



**Developers' share will cover only fraction of total cost**

A GREENFIELD site could be needed to build 10,000 homes north of Fareham.

But this strategic development area (SDA) will not be started before 2016 as the government is unlikely to adopt the South East Plan before 2007.

It means the 3,729 new homes over the next 20 years in existing Fareham communities will be less than 50% of what the borough has suffered over the past 10 years.

However, Councillor Woodward said: "If economic growth reaches its target of 3.5% per year by 2016, the SDA need could even be diminished."

Every 1,000 new homes produce £10m in developers' contributions. It sounds a lot, but a secondary school costs £25m and two primary schools £7.5m each, so half the contributions would be spent before a doctors' surgery or road is built or a sewer laid.

He added: "Clearly, without external funding new development is unsustainable."

"The only sanction a planning authority has is to refuse to allocate the land, but this could always be overturned on appeal to...you've guessed it – John Prescott!"

## Fareham hands Prescott a £3 billion shopping list



**Pulling no punches:** Seán Woodward spells out Fareham's demands to the Deputy Prime Minister.

### Tory leader tells him: 'No more Whiteleys without the cash first'

**FAREHAM will not accept any of the 80,000 new homes earmarked for South Hampshire unless the Labour Government coughs up £3bn towards the infrastructure.**

This was the no-nonsense message Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott took back to Whitehall after listening to a presentation by Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward in Fareham in December.

"What is clear is that we cannot have any more Whiteleys where insufficient developers' contributions are available to provide the required infrastructure and the next 20 years are spent trying to catch up with council taxpayers funding the shortfalls.

"Government must put its money where its mouth is or we cannot accept extra housebuild-

ing," he told Mr Prescott.

It was revealed that up to 10,000 houses are planned on an as yet unidentified site north of the M27 and the borough would also have to find room for 3,729 more in existing communities over the next 20 years.

Councillor Woodward, chairman of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH), said the £3bn shopping list included infrastructure to make up the current deficit of which anyone travelling to work in rush hour was well aware, as well as likely needs over the next 20 years.

He said: "The requirement is not only for new roads, but also includes public transport, schools, medical care, water supplies, waste treatment and affordable housing.

"I pointed out to Mr Prescott that

South East England produces a net £18bn for the Treasury every year, so we are not after new money – just to keep some of what we are already generating."

He said there was a real need to regenerate Portsmouth and Southampton and to improve the economies of those cities, but they could not continue as a dumping ground for new housing without enough government investment.

Commenting on the meeting, Councillor Woodward said: "It was very positive but, of course, the proof will be when the necessary infrastructure funding arrives and not before."

Afterwards, he met South Hampshire's MPs and called on them to support PUSH's demands in Westminster.

"They have the list of the area's requirements and requested further meetings on the issue before the government completes its 2007 spending review."



## WARD NEWS BRIEFS

### Litter complaints

The Council has listened to complaints about overflowing litter and dog bins during the Christmas holiday.

A special clearing service will now be provided at all bank holidays, starting this Easter, April 14-17.

### Bus shelter

A second shelter is planned for the West Street side of The Square.

The new shelter for Coach Hill had to be removed for safety reasons owing to large numbers of school children waiting for the bus at peak times. Officers are looking to re-site it.

### Segensworth Road

Officers are investigating imposing waiting restrictions at the approach to the Segensworth West roundabout. It is expected to happen this financial year

### Bits and bobs

Fingerpost signs were repaired at the foot of Southampton Hill and a new lamp installed in Church Path.

Five 30-minute parking spaces have been allocated outside the Co-op in The Square.

There is now an extra sign opposite Mill Street directing traffic to the Community Centre long-stay car park.

Second phase of the Bridge Street project should start in February or March.

Results are awaited from a traffic survey in Catisfield Road.

A street lamp in the Fairacre Rise development was moved to help residents.

# Frustration mounts after light rail link is axed by Government

**REJECTION of the Light Rail Transit link to Portsmouth and mounting congestion on Fareham's roads have increased demands for Government action.**

Councillor Keith Evans said the front page article stressed just how critical and essential was the need for infrastructure investment to cope with any increase in housing and population.

"All local residents are only too painfully aware of, for example, the increasing time taken for the shortest of road journeys around Fareham.

"The Fareham to/from Gosport road is among the most congested in the country and there were great expectations about the plans that had been developed to provide the Light Rail Transit link between the two centres with an on-going tunnel link to Portsmouth using substantially the existing unused rail line route," he said.



**Daily anguish:** Segensworth roundabout is just one on the mounting list of clogged arteries that must be sorted before any more building.

It was estimated the link would have taken some 3 million trips per year off the network and would have relieved some of the M27 congestion.

Final proposals – the outcome of up to £10m spent of taxpayers' money by the County over several years – were submitted in the belief that they met the criteria

required, and certainly Government desires for reductions in road traffic.

But they were turned down as too expensive and unaffordable.

"So much for this Government's words. Will we do any better with the other infrastructure that is needed? Government funds are the only solution," he added.

## Health bosses' U-turn brings ray of hope to childless couples

**HEALTH bosses have been forced into a U-turn over free fertility treatment for childless couples.**

County Councillor Ray Ellis challenged the case of a Fareham resident who was not offered free treatment by the Strategic Health Authority.

Dr Ellis, chairman of Hampshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, said: "This has resulted in a change of policy by NHS bodies across Hampshire, who are developing new rules to allow free 'one cycle' fertility treatment for couples who cannot conceive.

"This is a complete U-turn by health bosses, who previously had a blanket ban on IVF, which made our area the

only one in the country where not a single health trust provided IVF."

He was concerned that access to free IVF depended on where you lived and emphasised this with the SHA.

He added: "This is a good example of how health scrutiny is improving health provision for our residents."

The committee is also investigating temporary closure of Blackbrook and Grange maternity units, decreasing number of beds for elderly patients, diabetic treatment, out-of-hours treatment and provision of a community hospital, mental health provision and availability of prescription drugs.

D-Day will be in February on proposals for maternity provision in our area.

## Upwardly mobile 'Big Brother' has his eye on jobs

**YOBBS beware...Big Brother will be secretly moving around your haunts.**

A mobile CCTV unit costing £25,000 has been ordered by the Borough Council to augment the existing CCTV monitoring facility operated from the control room in Gosport.

The mobile CCTV system will support

ASBO enforcement, prosecution etc and can be deployed across the Borough to assist the Vandalism Task Force and police to combat vandalism and anti social behaviour.

Yellow warning signs will show where the camera operates, but you won't know when Big Brother has his eye is on you.

## Campaign for crossing succeeds

**AFTER years of lobbying by local councillors, the County Council has finally agreed to put a Toucan crossing on the A27 Southampton Road.**

Councillor Keith Evans said it would be located near the junctions with Lower Church Road and Titchfield Park Road.

The traffic regulation order (TRO) will be implemented for May with a temporary TRO in place during the works which are expected to run from February to May.

It is hoped to include a 40 mph speed limit and some speed management measures in the overall project.

This will be a real plus with increased safety for pedestrians and children on their way to school.

## Fortnightly bin emptying gets excellent response

DESPITE some of the scare stories that were 'doing the rounds', Fareham's move to alternate weekly collection of household waste has settled down remarkably quickly with excellent response and support from residents.

The Borough Council's decision to incorporate a free green waste collection service allied to the recycling waste collection has been particularly successful and welcomed.

These changes have helped Fareham dramatically improve its level of recycling.

Latest recycling figures show an increase of 15% over November 2004 at 36%.

Fareham now has the highest recycling rate in Hampshire, achieving the 2005/6 Government set target of 30%. The target for 2006/7 is 40%.

Further improvements are planned, especially for the green waste service and a Government grant is being sought to provide a 'door-stepping' service to advise residents on all aspects of recycling.

Councillor Keith Evans said: "Coming up to the Christmas period, I had some concerns, but these turned out to be totally unfounded because Fareham Borough Council provided an excellent household waste collection service over the holidays, including collection of the additional waste generated at this time of the year."

He added that people should continue to use the recycling centres for clothing and all glass where Fareham residents also have an excellent record.

## Ex-Royal Navy man takes the helm

LITTERED roads and countryside and schools that cannot cater for the population generated by new housing are two of Steve McSevich's top priorities.

Steve is the new editor for this edition of *In Touch*.

He said: "The area either side of the M27 at Junction 9 - Whiteley and Titchfield - needs either new schools or a proper expansion of the facilities provided by existing ones."

"We cannot provide new housing without the supporting infrastructure and schooling is one of the single most important factors that this population increase will affect."

Steve comes from Corby, Northants

but grew up in Cornwall where his parents were teachers.

He spent 24 years in the Royal Navy, seeing service as a chief petty officer (communications) in the carrier HMS Illustrious during the Afghanistan conflict; he was seconded to a civilian vessel during the Iraq war.

He works for a telecommunications company and lives in Titchfield Park with his wife Sarah (above) and their three children. Contact him on 01329-443207; email: macpro97@onetel.net



## Try treading the boards to help Party funds

**FUND RAISING is important for Titchfield Conservatives, allowing us to publish four editions of *In Touch* a year to help keep the Fareham Association alive and to assist Conservative Central Office.**

This year our major fund-raising event will be 'The Slightly over the Hill Winter Olympics'.

It doesn't mean strenuous activity on or off piste, but more gentle pursuits

like snakes-and-ladders, chess and checkers - all to be played on garden-sized boards in the comfort of Catisfield Memorial Hall on Saturday, March 18 from 7 pm to 10pm.

A light supper, fine wines and soft drinks will be served, but you don't have to tread the boards if you don't want to! Tickets are £10 each (children free) and can be bought from Geoff and Connie Hockley (01329 287365)

## 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

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

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

#### Titchfield

**Connie Hockley**  
27 Heath Lawns  
Catisfield PO15 5QB  
Tel: 01329 287365  
email: chockley@fareham.gov.uk



#### Francis Devonshire

Posbrooke House  
Titchfield PO14 4EZ  
Tel: 01329 847676  
email: fdevonshire@fareham.gov.uk



#### Titchfield Common

**Keith Evans**  
94 Abshot Road  
Fareham PO14 4NH  
Tel: 01489 582450  
email: kevens@fareham.gov.uk



### COUNTY COUNCILLOR

#### Fareham Titchfield

**Geoff Hockley**  
27 Heath Lawns  
Catisfield  
Fareham PO15 5QB  
Tel: 01329 287365  
email: geoff.hockley@hants.gov.uk





## Your man in Westminster



By  
Mark Hoban  
MP for Fareham

DAVID Cameron's election as Leader of the Conservative Party is a turning point.

He has been very clear that if we are to be a party that reflects the aspirations of the whole country, then we need to talk about the long term challenges facing Britain today and have answers to them. These include economic competitiveness, globalisation and poverty, and improvements to our public services.

They affect each of us differently. Our economy must remain strong in the face of threats from India and China if we are to fund our schools and hospitals properly.

Young people need to know there will be jobs for them in the future, but we can only do this by preparing for the economic challenges of the 21st century.

We can only afford adequate pensions if we have a prosperous and thriving economy. It is in everyone's interests to ensure we improve the competitiveness of the economy to maintain and improve living standards and quality of public services.

It is a sign of the importance of these challenges and the reinvigoration of the Party under David that people such as Bob Geldof are willing to help us develop the policies to tackle these challenges.

David's agenda looks to build a modern, compassionate Conservative Party. I know from talking to people across the constituency that this has struck a chord. It is an exciting time to be a Conservative.

Elections of party leaders bring reshuffles and changes of responsibilities. Having been the Conservative school spokesman for two years, I have been promoted to the Treasury team. It is a role I have always been keen to do having worked in business and as one of the handful of MPs who is a Chartered Accountant. My appointment coincides with a series of visits to local employers, which will deepen my understanding of issues they face.

I wish you and your family a happy and healthy 2006.

•You may contact Mark via his office  
14 East Street, Fareham PO16 0BN.  
Telephone: 01329 233573  
email: mail@markhoban.com

# 'We like the good life in Fareham' say residents



**Beautiful borough:** A striking aerial view of the River Hamble with the Air Traffic Control complex in the foreground and (right) the lovely setting of Holly Hill Woodland Park.

### FAREHAM is a safe, prosperous and attractive place to live and work, according to most residents.

A recent borough survey shows 91% of people are happy to live here and 88% are satisfied with the way the Conservative Council runs things.

The only real gripe locals have is that after dark only 23% feel safe in the town and district shopping centres and 46% in their neighbourhoods, against 90% outside in daytime.

The consultation is a key part of decision-making as it informs the Council of residents' views on important issues such as building developments, public toilets, environmental health, safety regulation and enforcement, community safety and personal health.

The survey also shows 92% are happy with waste collections and 68% with litter clearance, while 88% are satisfied with the overall quality of the environment.

A higher number think general cleanliness and condition of public toilets has improved since 2004.

As a result of the Market Quay redevelopment,

86% are happy with the range of shopping and 75% with leisure and social activities in the town centre – both percentages showing a material increase.

Residents rank the statement 'the Council should strike a balance between increasing charges to service users and small increases in council tax' as their preferred choice, with 'council tax should be increased to provide better services' as the least preferred option.

Conservative Councillor Seán Woodward, Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council, says:

"This survey gives residents the opportunity to share with us their views about life in the Borough and to ensure our services continue to meet the needs of the local community.

"I am pleased to note from the survey results that a high percentage of our residents are satisfied with the Council's overall services.

"We will continue to work hard to ensure we maintain an excellent service for residents."

The survey will be analysed by officers and any lessons learnt will be included in service plans for 2006/07.

## Tories are aiming at very low council tax rise

**Fareham Borough Council is considering a council tax rise for 2006/2007 of just 1.9%.**

This is consistent with low rises in the Borough Council's share of the tax which has been set over the last 7 years of Conservative administration.

It means the level will remain the lowest in Hampshire and among the lowest in the country, despite Fareham receiving one of the smallest levels of government

grant of any authority.

There will, as always, be no reductions in the important services we provide to our residents.

It has also been possible to freeze pay and display parking charges in the town centre for a further year and to not charge on Sundays, evenings, Bank Holidays, for disabled residents or outside the town centre.

Now that pay-on-foot has been introduced in the multi storey car parks and in

Market Quay, shoppers need only to pay for the period they stay and do not need to rush back to their cars.

Council Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward said: "I am very proud to be again recommending such a low council tax increase of just a few pennies per week while being able to maintain and enhance the important services we provide."