



# InTouch

**WARSASH – Spring 2017**

## Wise **Tory** budgeting braces for end of Whitehall support

**IT'S BEEN a financially challenging year for councils across Britain and there are rough seas ahead.**

In Fareham, it's brought out the best of **Conservative** budgeting and wisest spending of your money.

Against the odds, we kept Fareham's council tax to almost the lowest in England for many years with zero rises, while maintaining services with declining government support.

In his 2017-18 budget speech, Council Leader Seán Woodward said another low rate had been achieved with a modest £5 a year rise for Band D properties.

The average home in Fareham is band C, so Borough Council services will cost them just 1p extra per day.

But in 2019, all government revenue support will cease and we'll be left on our own to generate sources of income, plus what we can get from business rates.

Your prudent **Conservative** Council anticipated this and

laid plans to generate income from property investment.

He said: "Only £6.3m of our £48m annual budget comes from council tax, so the Borough Council relies heavily on income from fees, charges and commercial investments.

"Days of living off income from cash investments are past with interest rates at record lows, so we began buying commercial property with good solid tenants (Tesco, Sainsbury's, Specsavers etc) providing a much better income.

"The commercial portfolio generates a 6% return and the buildings remain an asset to sell if the capital is needed.

"75% of the portfolio value is in Fareham. Recent acquisitions include Halfords, PC World, Argos and Dunelm at

Park Gate and a commercial building for Universal Tool and Production at Daedalus.

"Millions of pounds annually are now being generated and every £60,000 is equivalent to around 1% off the council tax bill."

### WHAT BAND D PROPERTIES WILL PAY

Fareham Borough Council	£150.22 (+£5)
Hampshire County Council	£1,133.10 (+£53.82)
Hampshire Fire and Rescue	£63.84 (+£1.24)
Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner	£165.46 (+£5)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,512.62 (+£65.06)</b>

## Fareham has lots to look forward to during the year ahead

Modest savings will come from moving Fareham Today magazine online.

We will now be publishing more frequent, shorter editions on our website.

If you'd still like a copy posted through your door or to receive email alerts you can sign up.

We welcome a well-known hotel chain that will bring a long overdue hotel to the town centre.

We have exciting ideas for making the centre a vibrant place and have put together some draft plans.

But we'd like your ideas on how we can improve it.

A splendid new play area will open in the summer at Holly Hill, Sarisbury.

School children are collecting items to put into a time capsule which will be buried there for 25 years.

It will add to the highly successful £9m Leisure Centre.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of flying at Daedalus, the former Fleet Air Arm HQ.

We've looked at its history and will be holding an event in the summer for the community to mark this historic milestone.

More details later.

## Major autumn relaunch for refurbished Warsash Victory Hall

**A PROJECT costing £200,000 to secure the long-term future of Victory Hall, Warsash is making good progress.**

Councillor Mike Ford, a member of the management committee, said contracts had been let for substantial works to the roof and also for general works including to the walls and doors of the Hall.

"These will additionally significantly improve the insu-



lation of the building.

"Work will commence in late March and continue for up to 12 weeks, during which it is hoped to keep disruption to a minimum.

"Following this, it is hoped that some decorative enhancements can be undertaken which will culminate in a major hall re-launch event in the autumn."

**PHOTO:** Mike Ford (left) discusses the refurbishment with hall manager Mark Appleby.

**NEWS ROUND**



**Masked ball**

There's a different theme for this year's Mayor's Charity Ball – guests will have to wear masks. It will be at Ferneham Hall on March 31 with music from Sounds Alive. Tickets cost £45 each or £40 if you make up a table for 10 and can be obtained from the Mayor's Office on 01329 824303 or from the Mayor, Councillor Connie Hockley, on 01329 287365.

**Calling all quizzers**

Councillor Mike Ford reports that Warsash Conservative Association is holding a quiz night at St Mary's Church Hall on Saturday, March 25 at 7.30pm. Please come along, everyone is most welcome. Tickets include a supper and cost £10 (BYO drinks) and are available from either Mike (331076) or Trevor (578519).

**Tidier Strawberry Fields**

Following a recent review of the provision of litter/dog bins on the Strawberry Fields, Councillor Mike Ford proposed changes to ensure that this popular location has an appropriate number of bins correctly positioned. "Field users will no doubt have noticed a new bin at the Newtown Road entrance, which really was needed. These will of course be kept under regular review," he said.

**TRO arrangement axed**

The Borough Council has terminated its agreement to implement traffic regulation orders (TROs) for the County Council, which has cut funding. County Councillor Keith Evans said it would have resulted in Fareham having to find an additional £60,000 for undertaking a service that is a County Council function, adding 1% to council tax bills.

**Good news for Warsash Sea Cadets**

UNIVERSITY representatives will attend the April meeting of Warsash Residents' Association to discuss plans to move most of the Maritime Academy to Southampton. The upper part of the site will go for development, but the waterside facility will be retained and updated, as we reported in the autumn edition. Councillor Trevor Cartwright said that at a recent meeting with Vice-Chancellor Professor Graham Baldwin and staff it was agreed representatives should attend the meeting. As a member of Warsash Sea Cadets' Management Committee, Trevor Cartwright met the Vice-Chancellor independently to discuss the unit's plans and requirements. "I was heartened to hear that the cadets are part of the university's plans for the lower site," he said. Warsash Sea Cadets were named the best cadet unit in Britain in 2015.

**Jetty connections are completed**

WORK to connect the existing harbour master's and fishermen's jetties is now complete. County Councillor Keith Evans, chairman of the River Hamble Harbour Board, says there are now more free tender billets available to mid-stream moorings holders. There are also several improved tender billets to enable easier embarkation for the less able. PHOTO: Harbour Master Jason Scott shows Keith Evans a new pontoon.



**Got him! Wanton rubbish dumper sent to prison**



FLY-TIPPER Ashley Mooney, formerly from Gosport, dumped this load of rubbish which blocked Spurlings Lane.

He also off-loaded trash in Gosport, Winchester and Eastleigh and was prosecuted by all four councils. He pleaded guilty to 14 charges and was jailed for 12 months. Costs to landowners and councils to clear it, plus the prosecution, totalled £25,618. County Councillor Keith Evans, was delighted with the outcome. He denied the problem was caused by HCC charging for commercial waste at recycling centres. "This is completely untrue because until October no sites would accept commercial waste. A chargeable service is now offered for trade waste where previously there was none." Fly-tipping is a crime and offenders will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

**Late summer review for new draft Borough Plan**

WORK on writing the new Fareham Borough Plan that will identify housing and employment requirements to 2036 is making good progress.

A draft is likely to be reviewed by the Fareham Executive in August/September. This will indicate the level of additional housing that can be provided from within the existing urban area (brownfield sites) and the level that will need new greenfield sites. This draft will then be subject to full public consultation. It will include an assessment of all the greenfield/countryside sites that have been submitted to be considered for new development, a statement of the

Planning Strategy to be used in selecting new sites and details of the new sites that meet the deliverability and planning strategy guidelines. Welborne remains the core element to meet our housing needs with around 6,000 new houses proposed for this location, with 270 acres of natural green space and the relevant re-



quired infrastructure. The new plan should reach its final stage of approval before the end of 2018. Meantime, Fareham will continue to judge new planning applications against the existing adopted plan and its objectives/policies. County Councillor Keith Evans said:

"This was the position taken at the last Fareham Planning Committee meeting which considered two applications from Taylor Wimpey and Foreman Homes for 80 and 150 houses respectively on land north of Greenaway Lane. Both were refused by the committee for the basic reason of being outside the urban area and in designated countryside, and not required to meet housing needs in the present adopted Borough Plan. "These decisions can, of course, be appealed by the developer and it is worth noting that both have been submitted as greenfield for consideration in the new Borough Plan."

**Francesca's winning flag flies high**

THIS IS Warsash's striking new flag which flies proudly from the Clock Tower. It was designed by Francesca Nice, a Year 4 pupil at Hook with Warsash C of E Academy, who won the competition that has become an annual event. Councillor Trevor Cartwright, who helped with the judging, said pupils from Year 1 to Year 4 were invited to take part in the event, sponsored by clock tower owners Simon and Kerry Woodham.

Francesca's flag was chosen because it included everything about Warsash - even a lobster pot. The winner and runners-up were invited to the tower to see the flag run up.



**Anti-social behaviour crackdown**

DRUNKENESS, drug dealing, begging and sleeping rough in Fareham town centre will no longer be tolerated. Persistent complaints about anti-social behaviour forced the Council to act and a Public Protection Order came into force in January. County Councillor Keith Evans says the police work closely with the Council, which in turn works with special support organisations to help people. The Order will only be used as a last resort if offenders persist in anti-social activities. He adds: "There is no need to be homeless as the Council has a duty to house people in need. However, some choose not to take up this option. "We believe this approach balances the support and needs of people with our duty to respond to complaints from the public and take action against illegal activities."

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COUNTY COUNCILLOR		BOROUGH COUNCILLORS	
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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.

## A clear plan for Brexit and an economy that works

The Prime Minister has set out a bold plan for a global Britain.

It contains 12 objectives including controlling our own laws, strengthening the Union, controlling immigration, protecting workers' rights, free trade with European markets and new trade agreements with other countries.



After a Parliamentary vote and debate, Article 50 will be triggered, enabling the formal process of withdrawal to begin.

All of this is set against a backdrop of the lowest unemployment in 10 years, the UK being the fastest growing G7 economy, the deficit cut by two thirds and Global businesses like Nissan and Google investing in the UK since the Referendum to create even more jobs here.

The UK's strength will ensure that we can deal with the challenge ahead!

# Suella



## FERNANDES MP for Fareham

## Hundreds flock to Ferneham Hall for Apprentice Fair

**EQUIPPING Fareham's young people with skills and know-how is crucial to ensuring that they thrive in the workplace, build expertise and boost business.**

I am passionate about apprenticeships as a means of empowering the next generation and was delighted to hold my second Apprenticeships Fair in Ferneham Hall in January.

Hundreds of school pupils, sixth formers and job-seekers attended the day event, kindly sponsored by Segensworth-based manufacturers, Saab Seaeeye.

With over 30 organisations represented, covering the IT, engineering, aerospace, marine, health services, care, military, naval and charitable sectors, visitors met employers, apprentices and learnt more about training and jobs.

Throughout the day, workshops were held at the Careers Hub on CV preparation, inter-



Suella discusses the fair with Saab Seaeeye apprentices Jack Burgess (left) and Zach Coates.

view skills and presentation.

By the end of the whole day, some people even left with an offer of an interview!

Suella said: "Thanks to all sponsors and companies who made the event possible."

### CONTACT SUELLA

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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/contact](http://www.suellafernandes.co.uk/contact)

### 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

### Progress on Fareham Community Hospital

We need to use Fareham Community Hospital better.

That's why I set up The Fareham Community Hospital Taskforce (pictured) last year.

The local CCG has now agreed to a pilot project which will enable the hospital to be used by more healthcare providers and will create a more centralised management system to help patients make better use of this valuable local asset.



### Office of National Statistics visit Parliament

I was delighted to welcome Fareham's team from the Office of National Statistics to the Houses of Parliament.

We had a good discussion on the impact of the Digital Economy Bill related to the work that the ONS does.



### Speaking up for Southern Rail commuters

The Southern Rail strikes have affected many rail commuters in Fareham. They are totally unacceptable, when there are no jobs at stake, no pay cuts and no safety implications of the new driver-operated doors.

I raised the issue in Parliament with the Transport Secretary, Chris Grayling, who urged the Rail Unions to call off strikes and come back to the negotiating table.

