-subscribed with 117 applications for 90 places. St John the Baptist Primary, however, is under-subscribed by 47 places



### 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)

### Safer route

We reported in the last edition that the County Council had agreed to make the journey from the Solent Hotel roundabout to Whiteley Way on Rookery Avenue safer by increasing the width of the Whiteley Way-bound lane to take two lanes of traffic.

Works should start during the week commencing February 12 and are programmed to be completed within three weeks.

### Your views needed

We report on this page on the money from the sale of land from the doctors' surgery site and possible projects to spend it on.

We are interested in your views.

Would you like to see the replacement/refurbishment of the sculpture benches? How could they be themed?

# Whiteley faces education crisis as Winchester axes new school site



Park Gate Primary



Whiteley Primary



Salisbury Infant

**WHITELEY parents were left fuming after Winchester City Council killed off the last chance for the desperately needed new primary school and pitched local education into crisis.**

Councillors refused to reconsider their earlier refusal to give up a small part of City Council-owned land at Meadowside Recreation Ground.

The blow followed a year of stalemate in which Fareham Borough and Hampshire County Councils pulled out all the stops to try to persuade Winchester that the site was vital for the £5.5m school.

It leaves rapidly expanding Whiteley surrounded by over-subscribed primary schools, with no alternative sites, a risk of losing money set aside for the school and parents worried about their children's education.

Fareham (Salisbury) County Councillor Seán Woodward reacted angrily. "If overwhelming people power cannot persuade Winchester City Council to reconsider the issue, then the priority of securing a place for everyone in September is paramount.

"The £1.5m already allocated by the education authority to provide those places must not be lost and as Salisbury Infant and Park Gate Primary Schools are also over-subscribed this year, the money may have to be used to increase Salisbury Infant and Junior Schools to 4 forms of entry to take those who won't be going to a new school in Whiteley."

County Council Leader Ken Thorner said: "I am extremely disappointed. Since no other option, including a temporary school on private land is feasible, I have no alternative but to abandon this project."

A study had been carried out to try to break the deadlock, but found the cost would be prohibitive and delay the building by two years.

Councillor Woodward and Fareham MP Mark Hoban asked the County Council to explore the possibility of using land offered by Messrs G & J Bunney north of the Whiteley boundary.

The study put the cost of building on the Bunney land at up to £8.2m – 70% more than the normal cost per square metre of building a new primary school – but it would not happen at least until 2009.

Councillor Woodward said: "This would be after the peak intake year for Year R (2007) and three years too early for the new housing north of Whiteley.

"Each year that the school is unavailable will mean more children from Whiteley will attend schools south of the M27, with their siblings likely to follow."

Had Winchester agreed, he said, the school could have been in temporary buildings on land belonging to USS near the shopping centre last September and on its permanent site by September 2007.

•You can keep up with developments by logging on to [www.whiteleyace.org.uk](http://www.whiteleyace.org.uk)

## Ideas how to carve up £575,000 Whiteley cash windfall

**COUNCILLORS are trying to find the best way to spend a cash bonanza of £575,000 and some residents have made special requests**

The money came from sale of land for the state-of-the-art Whiteley surgery and can only be spent in Whiteley.

Several suggestions are being looked at and consultations will follow.

One is for a high quality chil-

dren's playground and kick-about area, possibly at Clydesdale Road or Sweethills Crescent, but preferably on open space at the new Dickens Drive development.

Another is to involve children in designing and creating tree sculptures, possibly using dead turkey oaks, similar to those at Bursledon's Tesco store (pictured).

A few years ago, Fareham and Winchester Councils commissioned a sculptor to oversee sev-

eral wooden sculptures, which included benches and the famous Whiteley totem poles.

Sadly, several benches were vandalised and were removed with the totem poles after one rotted and collapsed.





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## Developer's tactics cause Dickens of a delay over Whiteley bus link route

**OPENING** of a link road between Yew Tree Drive and the A3051 Botley Road at Whiteley has been delayed after the developer demanded more concessions.

Persimmon, who are building off Dickens Drive, were supposed to construct a roundabout and rising bollards to allow buses and emergency vehicles access to the link once they had sold the first 50 houses.

The condition was about to be breached and Persimmon then upped the stakes by submitting an application to raise the trigger point to 150 houses, which Fareham subsequently reduced to 130.

Hampshire County Council as highway authority refused to back Fareham if Persimmon appealed, so the developers got their way.

Fareham planners imposed a bonding arrangement to ensure completion of the link once started and there will be a legal agreement to start it within a timescale,

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "Persimmon claim the link will be functioning during July 2007, although others are not convinced."

A traffic regulation order will basically restrict access to buses, emergency vehicles and cyclists, although the police will be able to override the order in such cases as the M27 being blocked at J9.

It will be the only link between Whiteley and Botley Road until completion of Whiteley Way between the M27 and the A3051 north of Curbridge.

## Just what the doctors ordererd



**Out with the old:** The Portacabins which served as Whiteley's surgery.



**In with the new:** Whiteley's new state-of-the-art surgery and pharmacy.

**THIS IS Whiteley's new surgery opened recently along with a new pharmacy.**

Dedicated patient parking for 24 cars will shortly be provided in the space occupied by the old Portacabins.

Having toured the new surgery with Dr Richard Roope, Councillor Seán Woodward said: "I am delighted with the superb facilities that

Richard and his colleagues have provided and very pleased that Fareham Council was able to provide the land for the project after all other avenues were closed to the practice.

"The building's accommodation is excellent and allows plenty of room for extra doctors and visiting consultants as the population of Whiteley expands."

## Selfish parking and near misses cause problems at Gull Coppice



**Bay watch:** Police will keep an eye on abuse of disabled parking spaces like these outside the new Kiddi Caru pre-school.

**CARELESS drivers and indiscriminate parkers are causing headaches in Gull Coppice.**

The one-way system was reinstated after the opening of the Kiddi Caru pre-school on January 8, but many drivers ignored the signs.

There have been several near misses and the

risk of a head-on collision is high.

"We have asked police to pay particular attention to the area while the one-way system is re-established.

"By Easter, the roads will be resurfaced, build-outs constructed and appropriate lining and signs replaced," said Councillor Seán Woodward.

Disabled drivers complained about selfish parking in disabled bays outside SPAR.

"We are working with Fareham Access Group to lobby owners of the shopping parade to provide better parking signs for disabled bays and to enforce them.

"If this fails, we will try to get consent from landowners to enforce the bays when Fareham Council adopts decriminalised parking enforcement later this year."