

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

PARK GATE & PRIORY PARK – Summer 2016



Tranquil: The beautifully restored pond. **Above:** Past and present councillors admire the orchard.

THE DREAM COMES TRUE

HOLLY HILL Leisure Centre is on course for its public opening in September.

Everyone Active, who will operate the £9.5m centre, will start fitting out at the beginning of August.

A Portacabin has been set up on site to deal with membership inquiries and job opportunities.

Two new junior football pitches will be provided next to the centre, plus a new children's play area and a multi-use games area once building is complete.

This will cater for a range of ages and abilities, providing space for sports such as football, basketball and netball.

Part of the Coldeast Park site which is open to the public has a variety of habitats including a pond, woodlands, meadows and orchard which had been neglected for years.

The Council asked one of our rangers, Helen Sosnowski (pictured) and her team of volunteers, to clear the site.

Much of the orchard was an impenetrable jungle of brambles and ivy, but once clear the



trees had their first prune for years and blossomed in May.

Urgent work was also needed on the unkempt pond and overgrown path on one side of it; so in early autumn 2014 the path was widened and overhanging trees were cleared.

However, the pond needed dredging and in winter 2015 it was pumped out, cleaned and re-filled by a natural spring feed. All the wild life and fish have returned.

This winter, volunteers were hard at work clearing other parts of the site, especially the overgrown meadow which was once used to house pigs!

Park Gate Councillor Brian Bayford said: "Helen and her team of volunteers have our full admiration for all their hard work and I congratulate them on their brilliant achievement to date.

"Holly Hill Leisure Centre has been a goal that we have shared for many years. It takes a long time to acquire the land and save the necessary £9m, but the people of Fareham's Western Wards will be delighted with what we have been able to create."

Stripping bureaucrats' powers could boost local economy and enterprise

THE GOVERNMENT proposes certain powers wielded by Whitehall bureaucrats can be decided by local council leaders working with an elected mayor.

A deal has been offered to councils in South Hampshire, including Fareham, which would provide:

- Annual £30m funding for 30 years to invest in economic growth and housing including power to borrow
- Extra to funding already announced for Local Enterprise Partnership and 8 local councils; will meet estimated

£2bn costs for infrastructure in South Hampshire

- Keeping local business rates (£400m); leaving current system of government funding for local councils
- Powers over statutory plans for housing and infrastructure, ability to designate greenbelt
- Increase productivity, create more and better jobs by supporting business growth
- Control adult education and training budget, focusing on skills so people

get jobs and businesses prosper

- Deliver much-needed new homes, particularly affordable homes for local people.
- Control of dedicated transport budget, franchised bus services and local authority roads

Once in place, we hope to demonstrate our successes and negotiate for further powers for Solent region.

It does NOT mean reorganising or scrapping borough councils and creating a unitary council covering Hampshire as proposed by HCC.

England's 5th lowest district council tax – that's CONSERVATIVE budgeting



Simon thanks supporters
Simon Martin thanks everybody who supported him in the May Borough Council elections and elected him with such a strong majority. He aims to help improve communication and let residents know what is going on in the ward and in the Council.

As well as his usual contact details, you can join him on Facebook page [InTouchwithParkGateandPrioryPark](#) or follow him on Twitter @simon_d_martin.

Grants available
County Councillor Seán Woodward has £8,000 available to award in grant support to local organisations. Projects that can be supported are generally for specific items needed by community groups rather than for running costs.

He recently awarded £900 for audio equipment and sweatshirts for SING4FUN who meet at St Margaret Mary Church in Park Gate and bring singing of songs to hard-of-hearing groups in the Fareham area.

Fly-tipping
Councillor Simon Martin followed up a complaint about fly-tipping at the Park Gate recycling centre in Middle Park Road and got the Council waste collectors to clear it up. He said: "These facilities are provided for you to recycle your glass and paper and the litter bin is for you to dispose of your plastic bags; they are not there as a disposal point for anything else."

"If you see anybody mistreating these facilities and illegally dumping waste material please contact the Council immediately on 01329 236100."

No smoking
Following residents' comments, all bus shelters in the town will carry stickers requesting the public not to smoke while waiting.

Council aids bowls club to hit 'jackpot'

LOCKSWOOD Bowling Club started its new season with a brand new all-weather green.

Vandals damaged part of the green 5 years ago and, although the club managed to repair it temporarily, the surface had to be completely renewed this year.

Councillor Susan Bayford said it cost £70,000, but Fareham Council stepped in to help with a grant of £25,000.

"This will enable the club to continue to compete at the highest national levels," she said.

The successful club is set in beautifully kept gardens which often win Fareham in Bloom awards.



Top shots (l to r): Councillor Brian Bayford, Club President Geoff Tocknell, Council Leader Seán Woodward and Councillor Susan Bayford.

Task Force works to end NHS hospital scandal



POSITIVE action is under way to cut the NHS red tape that ties up progress at Fareham's £24m Community Hospital.

The hospital has operated office hours only 5 days

a week since it opened 5 years ago. It is a scandal that Fareham **Conservative** MP Suella Fernandes will not tolerate any longer.

She set up Fareham Community Hospital Task Force, which comprises representatives from all local NHS organisations, Friends of Fareham Community Hospital and Councillor Brian Bayford.

Suella persuaded Health Minister Jeremy Hunt to visit the hospital in January when he was told about its problems.

The Minister asked the Task Force to identify specific proposals to rectify the confused management under the following headings:

•**Resolve** the current problem of 5 or more NHS

New Mayor's charities

Fareham's new Mayor, Councillor Connie Hockley, has announced her two charity funds.

Wessex Haven, a unique national charity that provides a wide range of support and therapies for breast cancer sufferers, opened its regional centre in The Square, Titchfield last October.

The Mayor said: "Anyone affected by breast cancer is welcome, including free counselling for family and close friends."

Her other worthy cause is Y-Services, a local charity started in 2011 with a mission to support and develop delivery of quality youth work that meets the needs of local children and young folk.

Simon calls for extra safety measures around Sainsbury's store



THERE has been a lot of concern raised about parking around Sainsbury's in Bridge Road and the potential for accidents.

Councillor Simon Martin said railings were erected many years ago to stop drivers turning across the line of traffic into Middle Road.

"However, when Sainsbury's was opened these railings were not extended and this allows drivers to turn right into Sainsbury's heading west.

"When I was investigating a complaint on behalf of a local resident recently I also saw a driver pulling out from the car park turning right into Bridge Road."

He added: "There are plans in place to move the bus stop in Bridge Road outside Sainsbury's and I believe this is a timely opportunity to get the County Council to put in some additional safety measures connected with access and egress to a busy retailer in ParkGate.

"I would welcome your views on this matter so please contact me on Facebook."

Care Centre open day is success



LOCKSWOOD Day Care Centre, which is run by Age Concern Hampshire, recently hosted a successful open day.

Visitors included former Mayor and Mayor-elect Mike and Anne Ford and Fareham MP Suella Fernandes.

Guests were shown the excellent facilities at the centre, which include a memory and

craft room.

Council Leader Seán Woodward, Councillors Susan Bayford, Connie Hockley and Brian Bayford posed for a photo next to a display commemorating The Queen's 90th birthday. Also in the photo are Nat Gould and Joan Bowen.

Finding the pie life 'full filling'

PIES topped the menu at a special lunch at Abbeyfield Court, Locks Road.

Senior house manager Neil Thompson used his experience as a former Royal Navy chef to cook a meal for 50 to mark British Pie Week.

Former Mayor and Mayoress Councillor Mike and Mrs Anne Ford, ward Councillor Susan Bayford and husband Brian (Park Gate) joined residents to tuck into steak and ale and chicken and ham pies.

Community-minded Neil organises such events to bring local people together and make residents feel part of the neighbourhood.



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BOROUGH COUNCILLORS Park Gate & Priory Park

WE SERVE YOU ALL

Whether you voted for us or not, your Conservative councillors promise the highest standards of service to everyone in the community. Contact us any time and we'll respond personally within 48 hours.

COME AND JOIN US

If you support **Conservative** principles and would like to vote to select your Council and Parliamentary candidates, to attend social and political events or help us by delivering InTouch in your street, then why not join Park Gate Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Brian Bayford on 01489 577772.

Minister praises Suella for work on landmark Bill



TERRORISTS, paedophiles and serious fraudsters exploit the Internet, social media and other sophisticated communications

to scheme online, making it more challenging to keep track of them and gather the vital evidence to secure a prosecution or thwart plots.

The Commons passed the landmark Investigatory Powers Bill to regulate the interception powers used by our intelligence, security and law enforcement services.

I have taken a close interest in this issue and served on the joint committee of MPs and Lords that studied the draft Bill, and on the subsequent Commons committee that looked at current proposals.

Replying to the debate, Security Minister John Hayes congratulated me on the role I played in both committees.

He said: "The threat she described so vividly is, as she said, worldwide and of a kind that would allow us to do nothing other than take the necessary steps to counter it in the defence of our freedoms."

Suella

FERNANDES MP for Fareham



Time to unite in the wake of Referendum

THANK you to everyone who voted in the EU Referendum. Nearly 80% of Fareham residents took part in the biggest exercise in democracy in decades, resulting in an historic decision.

Whichever way you voted, I was pleased to see many new people vote for the first time, increased numbers of young people taking part and vigorous campaigning from both sides.

People, volunteers, attending meetings, speaking up in debates – all these are the lifeblood of politics and democracy.

By over 1,000,000 votes, Britain voted to leave the EU. Fareham reflected that trend, with a strong majority of residents voting to take back control of our democracy, our laws, immigration and our money and to look beyond the EU to forge more global trade and commercial links.

Many people did not vote to leave the EU and were disappointed, but I reassure them Britain has a robust economy, the talent and experience to secure the best settlement for the country.



I held my 'Big Fareham EU debate' in Portchester when over 100 local people asked questions to find out more about the issue.

I will be working hard to contribute to this effort in Parliament and I know that the spirit of open-mindedness, enterprise, economic prudence, compassion and tolerance that make our country great will be maintained.

As we navigate the next chapter of our history, we need to put past divisions aside and unite in the national interest, respecting each other while engaging in healthy discussion.

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Surgery dates

I will hold surgeries at different venues across Fareham. Please call to arrange an appointment to meet me.

Keep up to date

To stay up to date with all of my recent visits and speeches in Parliament please sign up to my newsletter at www.suellafernandes.co.uk/newsletter

Arrange a tour

I am happy to arrange tours of the Palace of Westminster for groups of my constituents.

To book please contact my office with a minimum of three months' notice, as they are very popular.

FAREHAM CONSTITUENCY NEWS



APPRENTICESHIPS offer young people a great opportunity to learn professional skills, gain confidence and earn a living.

They also enable businesses to develop careers of talented young people in Fareham, ensuring the workforce of the future has the skills it needs.

I was grateful to work with local companies such as NATS (pictured) and Parcar who sponsored my first Apprenticeships Fair and Fareham College, where it was held, to enable young people to meet employers and learn more.

Many local businesses took part such as Yo Telecom, Babcock International, Lloyds and MB Air Systems, plus the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. Over 500 young people attended.

Look out for my event next year. If you are a

local employer keen to learn more about taking on an apprentice or holding a stall, let me know.

Broadband meeting

Many residents have contacted me about problems with their broadband service.

I have organised a public meeting for residents on October 28 at 7pm at Whiteley Community Centre to meet representatives of BT, the County Council and phone companies to voice their concerns. Let me know if you plan to attend.

Join me for a coffee

I enjoy meeting local residents and listening to their concerns.

As well as regular surgeries, you can join me for a Q&A and discussion on any topic at my coffee mornings and town hall events.

I recently held them in the Victory Hall, Warsash and Highlands Hub (pictured). Sign up to my monthly newsletter via suella@suellafernandes.co.uk to get updates on future dates.

