

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

FAREHAM SOUTH – Autumn 2017

Same-day GP appointments scheme off to a steady start

A NEW SERVICE for Fareham people to make urgent same-day GP appointments welcomed its first patients in September as it got off to a smooth start.

However, only 40% of surgeries have so far agreed to participate and patients who use the others are encouraged to get their GPs to 'sign up'.

The Fareham Primary Care Service (FPCS), based at a hub at Fareham Community Hospital, Park Gate, dealt with 60 patient calls in its first three hours after going live at 8am.

Four of the ten GP practices in Fareham are working together to develop a new way of offering urgent appointments to patients who want to see a health professional on the day they make contact.

The participating practices are Highlands Practice, Jubilee Surgery and Whiteley Surgery. Stubbington Medical Practice will also join the scheme, from January 2, 2018. Other practices may follow if the initiative proves successful.

Routine appointments at GP practices are not affected, and continue as before.

Dr Tom Bertram, the Titchfield GP who is clinical lead for the project which has been funded by the Better Local Care initiative, said: "I would particularly like to thank the management team for all its hard work and meticulous planning.

"It's very exciting to see the hub in action. It's all gone



very smoothly. I'd also like to thank everyone at the Community Hospital for getting the room, IT, and everything else in place. They have done a fantastic job."

Amanda Gray, practice manager at Highlands Surgery who is on the project team, said: "Patients who have come here for appointments have been very positive. We have been delighted by the response to this new service so far."

Dr Donal Collins, one of the GPs triaging patients at the hub today, said: "I really value the fact that I can speak to colleagues from other practices in one setting here, and that we can all learn and share from each other. That has to be good for our patients."

Patients wanting urgent same-day appointments phone their GP practice as normal and, if they agree to their details being shared with the service, they will then be called back in order of clinical priority with a nurse/GP having a detailed conversation with them - which may result in the patient being given advice over the phone or offered an appointment, either at the hospital or the surgery.

Councillors Dennis Steadman and Keith Barton said doctors and nurses must be congratulated on their efforts and had worked very hard to ensure that this new scheme works well for all patients.

PHOTO: Dr Tom Bertram, from Jubilee Surgery, and Amanda Gray (left), the practice manager at Highlands Surgery, discuss the new service with Dr Derrin Wilkins.

LITTER – what a colossal waste of YOUR money



THE COUNCIL spends more than **£920,000** a year of your taxes cleaning up Fareham.

Tackling litter is one of our key objectives so we are launching a litter

campaign aimed at changing behaviour.

There are three strands to the campaign – general littering, dropped cigarette butts, discarded chewing gum.

Events and activities are planned across the Borough.

You may spot one of our newly branded litter lorries out and about carrying anti-litter messages (pictured).

Later this month residents will be able to get their hands on freebies to help them dispose of cigarette ends or chewing gum in a responsible way. Keep an eye on our social media for updates.

The Council can issue on the spot fines of £80 to those seen littering.

Councillor Dennis Steadman said: "By highlighting the damage caused by littering we hope to encourage more people to do the right thing and save money."

Almost England's lowest district council tax – thanks to CONSERVATIVES



NEWS ROUND

Gate security problem

Residents are concerned about a security barrier at Cams Alders being left unlocked, fearing another travellers' invasion.

This gate stops any vehicle with a high roof getting in but delivery vehicles need to unlock it to get in and out.

But drivers forget to close and lock the gate when they leave, increasing the risk of travellers getting into the site.

Councillor Keith Barton said: "We are working with FBC to come up with a better solution to help prevent this from happening."

Speed limit demand

We want a 20 mph speed limit down Redlands Lane by Redlands Primary School.

Councillor Keith Barton said: "There was a recent accident there and we feel this is a must to prevent any future accidents."

Alternative path

Trafalgar Court residents have been told it's not feasible to lay a footpath across the recreation ground to save them wading across soggy grass to reach the BRT bus stop.

Councillor Dennis Steadman says there is an alternative along a proper path via Jubilee Court, the northern edge of Fort Fareham woodland and on to Palmerston Drive where there is a bus stop.

The Council officer responsible told him the path is suitable for the winter months

'Hammerhead' requested

The County Council has been asked to impose a 'hammerhead' parking restriction along parts of Longfield Avenue.

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Council demolishes 'druggie' bridge

A DILAPIDATED bridge used by drunks and druggies has been demolished by Fareham Council.

Compass Point bridge, which spanned the river leading into The Gillies from Gosport Road, was condemned as a potential health and safety risk.

Councillor Dennis Steadman said: "It was being used as an access to the other side of the creek for the purposes of drug taking and alcohol abuse."

"There was little scope beyond the bridge to extend into and link with the existing footpath network."

Debris has been cleared and the access point filled with wrought iron fencing.



Cams Alders idea rejected

DIRECTORS of Fareham Town FC have rejected the Cams Alders Vision to provide sports facilities at the ground.

Councillor Dennis Steadman said: "Fareham Town has a 99-year lease which covers most of the land to the north of the access road that divides the site, which incorporates the existing football stadium and two adjacent football pitches."

"The Council is now looking for alternative ways to provide much needed new sports and community facilities."

He said the Council remained committed to deliver the vision, but more work must be done to achieve this and it was not possible to provide a timescale.

Dennis added: "It would provide Fareham South with completely new facilities and ideas. I can assure you that the Council will move forward when time and circumstances are correct."

£50,000 facelift brings church hall into the 21st Century



A MASSIVE £50,000 refurbishment project has transformed St John's Church Hall into a venue fit for the 21st Century.

The hall was closed during the summer so a complete renovation of the floor, replacement



of the ceiling and lighting and a new commercial standard kitchen with dishwasher.

It would not have been possible without a £25,000 grant from HCC's Culture, Com-

munities and Business Services, plus the support from ward Councillor Dennis Steadman and MP Suella Fernandes.

It was reopened with a community coffee morning attended by 65 people, including Fareham Mayor Geoff Fazackarley and Councillors Steadman and Keith Barton, which raised £235 for The

Rainbow Centre.

The Vicar, the Rev Bruce Deans, stressed it was important to welcome as many people as possible from the community into the hall to make use of the new facilities.

Councillor Steadman commented: "It's a magnificent transformation, bringing the hall into the 21st Century."

"It looks great and we must congratulate the hall chairman, Jack Harding, and church warden and hall committee member Rachel Hicks who gave their time to make it possible."

PHOTOS: Hall secretary Geoff Collins admires the new floor and Badminton court.

Inset: The fine new kitchen boasts up-to-date industrial standard equipment

Quest for more parking spaces

SEVERAL residents complained to us about being unable to park by their homes due to an increase of cars parking around some of the walks off Longfield Avenue.

Cars are also parking in the lay-bys and on some of the grass verges by the walks.

Councillor Keith Barton, pictured with InTouch team member Councillor Geoff Fazackarley, is proposing that the piece of land where they are pictured should be turned into parking spaces.

Keith said: "This bit of land is supposed to be for

amenities for nearby houses, but as it is right by a main road we don't feel it is safe for any kind of play area.

"Instead of sitting there it could be put to good use to provide more car parking, strictly for residents only."



Vision is an issue

RESIDENTS have concerns relating to junctions at Butser Walk with Longfield Avenue and Westfield Road with St Michael's Grove.

Councillors Keith Barton and Geoff Fazackarley, pictured, have been working to resolve the issues.

They said: "We will push hard to extend the yellow lines to create a better field of vision."



County refuses to resolve residents' parking complaints

BAD PARKING at the junction of Mill Road and Redlands Lane has been annoying residents for years.

Despite repeated demands from Councillor Dennis Steadman, the County Council says it cannot do anything about the situation.

Dennis tried again a few weeks ago, saying there had been an increase in traffic movements, but HCC still wouldn't listen.

He said: "Parking issues are considered in the same way as other traffic issues, with priority given to casualty figures as set out in HCC's policy last year."

"Parking issues rarely have casualty history so they generally won't meet the criteria and will be of much lower priority."

"In the past 5 years there have been no injury accidents in the vicinity of Mill Road and Redlands Lane."

Double yellow lines and a legally enforceable Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) are not always the answer. They involve a lengthy process of consultation and, as parking spaces are at a premium, it would not be appropriate to consider restrictions that would simply move the problem elsewhere nearby.

"For these reasons, the County is unable to consider any parking-related TROs for locations that do not have a casualty history or proven recurring safety issues," he added.

Council's rapid response

A TRAFFIC nightmare has ended for Cotswold Walk resident Mr Woodage.

He complained to us about cars and lorries backing into his drive and across his front lawn – almost hitting his bungalow's front windows at times – to reverse in the cul-de-sac.

Councillor Keith Barton, aided by InTouch team member Councillor Geoff Fazackarley, persuaded the Council to put up a fence along his front boundaries, matching his neighbour's to keep it in character.

The Council responded quickly by doing the job within 4 weeks.

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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 Fareham South Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Keith Barton on 01329 286396.

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.

Extra 3,100 homes plan goes for consultation amid protest storm

AMID A STORM of controversy and protests, the vital new draft Fareham Plan was approved by the Executive for public consultation

It followed heated debates, deputations from residents and objections from councillors whose wards will be affected.

It covers the period 2011 to 2036 to include the Welborne element and extends the rest of the Borough from 2026 to 2036 – an extra 10 years – to have a single terminus date.

And it is essential to prevent scores of developers climbing on the bandwagon in a free-for-all as happened in **Lib Dem** controlled Eastleigh.

Councillor Keith Evans, executive member for planning and development, said housing requirements were co-ordinated by local councils participating in the South Hampshire area using a premeditated formula.

The method covers aspects such as population growth, age, household sizes and economic growth.

Fareham's requirement for the plan period is 8,300 houses and 85,000 sq metres of employment space.

He said: "We are 6 years into this timeline so some of the houses and some employment space has already been delivered or agreed.

"The net balance for which sites need to be identified and agreed are around 3,100 houses and 13,000 sq m of employment space.

"Developers and landowners have submitted over 200 sites to be considered, but if all these were used, we would have an extra 10,000 to 11,000 houses and an extra 65,000 sq metres of employment space. We have prioritised using brownfield sites in the town centre.

Council officers faced the massive task to assess

each site's suitability, sustainability and developability with reference to other bodies such as education and health.

Many sites were rejected with others identified with varying degrees of suitability, leading to development of a planning strategy with a 3-pronged approach:

1 Large (or clustered) sites that would enable delivery of community benefits.

This resulted in proposed sites in Warsash (700 homes), Titchfield (400 homes), town centre (600 homes), North Portchester (350 homes), South Portchester (350 homes) and Stubbington (475 homes)

2 The balance (about 500 houses) from smaller sites

3 Try to spread the burden and impact across the Borough

The plan is a statutory requirement to meet annual housebuilding aims of the political parties.

In fact, **Conservatives** have the smallest target of 200,000 homes, while the **Lib Dems** want to build 300,000.

The consultation period ends on December 8 with all responses being considered in the preparation of the formal plan to be published by next summer.

This will be subject to further consultation before

everything is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate to arrange a public examination, probably at the end of 2018.

He added: "Any Borough Plan is contentious and frequently unwelcome to many, it brings changes to locations and areas, some good and welcome, but others, such as increased road traffic, not so welcome.

"I strongly urge all residents to find time to read the plan and respond to the consultations."

The plan with all supporting documents is available on line and paper copies in libraries and the Civic offices.

The table below shows the total number of houses on sites across the Borough on which developers want to build. Most will have to be defended at public inquiries.

Fareham N	304	Portchester E	103
Fareham NW	133	Portchester W	921
Fareham E	785	Sarisbury	1,124
Fareham S	0	Stubbington	2,302
Fareham W	254	Titchfield	1,161
Hill Head	198	Titchfield Common	438
Locks Heath	0	Warsash	2,698
Park Gate	64	TOTAL	10,485

Conservatives stress the importance of affordable homes.

We have over 1,000 Fareham families on the housing waiting list needing Fareham homes.

These could be for rent (council housing @ 60% market rent, housing association @ 80% market rent), shared equity (part rent part buy), starter homes at a 20% discount on market value or even self-build.

*See Fareham Today Special at <https://tinyurl.com/y8f3f54t>

Fareham's schools will benefit from fairer funding formula

FAIRER national funding has been welcomed by Fareham schools.

From April 2018, the new national funding formula will replace the out-of-date system that saw Hampshire's schools get one of the low-

est levels in the country.

All secondary schools will receive at least £4,800 per pupil and all primary schools will receive at least £3,500 per pupil in 2019-20, as well as a minimum cash increase in respect of every school of 0.5% per

pupil, rising to 1%, up to 3% gains per pupil in 2018-19 and a further 3% in 2019-20 for under-funded schools.

High needs funding will also be increased which supports the most vulnerable children.