



InTouch

LOCKS HEATH – Autumn 2017

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.

Effect on Locks Heath - See Page 4

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>



NEWS ROUND

End for farmers' markets

The farmers' market held in the precinct is to close from December.

Despite having room for 30 traders, only only 8 or fewer have been attending recently.

Traders are encouraged to join the general Monday market instead.

Upgrade for popular path



Hamble Causeway, one of South Hampshire's most popular foot-paths, is being repaired and upgraded.

Emergency repairs were carried out just before Christmas 2016, shoring up a major breach.

These have now been followed up with re-decking and the installation of ramps on the 'Chinese Bridge'.

Further work is planned for late winter/early spring 2018, improving the surface condition and further shoring up of the banks.

This is funded by Fareham Borough Council planning agreements, with additional capital from Hampshire County Council.

Major road improvements

Hampshire County Council has just approved a £19.6 million road improvement scheme for the M27 Junction 9 and at Parkway South.

At peak times queues can tail back several miles along the motorway.

At junction 9, there will be an additional lane put in on the approach and on the carriageway widening.

These improvements will provide a substantial traffic capacity at both junctions to reduce the queues.

Age Concern team wins top awards

VOLUNTEERS at Age Concern's Locks Heath Day Care Centre can be proud of their gardening skills.

The centre won prestigious awards in the Fareham in Bloom competition.

"They've made it a real haven of beauty," said Councillor Susan Bayford, who visited the centre recently for Age Concern Hampshire's annual meeting.

She and fellow Councillor Keith Evans



recent Fareham in Bloom contest.

are proud to have such an excellent facility in the ward.

The centre, managed by Mandy Rowlands and her dedicated team, provides a range of activities, freshly cooked meals and personal care.

PHOTO: Mandy Rowlands shows the awards won in the

Susan's second spell as Mayor



She said: "It's an honour to be Deputy Mayor for a second time. I look forward to helping the current Mayor, Geoff Fazackarley, to fulfil his long list of engagements." **PHOTO: The Mayor and his new Deputy.**

FOUR YEARS after being Fareham's first citizen, Susan Bayford may don the mayoral robes again next year – provided she's re-elected as ward councillor in May.

Meantime, Councillor Bayford wears the robes of Deputy Mayor after being appointed at the October full Council meeting.

It happened due to the sudden resignation from the Council of Councillor Chris Wood

She will have her husband, Park Gate Councillor Brian Bayford, himself a former Mayor, as Consort.

Citizens Advice comes to Lockswood Library



CITIZENS ADVICE FAREHAM has been operating out of Fareham Library for many years, offering a marvellous free service to local residents.

Trained volunteers provide support to all residents of the Borough and it is now providing a local service in the Lockswood Library on Tuesdays 10am to 2pm when residents can speak to an advisor face to face.

This new service will provide free, confidential and impartial advice to people on their rights and responsibilities.

Specialist advice is provided on a range of subjects and practical help can be provided with filling in forms or negotiating on a person's behalf.

Many local solicitors have joined up to offer free half hour appointments to clients on a Thursday evening. Citizens Advice is also extending outreach work to home visits within the Locks Heath area.

Deborah Stringfellow, chairwoman of Citizens Advice Fareham, said one of the recommendations

from recent community profile work was to consider providing accessible advice to Fareham people who may be unable to access the town centre library.

Citizens Advice Fareham is grateful to local Hampshire County councillors for funding the outreach work in the community.

For more information, call the advice line 03444 111306* Mondays to Fridays 9am-5pm and Saturday 9.30am-1pm. If calling from a mobile, you will be asked to enter an area code. Fareham's is 01329.

Information can also be found online at www.citizensadvice.org where a chat service is available.

PHOTO: Councillor Susan Bayford learned about the excellent work undertaken by the service when she visited Biddy Mayo, Operations Manager and volunteer Beryl Lawrence at the Lockswood Library

'Waste less' cash grant

FAREHAM has received £30,000 funding from Sainsbury's as part of the supermarket's 'Waste Less, Save More' campaign.

The project works with local communities, led by a group or the council.

Councillor Pam Bryant says Fareham was chosen to be one of 160 communities across Britain and successfully bid for a share of the £1m.

Competitions for local schools to design a bag for restaurants to encourage diners to take home any food they cannot finish.

Genesis 20th anniversary celebrations

GENESIS CENTRE, a thriving youth centre run by Y-Services in the heart of Locks Heath, recently celebrated its 20th anniversary in style.

A variety of events, including singers, a bouncy castle, face painting, stalls and fun games for children, all made the day extra special.

Fareham Mayor Councillor Geoff Fazackarley and Mayoress Tina Fazackarley helped to make this milestone even more special.

The Centre, which is modern and well-equipped, is home to a wide variety of clubs and has a fully

professional music studio.

Locks Heath Councillors Keith Evans and Susan Bayford were delighted to attend, particularly as they serve on the management committee.

The facilities can be hired for community use.

Email: genesis@yservices.co.uk 01489 808040



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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** by delivering **InTouch** in your street, why not join Locks Heath Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Susan Bayford on 01489 577772.

Councillors support residents' call for pedestrian crossing



SEVERAL people recently contacted Councillor Susan Bayford to express their concerns about the need for a pedestrian crossing.

They want it sited between the pathway that runs from Waitrose at the Locks Heath Shopping Village and Centre Way, which runs past the overflow car park and the bus stop.

Councillor Bayford passed on these comments to Hampshire County Council, as the responsible local authority.

Their response was 'that they will add this request list for future consideration but there were no reported incidents at that point that might give it some priority.'

Susan subsequently arranged a meeting at the site with some residents and fellow ward Councillor Keith Evans (pictured).

She said: "This is clearly a hazardous road point to cross, with many exits and entrances to the car park as well as buses entering the bus stop area.

"On top of these hazards, Centre Way is a highway which is used by motorists to travel between Locks Road and Lockswood Road.

"A petition to the County has been suggested as a means of highlighting residents' concerns."

Bowling club wins top national 'In Bloom' award

LOCKSWOOD Bowling Club, which was founded in 1990 by a group of enthusiasts, gained an 'Outstanding' award in the Britain in Bloom 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category.

Councillor Susan Bayford, who was delighted to open the bowling club's conservatory in 2014 during her mayoral year, said:

"It is always a pleasure to visit the club and admire the really beautifully garden."

The recent award was presented at a special Fareham in Bloom ceremony at Fernham Hall in September.

Fareham same-day GP appointments scheme gets 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'.

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 affect-



ed, 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: "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."

Councillor Susan Bayford said: "We have to thank our MP, Suella Fernandes, for setting up the Task Force at the Community Hospital which led to this new service."

"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.

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

County braces for council tax rises as Whitehall grant is phased out

HAMPSHIRE'S council taxpayers face more increases over the next two years to make up for the ever decreasing government support grant.

And there are likely to be some controversial cuts in services.

It means HCC will have to make £340m savings in 2018 and a further £140m in 2019.

County Councillor Keith Evans says it faces a £40m grant reduction, plus £100m increased demand from rising numbers of elderly, growing education support needs, inflation etc.

He says: "This estimated shortfall is after assumed maximum allowed county council tax increases of 3.99% each year.

"Achieving the £340m savings has been hard but by careful and thorough review and re-organisation of operational processes, significant investment in technology, reductions in staff and management and increasing fees and charges, the HCC managed to minimise the direct adverse impact on front line services."

Keith Evans says some untenable options must be considered in the

budget planning, including reducing or eliminating bus subsidies, reducing grants for community projects, reducing the number of household waste recycling centres etc

He adds: "Savings have to be made but these options will be heatedly debated by councillors over the next 6 months looking to identify alternatives and to protect local service delivery."

•HCC had to raise council tax by 3.99% last year and it's likely to go up by 1% in 2018 and by 1.99% in 2019. The government grant ceases by 2020.

'There's not much land left to build on in Locks Heath' - councillor claims

OUR PART of Fareham – between Lockswood Road and Hunts Pond Road – is scarcely affected by the new Borough Plan.

Councillor Susan Bayford said: "We have taken more than our share of the housing requirements over the last 10 to 20 years. There is little land left to build on."

However, two new sites have been allocated:

1 Top part of the open space south of Locks Heath Free Church in Hunts Pond Road. This is part of HCC owned land leased by Fareham mainly for sport. 38

dwelling are suggested here, but Fareham will want to tie any approval to enhancements to the sports facilities.

We believe Fareham must take ownership of the sports pitches so that these can be improved with an assured long-term future.

2 Bottom end of Raley Road to behind Warsash Road houses and butting up to the King George V recreation grounds for 49 dwellings. No encroachment into the recreation ground and financial contributions to education, highway improvements and public open space.