



# In Touch

with our community

FAREHAM NORTH WEST – BOROUGH ELECTION SPECIAL

## Regeneration plus eco-town spell challenging times ahead

**COUNCIL PLANS to regenerate two focal parts of Fareham's deprived North West Ward will need careful consideration.**

Add to this the Government's imposition of a new eco-town of 7,000 homes just across the M27 and it adds up to challenging times ahead.

Residents have told Conservative candidate Stephen Day they are concerned about the sites of the former Highlands Inn and St Columba's Church.

He said: "The Highlands Inn on the corner of Fareham Park Road had given its name to this bustling shopping area and had been a feature and amenity for over 70 years.

"So a form of community use for the whole or part of this prominent site would be of benefit.

"Further down Highlands Road there are plans for the redevelopment of St Columba Church.

"These have included a new church and residential units; however, the latest ideas suggest that the church be re-located to the Highlands Inn site where it could incorporate other community activities much needed by people of all ages in Fareham North West.

"But the redevelopment of both sites requires careful planning and consultation."

The planned Strategic Development Area (SDA) will bring a new community into an area of open countryside adjoining an already over-developed part of Fareham.

### Knock-on effect

"This will have an knock-on

effect in Fareham North West, with the likely increase in traffic, and the use of the local schools and other amenities for the inhabitants of the SDA while it is being built."

The Labour Government identified Fareham as one of the South's growth areas as part of the 80,000 new homes which have to be built in the Solent Area to meet their targets for concreting over the South East of England.

Stephen has fiercely opposed the prospect of the fields north of the M27 being lost to the development.

At first, the SDA was planned to contain at least 10,000 homes with associated amenities and employment areas.

### Lesser of two evils

However, Whitehall gave Fareham a choice – take the full whammy or apply for Eco-Town status for the SDA which is what the Conservative-controlled Council did and this was accepted in March.

"This is just the lesser of two evils. With Eco-Town Status the number of houses reduces to 7,000 which is still a large number to fit into the constraints of the allocated site.

"The Council has been awarded £200,000 to help plan the new 'green' development with the possibility of further grants.

"It also means the develop-



**Eyesore:** Stephen Day surveys the site of the former Highlands Inn, but says its redevelopment needs careful planning and consultation with local people.

ment will have to meet strict criteria for infrastructure, housing standards and waste water with provision for renewable energy and at least 40% of green space," said Stephen.

He continued: "While we may not be able to stop this last piece of countryside being developed, we must make sure that all infrastructure required is provided before or phased with the construction of the SDA.

### Government must pay

"It is essential that the Government provides money for the improvement of the infrastructure in Fareham which will be greatly affected by the proposed new settlement."

Stephen Day is mindful of the area's housing needs, but feels residents should be kept informed of any new proposals and given the opportunity to voice their opinions.

"If it is forced on us, then eco-town standards might be prefer-

able and would certainly allow us to put pressure on the Highways Agency to get the many improvements necessary to accommodate it. We cannot expect council taxpayers to pay for funding shortfalls."

### Impact assessments

Each eco-town proposed has to go through the regional and local planning system which involves extensive impact assessments and local consultation.

If it goes ahead, the development will become a 'showcase for sustainable living', but with such a vast increase in population we must make sure the present residents, who have enjoyed this lovely part of Fareham for many years, have as little disruption as possible.

Much of the wildlife which inhabits the area is almost certain to be lost along with woodland – something most residents will have feelings about.

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



# A record of ACTION, a promise of MORE

84 Catisfield Road  
Fareham PO15 5NH

**Dear Elector**

I am writing to you to ask for your support in the Fareham Borough Elections on May 6. I have been selected to stand as the Conservative Party Candidate for the Fareham North West Ward.

I was born in Fareham and it has been my home for most of my life and I am determined to see that it remains a good place in which to live and work.

I would like to play my part to ensure Fareham Borough Council continues to provide good value for money and has robust plans for future improvement and continues to achieve high performance across most services that matter to residents.

I would like to work with businesses and the Council to ensure that Highlands Road maintains its busy and successful shopping arcade and to improve youth and community facilities with the possible mixed use redevelopment which has been proposed for the site of the former public house.

In these tough economic times, I am a strong believer in getting value for your money whilst being interested in making sure that Fareham continues to improve the general environment of the Borough.

This can only be done with sound and prudent financial principles from all aspects of the Council operation.

I am a supporter of an integrated transport system. However, public transport is expensive to run and needs to be in the right place, well scheduled and financially supported to enable it to be well used to make it viable.

Although this can be the case in a very large city like London, it is difficult to achieve in a provincial town and the countryside.

During the present economic times, the bus services in Fareham – and in particular North West – have been reduced. The service through Frosthole Crescent has been cut and the two remaining services are at a quarter to the hour and on the hour which can be frustrating and mean a long wait for potential passengers.

With the development of the Bus Rapid Transit System between Fareham and Gosport, I will be working to see that it is integrated with an improved local bus service and rail service.

If you elect me, I promise to fight on your behalf to preserve and improve the area.

Yours sincerely

***Stephen Day***

On Thursday, May 6 please vote for

# STEPHEN DAY

Polling stations open 7am – 10pm

# A first-rate candidate who is deeply involved in local and national causes

**STEPHEN DAY**, who has been thrust into the limelight as the Conservatives' choice to bring change to Fareham North West Ward, normally shuns publicity.

People from all walks of life who know him will tell you he prefers quietly to get on with the job.

But nobody is better qualified than this candidate, with his long-standing involvement in local issues, to tackle the deprivation in this area.

Stephen was born and bred in Fareham and has lived in the Borough for most of his life, attending schools in Fareham Park

He is a chartered surveyor who has had experience working for both national and local firms and running his own practice.

And he has developed a strong expertise on housing related issues in the Solent Area.

Stephen's professional work has also led him to be an expert witness for Hampshire Constabulary and the Crown Prosecution Service.

He is well known as a committed environmentalist and devotes much of his spare time to actively supporting an impressive list of local and national conservation and preservation causes.

He is deeply involved in the community and is chairman of Catisfield Village Association, a committee member and trustee of The Fareham Society, chairman of The Fareham Society's Design Awards Subcommittee and a trustee of the Catisfield Memorial Hall Management Committee

Stephen is also a member of the Titchfield Village Trust, Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, The Royal Horticultural Society, The Royal Society of St George and Catisfield Horticultural Society.

His active life doesn't end there. His other interests include history, politics, travelling, DIY, gardening, music, swimming and badminton.

Stephen is **always** available for his constituents

**Address:** 84 Catisfield Road, Fareham PO15 5NH

**Tel:** 01329 845100

**Email:** day149@btinternet.com



**Man of many parts:** Stephen Day prefers to tackle tasks quietly and efficiently without seeking publicity for his work.

## 'All the right connections to get results you want'

**Message from Fareham MP Mark Hoban:** "Stephen will make an excellent councillor.

"He already makes a great contribution to the local community through his work for the Fareham Society. He will be a breath of fresh air and bring new solutions to the issues facing Fareham North West."

**Message from Fareham Borough Council Executive Leader Seán Woodward:** "I have known Stephen for several years and he has always taken a significant interest in local issues. His name may not spring immediately to mind

because he quietly gets on with the job of assisting people locally with issues rather than courting publicity, despite the outcome.

"It is worth remembering that the only way any improvements are carried out in Fareham North West is by the decisions of the **Conservative councillors** who run the authority.

"Therefore, those with the records for actually getting things done quickly tend to be **Conservative**."

"I hope you will vote for Stephen Day on May 6 and support a man with all the right connections to get the results you want."



# Out and about with Stephen Day

## Man from Westminster



**Canvassing:** Stephen Day (left) and Fareham MP Mark Hoban check the voters' list before setting off to talk to people in Fareham North West Ward.

## Crops of concrete



**Green grab:** Stephen has been fighting to preserve farmland north of Fareham from development as an eco-town for 7,000 homes, which the Government forced the Council to accept.

## Bad timing

### He's watching this space



**Church to go:** St Columba's could be re-located after it is demolished and the site redeveloped and Stephen wants to make sure that whatever replaces it is in the best interests of the community.



Stephen is annoyed by the infrequency of the bus service in Fareham North West Ward and checks the timetable at this stop in Frosthole Crescent (see also Page 2)

## Encouraging more recycling



**Bin it:** Recycling is a hot topic in Fareham, which currently tops the county's league for councils aiming to meet Government targets. Stephen, a dedicated environmentalist, is shown a recently installed mini recycling centre by Councillor Pam Bryant (Fareham North) in the car park at Henry Cort School.