



# In Touch

with our community

LOCKS HEATH WARD – BOROUGH ELECTION SPECIAL

## Ruth says gravel extraction plan will destroy countryside

Locks Heath councillor warns 700 acres face 20 years' blight



**Angry trio:** Councillors Ruth and Mike Godrich and Councillor Keith Evans are determined to fight the proposals all the way.

**PROPOSALS to extract 8 million tons of sand and gravel from a 740-acre (300 hectares) site bordering the Solent at Chilling have outraged residents and councillors.**

Chilling and Brownwich Farms south of Warsash Road were identified by Hampshire County Council while updating the strategic plan for the extraction of land based minerals and for the provision of landfill sites to meet Government requirements.

But the suggestion, which would see land gouged out right to the cliffs looking across the Solent to the Isle of Wight, resulted in massive opposition from the community who say it will destroy countryside and wildlife.

### Angry response

Councillor Ruth Godrich said: "Residents were alarmed at the proposals and quickly formed a local action group that they called CAMEL (Campaign Against Mineral Extraction and Landfill)."

"The response to this has been magnifi-

cent with hundreds of formal letters of objection being sent

to Hampshire County Council and a public meeting attended by more than 800. "The farms were acquired by the County Council several years ago specifically to protect this area of coastline and to retain and develop it for the benefit of the public.

"In fact, at entrances to the area there are colourful Hampshire signs proudly proclaiming the good job the County has done - and they have with footpaths, bridleways, cycle paths and wildlife and a long stretch of the Solent Way along the cliff edge giving magnificent views over the Solent.

### 20 years of blight

"If Hampshire sells this land for extraction it will be blighted for up to 20 years with an estimated one million large lorry movements over that time finding ways to get to the A27 and the M27.

"Inevitably lorry drivers on tight schedules will seek out any shortcut or bypass they can find - Hunts Pond Road, Abshot Road, Warsash Road, Titchfield Road etc.

"And at the end of all this disruption we



**Cliff hanger:** Gravel and sand would be extracted right to the Solent Shore cliffs, which already face coastal erosion.

will most likely be left with a dramatically different area – probably a wetland habitat with much reduced public amenity access."

Councillors Ruth and Mike Godrich have opposed using these sites and Councillor Keith Evans has had separate meetings with Hampshire officers to ensure they understand just what will be destroyed and how much the area is used by public both local and further afield.

### Listen to public

As messages of objection continue to pour in, it is now likely there will be an inquiry at which residents will be able to voice or submit their views.

Ruth Godrich added: "We hope that Hampshire listens to the public and resists Government pressures and recognises this area an unofficial country park that must be retained for the benefit of the Hampshire public.

"Our message is – Don't destroy our countryside."

•email CAMEL at [camelsolent@aol.com](mailto:camelsolent@aol.com) or log on to the web site [www.camelsolent@aol.com](http://www.camelsolent@aol.com)

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



# A record of ACTION, a promise of MORE

62 High Oaks Close  
Locks Heath SO31 6SX

## Dear Elector

I am the sitting Councillor for Locks Heath and am seeking your support for re-election in the local elections on May 1. As you will have read, I am a retired legal executive, married to Councillor Mike Godrich. I was brought up in Fareham and had my primary education there; my secondary education was in Southampton where I also received business education.

After spending some years bringing up my family, I attended colleges in Portsmouth and Southampton to study law. It was then that I worked as a legal executive for 20 years with a firm of solicitors in Fareham.

For about 25 years I served as a school governor at local schools, including 20 years with Locks Heath Junior and Infant Schools.

My involvement with activities includes Locks Heath Day Care Centre, which gives respite care for the elderly and infirm and which started when the idea of a purpose-built centre in Locks Heath was conceived. I helped with fund raising, including a half-Marathon – yes, I did finish the course – arranging dinner parties and many other ways of raising money to equip and furnish the new centre.

Genesis is a centre catering for young people to provide activities and advice and to develop their potential. The centre has a first class recording studio where groups can record their music and learn DJ skills. The youth workers are excellent and provide much needed and valuable work with young people. One night a week the centre is used by a volunteer group working with young people with special needs.

As Chairman of Fareham Road Safety Council I have a great interest in all Road Safety matters. The Council consists not only of Fareham Borough and Hampshire County councillors, but volunteers such as driving instructors and examiners, cycling enthusiasts, the Police, Hampshire Fire and Rescue, Friends of the Earth and Hampshire County Council Road Safety Manager.

Currently, we are promoting '20 is Plenty' signs at schools to encourage motorists, motor cyclists and cyclists to take extra care when passing schools. All the Road Safety chairmen from Hampshire meet quarterly at Winchester to discuss road safety matters.

Planning is of great interest to me and I closely follow all planning matters relating to Locks Heath in particular. I speak at meetings on behalf of residents and am always available to get advice for residents on planning issues, to advise them how to speak at meetings and generally about planning proposals that affect them.

Fareham Council has over recent months been running Community Action Team meetings in various sectors of the Borough.

I have attended those held in the Western Wards with my fellow ward councillors. We are there to hear the comments and questions of residents and gather the topics that are paramount in their lives. Officers of the council and Police officers also attend to answer questions on local issues or send a written reply. It enables me to pick up on issues that my residents are concerned about.

Fareham Borough Council provides leisure and sporting facilities in the Borough, which include football, cricket, and Rugby pitches, tennis courts, recreation grounds and skate parks.

I fully support the swimming pool and leisure centre which is proposed for the Western Wards and may well be at Locks Heath or Coldeast

Fareham aims to provide good, safe areas for young children with modern, safe equipment. Throughout the Borough, the Council provides much leisure space for the health and welfare of its residents and I will do my utmost to see that this continues.

I seek your support on Election Day to re-elect me to continue to work for the people of Locks Heath.

Yours sincerely

***Ruth Godrich***

On Thursday, May 1 please vote for

# COUNCILLOR RUTH GODRICH

Polling stations open 7am – 10pm

# Dedicated councillor works tirelessly on behalf of the Locks Heath community

**RUTH GODRICH is a former legal executive, married with grown up and married children with grandchildren.**

Her hobbies include bird watching, travel, ballet antiques and watching Rugby. During her service with the Council over some 20 years, Ruth has served on all the main committees and was Mayoress in 1995-96.

She has also visited our twinned towns of Vannes in France and Pulheim in Germany, the European Parliament in Brussels and attended a garden party at Buckingham Palace.

Ruth sees the ongoing economic growth of commerce and high tech in Fareham as essential to its citizens' well-being, plus an integrated programme to encourage health, fitness and leisure with clean air and healthy eating.

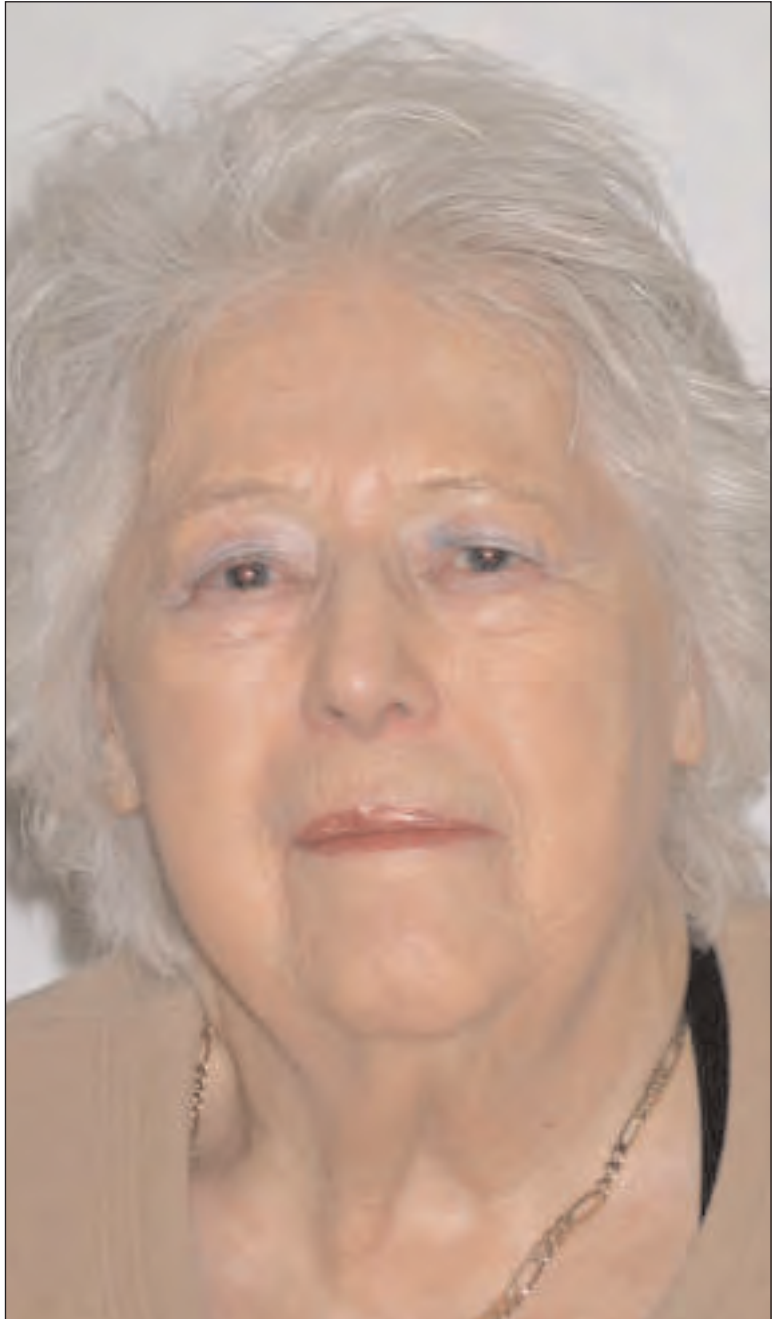
She also strongly supports environmental aspects through waste recovery and recycling, decent private and social housing which will improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel consumption.

High on her priorities list, too, are road safety, provision of sport, leisure and recreational activities in Locks Heath and the Western Wards together with a community association to help residents to live a full and healthy life style.

Ruth has been widely involved with the community during her service covering many projects, including the Lockswood Day Care Centre which provides day care for the elderly and respite for their carers.

She has also played a key role with the Genesis Youth Project, provision of a skate park and the future provision of a swimming pool and a leisure centre.

This involvement has also extended to the adjacent wards' Traffic Management Plan, which has resulted in a series of works that include Dimmicks Corner road junction, junctions with Abshot Road and Locks Road with Warsash Road and several pedestrian crossings.



**Ruth Godrich:** "If you have a problem that I can help you with, or represent your views on a planning matter, please contact me by telephone, email, letter or stop me in the shopping centre and tell me face to face."

**Ruth is always available for her constituents**

**Address:** 62 High Oaks Close, Locks Heath SO31 6SX  
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## ‘Lucky to have Ruth as my councillor’ says MP

- Current involvement on Fareham Borough Council**
- Full Council
  - Community Review Panel (Vice-chairman )
  - Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Panel
  - Scrutiny Board (Deputy )
  - Genesis Youth Project
  - Brookfield Community Campus
  - Fareham Road Safety Council (Chairman )

**Fareham MP Mark Hoban says:**

“Ruth is a first class councillor. She understands the issues that Locks Heath



residents face and plays a vital role in the community.

“As a Locks Heath resident myself, I consider myself lucky to have Ruth as my councillor. “I ask you to support her on Thursday, May 1.”

**Mark Hoban**



# Out and about with Ruth Godrich

## A caring councillor



## Duty calls every day



Ruth takes yet another call from a constituent protesting about plans to extract sand and gravel from public open space at Chilling.

## Genesis



Ruth is pictured outside the highly successful local youth project, which is attracting more and more young people. It includes a state-of-the-art recording studio where expert advice is given to groups on making recordings and where some can develop DJ skills.

**Strong support:** Ruth says the centre continues to provide for the elderly and infirm, collecting and returning them to their homes by mini bus, accompanied by an escort.

## Doing their bit for the environment

## Skateboard park



**Well used:** Ruth and Mike Godrich were instrumental in getting the skateboard park built on the green near the Lockswood Centre after consultations with local youngsters.



**Every little helps:** For sometime, Fareham has been top of the league nationwide when it comes to recycling, with 45% going into the blue top bins, and Councillors Ruth and Mike Godrich want to keep it that way by setting an example at this glass skip in Locks Heath.