



# In Touch

with our community

FAREHAM EAST – SPRING 2007

## New drinks clampdown welcomed by police

**DRINKING** alcohol and misbehaving in public places could land you in trouble anywhere in Fareham.

The Council has extended its Designated Public Places Order to cover all the Borough from June 1, 2007.

Police, who found an earlier Order designating the town centre useful in reducing nuisance, backed the move.

The Council and police gathered evidence to identify other potential areas where designation would provide relief from the impact of drink-related disorder.

Highlands, central Portchester, West End and Stubbington were identified, with Hill Head and Locks Heath also causing concern.

If an Order were made for each area, a small part of the Borough would not be covered and the risk of dispersal to nearby areas would be high, hence the Borough-wide Order.

It is an offence to drink alcohol after being asked not to by a police officer. Police may confiscate and dispose of any alcohol and containers; it is an arrestable offence to disobey an officer's request.

It is **not** an offence to have a glass of wine or beer at the family picnic on the beach or in the park **unless** it causes alcohol-related nuisance, annoyance or disorder.

# Fareham top choice for a happy family

**WE'VE BEEN** saying it for years, but now you're getting it from a renowned independent source – Fareham IS in the top six places in Britain to raise a family.

A *Reader's Digest* survey of all 408 local authority areas in England, Scotland and Wales put the Borough in 6th position.

Classy Winchester came 42nd, Manchester 328th and three London boroughs at the bottom.

It was parents themselves, not councillors or officials, who came up with their own criteria.

Most important was living in a family-friendly area with good schools and hospitals, low crime rates, affordable housing and high employment.

Other factors included low flooding risk, proximity of universities, colleges, major cities, coast and country parks and climate.

The survey's findings utterly refuted a survey published by two national newspapers last October which outraged the town by placing it bottom of the list of desirable places to live because of poor employment and high crime figures.

Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward said: "The results of this survey are wonderful news for Fareham. It is a really great place to raise a family, with countryside and the coast on your doorstep, along with the two larger cities of Portsmouth and Southampton close by.

"We have excellent schools and low crime rates and offer a safe and very attractive place to live.



"As well as being a great place environmentally, it is also a friendly place to live with good neighbours and supportive communities."

The Council took the *Independent on Sunday* and *Daily Mail* to the Press

Complaints commission and both printed apology letters.

Councillor Woodward added: "These letters quite clearly show that the producers of this survey made a mistake, but I am still anxious to ensure that the authors of the survey respond to us and that they explain how their data placed Fareham at the bottom of the ranking."

**•Research was carried out on behalf of *Reader's Digest* by YouGov who surveyed 1,162 parents with children under 16 in February.**

## Colours, bayonets, drums and a famous name in Falklands parade

**A VIP whose name was a top secret was to join veterans and dignitaries to mark the 25th anniversary of the Falklands War on Saturday, May 12.**

Fareham Council scheduled the official commemoration for 11am.

Shortly before, a Royal Navy guard of honour was to exercise

HMS Collingwood's right as freemen of the Borough to march through town with bayonets fixed and colours flying.

A Drumhead Service in West Street featuring the Royal Marines Band was to precede an address by the Council's Executive Leader, Councillor Seán

Woodward, and one by a veteran of the Falklands conflict.

The VIP was to open the Falklands Arch as an entrance to the town from Market Quay car park. A formal march past was being followed by a field gun display by HMS Collingwood Volunteer Cadet Corps.

We keep *In Touch* throughout the year - not just at election time



## WARD NEWS BRIEFS

### Nursery grant

The Executive member for Children's Services has awarded a Hampshire County Council grant of £50,400 to develop improved nursery provision in Fareham.

Another grant of £4000 has been made to increase out-of-school leisure activities for young people with physical disabilities in Fareham, Gosport and East Hampshire.

### Targeting crime

Fareham's crime figures indicate that criminal damage, vandalism, wounding and anti-social behaviour need to be targeted by community crime fighters during the coming year.

Areas for action were identified by Fareham Community Safety Partnership.

Cycle thefts increased by 37%, wounding by 17%, theft from persons by 17% and criminal damage by 5%, but overall crimes were down by 3%.

### Longer hours

With lighter evenings and warmer weather, Hampshire household recycling centres will be open from 8am to 7pm 7 days a week until September 30.

Householders are encouraged to visit the centres at off-peak times 8-10am and 4.30-7pm) to take advantage of the extended opening hours.

### New youth club

A grant of £6,750 has been made by Hampshire County Council towards the launch of a new youth club in Fareham.

# Now it's safer to cross at this busy junction



**Safety first:** The new layout at this section of the Delme roundabout.

## THE PEDESTRIAN and cyclist controlled crossing at this busy dangerous accident spot has now been completed at a cost of £100,000.

The crossing has helped school children and elderly people to cross the road in safety, without causing additional traffic hold-ups.

Surveys had shown that in the 12-hour period about 400 pedestrians and 125 cyclist cross at this location.

It is situated on the westbound on-slip from the roundabout to the A27 Eastern Way, where the carriageway has been narrowed to one lane at the

crossing point, with full signage and anti-skid surfacing to the approach.

A pedestrian/cyclist controlled crossing light has also been added to the existing signals at on the eastbound off slipway to the roundabout.

In addition the nearby footways have been widened to accommodate cyclists.

This is yet another example of how the Conservative controlled County Council makes the environment safer and more secure for our people, and also responds positively to local concerns.

## Hants 4 star rating despite miserly grants

**HAMPSHIRE County Council has been awarded a 4 star grading by the Independent Audit Commission for its corporate and overall assessment.**

This compares favourably with neighbours Portsmouth and Southampton, which were graded 3 star.

It was also recognised that the county was improving well.

In addition, HCC received a 3 star grading for supporting people, the first to be awarded in

the country.

This excellence has been achieved despite keeping the county's council tax in the lowest quartile in the country.

Government funding for HCC has increased by the lowest amount possible at 2.7% to provide for all its services other than schools, compared with a retail price index rise of 3.6% and is not sufficient to maintain services at their existing level.

This has resulted in an increased tax burden for

Hampshire people.

Government grant now only provides 20% of the HCC budget, the rest being provide by taxpayers.

Government allocation to councils depends on where you live.

In Hampshire, it amounts to £95 per head of population, whereas in Durham it is £285ph, in Kingston-upon-Hull £495ph and in Fife a massive £635ph.

It should be obvious who represents those places at Westminster.

## New team system for policing the Borough

### POLICE areas in Fareham have changed.

Initial response teams are now based at Park Gate Police Station and then deployed to cover specific areas within the Fareham Police Division.

These Teams are designated as Targeted Patrol Teams and provide round-the-clock coverage.

Contact number 0845 0454545 or 999 in an emergency.

Community beat officers have been replaced with Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

There are five teams in Fareham and our local grouping SNT-4 covers Fareham Town, Wallington, Salterns and North Fareham.

The team comprises Sgt Martin supported by Pc Cummings, Pc Browne and Pc Way. They will be supported by the introduction of Local Authority Community Support Officers.

Contact mobile numbers are 07757137595 and 07757120174 (town centre).

## Social events

Strawberry tea and buffet Saturday, July 28 at 2 Wallington Orchard, Riverside Avenue, Wallington, Fareham. Tickets £6.

Inter ward quiz Saturday, September 8 Wallington Village Hall.

Time and ticket price to be announced.

## Nothing to do? New Hampshire guide book has attractions for everyone

A ONE-STOP guide to the county's top attractions 'Discover Hampshire' is available at Tourist Information Centres or by telephoning 08000938930.

It includes historic homes and gardens; arts and crafts; family days out; military and maritime heritage and entertainment.

There is also a section on food

and drink and details of festivals, shows, and exhibitions.

Discount vouchers offering cheaper entry to some attractions are included in the brochure.

## Revamped library made for 'lighter' reading

FAREHAM library has been refurbished as part of the Hampshire wide library improvement plan.

The library has more natural light and is more spacious.

Opening hours of libraries have been extended, so has free computer access.

County Councillor Ray Ellis said library book lending had decreased nationally and locally, partly due to the ready availability of cheaper paperback books, and the library service had to change or die.

Similarly DVD borrowing had decreased, due to their ready cheap availability from other sources.

He said the Discovery Centre approach was working well with increased numbers using the Gosport Discovery Centre, with a marked increase in visitors.

Better access to information was available on the net, and was easily obtained, which had reduced the need for librarians as sources of information.

Expensive, less available books were still in demand at libraries, especially non-fiction.

## Major changes welcomed in end-of-life health care review

HAMPSHIRE'S Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has asked local and national regulators to make policy changes in a review of the entire end-of-life care system across the county.

For the first time, other partners participated in the review and witnesses were called from a variety of organisations.

Committee chairman County Councillor Dr Ray Ellis said: "The review was well received by health authorities throughout the county and was described as a very significant piece of work; it has not yet received a reply from the Secretary of State."

The report recognised that outstanding care work was being carried out by hospices and specialised palliative care teams, but that there remained "room for improvement".

The report made over 20 recommendations for improvement by local NHS bodies and councils as well as at national level.

The recommendations identified agencies to implement the changes, dates for compliance and by whom.

Recommendations to the Department of Health and national regulators included setting targets for care at the end of life across NHS and Local Government, establishing a single funding stream and supporting the delivery of a single model of care.

Locally, the report calls for better co-ordination of care and makes proposals for synchronising assessments and individual care plans between the local NHS and councils.

The committee also asked for a review of the pattern of 24-hour community/district nursing cover across Hampshire.

It also highlighted the need for better access to specialist equipment for use at home by service users.

Dr Ellis said: "I am very proud of the review and truly believe it has the potential to change the way we deliver care at the end of life in Hampshire."

"This should not be seen as a negative review; it is the first of its kind and the involvement of all partner organisations shows a real commitment to ensure that they are delivering quality services in this area."

## Commission will examine local climate changes

A CLIMATE change commission has been set up to examine how Hampshire can adapt and become more resilient to the social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change.

It will consider evidence from a wide range of sources, learning from good practice around the world.

It will prioritise the actions which need to be done now to prepare for the inevitable climate change impacts on people's style of living, farmers' crops, wild life and the coast.

If you wish to submit evidence or your views, phone 01962 846828 or email [climate.commission@hants.gov.uk](mailto:climate.commission@hants.gov.uk)

## New Fareham East committee has youth on its side

**CONSERVATIVES in Fareham East are looking to the future with our new committee.**

Chairman Keith Barton (32), who lives in Wallington, is well known in the community, having spent many years organising local events. He is director of an IT firm and gives most of his time to serving the community.

Vice-chairman and secretary William Moreton (28) has lived in

Fareham for the past 15 years and attended Cams Hill School.

He studied media and politics at university and works locally in the security industry. Will is entering politics with the aim of improving his local area.

Treasurer Michael Page (28) was also a student of Cams Hill School. He is an IT specialist and long-time Conservative supporter,



**Will**



**Mike**

who wants to ensure his area is the best place to raise his family.

Social secretary Steven Page (22) is the youngest member of the committee and aims to play an active role in local politics

County Councillor Ray Ellis, Eve Burley and Roy Derham should need no introduction, their years of experience adding weight and valuable insight to the committee.



**Steve**



**Keith**

## FAREHAM EAST CONSERVATIVES

We are very active with social and political events and membership drives. If you would like further details, to join us, or to help in any way such as distribution of *In Touch* newsletters in your road, please contact your councillors.

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## Our man in Westminster



By  
**Mark Hoban**  
MP for Fareham

IN THE last edition of *In Touch*, I wrote about the importance of education and the seminar that I was to chair at the beginning of March.

I am delighted to say that we had an excellent turnout and a first class discussion. We had a broad cross-section of local people including governors, head teachers, teachers, parents and employers.

What I found interesting was the degree of consensus achieved from such a diverse audience and this was expressed in three main themes.

The first was the fundamental importance of getting the basics right. We could not allow children to leave school without having mastered English and maths. Basic skills are fundamental to living and working in a society that is increasingly dependant upon technology.

The second point was the need for a balanced curriculum. Whilst we must get the basics right, children need a broadly based education too. There was a concern that the emphasis on league tables and targets is skewing what is happening in our schools. There has to be time for music as well as maths!

The third theme was to recognise that every child is different and their needs vary. At every level of ability, education should be tailored to meet individual needs. Concern was expressed about the support available for children with special needs and for the most able. This led to a discussion about the choices available for young people at 16 and 18: making sure a wide range of academic and vocational courses is offered to meet the needs of those wishing to continue in education.

In an increasingly demanding world, we need to ensure that our young people are well equipped for the challenges that lie ahead. As I visit local businesses, I see the increased pressure that there is for skills, but education is about much more than turning people out ready for work. As the expectations on our schools increase, it is vital we give the support that they need as they change to meet these pressures.

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# Double yellow peril alert



**WATCH OUT!**  
Fareham has almost doubled its corps of parking wardens.

And they have orders to stick one on you if you infringe regulations.

The crackdown follows the Council taking over full responsibility for parking enforcement from the police, which now covers on and off street parking.

It aims to discourage indiscriminate parking that causes obstruction to other motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and people with disability and to make sure there is safe passage through the borough.

There are currently eight parking attendants, including one supervisor, but this figure will rise to 15 with two supervisors.

From April, enforcement is taking place seven days a week with wardens working a



**Just the ticket!** But not if you're on the receiving end from one of Fareham's 15 parking attendants.

shift system

They can now to slap a penalty charge notice on any car parked in a no waiting area, an area of single or double yellow lines and they are managing off street car parks and issuing residents' and visitors' permits.

## New community action teams promised £100,000 to tackle grass roots issues

**FIVE community action teams will be set up across Fareham to encourage more grass roots public participation in shaping the borough's future.**

The Executive agreed the principle as part of the Community Engagement Strategy which should be ready for consideration in June.

Councillor Trevor Cartwright, Executive Member for Service, Performance and Improvement, said the aim was to develop greater emphasis on neighbourhood working and community engagement so local people could have more influence over local services and a greater capacity to tackle local issues for themselves.

"Fareham has always been a council committed to providing good quality services for the local community. This success has been built on a good relationship between

elected members and the local community," he said.

Community action teams, will offer the opportunity to:

- Strengthen the power of local councillors to act as advocates and leaders of the communities that they represent
- Provide information of interest and relevance to local communities, hear residents' views and provide feedback on issues raised
- Permit communities to bid for extra funding to be used on specific projects in their area
- Enable people to raise specific issues of local concern with the appropriate people

Meetings of the community action teams will be held at various venues throughout each neighbourhood and last no longer than two hours.

They will be attended by

ward councillors and will be championed by a council chief officer to provide a senior profile and ensure that any follow-up action is treated with the appropriate level of urgency and importance.

Representatives of other agencies such as the Police, Hampshire County Council, and the Primary Care Trust will also attend.

The Council will set aside a central budget of £100,000 in 2007/8 for neighbourhood initiatives and councillors will work with their community action teams to put forward bids for projects in their area.

It is proposed to appoint two new community engagement officers, supported by a community assistant, to assist the teams.

Action teams will be set up in Portchester, Crofton, Titchfield, Western Wards and Fareham Town.

*In Touch* is published by Fareham East Conservatives, 2A Drift Road, Wallington, Fareham PO16 8SY and printed by Tollwood, The Depot, Willmott Lane, Gosport PO12 3RY