



# In Touch

with our community

FAREHAM EAST – SUMMER 2006

## Don't miss the bus! You can help shape Fareham's future...

**THE BACK** end of a bus isn't usually this attractive, but this smiling face is what you'll see if you get stuck behind one.

Facing up to Fareham's future is the Council's duty, but it wants everybody to help put together the new Borough Plan.

County Councillor (Fareham Town) Ray Ellis said: "This is an exciting opportunity to get involved in planning our future, so using borough-wide buses to encourage community involvement seemed like an excellent way of spreading the message."

Work on Fareham's Local Development Framework (the replacement for the current Local Plan Review adopted in June 2000) is moving on apace.

This process will guide the future of Fareham for the next 20 years so it is important that residents have a chance to have their say on the options that will affect not only them but their children and grandchildren.

The future of the borough will be set out in broad terms in the core strategy, and the Preferred Options document issued during June sets out possible options that have been developed during earlier stages in the process when residents and organisations were able to respond to the Issues and Options document.

A series of one day exhibitions was set up across the borough - mostly in local shopping centres - to give as many people as possible a chance to have their say, and three workshops were held, two in the



**On the buses:** Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward (left) and Executive Member for Planning and Transportation Councillor David Swanbrow unveil the advert.

Civic Offices and the other in Ferneham Hall.

The consultation closes on July 31.

Councillor Ellis said: "It's crucially important that our residents are given the chance to tell us whether our ideas reflect their thoughts and are on the right road.

"That's why we need to highlight that they are our partners in the future of Fareham.

"During this consultation period there

were almost 20 events being held. These gave our residents borough-wide the opportunity to get involved, to see what we are suggesting and to tell us if we're heading in the right direction."

**•Copies of the Preferred Options document are available at libraries throughout the borough, or at [www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf).**

## ...But the Government made sure you had to run to catch this one

**JUST 48 hours' notice were given by the Labour Government that it aims to cram over 50% more houses into the South East.**

A paper was published on its official website on June 21 - two days before the deadline for

public comment on the South East Plan - stating the intention to increase the original figure of 28,900 houses per year over the next 20 years to 45,000.

It would mean South Hampshire's annual total rising from 4,000 to 6,571, giving a

total of 132,000 instead of the 80,000 proposed.

Fareham Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward said:

"This would be the equivalent of one extra Whiteley per year every year for 20 years in South Hampshire on top of the exist-

ing proposed figures.

"If we do not hold the line at 4,000 houses per year it is hard to imagine there being a blade of grass left in South Hampshire in 20 years time."

Public examination of the SE Plan is due in the autumn.

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



## WARD NEWS BRIEFS

### Highway matters

A "Give Way" sign will be erected at the junction of Swivelton Lane/Portsmouth Hill Road in July.

Possibilities of extra lorry signs being positioned in Wallington and parking on grass verges in Wallington Shore Road are being investigated for traffic orders, as is the priority gritting of Swivelton Lane.

### Veteran dies

World War 2 veteran Major 'Dusty' Millar has died.

'Dusty' lived in High Street and was a former Fareham East Ward Conservative Committee member.

Paying tribute, County Councillor Ray Ellis said 'Dusty' supported the Association in many ways and would be sadly missed.

### Water mains

Major road works are occurring in the ward due to Portsmouth Water replacing the supply mains.

These affect Radcliffe Road and Delme Drive. Closure of the south-bound up-hill lane on North Hill from Junction 10 of the M27 and the diversion are causing major delays to traffic. The water works should finish by July 28.

Major delays are expected on A32 for several weeks due to replacement of gas mains on the Gosport road.

### Extension plan

Zebra Waste Disposal Services is seeking planning consent to extend its Broadcut, Wallington site.

# Outrage over Hampshire ambulance service mergers

## Government accused of 'regionalism by stealth'

**THE GOVERNMENT disbanded the existing Hampshire Ambulance Service from July 1 and amalgamated it as one service for the whole of Thames Valley, stretching from the New Forest to Milton Keynes.**

Fareham will lose the ambulance station in Highlands Road and ambulances will be located at strategic points on highways, with probably one service base station for Hampshire.

The County Council has resisted this move with support from all political parties and favours maintaining an independent service.

Leader Ken Thornber said: "The merger makes no sense. It is one long line of public service reorganisations by the Government to achieve regionalism by stealth."

The Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), chaired by Fareham Town Councillor Ray Ellis, referred the merger to the Secretary of State for an independent investigation and review.

The Minister of State for Health Reform, Lord Warner, eventually wrote to Dr Ellis to say that the SoS would not refer the issue for independent review.

Lord Warner wrote to the new ambulance trusts instructing them



**Axed:** An ambulance leaves Fareham Ambulance HQ to answer an emergency call, but for how much longer?

PHOTO: Johnathan King

to ensure that the service met all local needs.

Councillor Ellis said: "The new Chief Executive was selected for the new body before closure of the consultation period, despite the Government's emphasis on full consideration of local community views before decisions are made.

"We need reassurance that the excellent service provided by the existing service will not suffer serious deterioration in the future."

The County Council believes greater benefits would be provided through much closer working of all the emergency services in Hampshire rather than this merger which is not supported by any evidence of improved service.

Councillor Ellis promised a continuing campaign in collaboration

with other councils to pursue this lack of consideration of local views.

He added: "The findings and recommendations of the review document 'Taking Health Care to the Patient' were distorted to fit the pre-conceived preferred model of the Department of Health.

"This merger is in direct contradiction to the NHS move to make service delivery more local and could result in delayed response time due to loss of local knowledge, be expensive to implement, add another layer of bureaucracy and cause difficulties in the running of non-emergency patient transportation services.

"It has been put forward only because it is convenient in terms of geographic administrative boundaries."

## Lottery cash sought for wheelchair accessible path



**LENGTHY negotiations to establish a public right of way around Cams Hill Golf Course have been concluded.**

This will enable a submission to be made to the Lottery fund for financial support for the proposed Phase 1 from the Delme to Shearwater Road for the wheelchair accessible path route, which is planned to be extended to Portchester Castle.

Lorraine Herrington has been the force behind this project and we congratulate her on the progress made due to her dedication.

Hampshire County Council has provided an on-line access to rights of way and other paths, which is useful to plan walks. It is [www.hants.gov.uk/maps/paths](http://www.hants.gov.uk/maps/paths).

## Blackbrook closure sparks dramatic rise in home births

SINCE the 'temporary' closure of the Blackbrook Birthing Centre, the number of Fareham babies being born at home has increased dramatically.

This illustrates that Fareham mothers do not want to go to either Gosport or Portsmouth to have their babies.

The joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Hampshire and Portsmouth is continuing the fight to have birthing centres in Fareham, Gosport, Portsmouth and Petersfield.

In Fareham, this is linked with the new Community Hospital planned for Coldeast.

HOSC chairman Councillor Ray Ellis said: "It is vital that the local population mounts a campaign for the early building of this hospital.

"It appears to have low priority at the moment, in spite of the large population (107,000) of Fareham, being only in a second phase development after similar facilities for Gosport and Havant are completed."

## Bus service cuts

**FIRST BUS services 87/87A/87B Gosport to Fareham have been reduced and new timetables will be introduced.**

Stagecoach service Fareham-Winchester 69 will be subjected to a reduced timetable.

Details may be obtained from and comments made to Tony Smale on 01962 846921.

## Old school's demise benefits education



**A PIECE of Fareham's history has been bulldozed, but the County Council says this time it's in a good cause.**

Sale of the former primary school in Wickham Road has been completed by the County Council, which will provide over £1.5 million to be administered by Price's Trust.

The funds are at present ring fenced to provide funds to Cams Hill School, Harrison Road School, Uplands School and Fareham College from investment income.

The late Victorian building once housed Fareham Adult Education Centre.

Its demolition will make way for yet more retirement flats

## New Hampshire health body will be largest in the country

**AFTER NHS restructuring in October 2006, Hampshire Primary Care Trust will be the largest in the country, serving over 1.4 million people.**

As Hampshire is 87% rural, it will be essential to maintain local based commissioning of services and it is likely that these will be coterminous with borough and district council areas.

Local elected members on these new procuring bodies will be the key to the service providing for the health needs of residents.

The new PCT will provide greater opportunities for collaboration between councils and the NHS, as it will run side by side with the County Council's social services, which had to be divided into adult and children's services to comply with the Children Act.

Both will have important roles, not only in after-care but also in delivering healthier opportunities for our people. It is incredible that this size of PCT cannot have its own ambulance service!

The Strategic Health Authority (SHA) for Hampshire and Isle of Wight amalgamated this month with Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire to form a new SHA. However, the non-voting position the chairman of the local Health Scrutiny Committees had on the old board is unlikely to continue.

## Ray thanks his election supporters

**RAY ELLIS was unsuccessful in his bid to oust the Liberal Democrats in the Fareham East Ward in the May election.**

He said: "Unfortunately I will not be able to represent you on Fareham Borough Council, but I do value your support.

"I assure you that I shall continue to press for your interests at every opportunity.

"The Leader of Hampshire County Council has nominated me to chair the Hants Action Team for Fareham/Gosport, which will enable me to play a leading role in local developments on your behalf."

Fareham East result	
Lib Dems	1173
Ray Ellis (Con)	998
Labour	158
Majority	175
Turnout	42%

## Highest housing density in Europe

**THE HOUSING proposed for the South East (see Page 1) has the least square metre/person in Europe.**

In Hampshire only 40% of these will be on brown field sites, the remainder will be built in our countryside.

The County says it is vital to maintain strategic gaps between villages and market towns with populations between 2,000 and 20,000 and prevent urban creep into countryside.

"Next stage of the consultation will be an examination in public and we must all express our views very strongly," said County Councillor Ray Ellis.

# 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.

## COUNTY COUNCILLORS – Hampshire Fareham Town Division

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**Your man in Westminster**



*By*  
**Mark Hoban**  
MP for Fareham

The Government used the World Cup to bury bad news. They sneaked out proposals to build 45,000 houses a year in the South East on the day England played Sweden.

No wonder they wanted to hide this as it would mean in South Hampshire alone building 130,000 houses over 20 years compared to the current plans for 80,000. The scene is being set for the Government to overrule these plans and force through higher numbers and when I asked the minister who has the final word on this to rule it, she refused.

We know we need more houses in the South East: people are living longer and more of us are living on our own. These factors push up the demand for houses.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for young people to get on the housing ladder because of rising house prices. New homes are inevitable, but who should decide how many are built?

At the moment, the final decision about how many houses will be built in our community will not be taken by local councils, despite the work they put into developing plans.

A minister sitting in Whitehall will decide how many houses will go in Fareham and how many of them will be built on brownfield sites (including back-gardens) and greenfield sites.

I think this is wrong. It is time that local people had a much greater say over development. You and I will have to live with the consequences of development, not the civil servants and ministers sitting in Whitehall. We will have to deal with the traffic jams from the front door to the school gates to the office car park, when Government fails to spend enough money on the roads needed to support all the extra housing. It is right that we have a stronger voice in those decisions so that we can decide how best to meet the needs of our community.

•You may contact Mark via his office  
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# Fareham tops county waste recycling table

**FAREHAM residents have wasted no time in helping the Borough Council to meet Government recycling targets.**

In fact, householders have responded so well that the Council has exceeded the 30% target.

In the quarter to April, a figure of 37.8% was achieved – the highest in Hampshire and one of the best in the country.

Councillor Brian Bayford, Executive Member for Streetscene, commented:

“This is due to the efforts of many residents in fully using the blue-top recycling wheelie bins and to the extra free service offered by the collection of green waste.”

However, the target to be achieved by 2010 is 50% so further plans are being made to support and advise residents who are unsure of what to recycle and those who do not take advantage of the recycling facilities.

Owing to the success in meeting the Government target a special grant has been allocated by a Government agency (WRAP) to further encourage recycling.

This will be used to provide a monitoring and ‘door-stepping’ programme by a specialist team. The

team will identify areas and residents with problems and provide assistance to help and advise.

There are about 90 blocks of flats or maisonettes that are currently

unable to be properly serviced due to inadequate space or difficulty of access.

Priority is being given by the Council to resolving these problems and the ‘door-stepping’ team will also be involved.

All new flat developments in the Borough are required to meet guidelines on space and servicing for waste management.

Some residents have requested extra green sacks, which can be provided up to a maximum of 3.

These will be collected by the ‘dusties’.

However it is not possible to collect green waste in anything but the bag provided.



**Not the way to do it:** ‘Dusties’ will only collect garden waste that’s in official green bags.

## WHAT’S AVAILABLE TO YOU

**1 x 240 litre green top bin (for those with a 140 litre)**

**2 x 240 litre blue top bins (for recycling)**

**Green garden waste sacks**

**Ring 01329 824387 or 824389.**

**For further information, call Councillor Brian Bayford on 01489 880740**

## More safety measures for Delme roundabout

**FURTHER safety measures are to be introduced at the Delme roundabout in the wake of a serious accident in September 2005.**

Havant College student Sarah Greenwood suffered head injuries when she was in collision with a motorcycle as she crossed the A27 Eastern Way, beneath the Delme flyover.

The County Council has already taken interim steps to reduce the chances of more accidents, including coloured anti-skid surfacing and a warning sign at the viaduct approach.

A feasibility study was car-

ried out by County and Borough officers to examine the possibility of a signalled pedestrian crossing.

County Councillor Ray Ellis said a camera was installed overlooking the recently marked out pedestrian crossing and ran all day so that traffic and pedestrian movements could be studied for peak and off-peak times.

“That video survey highlighted the difficulty of crossing the South approach slip and the pedestrian problem of seeing and assessing the speed of approaching traffic,” he said.

One recommendation was

to install a “toucan” signalled crossing near the existing bollards. Another was to ease the peak-time traffic congestion inhibiting traffic from Portchester by painting a yellow hatch box area at the junction of Cams Hill and the roundabout to create space on the roundabout for Westbound traffic to join.

Local councillors approved. The difficulties of working at a time that would not exacerbate the problem were mentioned and the job will not be finished until early 2007.

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