



Conservatives

In Touch

FAREHAM WEST WARD

2010/11 Budget Edition

CONSERVATIVES SET ANOTHER RECORD FOR LOW COUNCIL TAX

At the Fareham Borough Council meeting on 19th February the Executive Leader of the Council, Councillor Sean Woodward, proposed yet another record low Council Tax increase for 2010/2011. In fact this is not an increase at all; **his proposal, agreed by the Council, was not to increase the Borough Council Tax at all.**

Despite the fact that the current rate of inflation is approaching 4% the Fareham Borough element of the tax will remain **almost the lowest in England at £140 annually for a Band D property..** In fact the average property in Fareham is Band C which will continue to pay just £125 a year which means that the Borough Council services are delivered at a cost of just 34p per day per household.

Contrast that with our nearest neighbour Gosport which charges over 40% more than Fareham, making a Band D house tax £200, despite receiving double the grant per head from the government.

The pressures with which the Council has had to contend with are similar to those experienced by many families trying to balance a budget but on a larger scale—costs rising and income not increasing or, in the case of interest on savings, actually dropping. The fall in interest rates, while good news for those with mortgages, has seen the Council's income on its investments fall by up to £1,000,000 per year. Given that every £40,000 lost is equivalent to around a 1% Council Tax increase to make up the income, then the fact that there is no increase is even more remarkable. The recession has produced other reductions in income such as in planning applications, land charge searches and building control fees.

In terms of services the following decisions were agreed as part of the budget:

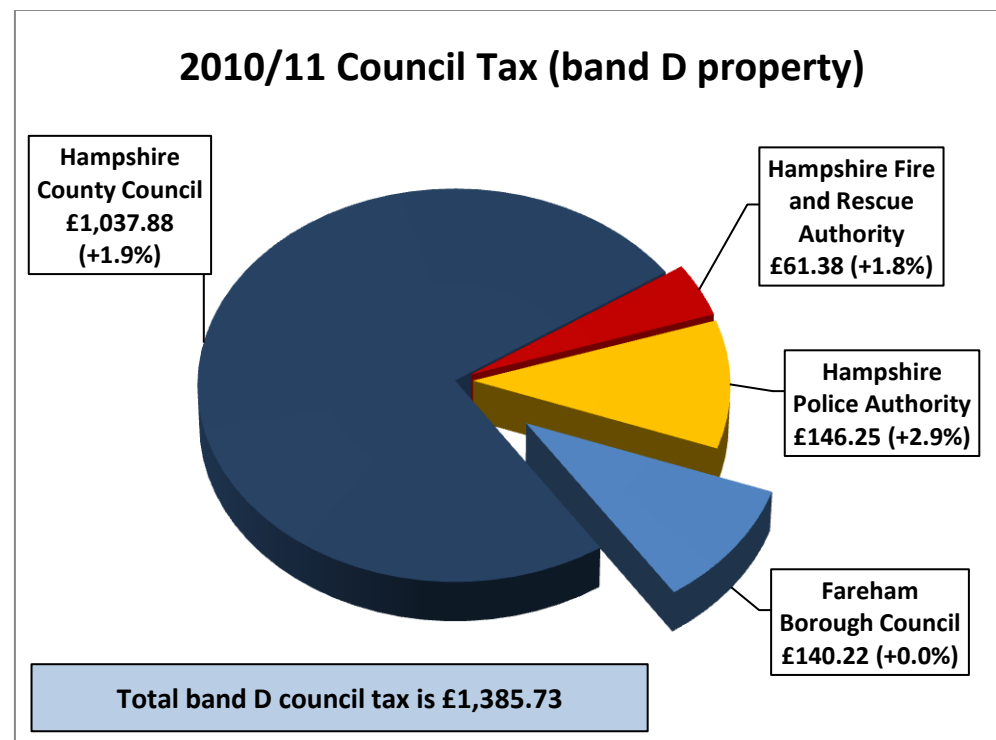
- £500,000 to a Matched Funding Account to which many clubs and other organisations in the Borough can bid for funding for capital schemes. The result is that every pound of Council Taxpayers' cash enables between two and three pounds of worthwhile schemes on the ground such as new sports facilities in schools, club houses for sports clubs etc.
- £15,000 for flashing 30 mph speed limit reminder signs around the Borough as requested by residents.
- £55,000 for waste advisors to assist residents with recycling and thereby ensuring that the Council is not fined for contamination of recycling loads.
- £1,300,000 to the capital programme to enable refurbishment or replacement of sports pavilions and community centres.

However, it wasn't an evening of all good news. Hampshire County Council tax is to rise by 1.9%, Hampshire Fire & Rescue by 1.8% and the Police Authority by 2.9%, Fareham's nil increase brings this to an average of 1.45% on our total bills. Overleaf we show our usual table giving the new rates on all Housing Bands and who gets what size slice of the cake!

Cllr. Diana Harrison - Editor

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL 2010/11 Budget and Council Tax

REVENUE BUDGET SUMMARY 2010/11			
Budget 2009/10	SERVICE BUDGETS	Budget 2010/11	Variation
£		£	£
716,900	Planning Development Control Cttee	794,000	77,100
473,500	Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Cttee	569,700	96,200
	Executive - Service Budgets		
4,908,600	- Community	3,801,900	-1,106,700
1,399,200	- Planning and Transportation	1,545,800	146,600
2,793,000	- Policy, Strategy and Finance	2,473,700	-319,300
1,387,400	- Public Protection	1,326,600	-60,800
4,873,300	- Streetscene	5,007,500	134,200
16,551,900	Total Service Expenditure	15,519,200	-1,032,700
-4,404,400	Other Budgets	-3,303,300	1,101,100
12,147,500	NET EXPENDITURE	12,215,900	68,400



COUNCIL TAX PER BAND D PROPERTY

Budget 2009/10		Budget 2010/11	Amount per person	Amount per band D property
£'000		£'000	£	£
12,148	Fareham Borough Council			
	Net Expenditure	12,216	110.25	286.42
	Less Income			
(1,164)	Revenue Support Grant	(791)	(7.14)	(18.54)
0	Use of Collection Fund Balances	0	0.00	0.00
(5,041)	Non-Domestic (or Business) Rates	(5,445)	(49.14)	(127.66)
5,943	Fareham Borough Council Total	5,980	£ 53.97	£ 140.22
	add: Hampshire County Council Precept		399.52	1,037.88
	Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority Precept		23.63	61.38
	Hampshire Police Authority Precept		56.30	146.25
	Total		£ 533.42	£ 1,385.73

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
2010/11 Budget and Council Tax

Council Tax Bands for 2010-11	Hampshire County Council	Hampshire Police Authority	Hampshire Fire and Rescue	Fareham Borough Council	TOTAL
Band A	£691.92	£97.50	£40.92	£93.48	£923.82
Band B	£807.24	£113.75	£47.74	£109.06	£1,077.79
Band C	£922.56	£130.00	£54.56	£124.64	£1,231.76
Band D	£1,037.88	£146.25	£61.38	£140.22	£1,385.73
Band E	£1,268.52	£178.75	£75.02	£171.38	£1,693.67
Band F	£1,499.16	£211.25	£88.66	£202.54	£2,001.61
Band G	£1,729.80	£243.75	£102.30	£233.70	£2,309.55
Band H	£2,075.76	£292.50	£122.76	£280.44	£2,771.46

CCTV upgrade means you WILL be caught on camera

THERE will be no escape for criminals captured on CCTV at Fareham's upgraded control centre.

Digital cameras and displays can record at up to 25 images per second. 12.5 is more than enough for successful prosecutions. Police at Fareham and Park Gate can log into the system to save time investigating incidents.

It features unique mapping and display of camera locations across the Borough. New keyboard and joystick controls enable operators quickly to control cameras independently. Extra cameras to be connected include 5 for the new rapid bus route, 2 for Broadlaw Walk and 2 for the Quay Street Tesco store.

'Ludicrous' parking rule is ditched

NEW parking standards will be introduced for future housing developments in Fareham. The Council has got round the ludicrous Government figure of 1.5 spaces per household. It has been a nightmare for planners who have had to obey Whitehall guidelines for the past 10 years.

Government believed that by preventing people from parking at new properties it would reduce car usage.

Like many Labour ideas, it didn't work! Fareham Council tried to circumvent the rules by employing average parking across the borough to equal the target. But it still resulted in new developments with insufficient parking provision resulting in severe problems.

Cllr. Leslie Keeble serves on the Local Development Framework Steering Group and as a result of the LDF process Fareham was able to introduce new parking standards for future developments. These standards are based on the number of bedrooms a property has which seems far more reasonable. Also **garages—which tend to be used for storing anything but a car—will not normally count as a parking space.**

Cllr. Di Harrison who has served on the Planning Development Control committee for the past 11 years since returning to the Council in 1999 is delighted with this news. "We can't do much about the developments already approved and built, but this change does allow Fareham to get it right for the future."

FAREHAM - ONE OF THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY

Fareham residents continue to be amongst the best recyclers not only within Hampshire but also nationally, says the Executive member for Streetscene which include household waste collection. And Leslie Keeble and Di Harrison are very proud to see that **Fareham West Ward is one of the best wards for results.**

Over the last year or so, there have been some significant changes in the volumes of household waste. After regular year on year increases, this last year has seen a reduction across the country in the total weight of household waste (including the recycled element) by more than 10%.

The main reasons for this are considered to be (a) the general economic situation leading to less purchases of products resulting in less thrown away and less packaging to dispose of ; (b) lower weight of packaging materials and (c) people being more careful about what they purchase and how they dispose of waste.

Here in Fareham we have seen a 5.5% reduction in residual waste (green top bins) and a 6% reduction in dry recyclates (blue top bin). Despite this downward movement in weights, **our recycling rate in Fareham was 39.6% in October. This is an excellent figure and we aim to achieve the Government target for 2010 of 40%, although any continuation of reductions in total waste will make this a challenge.**

Fareham remains one of only three districts in Hampshire that provides a Free Garden Waste collection, although we had to restrict this to one green sack per household for financial reasons. For those households (about 1 in 4) that generate more green waste, then disposable bags can be purchased at the civic offices any day Monday to Friday between 09.00 and 16.30. Price £20 for a roll of 25 sacks or £5 for a roll of 5 sacks. If these are used they will be collected along with the green waste sack.

A good performance by residents but one where we would intend to improve by advice and encouragement.

The Editor

Our man in Westminster
by
Mark Hoban
MP for Fareham

I was talking to pupils at a couple of schools in

Portchester recently about the need to get involved when you see something happening to a place or a service that matters to you. It was a theme echoed by a couple I met from Locks Heath who asked me to support a campaign to protect children's services at Southampton General Hospital.

Change is one of the main reasons why people get involved in politics. It certainly motivated me to get involved when I was 16. It still drives me today.

As a politician, change can mean resolving a constituent's problem or persuading the Government to change tack.

After the longest and deepest recession since the 1920s, it is clear we cannot go on like this. The country needs so many changes to get back on the right track.

When I talk to local businesses, they tell me they want interest rates to remain as low as possible for as long as possible, but unless we reduce Government borrowing, this won't be possible. But Gordon Brown is fighting shy of making the difficult decisions that are needed to encourage economic recovery.

In the health service and in our schools, I hear examples of where staff are required to put into practice decisions made in Whitehall that don't meet the needs of local people. Shouldn't we be giving our doctors, nurses and teachers the authority to do the right thing for patients and pupils, rather than be dictated to by Whitehall?

2010 the start of a new decade. I feel that we have been stuck in a rut in the last few years. I believe that 2010 must be a year for change in our country. We cannot afford another wasted decade!

**Contact Mark via his office:
14 East Street, Fareham PO16 OBN**

CONGRATULATIONS !
Gandhi's Indian Take-away
Anjou Crescent, Blackbrook Road

Our residents will recall that last year they celebrated the 20th anniversary of opening of their take-away and very generously donated all the day's takings to the Mayor of Fareham's Charities Fund, raising a magnificent £500.

They have very generously offered to do it again this year, their 21st anniversary! So on Monday 19th April when they open at 5pm. they will again donate the takings to the Charities.

The Mayor of Fareham, Cllr. Ruth Godrich and her Consort, Cllr. Mike Godrich will visit at least once during the evening and so will your ward councillors, Council duties permitting. As we said last year, what a wonderful gesture! A good example of why Leslie and Di are so proud of Fareham West residents.

Orders taken on 01329 842183

Fareham West Conservatives next social events
Lunch time garden party 1 Veryan, Fareham
(By kind permission of Harry and Jean Kewish)
Sunday 20th June 12 noon—2.30
Tickets £7.50 children free
Including wine, soft drinks and little eats

The Popular Fareham West BBQ
On Saturday 31st July 4pm—7pm
Garden of Catisfield Memorial Hall
Or altogether in the hall in the hall if weather unkind
Tickets £12.50 adults, £6 children
To include super BBQ meal by Royal Marine Chefs and
Including wines and soft drinks.
Why not put the dates in your diaries now!

Contact your Councillors:
FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
Fareham West Ward

Cllr. Diana Harrison
7 Oxleys Close, Fareham. PO14 3DZ
Tel: 01329 847427

Cllr. Leslie Keeble, 173b Highlands Rd,
Fareham PO15 5PR
Tel. 01329 845339.

HAMPHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(Town Division has 2 County Councillors)
Cllr. John Bryant, 14 Highlands Road, Fareham. PO16 7XL
Tel. 01329 281427

Cllr. Ray Ellis, 20 Cams Hill., Fareham.
PO16 8RB
Tel. 01329 236127