

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

PORTCHESTER EAST – 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



Official opening of Daedalus runway. The **Conservative-run** Council is investing £15m to extend the successful Innovation Centre, providing 11 new hangars at Solent Enterprise Zone to help create thousands of new jobs.

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



Notice served on Lidl

Fareham Council has served an enforcement notice on Lidl who have failed to carry out the offsite highways works and new access arrangements.

These should have been carried out before the store opened after Fareham planners gave permission in November 2016 for these works to be completed within four months of the store opening.

Lidl have until May to carry out the outstanding highway works.

MP promoted

Congratulations to our MP, Suella Fernandes, who joins the Ministerial Team at the Department for Exiting the European Union, led by David Davis.

Dementia support group

A memory support group for people living with dementia and their carers meets every Monday from 10.30 to 3pm at Fareham Community Hospital.

This is an informal group and people may come every week or just drop in when they want to.

Refreshments are provided by the Friends of the Hospital volunteers.

A dementia advisor is available for appointments and the friends are there to chat and help.

Extra service for Portchester

Citizens Advice offers free, confidential and impartial advice to residents of Fareham.

A drop-in service is held at Portchester Library every Thursday 10 am – 2pm. It also provides a home visit service.

A further service has been added to the outreach work in Portchester.

Portchester Community Centre will be also be installing a touch screen information monitor.

This equipment allows residents to access information provided by Citizens Advice.

Mayor goes on parade with the Gurkhas

MAYOR Geoff Fazackarley was honoured to attend the VJ Day commemorations with the Gurkha Regiment in Stone, Staffordshire.

The connection between Stone and HMS Collingwood started in 1969, when HMS St Vincent in Gosport was closed and the Fareham base took over the link Admiral of the Fleet Earl St Vincent, one of the Royal Navy's most distinguished commanders, was born near Stone in 1735 and is buried in the parish churchyard.

He was a great naval reformer, who introduced block-making machines patented by Marc Isambard Brunel into Portsmouth Dockyard.



Moat afloat

PORTCHESTER Sailing Club volunteers spent 174 hours digging tonnes of mud and seaweed from the 'trollop', the seaward channel to the sluice gate.



The sluice gate can now be operated to allow fresh seawater to enter and leave the moat and it is great to see the Castle surrounded by water. A big 'thank you' to Graham Allibone and his volunteers - Dave Smith, Bruce and Sandy Humphreys, Chris Gee, Kevin Parish and Phil Lovegrove.

PHOTO: Graham Mercer, Graham Allibone, Rob Brown.

Inspector ignored Council's long-term housing plan



A PORTCHESTER councillor says the inspector who conducted the Cranleigh Road appeal inquiry refused to heed the Borough Council's housing plans.

Councillor Geoff Fazackarley said: "I am extremely disappointed with the outcome of the appeal, having spoken at the hearing representing the Borough Council and local residents' views against the development."

"The inspector failed to acknowledge the Council's clear long-term commitment to housing delivery."

Persimmon won outline consent for 120 homes and approval was also given for a new vehicle access from Cranleigh Road.

However, there are numerous conditions, importantly that 40% of the homes must be affordable. They also include public open space with a locally equipped play area and pedestrian links, surface

water drainage and landscaping.

The detailed planning application was received by the Council on October 6 and includes design of the houses, construction materials, height etc. Residents had the opportunity to comment.

In his report, the inspector also told Persimmon:

- 1 No development including gardens and roads allowed to the west of the hedgerow running north to south.
- 2 Dwellings shall not exceed two storey eaves height.
- 3 No development to start until an arboricultural impact assessment report and method statement for tree/hedgerow protection has been submitted and approved.

A report will go to the Planning Committee outlining how proposals for residential development should be considered in the context of the Cranleigh appeal.

US twin town marching band visit

ON A trip from Port Chester, New York to twin town Portchester, Michael Miceli met Fareham Mayor Geoff Fazackarley.

The band leader from Port Chester College will bring his marching band here this year to celebrate the 150th anniversary of this district in Westchester County.

Geoff has been invited back to Port Chester for the celebrations there.

The US village (pop. 29,000) is on land bought by settlers from the Indians in 1660 and was originally named Saw Pit.



Touch screens at community centre

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Councillor Geoff Fazackarley said it was hoped this new service would be rolled out in community buildings across the Borough.

Heave ho! Mayors show they have pulling power



Former mayors and local bus drivers helped Fareham Mayor Geoff Fazackarley to pull a vintage bus through West Street to raise money for his charities – Sam's Haven and the Moving On project.

Geoff meets entertainers



Fareham Mayor Geoff Fazackarley met cockney entertainers Chas & Dave who appeared at Ferneham Hall.

Geoff said: "I asked them for their support for our charity by signing their autographs which we transfer-printed on to a vinyl which is stuck to the Y-Bus."

Details are being finalised for the Mayor's Charity Ball at Ferneham Hall on March 24. The evening will be themed around musical movies.

Borough Councillor Portchester East



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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, attend social and political events or help by delivering InTouch in your street, why not join Portchester Branch of Fareham Conservative Association?

Phone Geoff Fazackarley on 02393 112231.

'Residents' lives should not be impacted by inconsiderate development'

'350 new homes, but where's the infrastructure?' demand angry locals

A DEVELOPER who submitted plans for a 350-home estate at Winnham Farm, Downend has left angry residents demanding:

'Where's the infrastructure?' Miller Homes' outline plan boasts it will deliver 40% affordable housing for shared ownership or below market rent and a range of housing styles.

But Portchester Conservative Councillors Sue Bell and Geoff Fazackarkey, who fiercely opposed the plan, stated:

"Many residents have contacted us with regard to this application and share our concerns of the major traffic implications this development will have on existing infrastructure.

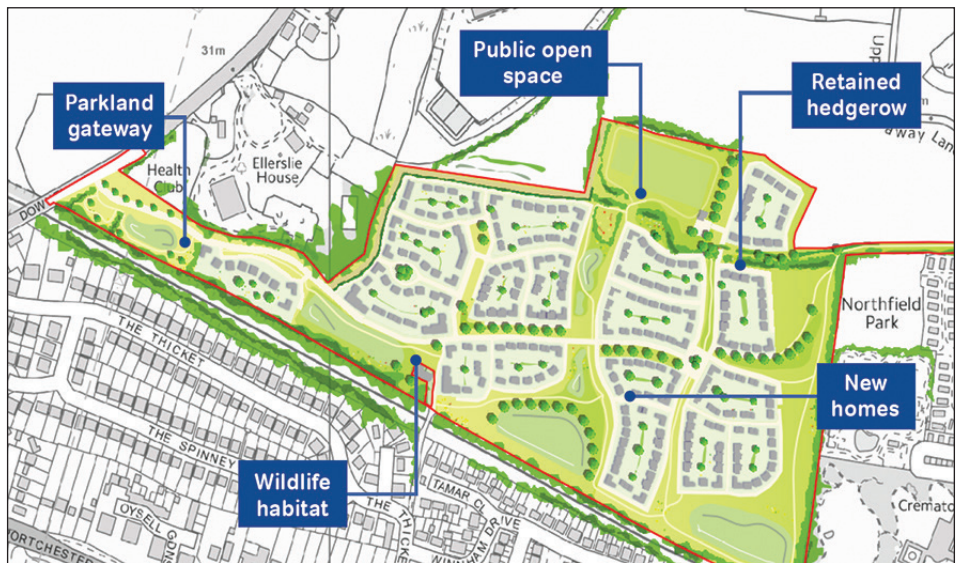
"350 homes will generate potentially over 1000 vehicle movements a day along Downend Road and then on to the A27.

"The application includes no major improvements to Downend Road or the junction with the A27.

"A scheme to improve the Delme Roundabout is included, but with no delivery programme or funding scheme.

"There are fears from residents that The Thicket will be used even more as a rat-run to escape the queuing on Downend Road.

"Of course, there will be an increase in rat-running through Cams Hill and St Catherine's Way, The Causeway and The Ridgeway being used to



escape the increased congestion."

Miller Homes' plan, apart from a so-called wildlife habitat and a field for public open space, is devoid of any community facilities.

Sue Bell said: "I believe that this development is simply too much in Downend.

"The A27 to get to the M27 is choked in the rush hour. If we are expected by developers to back this sort of number of new houses then we need the infrastructure sorted on the back of it.

"Not just roads, but schools and local NHS facilities.

"Residents' lives should not be impacted by development without consideration to much needed infrastructure."

THIS IS THE FULL APPLICATION

An Outline Planning Application with all matters reserved (except the means of access) for residential development, demolition of existing agricultural buildings and the construction of new buildings providing up to 350 dwellings; the creation of new vehicular access with footways and cycleways; provision of landscaped communal amenity space, including children's play space; creation of public open space; together with associated highways, landscaping, drainage and utilities on land to east of Downend Road, Fareham.

