

**CONSERVATIVES** keeping our community



# InTouch

**TITCHFIELD, TITCHFIELD COMMON & CATISFIELD – 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!

Titchfield Councillor Connie Hockley 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**

NEWS ROUND



'Thank you' to our supporters

Councillors Sarah Pankhurst and Tiffany Harper would like to thank supporters who again expressed confidence in their hard work and dedication by returning them with large majorities in the May elections.

Sarah noted during her campaign that many residents wanted to discuss local issues.

She said: "I have in the past held surgeries, but with few attendees. It is always good to get a face-to-face discussion and I would welcome feedback as to whether there is a positive view for quarterly surgeries. I would love to hear from you."

Take your partners

Fareham Mayor Councillor Connie Hockley's first big charity fund raiser will be a barn dance at Meon Bye Farm, Triangle Lane, Titchfield, on Saturday, September 3 from 6-10pm.

Wessex Barn Dance Band will provide the music and there will be a hog roast. Tickets cost £10 (children £5) and can be obtained from Tiffany Harper, Connie and Geoff Hockley.

Bid to end hospital scandal

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.

Fareham MP Suella Fernandes set up a task force comprising representatives from local NHS organisations and Friends of Fareham Community Hospital.

She 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.



New Mayor supports breast cancer and youth charities

CHARITY begins at home and Fareham's new Mayor, Titchfield Councillor Connie Hockley, made sure one of the two she will support is right on the doorstep.

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.

It delivers a range of projects across the Borough, giving support to youngsters in their communities.

One of the ways she will raise money

is through a series of tea parties in the Mayor's Parlour. They start at 2.30pm, cost £4 a ticket and include a talk.. Some dates:

**Thursday, July 7** – Canine partners. How they train dogs to help the disabled. Dogs will give a demonstration.

**Thursday, September 1** – History of the Field Gun given by Councillor Fred Birkett.

**PHOTO:** The Mayor chats to fellow ward Councillor Tiffany Harper after the mayor-making ceremony at Ferneham Hall.

Tory councillors' pressure for pedestrian improvements pays off



HARD work by two Titchfield Conservative councillors has paid off with a long-overdue pedestrian improvement scheme due to begin in September.

Titchfield Common Councillor Sarah Pankhurst and Titchfield County Councillor Geoff Hockley worked with highways officers to push the County Council to carry out the scheme at Longacres, especially at the junction with Lower Church Road.

Residents had reported in 2014 that speeding vehicles were putting them at risk if they crossed the road.

Councillor Pankhurst confirmed that funding had been allocated and the work would be managed by County Council officers.

She said there was also a plan to improve the A27 Segensworth-Titchfield and advance work for it in-

cluded diverting an underground cable in the road outside B & Q.

She added: "The Lower Church Road/Longacres improvement scheme is to be slotted in between the A27 improvements and it is proposed that these works will be commenced in September 2016, subject to confirmation from HCC.

"If this is not possible at that time, then HCC confirm this project will start during the main A27 Segensworth to Titchfield improvements."

**PHOTO:** Sarah Pankhurst shows where improvements are planned at Lower Church Road junction.

Junction parkers breach Highway Code

RESIDENTS from Gardener Road, Titchfield have raised concerns about dangerous parking.

Recently, numbers of non-residents who park at the end of the road has increased as they stay for the day.

Vehicles are left near the junction which means residents leaving have to drive on the 'wrong' side and are in danger if anything coming up Coach Hill wishes to turn left.

Councillor Tiffany Harper said: "The High-



way Code states that you must not park where it would endanger or inconvenience other users and you should not park opposite or within 10 metres (32 ft) of a junction.

"This has been added to the list for consideration of yellow lines, a lengthy process due to the abundance of inconsiderate parking across the Borough. Hopefully, we will bring a resolution later in the year."

**PHOTO:** Councillors Tiffany Harper and Connie Hockley monitor the situation.

Curbs to stop school-run traffic mayhem

PARKING restrictions will be introduced in Primate Road this summer – thanks to unrelenting badgering by Councillor Sarah Pankhurst on behalf of residents.

Councillor Pankhurst (pictured) said: "This scheme is long overdue. I have been in numerous discussions with Borough Council officers and have argued that the current school time parking issues are dangerous for pedestrians, drivers and passengers.

"I have seen them walk into a busy road to get into the vehicle from the offside front door.

"I have regularly sat in traffic and witnessed buses and other vehicles struggling to get through the

school run car parking that has caused massive traffic build-up in both directions along Primate Road.

"Something had to be done. I am pleased that, with the help of County Councillor Geoff Hockley, Borough Council officers and HCC Highways, the restrictions should help keep the traffic moving along Primate Road, Longacres and the start of Warsash Road."



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COUNTY COUNCILLOR Fareham Titchfield

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 Titchfield Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Sarah Pankhurst on 07718 137 825.

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.

## 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](http://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](mailto:suella@suellafernandes.co.uk) to get updates on future dates.

