



# In Touch

with our community

TITCHFIELD & TITCHFIELD COMMON – AUTUMN 2006

## At last! Community hospital reaches the planning table

**Completion in 2010 will end the saga that started before Casualty**

**PLANNING** has started on the proposed new Fareham Community Hospital at Coldeast with a completion date planned for 2010.

It heralds the end of a saga that has run for longer than TV's Casualty.

Two meetings have been held so far and Councillor Brian Bayford, the Borough's representative to the Planning Group, reports the intention to try to complete the development in one phase subject to adequate financial resources.

Capital funding will be provided partly by the Hampshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) and partly by the Local Investment Framework Trust (LIFT), a type of private financing.

The hospital is expected to include an enhanced replacement of the Sylvan Clinic, 12 maternity beds to replace Blackbrook, consultant outpatient clinics to enable Fareham residents to see specialists local-



**New lease of life:** The Council aims to restore and preserve Coldeast mansion (above).

**Facelift:** There will be an enhanced replacement for the Sylvan Clinic (below left).

**Axed:** Closure of Blackbrook Birthing Centre (below right) caused widespread sadness.

ly, a range of diagnostic and treatment facilities and a GP out-of-hours service.

Residents currently have to go to Gosport or Southampton to see a GP out of hours.

An accident and treatment service is not currently planned but, hopefully, can be included later. It would provide 3 major services:

- Immediate treatment for minor injuries (with patients returning to their own home)
- Treatment/stabilisation and a short stay in hospital for observation
- Or immediate treatment and stabilisation of a patient before transfer to a major A&E unit for more intensive care.

Meanwhile, another act in the blockbuster reached its climax with the sale of land at Coldeast Hospital by English Partnerships to Miller Homes after years of planning applications for hundreds of houses, all of which were refused by Fareham

Council, until John Prescott granted the current development on appeal.

Miller Homes have consent for up to 250 houses on land containing most of the old hospital buildings, apart from the mansion.

The hall currently used by Scouts will be refurbished as a community centre with the field at its rear being given to the Council for public use.

The PCT owns 25 acres earmarked for the hospital and 100 acres are countryside owned by English Partnerships.

Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward said:

"We are approaching the final chapter and if we can come to an agreement with the owners in the community's favour I shall be delighted."



## Outrageous survey puts Fareham bottom of 'des res' league

**CIVIC** leaders are livid at national newspaper reports slating Fareham as the last place in Britain anybody would want to live.

"It's absolute rubbish," raged Executive Leader Seán Woodward who challenged the papers to name their sources.

The Daily Mail and The Independent lauded the

Regency spa town Cheltenham as top of the property hotspots in a national survey.

It placed Fareham last of the 1,833 towns listed by postcode.

"The small town on the edge of Portsmouth harbour is plagued by high crime and unemployment," they stated.

Councillor Woodward produced facts from the Office of

National Statistics which put Cheltenham's jobless at 1.7% and Fareham's at barely 1%.

"Home Office crime figures are more favourable to Fareham, with fewer crimes per 1,000 of the population in theft from vehicles, burglary, violence and robbery.

"Reported crime in Cheltenham in these areas is

up to five times higher than in Fareham." Yet both towns have similar populations.

Cheltenham has 110,000 inhabitants, Fareham 109,000.

He was happy to let Fareham people speak for themselves.

"In a residents' satisfaction survey 94% said Fareham is a prosperous, safe and attractive place to live and work," he said.

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



## WARD NEWS BRIEFS

### New posts

Goal posts have been installed in Barry's Meadow and the Bellfield play area.

They have scored a hit with village youngsters.

### Vandals

Police are investigating continuing vandalism in and around St Peter's churchyard in Titchfield.

Ideas are being tried to deal with the problem.

### Speed limit

A petition requesting a 20mph speed limit in several Titchfield streets will be handed to Fareham Mayor John Bryant at the next full meeting of the Borough Council.

### Get trimming

It's that time of year again when we tidy up our gardens for winter. Please remember that trees and branches should be lopped to a height of 5.2 metres (17 feet) above the carriageway.

Hedges and shrubs should be cut back so that they do not overhang the footway.

### Number needed

If you have to call the police to report an incident or crime, make sure they give you an incident number, otherwise it will not be logged.

And remember – if it's a non-emergency dial **101 NOT 999**.

### Better footpath

The Council will shortly start reconstruction of the footpath along part of The Avenue from Numbers 89 to Sandringham Road.

# Major scheme to ease traffic nightmare at Segensworth

## Expect more chaos when work starts in summer 2007

**DRIVERS will be delighted to learn that traffic nightmares they face daily at Segensworth Roundabout are about to be eased.**

Plans are being finalised to start work on improvements in late May 2007, but inevitably it will get worse before it gets better.

The work will cause major disruption as it progresses and could last for 20 weeks.

After that, traffic should flow much better with more lanes and a new system of access and exit on to the roundabout.

### These are the aims:

- To close the exit from Barnes Wallis Road on to the roundabout and route outgoing vehicles from Segensworth East/North via a new one-way west-bound link along Witherbed Lane to a traffic signal controlled junction on to Segensworth Road.
- The Segensworth Road junction with the roundabout will have traffic signals and the exit from the roundabout into Segensworth Road will be closed.
- A fourth lane will be added to the M27 link road approach to the roundabout from Junction 9.
- Sections of the central island of the roundabout will be cut away to widen the circulatory carriageway.

### The proposals will provide:

- Two southbound through lanes from the M27 link on to the A27 towards Fareham.
- Two through lanes from the M27 link on to the A27 towards Park Gate.
- A left turn lane from the M27 link into Barnes Wallis Road catering for Segensworth East/North inbound traffic.
- A signal controlled exit from Segensworth Road on to the roundabout.



**Wider:** A fourth lane will be added to the link road from the M27 Junction 9 approach to the roundabout (above).

## County surplus land cash bid will strain resources

### YET more development is earmarked for Locks Heath.

This time, it is Hampshire County Council which is trying to cash in on land it no longer wants.

"More houses, no school," was how County Councillor Keith Evans summed it up.

"This is a fairly dense development and it will throw even more pressure on the local infrastructure – roads, doctors and dentists," he said.

The plan is to use 2.5 hectares of land bounding Centre Way and behind properties in Maytree Close, Heath Road, Ilex Crescent and Hedera Road which has been declared surplus for educational purposes by Hampshire County Council.

The County is to seek planning consent on the land for residential development.

A draft scheme has been produced comprising about 80 new homes with most having a maximum of two bedrooms and 40% of the total being available for affordable homes.

Consultation with local residents is planned within next two months and a planning application is likely around the end of the year.

## Expanded recycling plant at Segensworth is a success

**SEGENSWORTH waste recycling site was opened in February 2000 and cost about £500,000.**

It replaced a former facility next to the HCC completed Warsash landfill site off Hook Lane.

It is a modern 'split-level' plant providing an essential public service.

Of the 26 waste recycling sites in Hampshire Segensworth was the third busiest in 2005/06.

It accepted 15,424 tonnes of waste delivered by residents, of which 50% was recycled.

It was expanded in 2005 into a parcel of adjoining land owned by the County Council at a cost of around £285,000.

The site is well screened from the highway and new housing by a perimeter brick wall with landscape planting in front of it.

## Making sure you see the light in those dark nights ahead

**WITH the nights drawing in it may be useful to know how to report defective or damaged street lights.**

Before phoning, check the defective street light number located on the column five to six feet off the ground facing the road and the road name.

Then call 0800 50 60 60 and you will receive a prompt to leave a message stating the name of the town, road and street

light number and the type of fault you are reporting. You can also report online at [www.hants.gov.uk/highways/stlighting](http://www.hants.gov.uk/highways/stlighting).

Usually, faults will be repaired within five working days, provided the column number is given.

Where there is an electricity supply fault, which is the responsibility of Southern Electric, the repair of these faults may take an extra 10-15 days to correct.

# Councillor brands development access plan 'a mess'

**ACCESS plans for a major new development at the Warsash end of Hunts Pond Road have been labelled "a mess" by Councillor Keith Evans.**

He said the Fareham Borough Local Plan (2000) stated the preferred main access for the site, which may take up to 350 homes, would be from Warsash Road.

This was set out in the inspector's report at that time, although the Hunts Pond Road option was not ruled out.

In January 2001 the County Council advised Fareham Borough Council that access across the land forming

part of the Wilderness would be unacceptable for wildlife reasons and they would not support its release as an access.

In March 2001 Fareham Council Planning Development Committee resolved that the preferred access remained Warsash Road, the obvious common sense approach in relation to the nature of lower Hunts Pond Road.

The Committee recognised that resolution would need to be addressed in the development brief for the site.

Councillor Evans said the brief was now being finalised and, because of the County Council's stated position, it



**Keith Evans:** Sensible approach ignored.

showed only the Hunts Pond Road access.

It remains the major objection from residents who say the environment concerns should be resolved rather than allowing adverse impact on to lower Hunts Pond Road.

## County Council gives excellent value for your money

**CONSERVATIVE-run Hampshire has once again been rated as an excellent authority by the Audit**

**Commission. It was achieved at the same time as being the third lowest spending county in England.**

## A Rozy outlook in Lichfield Road

**TITCHFIELD Common resident Roz Harris showed her gardening talents by winning four awards in the Fareham in Bloom competition.**

Roz, of Lichfield Road, had the best small floral front garden, best hanging or wall basket, best floral display (including balconies) and the most unusual garden feature.

Miss Sue Bunce, also from Lichfield Road, won awards for the best courtyard garden and best plantsman's back garden.

Other winners were:

**Schools' gardening project** – St Anthony's Catholic School, Primate Road, Titchfield Common.

**Allotment gardens over 5 rods** – J R Webb, Hewett Road, Titchfield.

**Council-run sheltered accommodation or day care centre** – Lincoln Close, Titchfield Common.

**Community gardening awards** – St Margaret's Nurseries.

## Households increase, but rise in Hants population slows down

**HAMPSHIRE'S population is predicted to increase by 6% between now and 2026 – a lower rate than over the last 20 years.**

Half will be from births exceeding deaths and half from inward migration.

Interestingly, the number of households is expected to rise by 17% reflecting the fact that the housing development catering more and more for one-person homes.

## TITCHFIELD 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.

### ANY PROBLEMS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Please write the details here and give the exact location

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Your name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode.....

Tel ..... Email .....

Please cut this out and post it or email or phone your councillors who are listed here.

### WARD COUNCILLORS

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**Your man in Westminster**



By Mark Hoban MP for Fareham

AT THE heart of the debate about development in Hampshire is how many houses should be built in the area. We know from population trends that we are going to see a huge increase in the number of people who live by themselves. In part, this is good news. People are living longer, but, sadly, higher rates of marriage breakdown lead to more people living by themselves. This means in my view there is no choice but to build more houses. This is not a comfortable message for people living in our area.

We are already seeing the consequences of this population change. In Fareham, where in the past we have seen lots of three or four bedroom houses being built, we are seeing developments with a higher proportion of flats – whether in Park Gate or Portchester or along the Avenue. The argument that is being made at the moment is that if we are to meet the needs of a changing population, we will need to continue to build more one and two bedroom flats.

But if we don't build more houses, the people who will miss out will be those who don't already have a place of their own. Young people already find it hard enough to buy a house or a flat; if there are fewer places on the market in the future, as the demand for houses increases, will they be priced out of the market?

For me, the crucial decision is if we need more houses, who decides how many? At the moment, the decision is taken in Whitehall. Government ministers will make the final choice. It is not right that decisions that shape the future of our communities should be taken in London, they should be decided in Hampshire by people who are accountable to you.

We should take responsibility for meeting the needs of our community in Fareham rather than being dictated to by Whitehall. Let us decide, not the Government, how many new houses we need to build to meet the changing population in Fareham.

•You may contact Mark via his office  
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email: mail@markhoban.com

# Bloomin' marvellous!

## Golden hat-trick and a bunch of awards for Fareham's gardeners

**FAREHAM is basking in the summer glory after a hat-trick of wins in the South and South East in Bloom competition brought a coveted gold award.**

It came when Fareham won the Large Town/Small City category for the third successive year.

It was the first time the town had been awarded gold as part of the Britain in Bloom campaign run by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Fareham will now be invited to represent the southern part of the region, which covers Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Dorset and East Wiltshire, at next year's national competition.

Holly Hill Woodland

Park at Sarisbury was declared overall winner for the Best Countryside Park which earned a silver gilt award. The RHS also gave Fareham the only regional prize – the Britain in Bloom Biodiversity Award.

The citation praised all aspects of the campaign and excellence across the Borough.

Matt Wakefield, the Council's Horticultural Development Officer, received the Outstanding Achievement Award for his work in horticulture, the community and the In Bloom competition.

Executive Member for Community Councillor Connie Hockley was ecstatic after the ceremony in Chichester on



**Celebration:** Councillor Connie Hockley, Les Dawson (Chief Executive Officer for sponsors Southern Water), FBC's Horticultural Development Officer Matt Wakefield and volunteer coordinator Heather Othen.

September 6

"The Council is totally committed to provision of first class parks, countryside and woodland sites.

"You have only to walk, cycle or drive around the Borough to see the evidence," she said.

"Events like 'In Bloom' do not just happen, but they are the result of years of hard work by Fareham's gardeners, dedicated volunteers and the

Council's public spaces team."

Fareham's 'In Bloom' gardening competition is 11 years old and very much the jewel in the crown of the Community Services.

Its awards ceremony was held on September 14 at Ferneham Hall when Councillor Hockley congratulated all who entered the competition and those who won an award.

## Department store giant is focus for centre revamp



**Exciting:** A big spender will revitalise the Shopping Centre.

**A FAMOUS high street name will be the focus of a multi-million pound facelift for Fareham Shopping Centre.**

It will involve demolition and replacement of the jaded multi-storey car park in Civic Way and doubling the size of

the retail area to the north of Osborn Square

The store's name is being kept secret until a planning application is made shortly, but Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward promises it will revitalise the centre.

Five smaller shop units

near British Home Stores will be replaced and a modern car park built.

The plan will include construction of 2,900 sq m (31,200 sq ft) of retail floor space on two floors.

The department store and new shops will be about the size of the Boots store.

Councillor Woodward said: "This exciting new, high quality development will represent considerable investment into Fareham town centre."

An exhibition showing the plans and inviting people's comments was being held in the centre in October.