



In Touch

with our community

FAREHAM EAST – SUMMER 2010

Mayor's appeal for 3 great causes that rely on public support

FAREHAM'S Mayor and Mayoress have appealed for cash in support of their charities appeal.

Councillor Brian Bayford and Councillor Susan Bayford will hold a variety of events to support their chosen charities – The Rainbow Centre, Global Voices and Toe in the Water.

The Rainbow Centre: Helps children with cerebral palsy and other similar disabilities.

The centre uses a technique known as Conductive Education, which aims to enable children to reach their maximum potential, helping them towards living a more independent life.

Global Voices: Was set up in September 2008 by a Fareham school to develop unique learning partnerships and to bring young people together through the medium of music.

This is an extension of the 'PanJazz' partnership with Brookfield and Portchester Community Schools.

Toe in the Water: A tri-service initiative which re-inspires and re-integrates badly and/or traumatically injured service personnel, using competitive sailing as a direct extension of rehabilitation work carried out at Headley Court.

More than 60 able-bodied volunteers from the military and civilian sailing communities, many based in and around the Fareham, Gosport and Portsmouth area, are involved.

Toe in the Water is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions and is fully supported by the military.

The Mayor said: "If you can support our charities, please send a donation to:

**Mayor of Fareham's Charities
The Mayor's Office
Civic Offices
Civic Way
Fareham PO16 7PP**

Axe for 'garden grabbers' as Tory planning reforms bite

GARDEN grabbing planning policies set by Labour are among the first to be axed by the Government, thanks to Conservatives laying the foundations.

The Coalition wasted no time getting rid of six unpopular measures and two pieces of unwanted guidance.

As moves to transfer planning powers away from remote Whitehall mandarins and back to local councils gather pace, Councillor Nick Walker, chairman of Fareham Council's Planning Committee, commented:

"They must be congratulated for their swift action on planning issues that have frustrated councils and residents alike. They promise that further changes are on the way. This can only be good."

He welcomed the decision by Greg Clark, the minister responsible for decentralising decision making, to scrap minimum density targets on new development; he has already issued a new planning policy statement to that effect.

Mr Clark also made changes allowing councils to reduce dramatically 'garden grabbing' where gardens have been lost to inappropriate development.

"For years, the wishes of local people have been ignored as the character of neighbourhoods and gardens has been destroyed, robbing communities of vital green space," said Councillor Walker.

It will allow Fareham Council to resist developers building high density one or two bedroom flats where the need is for family houses.

Before the election, the Conservative green paper promised to scrap the South East Plan, but councils would be expected to base their plans on what they submitted to the plan rather than what was forced upon them by Whitehall.

Civic salute to armed forces



Fareham honoured our servicemen and women on Armed Forces Day with a ceremony in the town centre on June 21.

A parade was led by Royal Marines drummers and the Mayor of Fareham, Councillor Brian Bayford, took the salute while the Armed Forces flag was raised over the town, to remain in place for the week.

They also said they would introduce laws allowing objectors to appeal against decisions to approve planning applications that were contrary to a council's published plan.

Councillor Walker added: "It will take time to implement all their ideas but they have made several good starts.

"Already, Eric Pickles (Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government) has issued a letter saying that decisions on housing supply - including provision for gypsies and travellers - will rest with local planning authorities rather than the government.

"Planning inspectors must now take this statement as a material consideration at appeals."

Fareham's bid for silverware in prestige national contest

GREEN fingers are being crossed to see whether Fareham can win a prize in the prestigious Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom contest.

The town was invited to enter because of its repeated successes in the South &

SE England in Bloom.

Judges from South & SE England in Bloom will be in Fareham at the end of July, but the results will not be known until mid-September.

The town will be judged on August 4 in the Britain in Bloom competition, with the

results being announced at a ceremony held by the RHS at the end of September.

Fareham in Bloom gardens open day will be on Sunday, July 25 and the presentation evening will be at Ferneham Hall in October.



WARD NEWS BRIEFS

Town centre displays

Planned events with displays in the town centre during the summer include 'Sixties Sensation' Saturday, July 17 and 'Bygone Fareham' on Saturday, September 11.

Both days will have plenty of memorabilia to bring back some happy memories.

Play Ranger events

Free Play Ranger events will take place at parks and open spaces across the Borough offering children and their parents an opportunity for natural play ideas.

Call Sue Mills, acting communications manager, on 01329 824518 for details.

Good riddance

The Downend compost processing plant licence will not be extended in 2011.

This will be welcomed by many local residents who have suffered the smells for years.

Transparency

The Borough Council has been publishing this information for nearly a year and is delighted the new government has followed our lead in requiring all councils to do the same.

Log on to the Council's website <http://www.fareham.gov.uk/council/general/transparency.aspx>

There, you can see we publish not only all expenditure, but also future spending plans, employee pay and benefits, senior staff pay, members' allowances etc.

Residents' parking permit scheme starts in town centre

FROM JULY, some streets in the town centre will have a residential parking scheme.

This is being introduced in response to concerns expressed by residents about the problems with all-day parking.

Councillor John Bryant, Chairman of Planning and Environment Panel, said: "This scheme is being introduced following consultations with local

town centre residents who have been requesting a residents' parking scheme for many years."

Residents living in the streets listed below can buy a permit for £40 per annum.

This will entitle them to park on-street in marked bays during the daytime – usually between 8am – 6pm, Monday to Saturday.

They will also receive 10 free visitor permits per household per

year. Additional visitor permits are available to residents at a cost of £10 for a book of 10 permits.

No charge will be made for Blue Badge holders and essential medical staff can apply for a special permit.

The following streets in Fareham North will be part of the new parking scheme: Colenso Road, Crescent Road, Gordon Road, New Road.

Action Team meeting deals with several pressing issues

VEGETATION around The Gillies may be thinned after a police request to Fareham Council.

Police Sergeant Aaron Freemantle said they were aware of anti social behaviour in the area, so making it more open might be a solution.

Sgt Freemantle, who introduced his team, was addressing the meeting of South West Community Action Team (CAT) at Oak Road WI on June 10.

He said an ASBO had been served on a person in Highlands Road area and explained that police were ready to intervene in neighbour disputes.

To help reduce speeding traffic, mobile warning displays and speed cameras will be used.

Road shows will start soon in residential areas to show the dangers of cycling on pavements and the police will also speak to equestrian centres about horses fouling pavements.

CAT officer Mark Dunning invited residents to join the e-panel and explained how to apply for funding.

Funding has been approved to help Shop Mobility provide a training DVD, to make Bridleway 100 more accessible, replant part of the fly-over flower

beds and provide new benches at Fareham Quay.

Residents were asked to choose the top two and bottom two priorities from the Council's list by placing coloured dots on the appropriate charts, which will be used in making future decisions.

Council Leader Councillor Seán Woodward answered the following questions:

QA buses: It was hoped shortly to resolve the problem of buses being unable to turn.

However, bus routes must be profitable and First bus would not run unless it was heavily subsidised.

Community Action Fareham could help with their dial-a-ride or shuttle bus.

20 is Plenty: Such signs are not statutory and can be erected anywhere but you need funding.

Prague Junction: Re-opened as Coyote Station, but quickly closed down again. Residents feared it might re-open yet again, but there were stringent conditions put upon the licence by the Council's Licensing panel.

The next cycle of meetings begins on September 22 at 7pm at Henry Cort Community College.

Panel looks at ways to respond to future freezes

THE County Council is carrying out an exhaustive review to see how to respond better if extreme weather occurs again in our area.

A review panel is gathering evidence and comments from a wide range of authorities and groups.

Some of the facts revealed so far include:

- Even with double the recommended levels of salt reserves (we had 12 days' worth), the County was down to just a day's supply at one stage

- As the emergency progressed, Hampshire was receiving only 10% of the re-supply that the government said it should get

- The County gave support to some neighbouring counties and towns

- Highways are closely examining the implications of increasing the road clearance programme and to ensure that important locations such as large schools, hospitals, large health centres, major employment centres etc are future priority targets.

- Agreements are also under consideration to help with the clearance of bus depots and large car parks.

- There will be a very significant increase in the number of local grit bins.

Civic honours for community volunteers

SEVERAL residents were rewarded for outstanding work for the community when they received 2010 Citizens of Honour awards.

The awards were presented at the mayor-making ceremony in May.

Pam Chisham has carried out voluntary work for Fareham allotments, running two shops and helping Portchester allotments for many years. She has been a member of the Fareham in Bloom working group, runs school garden clubs and visits schools to help with gardening projects.

Alan Simpson has worked selflessly for the benefit of Portchester, organising and running the Portchester Gala

for many years.

David Redwood has been a stalwart member of the Friends of Holly Hill.

Ian Boucher is a very enthusiastic special constable, who devotes much of his own time to policing duties in the Fareham district.

Briony Stephens (18), who won the Young Citizen of Honour (12-18 years) award, has helped voluntarily at SNAP discos for the past five years, organising events in her own time.

William Luckett (11), who won the Young Citizen of Honour (4-11 years) award, is a keen peer mentor at Cams Hill School and was nominated for the award by his friends.

Council's £2,000 grant gives Sea Scouts extra pulling power

A COMMUNITY grant of £2,000 has been given by Fareham Borough Council to 2nd Fareham Sea Scouts to help replace 12 oars.

The Sea Scouts are carrying out a programme of refurbishment and replacement of their old fleet and auxiliary equipment and requested funding towards the total cost of £3,742 to replace the oars.

The group, which is based at Lower Quay, gives young people the chance to learn nautical skills and seamanship with the aim of promoting independence and self-esteem.

It has about 130 members from the Fareham area.

Fareham Borough Council Leader Councillor Seán Woodward said:

"I am pleased that the Council has been able to support the 2nd Fareham Sea Scouts with this Community Grant.

"This local group provides opportunities for young people to participate in a healthy, social sporting activity."

Hard times force County to tighten its money belt

A SERIES of reductions in financial support provided by the government has forced Hampshire County Council to start making savings.

Recurrent expenditure has been reduced by £8.5 million, capital expenditure by £5.5 million and the special reward for outstanding performance cut by £3 million.

County Councillor Ray Ellis said: "This has occurred at a time when HCC receives the lowest grant per head of population (£115) in the country, but has the best performance.

"In Hampshire, only 20% of expenditure is met by Government grants; the other 80% comes from income and local tax."

He said it came at a time when the older population in the County was rapidly increasing with a greater need for adult social service support, and the state of highways had deteriorated due to the excessively cold winter, with many pot-holes requiring attention and many roads complete resurfacing.

HCC has responded by making savings on expenditure, but taking care to safeguard essential frontline services.

Mileage allowance for members and staff (other than those on the lowest salaries) has been reduced to 40p per mile, staff premium payments for overtime and weekends are being reduced.

A recruitment embargo will be imposed so that vacancies occurring will be filled by internal redeployment and only essential frontline staff numbers will be maintained by recruitment.

Staff redundancy will only be used when all other approaches have failed. Income from services offered to the public will be increased by re-assessing all charges and the introduction of some new ones.

Expenditure on non-essential services will be reduced and income from advertising increased.

All County expenditure is being reviewed by the an efficiency panel, which has Ray Ellis (Fareham Town) as vice-chairman.

Ray thanks Conservative supporters

COUNTY Councillor Ray Ellis has thanked all who voted Conservative in the May elections, and those who supported us in so many ways.

He said: "Your support is vital if we are to avoid the national financial disasters which are always the legacy of Labour Governments.

"We really appreciate the hard work you do at elections and the donations you make to Conservative Party funds.

"We would like to increase our membership and urge you to join now that we have a coalition Government, with many local MPs in ministerial roles."

Cuts give Ray a dual role

THE County Council's cabinet has been reduced by one member to save money.

It means Fareham Town Conservative Councillor Ray Ellis adds the role for Economic Development to his existing portfolio as Executive Member for Rural Affairs and Human Resources.

Ray said: "I welcome the challenge presented by this extended role. It makes sense to have economic development and rural affairs under

one cabinet member. "Much future economic development in Hampshire will be for new small specialised enterprises, many of which will be in rural areas.

"In the present economic climate there will be difficulties establishing new businesses, especially obtaining venture finance, but I hope my previous experience with the International Bank for Regeneration and Development will assist me in this task."

Jim Murray: A dedication

TRIBUTES have been paid to former Fareham East Ward Councillor Jim Murray, who died last month, aged 80.

County Councillor Ray Ellis said: "We respect his dedication and contribution to Fareham and his concern for the local community.

"Jim served as Mayor and he was active in the Wallington Village Association for very many years.

"He was also a long-

serving chairman of the Governors of Cams Hill School.

"He was always willing to give his time freely in the interest of the public good.

"We express our condolences to his wife, Eleanor, and his family."

Jim Murray represented the ward for 26 years and was due to be made an honorary alderman for his services later this summer.

The award will be made posthumously.

FAREHAM EAST 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 councillors.

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Our man in Westminster



By **Mark Hoban**
MP for Fareham

We will work in national interest to clear up mess inherited from Labour

nalled from the start of the negotiations that we had to respect the verdict of the electorate and work together with the Liberal Democrats to find solutions to the profound problems facing our nation.

As David Cameron has made clear, Britain needs strong, stable and decisive government at this point in our history. It was in the national interest that we achieved this coalition agreement on a secure basis, enabling us to govern securely in the national interest.

We must recognise that all coalitions involve compromise. However, I would like to reassure you that the key principles on which we fought this election have formed the basis of this agreement.

It commits the next government to a significantly accelerated reduction in the budget deficit, to cut £6 billion of government waste this financial year and to stop the jobs tax.

The agreement also allows us to carry out key elements of the reform agenda we outlined in our manifesto, including welfare and school reform.

We have protected our nuclear deterrent and there will be no amnesty for illegal immigrants, nor the handover of any additional powers to the EU.

But the past few days have not just been about compromise. There is significant common

ground between us and the Liberal Democrats, such as our commitment to building a green economy, decentralising power and protecting civil liberties - including scrapping ID cards.

This will be a Government that puts the national interest first and takes determined and resolute actions.

We have already seen this in the difficult decisions that we have had to take on the public finances. As Treasury Minister, I know just how empty the coffers are and the scale of the challenges we face to get the economy moving again.

I am afraid that the last Government spent money as if there was no tomorrow.

Unfortunately, they have left you with the bill. That is why we have had to make difficult decisions on taxes and spending to balance the books whilst doing all we can to support economic recovery.

You can be assured that the tough decisions that we have had to take are aimed at one goal: clearing up the mess that we have inherited from Labour. It is a tough job but one that needs to be done.

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

I am very grateful to the residents of Fareham East for their support in the recent General Election.

Regardless of whether or not you voted for me, I look forward to serving all of you as your Member of Parliament for the next five years.

The outcome of the election locally was very clear but it was not so clear nationally.

In the election, the Conservatives gained nearly 100 extra MPs, a bigger gain than in any election since 1931. This was a remarkable achievement. However, we fell short of an overall majority.

The Prime Minister, David Cameron, sig-

Keeping Fareham tidy costs millions

IT COSTS £1m a year to keep Fareham tidy.

In 2009-10 the Council collected 1,771 tons of street litter, says Councillor Keith Evans, Executive Member for Streetscene.

There are 543 acres of public open space to keep clean, 230 miles of roads and footpaths to sweep and clear and 650 litter bins to empty.

Street cleaning varies from daily in the town centre to once a fortnight in outlying areas.

Refuse collection costs just under £2m a year, 8 crews collecting a bin every week from each of 47,000 households.

19,684 tons of household waste were collected in 2009-10 and 8,168 tons of recyclates, and every household needed 1,047lbs of waste to be collected and disposed of.

Council faces difficult balancing act in light of Government cuts

FAREHAM Council is reassessing its priorities in view of the government's plan for 20% cuts over the next four years.

It will redouble efforts to find as many savings as possible while having the least impact on front-line services.

Executive Leader Councillor Seán Woodward said each year this became ever more challenging, especially for a Council which sets almost the lowest level of council tax in the country – despite receiving one of the lowest levels of government grant.

He said Fareham was pleased not to have to increase the council tax this year and aimed for a similar result over the next couple of years, being mindful of the extreme financial pressures faced by many of our residents during the recession and its aftermath.

The Council is currently re-evaluating its priorities as well as con-

tinuing its philosophy of always trying to achieve more for less.

He said: "We are always looking for ways to reduce expenditure and to find new income streams.

"We take a great interest in what our residents tell us are their priorities, both the things that they tell us are their top priorities as well as what they tell us are not their priorities for spending.

"Top priorities always include waste collection and recycling, keeping our streets clear of litter and maintaining parks and open spaces to a high standard, whereas the lowest priority is always Westbury Manor Museum.

"We will be looking closely at our partnership agreement with Hampshire County Council, which runs the museum in our building, to investigate how this service may continue to be delivered in a way which respects the priorities of our residents."

Nicked by new boat watch site

BOAT crime is being targeted by a new website called Hampshire Marine Watch. And it's already paid off.

Fareham Police collared a man in possession of navigation gear and used the website to return the property to its owner.

The Council's Community Safety Partnership's website is designed to improve communication between organisations in the boating community.

In the first month over 1100 'hits' were received to the web site which clearly demonstrates the interest in this area.

For further information please visit www.hampshire-marinewatch.co.uk