



# InTouch

**WARSASH – 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!

Warsash Councillor Trevor Cartwright 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.

NEWS ROUND



Double 'thank you'

Councillor Mike Ford has thanked everybody who supported him during his year as Mayor of Fareham and voters who gave him such an overwhelming majority at the May elections.

After his mayoral year ended on May 12, he said: "My charity functions, a number of which were held locally, were superbly supported by lots of local folk and to you all I am so grateful."

Deliverers needed

Mike Ford has appealed for volunteers to help deliver InTouch to all 3,000 households in the ward.

"Trevor Cartwright and I are committed to communicating regularly with every resident in Warsash, to let them know what we have been doing and the issues and news from Warsash and the wider Fareham.

"Could you give a little time to deliver to perhaps a small area or even just a couple of streets?"

"We can arrange the number of issues you feel able to deliver to your requirements and time available."

Please contact Trevor or Mike.

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.

Dealing with picnic litter bugs

BIN emptyings will be doubled during the summer at The Strawberry Fields where picnickers have been leaving litter.

Councillor Mike Ford, one of whose jobs is to make sure there are enough bins and to monitor the frequency of emptying, said: "I have reviewed the situation with officers and the position will be helped by them having implemented their summer regime which raises the emptying of bins on these fields from 3 times a week in winter and spring to 6 times a



week until autumn."

Overflowing bins are still a problem. The fields have 100-litre bins, but anything larger would be a mini-skip on wheels, which would be unsightly and prone to vandalism.

"I and the Council's Streetscene team will monitor the situation and assess whether more bins are needed."

The Council is trialing new dog waste bag dispensers in Portchester (pictured) which may be used across the Borough if successful.

Mike and Trevor go a'wattling

TWO Warsash councillors had a lesson in Anglo Saxon building.

Trevor Cartwright and Mike Ford helped to mix and apply wattle and daub.

The ancient craft – two parts clay, one part horse dung and a helping of horsehair – was part of a schools' project on Warsash Common initiated by countryside ranger Mark Harrison-Jones.

Pupils at Locks Heath and Hook-with-Warsash Schools had the task of creating a dead hedge with a wattle and daub wall and turf/straw roof.

PHOTO: Mike and Trevor enjoy getting their hands messy.



Council cash grants will give Victory Hall a new lease of life



IT'S FULL steam ahead for the Victory Hall after funding was allocated to make vital repairs that will give it a new lease of life.

Councillor Mike Ford said the hall needed £200,000

for maintenance and an application was made to Hampshire County Council last year for cash from its community buildings capital fund.

Mike said: "I'm delighted to report that HCC has granted the full £148,000 we applied for.

"An application has gone to Fareham Borough Council for £40,000 under its matched community fund and the hall management will put £10,000 from reserves into the pot.

"This is excellent news and will secure the future of the hall and significantly improve its insulation and heating.

"As part of the County Council's grant, we need to

rewrite our constitution (the hall is a registered charity) and review governance and management arrangements, which is already under way."

Built in 1975 with a lifespan of 30 years, Victory Hall is well past its 'sell-by' date.

Main problems centre on its mostly flat roof and the grants should give it at least another 25 years as the hub of the Warsash community.

The firm that originally carried out the survey has been appointed to manage the renovation project.

PHOTO: Mike Ford (right) discusses the plans to renovate Victory Hall with its new manager, Mark Appleby.

It's all change at 'top of the cops'

HAMPSHIRE'S new Chief Constable, Olivia Pinkney, has extensive experience of shaping and leading strategic and organisational change, writes Trevor Cartwright.

As Deputy Chief Constable for Sussex, she led the Sussex Force's most recent programme. She also chaired the Sussex Resilience Forum, working with agencies and partners from across the county and was involved in the response to the Shoreham Air crash last year.

Councillor Cartwright said she was an incredibly strong candidate who he feels will bring a wealth of operational experience and leadership to her role.

Michael Lane was elected as the new Police Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Isle of Wight and Trevor Cartwright said he would meet him shortly and would be interested in his views on safer neighbourhood policing, Police numbers, the Police Crime Plan, the Operational Change Programme and the Estates Plan.

'Eat out, eat well' scheme

A NEW scheme has been launched in Fareham and Gosport to reward food businesses for providing their customers with healthier eating choices.

The 'Eat Out, Eat Well' scheme aims to help food businesses make small changes to the menu, such as reducing the fat, sugar and salt levels of dishes, and offering other healthy options.

This will mean consumers can opt for healthier choices when buying take-aways or eating out.

Catering businesses in Fareham and Gosport with a food hygiene rating of at least 3 can sign up to the scheme.

They would then be rewarded with a Bronze, Silver or Gold award which they could display.

National Grid submits application for mega power converter plant

NEARLY 700 people attended public meetings held as part of the consultations for the proposed convertor at Daedalus.

Since then, Fareham Council has received an outline planning application from National Grid for the massive multi-million pound building which can exchange 1,000 megawatts of power with France via a submarine cable.

Included in the application is the final link to the National Grid via cabling to Chilling and public open space.

Councillor Trevor Cartwright said an environmental impact was also included, covering key issues such as the visual appearance, noise, electric and magnetic fields and impact on aircraft and airfield operations.

As part of the public consultation, just over 4,800 letters were sent out, with press notices, social media and site notices.

Opportunity to comment closed on June 30 and the application is likely to be decided by the Planning Committee in September.

Councillor Cartwright said some local residents and the Lee-on-the-Solent Gosport councillors opposed the application and felt that Chilling was a better proposal.

He added: "This was previously considered by National Grid, which would be totally unacceptable, and was refused by Hampshire County Council."

Council's efficiency rewarded FAREHAM'S Conservative-run Council picked up a Bronze at the prestigious Improvement and Efficiency Awards event in London.

Councillor Trevor Cartwright, who attended, said Fareham was nominated because it had completely remodelled how services are assessed while improving customer experience – already generating £500,000 annual savings.

He said: "Winning this award celebrates the hard work and effort put in the help to provide excellent services."

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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 Warsash Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Mike Ford on 01489 574501.

## 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.

