



# Conservatives

# In Touch

with our community

FAREHAM NORTH & NORTH WEST - SPRING 2009

## Tory leader tackles the Premier over development

FAREHAM Council's Conservative Leader Seán Woodward seized the chance to demand proper infrastructure when he met the Prime Minister.

The occasion was the recent signing of three new Multi-Area Agreements (MAA) at 10 Downing Street.

Elected members and officers from the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) attended the event, which was witnessed by Gordon Brown and ministers.



Seán Woodward (right) and County Council Leader Ken Thornber at 10 Downing Street.

As chairman of PUSH, Councillor Woodward said MAAs gave opportunity for groups of councillors to secure Government support and investment for their areas, working across boundaries to tackle economic issues.

He said: "As the only MAA area in the South East, it was important to attend the signing and to talk to the Prime Minister and senior officials

"It gave us opportunity to reiterate the need for infrastructure investment and Government support for South Hampshire."

## No excuse for lack of infrastructure before building starts

# 'Get it right now' is message to Government ahead of new town

A NEW town that the Government has ordered Fareham to build west of the A32 must be properly planned.

The Borough Council and neighbouring authorities are adamant the vision is not blurred by the absence of the infrastructure before the building of up to 10,000 homes starts.

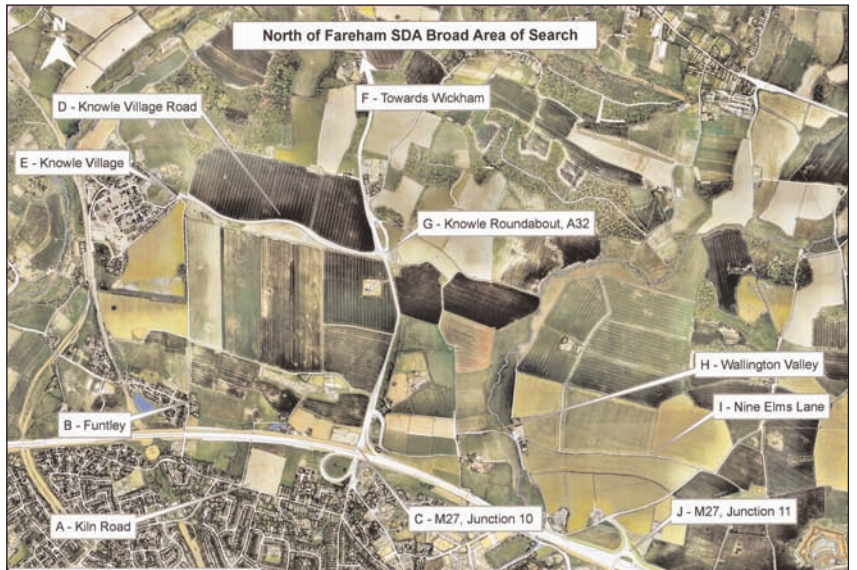
"We have to get the vision right because we want this place to be somewhere we can be proud of," said Councillor David Swanbrow, chairman of the newly-formed Strategic Development Steering Group.

The new town, whose exact location has yet to be decided, must be built as part of the South East Plan. It could house up to 25,000 people.

Building should begin around 2016 and will take at least 10 years to complete, but this schedule could be disrupted or diluted by the recession.

Nevertheless, the planning process has already started and councillors, led by Councillor Swanbrow as Fareham's Executive Member for Planning and Transportation, have been working for some time to produce the Local Development Framework that will replace the Borough Local Plan Review.

He said: "Developing a completely new settlement, however,



**Vanishing countryside:** This aerial view of green fields and farmland will be changed for ever when development starts on a new town north of the M27.

needs thoughts and ideas from a broad range of people and organisations from outside the council and perhaps the most important thing to get right early on in the planning process is a vision of what sort of a place it should be."

To that end, the Borough Council ran the first of several visioning events at Ferneham Hall at the end of March.

About 50 participants attended, representing organisations from Fareham and neighbouring districts, Hampshire County Council, the Environment Agency, the Highways Agency and other government bodies.

Councillor Swanbrow said: "Some very strong messages

came out of this first workshop, including the need for infrastructure to be in place early with good public transport links to Fareham and Portsmouth and beyond.

"It should also be a place that feels safe and comfortable to live in and have a varied mix of housing, plenty of green space and good employment facilities."

Unlike the Western Wards, where infrastructure had to be added piecemeal to what already existed, the new town site is undeveloped countryside.

He added: "The Government promised the infrastructure, so there's no excuse for it not being there before the development starts."

## Too many heavy sacks result in changes to green waste collections

**CHANGES to the green waste collection were necessary for Health and Safety reasons.**

Fareham Council had to employ more staff to

reduce the amount each worker had to carry.

The Council is saving no money; any savings are being ploughed back into the green waste col-

lection service and trial schemes.

It is not a statutory service and Fareham is the only council providing the collection of one green

sack as an extra free service.

Neighbouring councils charge up to £25 for a green waste sack and up to £1 for each emptying.

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



# WARD NEWS BRIEFS

## Training grant

A local youth football club which trains at Henry Cort Community College has been awarded a grant of £2,000 from Fareham Borough Council towards the cost of training existing and new volunteers in referee, coaching and first aid qualifications, as well as advertising in schools to attract new players.

## Sporting chance

A Girls' Skills Centre with Fareham School Sports Partnership and Tesco FA Skills programme has been set up at Henry Cort Community College.

The programme aims to help develop young footballers and create opportunities for many children in the 5-11 age range.

## Yellow + blue = green

When the new edition of 'Yellow Pages' arrives shortly you will be able to recycle the old ones in the blue top bins.

## Summer times

The Household Recycling Centre at Segensworth has now revised its times for the summer months. Opening is now from 8am to 7pm.

## Oxford Close

After many requests by County Councillor John Bryant to have footpaths resurfaced in North Ward, the paths in Oxford Close, which have concerned residents, have at last been done.

He hopes other local roads will soon follow suit.

# Hair's to 50 more years as the hub of the community

**STYLES** may have changed, but the service at Jeanne's Hair Fashions has always been a cut above the rest.

The family-run business marked 50 years by inviting staff and customers to 'let their hair down' at a celebration at its Fareham Park Road salon on February 28.

The salon was opened in 1959 and run by the late Mrs Jeanne Panting until her retirement in 1992, when her daughter Mrs Linda Fallon, the present owner, took over.

Fareham North Councillor Pam Bryant said: "It has become the hub of the local community for many families.

"Not only have the staff offered an excellent service to all their



**Congratulations:** Councillor Pam Bryant (2nd right), daughter Louise Clubleby, grand-daughters Charlotte (right) and Emily celebrate the salon's half century with owner Linda Fallon (left).

clients over the years, they have also shown an interest in family members."

Pam Bryant's family have been regulars for many years; her late mother was a client and Pam and her daughter Louise have been clients for the past 38 years, and

are now followed by Pam's grand-daughters Charlotte and Emily – making four generations of the same family.

Pam Bryant added: "There is always a warm welcome with a homely atmosphere, as well as keeping my hair in great shape.

# Tory values make Hampshire Britain's top county council

**THERE'S MORE good news for Hampshire's council taxpayers.**

Following the Conservative-run council's minimal 1.9% increase for the next two years, the County Council has been awarded the maximum score possible for the quality of its services and its value for money

The Audit Commission delivered its official verdict – Hampshire is now the top-performing County Council in Britain.

County Councillor John Bryant (Fareham Town) said: "In a recession, with higher public expectations and increasing demand for help, it's a tough job for councils to earn the coveted four star position, let alone prov-

ing strong improvement.

"Whether serving the community for a few hours a week, helping children cross the road, working full-time in our schools, care homes, libraries, or trading standards or on our roads, staff can be justly proud of the contribution they make to ensuring Hampshire is one of the best places to live and raising our scores to the top of the county councils' league table.

"I take some pride in the fact we have done all this with the lowest council tax for any county in the South East, and now the lowest council tax increase in 40 years, despite the lowest Government grant of all County Councils."

# Litter louts face fines up to £2,500

**TWO NEW mobile signs have been produced warning of 'litter hot spots'.**

They will be displayed in targeted areas where there is a persistent problem to remind the public it is an offence to drop litter.

Anyone over 16 caught dropping litter in Fareham, including cigarette ends and chewing gum, can be given a £75 fixed notice penalty.

Refusal to pay will result in prosecution and a fine up to £2,500.

The enforcement team operates across the borough and responds to tip-offs and complaints.

Councillor Pamela Bryant, Chairman of Streetscene, said:

"Educating people about the offence of dropping litter and possible fining is an important part of the process.

"Litter is a big and costly problem for the taxpayer and makes our town look untidy and unsightly."

# Tree hazards removed in footpath upgrade

**THE FOOTPATH in Red Barn Lane from the junction of Kiln Road has now been upgraded. to allow better access**

Hazards from the trees which had been allowed to grow bordering to the footway have been removed.

It is hoped this will assist all users of this footpath which should also benefit from the relocation of the street lamp and lit signs near the junction with Funtley Hill.



**That's better:** John Bryant inspects the newly widened footpath in Red Barn Lane.

## £100,000 to regenerate the east end

**HAMPSHIRE** County Council has confirmed approval for the improvements to the eastern end of West Street.

It resulted from bids by Fareham Council for funding from the County's environmental enhancement programme for regenerating older urban areas.

County Councillor John Bryant said: "The £100,000 will cover improvements to the eastern end of West Street to complete the major improvement scheme."

## New crossing is a success

**A NEW** crossing installed by Hampshire Highways in Gudge Heath Lane is a great success.

Residents asked for it after the post office moved from Fareham Park Road to the Coop store.

Councillor John Bryant, who backed the request, said: "It is helping all age groups using local shops."

## Showing how Fairtrade makes a difference in world poverty relief

**FAREHAM** Fairtrade group assisted the national Fairtrade Fortnight by organising a series of activities in the town centre.

The stall in Fareham Shopping Centre attracted a large number of visitors, including the Mayor of Fareham, Councillor Ernest Crouch, and Mark Hoban MP.

The Christian bookshop and coffee shop at The Well assisted by offering samples of Fairtrade tea and coffee.

Councillors John and Pam Bryant, who also visited the stall, were Mayor and Mayoress when Fareham became a Fairtrade Borough two



**Trading ideas:** John Bryant and Mark Hoban MP at the Fair-trade stand in Fareham Precinct.

years ago.

They said: "We were delighted to attend the stall and support the commitment to Fairtrade which makes a difference to people in poverty."

## Dial 101 for non-emergency police contact

**FROM April 1, the 101 number has been run as a police only non-emergency number in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.**

The public should use 101 in the same way as 0845 0454545 – whichever number you find easier to remember.

Anti-social behaviour issues and other non-emergency incidents should be reported for police related enquiries or for leaving a message for an officer.

County Councillor John Bryant, who is a member of the Police Authority, says: "It is important to note that both 101 and 0845 0454545 calls are han-

dled by the Police switchboard at the Police Force Enquiry Centre; there is no middle man, meaning that all issues are dealt with directly."

A call to 101 only costs a flat rate of 10 pence per call, irrespective of duration or whether made from landlines or mobile phones, whereas 0845 0454545 can be a lot more expensive, depending on the call package.

The 101 number is also a lot easier to remember, which should make it a lot more accessible.

Use 999 for all crimes in progress, or anything that requires an immediate police response.

## You'll have to think up a better excuse

**THE** County Council is working with bus companies to make 'sorry the bus was late' less than a feeble excuse.

The Transport Plan (2006-22) aims to have 90% of services arriving on time by 2011.

Bus punctuality partnerships have been set up to tackle the causes of delay and are focusing on traffic management and resources.

Borough councils are addressing parking enforcement to clear bus routes and to reduce traffic hold ups.

## Tennis courts refurbished

**TWO** of the tennis courts in Park Lane recreation ground have been improved.

Overhanging trees have been cut back and the perimeter fencing and gate replaced.

The courts have been coated with a much better surface and new posts fitted to hold the new championship nets.

You can book courts at the Leisure Centre.

## FAREHAM NORTH & NORTH WEST 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 ward councillors.

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**Your man in Westminster**



By Mark Hoban MP for Fareham

I am very proud of the young people in Fareham. Too often, young people get a bad press because of the actions of a tiny minority at the expense of the tremendous contribution that the majority makes to the wider community.

It creates a barrier between the generations. We need to redress the balance and emphasise the positive.

I am lucky that I get to see so much of what our young people are able to do. In the last few weeks, groups from Orchard Lea Junior School, Neville Lovett and Henry Cort have been to Westminster and I was struck by the range of questions they asked, demonstrating a keen interest in their community, nation and the wider world.

A few weeks ago I listened to young people at Portchester Community School set out their ideas on how we can improve facilities for them.

Their ideas were well thought through and demonstrated an understanding of conflicting pressures that councils face when allocating resources. What they said and did ran counter to the media stereotypes. Stereotypes dog every generation and group and where there are tensions between different groups these can be self-reinforcing.

We are too ready to be critical and we should be more willing to listen and recognise the qualities and talents of our young people. The only way to bridge the gap between the generations is to accept that the good outweighs the bad.

Young and old need to value each other more, and understanding each other's contribution to the community is a good starting point.

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**Valuable work praised at opening of new Community Action offices**

**COMMUNITY Action Fareham has moved into new offices opposite Trinity Church at 163 West Street.**

The independent charity supports voluntary organisations and provides a Home Help scheme and Advocacy project for people with mental health issues.

Other services include community transport and Dial A Ride for the elderly.

Shopmobility is also run by Community Action, giving disabled people access to town centre shops.

Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward officially handed over the keys on March 31 to the Chairman of Community Action

Fareham, George Ringrow, at the new building where a plaque was revealed as a tribute to the special occasion.

Councillor Woodward said: "It was an honour and a pleasure to hand over the keys to this valuable organisation.

"These brand new offices, will offer Community Action Fareham further support to continue their important work within the Borough".

The Council invested £528,000 to provide the specially designed offices in a prominent position in the town centre, which are a big



**Fresh start:** Seán Woodward (left) and George Ringrow outside the new offices.

improvement on the former dilapidated premises in Osborn Road South.

**Foiling the Borough's midnight rubbish tippers**

**THEY sneak down the lanes after dark to dump their rubbish in the woods.**

It saves them the fee for legally disposing of industrial waste at a council tip.

The culprits are often rogue builders who add to their profits by billing their unsuspecting clients.

They have made countryside around Sarisbury a disgrace.

County Councillor Seán Woodward said: "As fast as the Council and landowners clear the fly tipping, more vehicles arrive under cover of darkness to dump more waste."

But it won't be



happening in future. The Council has made a prohibition order which will prevent vehicles enter-

ing the footpath and bridleway network from Sarisbury Green (Glen Road and behind the

shops), Oslands Lane and Glen Road, Swanwick.

Signs and physical barriers will be in place, including lockable bollards for which keys will only be issued by Hampshire County Council to people with right of access.

Councillor Woodward added: "The order combined with the bollards will prevent this filthy practice. I'm hopeful the problem will be eliminated.

"Traders who charge people to remove this waste will now have to pay to dump it at the tip rather than on other people's property."

**He thought he'd got away with it**

Fly-tipper Ivor James (45) suffered a double whammy when he dumped his rubbish in Glen Road.

Fareham Council officers were delighted to find his name and address on mail in one of the bags. James denied involvement.

But he couldn't wriggle out of evidence from a public spirited resident who caught him in the act on camera and noted his vehicle registration number.

James, of Addison Road, Sarisbury admitted the offence and was sentenced to 100 hours' community service by the town's magistrates and ordered to pay the Council £645.76.



**Fareham honour for Dee's daring deeds**

**DEE CAFFARI, first woman to sail solo non-stop around the globe in both directions, will be presented with the Citizens of Honour Special Achievement badge by the Mayor Ernest Crouch at a special tea in the Mayor's Parlour on May 5.**

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