



Planning appeal discussed

A CAT meeting, chaired by Councillor Susan Bell, was held at Wicor School concerning Cranleigh Road and what the Council is doing to fight the appeal.

Councillor Geoff Fazackarley said: "We called the special Community Action Team meeting to enable residents to be fully informed and to be able to discuss the fact that, even though Fareham Borough Council has refused the application for 120 houses at Cranleigh Road, the applicant, Persimmon, has gone to appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.

"We want to work with our residents in order that the council and public can put together the best possible case to the inspector which will hopefully lead to this abomination of an application being thrown out once again.

"An appeal hearing date has now been set which is 25th April 2017 and will be heard in Fareham by inspector Tim Salter. The council will make whatever resources are necessary available to fight this appeal which will include appointing a planning barrister and specialised planning consultants. Meetings will be held between Councillors and residents to help prepare the evidence to lay before the inspector. We very much hope that we can again successfully fight off these proposals."

Reasons for refusal included the loss of grade 1 and grade 2 agricultural land with grade 1 being the very best in the country.



220 residents packed Wicor School hall to hear how Fareham Council plans to fight Persimmon Homes' appeal against refusal to allow 120 homes on green fields at Cranleigh Road.

Chairman of the Planning Committee, Portchester Councillor Nick Walker said: "We have until 28th March to get all of our evidence to the appeal inspector. We have been successful in previous appeals and have a very good track record of success however we cannot be complacent. I have an assurance from the Leader of the Council that we will make available whatever resources are necessary to put up the most robust case possible to the appeal inspector."

•Miller Homes submitted a screening request to the Council before deciding whether to submit a full application for 358 homes at Winnham Farm, east of Downend Road.



Villagers tell Royal Mail: 'Give us back our postal address'



ROYAL MAIL'S decision to remove Portchester from postal addresses got the stamp of disapproval from residents.

Many businesses and residents have already been affected by the ludicrous decision.

Portchester East Ward Conservative Councillor Geoff Fazackarley and InTouch team leader Trevor Alford promptly sprang into action and raised an on-line

petition with paper copies sent to shops.

The local Facebook page, Voice of Portchester, also helped to publicise the petition.

Over 1,400 people had signed before Geoff presented it to a full meeting of the Borough Council.

At the time we went to print, the number had swelled to over 1,600.

He said: "People here want to keep their identity and their village separate from Fareham.

"Why not? Its roots and heritage are in its name."

He was grateful for help from several individuals and added: "It was a real community effort."

The issue will be down for full debate at the December Council meeting before the Executive makes a decision.

NEWS ROUND



Fun day raises £3,000

Portchester firm SMR had a fun day for its employees which this year chose to raise money for the Moving On project.

This will be one of Geoff Fazackarley's nominated charities when he becomes Mayor next year.

He's pictured taking part with Natalie and Lynne.

Staff raised £3,000 and the managing director got a soaking from the water barrel game.



A Levels progress

Our MP, Suella Fernandes, is working hard to bring A Levels back to Fareham.

She said: "The project is progressing very well with all secondary schools keen to see A Levels in the town.

"We are exploring the options in terms of collaboration, viability and location and in talks with the Department of Education and the Regional Schools Commissioner."

The toast is...

Deputy Mayor Geoff Fazackarley presented awards at a ceremony for Toast Masters International.

Geoff says these people are not only after-dinner speakers, but they help motivate others and find it life changing.



New number for power cuts

If you have a power cut, call 105 – a new, free service for people in England, Scotland and Wales. Find out more at www.powercut105.com

Garden feature station is open day attraction

AN OPEN day fund raising event was held at the home of Paul and Hazel Woodman in White Hart Lane.

Paul is Chairman of Portchester Civic Society, and the couple are long-term Portchester residents. Their beautifully cared for garden is best described as a reproduction rural railway station set deep within a tropical jungle.

Trevor Alford said: "The event

raised funds for a friend who is working hard to publish a book on the history of Portchester.

"Hopefully, the book will be completed in time for 'Memories of Portchester' exhibition due to take place at the Parish Hall on November 5. Sounds like a good stocking filler."

PHOTO: Waiting for a train that never comes – Trevor Alford, Hazel and Paul



Earlier opening

LIDL'S superstore on Castle Trading Estate was due to open its doors to shoppers at 8am on November 17.

It will please the thousands of residents who signed a petition calling on the Borough Council to approve the plans.

A further extension was approved in January for a mezzanine floor for staff, manager's office, 3 warehouses and a larger delivery bay.

The store had been due to open in December, but fast progress with its construction led to the earlier date.

Olympic swimming hero admits: 'I was afraid of the water as a child'



OLYMPIC swimming hero Adam Peaty opened the £9m state-of-the-art Holly Hill Leisure Centre and admitted:

"Although it might be hard to believe, I was actually scared of water when I was younger."

Adam, who triumphed at the Rio Olympics by winning Team GB's first gold medal in the 100m breaststroke breaking his world record set the day before, was acutely afraid of being bathed as a young boy.

The 21-year-old super star was full of praise for the showpiece centre in Sarisbury which boasts a 25-metre pool with 6 lanes and a learner pool, gym, spinning room and dance centre.

He told guests: "I know how important it is that we educate more people about the health and safety benefits of swimming, especially those who live in coastal areas such as Fareham.

"I think the pool here at Holly Hill Leisure Centre will go a long way in helping to do that.

"It's also at local pools like these where future athletes are discovered and, for me, it's very exciting to think that could happen here at Holly Hill."

A plaque was unveiled at the centre by Adam and the Mayor of Fareham, Councillor Connie Hockley.

Portchester East Councillor Geoff Fazackarley said it would help Portchester residents by relieving pressure on Fareham Leisure Centre.

PHOTO: These lucky kids will remember forever the day they had a swimming lesson from Olympic and World Champion Adam Peaty.

Brave Sam inspires caravan holiday charity



SAM MERRICK is a very brave little boy who has inspired a charity in his name.

He is the reason why Fareham Deputy Mayor

Geoff Fazackarley has chosen Sam's Haven as one of his charities when he takes over as Mayor in May 2017.

"They are in desperate need of board games," said Geoff, who has appealed for help from Portchester people.

Sam's cheerful smile belies his continuing struggle against health related issues.

He has spent so much of his life in Queen Alexandra Hospital he considers doctors and nurses there as part of his family.

His parents, Paul and Louise Merrick, set up Sam's Haven in September 2013 with the long-term aim of raising funds to buy a caravan on a holiday park so that they could offer holidays to families who have children in a similar situation.

They knew it was going to be a long while before they could be in a position to offer these holidays,



but to their surprise and delight they managed to put a deposit on a caravan and provide holidays for 15 families in their first year.

2015 got off to a good start with Paul and Louise negotiating to upgrade the caravan to a newer model with double glazing, central heating and a ramp up to the main door

By January 2016 they had provided holidays for 36 deserving families.

PHOTO: Always smiling, Sam and the charity's chief fund raiser Julie Middle chat to Geoff Fazackarley

'Talent' star plays for charity

PORTCHESTER'S rising singing star Isaac Waddington thrilled residents at Assheton Court, Castle Street with his piano playing.



Isaac, who impressed TV producer and talent scout Simon Cowell at last year's Britain's Got Talent contest, was guest at a fund-raising coffee morning.

Forty residents attended the event, which raised over £300 with more coming in.

It was opened by Fareham Deputy Mayor Geoff Fazackarley, pictured with Isaac, who'd been invited by Sarah Storey.

She dedicated it to her late husband with the funds going to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Honouring the doctor who cured scurvy

SCURVY was the scourge of the Royal Navy's 'wooden walls' in the sailing era, caused by lack of Vitamin C.

Long periods at sea without fresh fruit led to debilitating illness and even death.

So it was fitting that the 300th anniversary of the birth of the naval surgeon who discovered the remedy, Dr James Lind, should be marked in Portchester where he's buried in St Mary's churchyard.

Deputy Mayor Geoff Fazackarley attended the ceremony.

Dr Lind's research in 1753 found that lemons, limes and oranges produced the vital vitamin.

But it took another 40 years for the Royal Navy to take it on board and routinely issue lemon and lime juice.



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I SERVE YOU ALL

Whether you voted for me or not, your Conservative councillor promises the highest standards of service to everyone in the community. Contact me any time and I'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 Portchester Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Nick Walker or Sue Bell on 02392 384943.

Let's go into the world and make Brexit work for us



I am delighted that Prime Minister Theresa May has laid out plans for making Brexit a reality.

Our future relationship with the EU will reflect an agreement in which we will decide for ourselves how we control immigration and can pass our own laws.

We want to give British companies maximum freedom to trade with and operate in the Single Market – and let Europe and businesses do the same here.

Article 50, the point at which we begin our formal negotiations to leave the EU, will be invoked before the end of March 2017.

The Government will also introduce a Great Repeal Bill to remove the European Communities Act from the statute book on the day we leave, meaning that the authority of EU law in Britain will end.

Let's now have the confidence in ourselves to go into the world, securing trade deals, winning contracts, generating wealth and creating jobs.

Suella



FERNANDES MP for Fareham

An invitation to my Senior Citizens' Fair

TOO OFTEN we hear about problems that can accompany the ageing process, including loneliness and isolation. In my opinion too little is being done to tackle these issues.

Kindly supported by the Rotary Club Meon Fareham, I am hosting a fair on Friday, November 25 (3pm - 5.30pm) to bring together the huge variety of interests and activity groups we have in our community, enabling people to browse these at leisure and chat with representatives of different organisations.

Stands will include: health and fitness, hobbies, voluntary services, home support, financial advice and bereavement services.

Demonstrations will be held on stage as well as a coffee and cake session with me.

Many activities will be on offer such as physiotherapy and sports massage tasters, tailored advice from a pharmacist, a Zumba Gold taster class aimed at ladies over 50, information on health and clinical trials by Cancer Research UK.



I found these seniors enjoying the Fareham & Gosport Dementia Action summer tea dance.

Local clubs will demonstrate activities for people to get involved with such as knitting, arts and crafts and Fareham's Men's Shed. A travel company will help you find your perfect getaway.

Admittance is free and there is plenty of on-site parking.

St John's Church Hall, Upper St Michael's Grove is on main bus routes, not far from Fareham Station. I hope to see you there.

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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

Fareham Park Run team celebrated two years of the Fareham 'Couch to 5K team' recently. It was great to see loads of runners take part in one of their Saturday morning 5K runs, starting at Cams Mill. A special well done to the team – I'd highly recommend getting in touch if you would like to start running, no experience necessary!



I spent an afternoon at the new Men's Shed in Fareham, which enables men of all ages and backgrounds to meet regularly to work on practical tasks as a team. This is a great opportunity for the gentlemen of Fareham to meet new people, learn new skills and collaborate on valuable community projects. To get involved, visit www.farehammensshed.org.uk

Life Education Wessex has a mobile classroom that visits local schools to raise awareness on drugs, alcohol and making sensible decisions.

I was pleased to attend a session at Orchard Lee Primary School this month and see the children having a great time using the facilities in the excellent classroom bus.

