



In Touch

with our community

FAREHAM SOUTH WARD – BOROUGH ELECTION SPECIAL

Victory is in sight in Mill Road footpath battle

'I'm confident this will be our year' says Dennis



Danger path: Mums with prams, school kids and the elderly risk their lives at this spot in Mill Road, points out Dennis Steadman.

DENNIS Steadman made five pledges when he was first elected to represent Fareham South Ward in 2000.

Four of those have been fulfilled, but the remaining one – the footpath at the junction of Mill Road and Gosport Road – had become a war of attrition.

Now it looks as though victory is in sight because a scheme to widen the footpath is at an advanced stage.

"Up to now, there has been nothing but excuses for not doing it," said Dennis, who described the 16-inch wide path as a 'date with destiny'.

"I am confident this year will be our year and that this project will be completed during this time to the benefit of all residents in Fareham South."

It all began in 1995 when he was approached by a neighbour, Jack Weedon, to try to find a solution to the dangerous situation.

"Requests were made to Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council on many occasions for a survey and to see what action could be taken regarding traffic calming and control.

"We also requested that the junction should be redesigned due to the danger which has prevailed for at least the 34 years that I have lived in Mill Road."

Despite numerous telephone calls and letters back and forth to both councils over the years, the excuse for doing nothing was always "lack of funds".

Dennis said: "Jack Weedon died a few years ago and when I was elected in 2000 and again in 2003 I vowed to continue the fight behalf of the residents and to Jack's memory.

"It was not just my love of politics, but mainly the possibility of being able to influence authorities to right the wrongs that have existed in this area, with this junction top of the list.

"There could be a tragedy there any time with the ridiculous situation of having hundreds of schoolchildren, mothers with babies in prams, elderly and infirm people having to negotiate what could be described as a date with destiny."

The scheme will be subject to funding, traffic regulation orders to enable the non entry of traffic from the Gosport Road into Mill Road.

It will have to be incorporated into the highways workload and, with consultation with residents, will take many months, but if all goes well it could be up and running during the financial year 2006/7.

•See Page 2 to find out how Dennis fulfilled his other pledges to his constituents.

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



A record of ACTION, a promise of MORE

Dear Elector

I am writing to you to ask for your support in the Local Borough Elections on May 4 and I would like to draw your attention to my record as your Borough Councillor over the past 3 years up to now and to my previous term from 2000 to 2002.

Being a Borough Councillor brings a great responsibility towards the local residents. It is a position of trust and I feel that I have carried this through with that in mind and in doing so discharged my obligations in a fair and just manner.

I have an excellent relationship with the officers of Fareham Borough Council and I feel we have a mutual respect for each other resulting in the solution of many concerns expressed by residents. I have many requests from constituents to intervene in matters that may seem unimportant to some people, but are very important to others; I treat each one exactly the same.

The building of the hostel at 101 Gosport Road was a great concern to us all and I worked very hard behind the scenes to ensure that there would be no infringement on the lives of the residents who lived particularly close to the building. This, I feel, has been done and, with the very close co-operation of the management, we have a virtual trouble free situation there.

I have recently had the area at the end of Beaconsfield Road changed with the removal of the flower bed and the levelling of the ground; the remaining flowerbed will have shaped stones fitted to the top to deter would-be skateboarders etc.

The bus shelter at Butser Walk has been replaced and I feel it is an improvement on the old one and should afford more comfort to users. It took a very long time and I originally started looking into the request in 2001 during my first period as Borough Councillor.

In May 2004 I was approached by Mr Wally Wallbrige on behalf of the residents of Endofield Close and Blenheim House regarding the parking problems they were experiencing. Wally came up with a plan for 13 extra spaces and after discussing it I then submitted it to Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council for consideration. The scheme was completed in January 2005, little more than 8 months later – well done Wally!

The footpaths along Fairfield Avenue, Longfield Avenue and the walks, ie, Cranborne/ Carran/Cheviot/ Cambrian/ Chiltem/ Coniston etc and St. Anne's Grove have been either reconstituted or resurfaced by Hampshire County Council after an assessment was made by the Highways Department at my request. Many other footpaths have also been resurfaced or rebuilt after a further survey was made by the Highways Authority and myself. There are more to do and I will ensure that they are attended to.

Mill Road footpath on the odd numbered houses has been reconstituted and the even side will be attended to during the 2006/7 period. This again was the result of more consultations with Hampshire Highways and I feel the result was worth waiting for, although there are other areas that will be attended to in the near future.

Being on the Housing Review Panel I get a variety of problems to be dealt with from our tenants for which, I am happy to say, I manage to get an acceptable solution in most cases. I have managed to help prevent evictions and enabled families to make a new start and will continue to do my best for all tenants who are less fortunate than others.

The problem of litter really concerns me. I am in contact with the Cleansing Department at least twice a week to attend to specific areas that I see as I walk around the ward. I feel sickened at the indiscriminate dropping of litter and I feel that a national campaign should be launched to educate all ages that litter dropping is a costly and an unnecessary addition to our Council tax bills.

Regarding crime, I am in regular contact with our local police and hold regular meetings with a senior officer, discussing a varied range of problems such as vandalism, graffiti and crime in general. I find it very encouraging that the police do welcome our input.

If you re-elect me in the Local Elections on May 4 I promise to continue the fight to preserve and improve the area we all share.

Yours sincerely

Dennis Steadman

On Thursday, May 4, 2006 please vote for

COUNCILLOR DENNIS STEADMAN

Polling stations open 7am – 10pm

Local man with a fine record of service and commitment to the community

DENNIS STEADMAN is married to Carole and they have two grown up children.

He is the only one of the candidates to have lived in the Fareham South Ward in Mill Road for the past 34 years. Others live outside the ward.

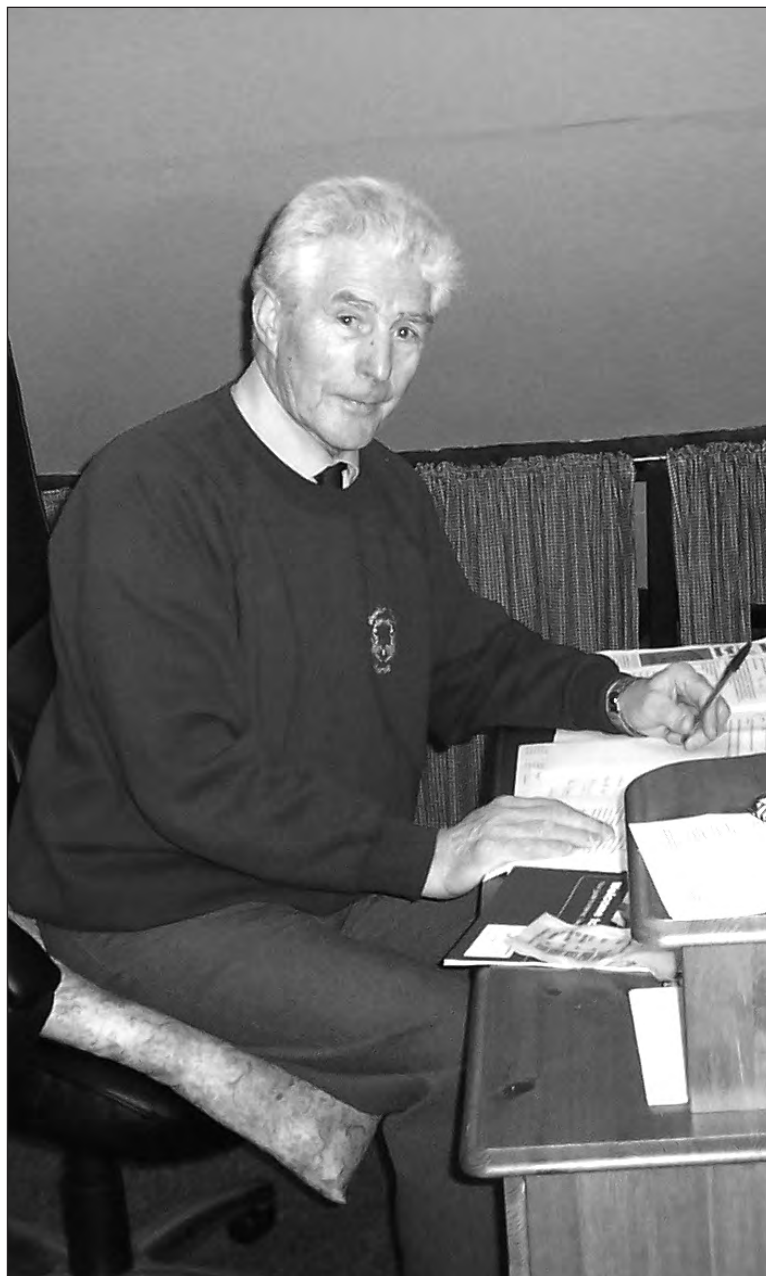
Now retired from his work as a domestic appliance engineer, his ambition is to give something back to the area where he has worked and lived since 1972 through the medium of local politics, a subject that he has always had a keen interest in having worked for the Conservative Party for the past 10 years and for nearly five years as Councillor.

He has also been a Governor at Wallisdean Junior School and Neville Lovett School and is at present a Governor at Wallisdean Infants and Community Governor at the Neville Lovett School.

He is a member of the Health and Environment Review Panel and the Housing Review Panel and was for a short period a member of the Planning Development Control Committee.

Outside of politics he has a passion for Martial Arts, namely Karate, and with Carole has a Karate organisation of over 70 students ages ranging from 7 years to 18 plus operating in the Swanmore area.

He provides money to help an Egyptian Karate club that has been affiliated to the organisation, helping two Egyptian families, and some orphans of that country through Sunshine Homes International. All have received financial assistance over many years.



Work station: Dennis Steadman deals with daily correspondence from his constituents, but he spends much of his time out and about in his Fareham South Ward.

Dennis is always available for his constituents

Address: 77, Mill Road
Fareham PO16 0TP

Telephone: 01329 285667

e-mail: dsteadman@fareham.gov.uk

Highly recommended as a hard worker

It gives us great pleasure to commend Dennis Steadman to you for re-election to the Fareham Borough Council.

We believe that he has worked extremely hard on your behalf during his present period of office and as the editor of *In Touch* which he has ensured is delivered to you every 3 months and not just at election time.

He has worked to help local residents with their

problems and has achieved much success.

We are delighted that he has agreed to stand again and hope that you will vote for STEADMAN on Thursday May 4th and support your local candidate.

*Councillor Trevor Howard
Captain Fleming Pederson
Peter Hoe ISM*

Out and about with Dennis Steadman

Well done Wally and Dennis



Between them, Dennis Steadman and Wally Wallbridge got 13 extra parking spaces for residents in Endfield Close and Blenheim House.

Mill Road



Hostel in Gosport Rd



101 Gosport Road raised major concerns, but Dennis helped to overcome these with the co-operation of residents, the council and hostel staff.

The footpath on the odd numbered side has been resurfaced, but the opposite side of Mill Road is still to be done, as Dennis points out.

Butser Walk



Dennis won a long battle to get the tatty old bus shelter replaced with this new one.

Chiltern Walk



This is one of the numerous 'walks' off Bishopsfield Road and Longfield Avenue which has been resurfaced, thanks to Dennis Steadman's persistence. There are still more to do and he won't give up until the last one is completed.