

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

LOCKS HEATH – Spring 2018

Just a 1p a day rise as Tories set austerity-defying budget

CONSERVATIVES have agreed yet another austerity-defying budget for Fareham.

Despite losing its entire Revenue Support Grant from government, the Borough share of council tax will rise by just 1p a day for the average home.

The Council spends £46m delivering services, but the amount raised in council tax accounts for only 14% of that sum, so we have to raise the rest by investing YOUR money wisely.

For example, over £26m has been invested in the last 3 years in commercial property, mainly in Fareham Borough, producing an income of nearly £2m a year.

Without this income your council tax would have to be increased by nearly 30%.

The resulting budget sees the Council's services remain intact and a district council tax which remains almost the lowest in the country.

Car parking charges are frozen for the 7th year and continue to apply only in the town centre, and free in the evenings and Sundays in the long-stay car parks.

Council Leader Seán Woodward said: "Times are incredibly hard in the public sector, but we have been able to preserve all the services which our residents value



Relaxing in the lounge at the showpiece Sylvan Court, a sheltered housing complex at Coldeast for our older residents which cost £5m and has every modern comfort



while respecting that many, particularly those on fixed incomes, would find even modest increases in our charges difficult to bear."

Council will find you a plot to self-build your dream home

EVER dreamt of building your own home?

Fareham Council has started working towards that goal with The Right to Build Task Force.

It aims to include a range of custom and self-build housing plots at Welborne Garden Village and elsewhere in the Borough on any developments of 100 homes and above.

Since its launch last year, the Task Force has been working with councils, landowners and others to bring forward custom, self-build and community-led housing opportunities, with an emphasis

on scale and housing affordability. It can offer subsidised support for councils and community groups to enable them to meet the demand for self-build space.

One of the Task Force's key objectives is to provide more affordable homes for those in housing need and work with councils to help deliver these.

Council Leader Seán Woodward, councillors and officers met the Right to Build Task Force recently with

Richard Bacon MP, ambassador of the Task Force and Mario Wolf, Task Force director.

Richard Bacon said: "It was a

pleasure to meet Fareham Borough Council to discuss self-building opportunities in Fareham.

"Developments such as Welborne offer huge scope for bringing forward a range of well-designed housing options and are, therefore, a logical choice to help meet local demand for people who want to build their own homes."

Residents who are interested in building their own homes in the Fareham area and Welborne can sign up to the Council's register at http://www.fareham.gov.uk/planning/local_plan/selfbuild.aspx

This will help them to find a suitable plot of land.

Only those that have lived or worked in the Borough for at least two years are eligible.



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



NEWS ROUND

New library visiting day

Citizens Advice state that their new weekly visiting day is now on Wednesdays from 10am until 2pm. CAB advice line is 03444 111306 and Webchat citizensadvice.org.uk

Mayor's charities

Susan Bayford, who will be the next Mayor of Fareham if she is re-elected, is considering her charities. She has already chosen the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust and is looking at other local options.

Same-day GP service success

The Fareham Primary Care Service same-day GP access at Fareham Community Hospital reports that nearly 1,000 patients were seen within the first 5 weeks of its inception.

Councillor Susan Bayford stated: "This is an exciting step forward in improving access to care in Fareham."

"Currently, 4 GP practices are providing this service and it is expected that this scheme will include other practices in Fareham in the coming year."

Fareham MP Suella Fernandes and her Fareham Community Hospital Task Force are currently trying to improve public transport links to the hospital.

Temporary library closure

Hampshire County Council is planning changes at the Lockwood Community Centre Library – new shelving and the installation of self-service equipment.

These changes will support better and more flexible use of the library.

Temporary closure is planned for March 20 to April 5.

No books will be due back during the closure and no fines will be charged for these days.

Users will, of course, have access to other libraries and can perhaps make some use of the e-resources facilities available through www.hants.gov.uk/library

Grants and fund-raising aid centre

NEW facilities at Lockwood Community and Sports Association have been welcomed.

During the past year, the men's and women's showers have been refurbished at a cost of £7,000.

A grant of £1,000 from County Councillor Keith Evans' devolved budget also helped to boost funds, as did the £405 raised by trustees, staff and volunteers at a Christmas fund-raising event.

Councillor Susan Bayford said other improvements carried out by the trust-

ees included two new Badminton posts and fresh coats of paint for the foyer and stairs.

There are plans to paint the sports hall, provided matching funding can be obtained.

The trustees are currently negotiating to renew the lease of the premises with Fareham Borough Council.

Councillor Bayford is Fareham Council's representative to the association, which is a registered charity, and regularly attends trustee committee meetings.

Campaign to cut food waste

FOOD makes up a quarter of waste we throw away in Hampshire.

Fareham Council is running the 'Great Food Rescue' in partnership with Sainsbury's, and you can get involved.

Local children are designing a logo to encourage people to take home their leftovers. The winning logo will be printed on bags that will be distributed to local restaurants.

Keep a simple food diary and jot down any food that doesn't get eaten. Return it to us and we will send you a Food Saver pack or download it from the Council website(loveleftovers@fareham.gov.uk) or contact them for a paper copy.

Share your recipes to use up leftovers and tips to avoid food waste by email or social media. If you are part of a community group who would like to be involved, let the Council know and they can visit your group.

Showing how to become useful members of society



OFFENDERS have been paying their debt to society by helping with projects at Abbeyfield Court, Locks Heath for the past 10 years.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community and Rehabilitation Company say a variety of major projects has been carried out by community payback teams as reparation for their offences.

A recent successful project was to paint and preserve external fences, a walkway and the summer house.

Abbeyfield Court, Locks Road is an assisted living retirement care home which promotes independent living.

Local residents at The Chestnuts are invited to join in the fun on quiz nights and musical evenings as well as other events.

PHOTO (l to r): Jeff Harris, Placement Co-Ordinator, Neil Thompson, Senior House Manager, Abbeyfield Society, Luke, service user, volunteer Robin Kelly and Councillor Susan Bayford.



Tiers of joy as Zoe's giant cake is cut

A GIANT 5-tier cake was the centrepiece for Hamble Heights 5th birthday celebrations in January.

The care home specialises in dementia and Alzheimer's, as well as nursing and residential care.

The cake, which was made by activities assistant Zoe Morris, was cut by one of the residents, watched by Fareham Deputy Mayor and Locks Heath Councillor Susan Bayford and her consort, Councillor Brian Bayford.

Susan and Brian enjoyed meeting members of staff, residents and their families as they celebrated this milestone.

A feature of the anniversary was a time capsule containing artefacts, a newspaper and other items associated with our times.



Susan Bayford puts an item into the time capsule, watched by activities coordinator Vanessa Duggan and Brian Bayford.

Money going begging

RESIDENTS are advised not to give money to two rough sleepers in Park Gate area.

Their haunt is around the Middle Road area, where they have been begging for several months.

They have been offered accommodation by local homeless charity Two Saints, but they declined, possibly because begging in Park Gate area is lucrative. They have a dog that needs treatment, so the dog wardens want to find the pair.

The Council is considering a Public Spaces Protection Order that deals with nuisances such as begging.

Military wives' album to mark end of WW1

LOCKS HEATH resident Sue Wilson has just joined the Portsmouth Military Wives' Choir.

Sue (pictured) is also a regular supporter of the Mayor of Fareham's charities.

She has been involved in several concerts at venues ranging from Portsmouth Guildhall, St James's Palace and Guildford Cathedral.

The choir, with all the Military Wives' Choirs, will record an album for release later in the year to commemorate the end of World War 1.

The last joint choirs album reached No 1 in the

charts so they are hoping for a similar success.

Portsmouth Military Wives' Club supports women in the British military community in the UK and abroad.

There are vacancies for new members as long as they have a military connection. Their patron is Gareth Malone.



BOROUGH COUNCILLOR – Locks Heath



Susan Bayford
6 Abshot Manor
Little Abshot Road
Titchfield Common PO14 4LN
Tel: 01489 577772
email: sbayford@fareham.gov.uk

**BOROUGH COUNCILLOR – Locks Heath
COUNTY COUNCILLOR – Fareham Warsash**



Keith Evans
94 Abshot Road
Fareham PO14 4NH
Tel: 01489 582450
email: kefans@fareham.gov.uk
email: keith.evans@hants.gov.uk

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.

WE SERVE YOU ALL

Whether you voted for us or not, your Conservative councillors promise the highest standards of service to every one in the community. Contact us any time and we'll respond personally within 48 hours.

Applications 'rolling in' IN OUR last edition, we gave details about the 8,000 new houses that Fareham is required to build through to 2036

Planning applications are now 'rolling in' to the Council thick and fast.

•Warsash: c.450 houses have been approved around Greenaway Lane area with an application for 150 more expected, in addition to the expected 100 houses on the Maritime site

•Heath Road: an application for 80 homes

•Adjacent to the Sovereign Crescent estate: application for 49 houses
Councillors Susan Bayford and Keith Evans understand the obligation on Fareham Council to build more houses, but we have real concerns about the adverse impacts of additional cars on the roads, on the existing difficulties to obtain doctors' appointments and on the existing primary schools.

We will closely examine these applications to be assured that the relevant authorities are recognising these issues and have some plans to minimise the impacts.

Fareham traffic pollution brings Environment Minister to town

POOR AIR quality caused by traffic pollution in several parts of Fareham led to a Government minister visiting to see what action the Council is taking.

The Council is taking it seriously and, with ANPR cameras monitoring 27 sites across the Borough, is doing its best to improve the situation.

There will be a new air quality working group chaired by Warsash Councillor Trevor Cartwright, which will speed up the process of bidding for Government grants.

A survey will be carried out to see the nature of traffic using these roads and the information will be part of our new plan that must be submitted to the Government by the end of March this year.

The Government recently published a new Air Quality Plan, looking at ways of reducing unacceptable levels of nitrogen dioxide vehicle emissions.

The report highlighted hotspots in Fareham, including the A27 near the Delme roundabout down to Quay Street roundabout, part of Gosport Road, and along the A27 to the Station roundabout.

It sparked a recent visit to Fareham by Environment



Minister Dr Thérèse Coffey to discuss the Council's plans to tackle the problem.

She said: "Air pollution has improved significantly since 2010 but we recognise there is more to do which is why we have put in place a £3.5 billion plan to improve air quality and

reduce harmful emissions. "I am delighted to see Fareham taking this seriously and look forward to seeing firm plans for action as they develop further."

Locks Heath Councillors Susan Bayford and Keith Evans agreed reducing air pollution was top priority, particularly with the huge expected increase in housing and traffic.



PHOTOS: (l to r) Councillor Trevor Cartwright, Fareham MP Suella Fernandes, Council Leader Seán Woodward, Dr Thérèse Coffey, County Councillor Rob Humby and Gosport MP Caroline Dinéage. (inset) Portland Street monitoring station.

Protests at 'unbelievably' selfish parking

UNBELIEVABLY inconsiderate parking is becoming an increasing issue for residents in several areas – including lower Raley Road, Coombedale and Glendale – especially during school drop-off and pick-up times.

Councillors Susan Bayford and Keith Evans met a large group of residents from Ilex Crescent and Erica Close where they have had really major problems:

- Blocked driveways**
- Blocked pavements**
- Double parking**

It makes it very difficult for cars to negotiate and nearly impossible for large vehicles such as an ambulance or fire engine.

Keith Evans said: "For many parents, use of the car is the only reasonable option, but blocking drives or obstructing pavements is unreasonable and should be stopped.

"The indication is that it's caused directly from the Locks



Heath Shopping Centre, maybe by staff who have no on-site parking and shoppers at busy times."

The Councillors promised to write to the Shopping Centre management asking them to remind tenants and staff to be careful if they have to park in an adjacent road.

They also wrote to the local police requesting they undertake spot checks in the area and, where relevant, issue warning notices.