



InTouch

FAREHAM NORTH – Summer 2018

Fury as new housing criteria wreck Fareham draft plan

NEW HOUSING levels forced on Fareham by Government will wreck havoc with the draft planning strategy, putting hundreds more acres of countryside under the bulldozers.

Whitehall moved the goal posts by applying a new factor relating to the ratio of average income to average house prices.

Fareham must now find yet more space to cram in another 1,500-2,000 homes – doubling the current number of greenfield houses required.

Work preparing the well-advanced draft local plan has been halted and much of it will have to go back to the drawing board.

And there's worse to come when yet another Government rule change – the Housing Delivery Test – comes into force in November.

Furious councillors rounded on the minister responsible, James Brokenshire, telling him enough is more than enough.

Council Leader Seán Woodward and MP Suella Braverman will meet the Secretary of State and lay it on the line that the Borough should not be expected to cope with an ever-rising volume of housing thrust on it by Whitehall.

Councillor Keith Evans, executive member for planning and development, said: "We responded to the Government by rejecting the proposals as unreasonable and unachievable in the short term. It fell on deaf ears.

"We now have to decide how to incorporate all these



additional requirements and consult on the new recommendations.

"All this will take additional time and leaves the Council exposed to even more unwelcome applications."

Fareham had already met previous Government criteria by objectively assessing the 5-year housing supply requirement.

This showed 11,300 homes were needed. After discounting Welborne (3,840), completions and permissions (2,995)

and remains from the existing plan (208), the Council had to accommodate an extra 4,250 and had managed to find brownfield and windfall sites for around 2,000.

When developers learned the rest had to come from greenfield sites, it sparked a Klondyke-style rush with over 100 proposals totalling 12,700 homes submitted against the 2,500 still needed.

As Fareham cannot now publish its new plan, it must consider applications without the protection of the usual planning policies.

Under the fresh Government diktat, the 5-year housing land supply (5YHLS) will see the current annual need for 487 dwellings raised to 571, assuming a 5% buffer.

If Fareham fails the Housing Delivery Test, the figure could go up to 653 per annum for the next 5 years, with massive extra impact on the suspended draft local plan.

PHOTO: Councillors Louise Clubley and Pam Bryant take a look at a field at Funtley that might come under threat of development.

Fareham pioneers first conference to deal with rough sleepers problem

GIVING money to begging rough sleepers will not help to remove them from the Borough's streets.

Donating it directly to many local charities which are working hard to help the homeless is a far better idea.

This was the conclusion of more than 70 delegates who attended the first conference hosted by Fareham Council to tackle the problem.

Its aim was to share information and identify strategies to support the work of agencies and to launch 'Fareham StreetAid', a new initiative through which joint communications can be published.

Outreach workers said drug addiction was one of many issues they were dealing with daily, so any money given would simply be used to fund that habit.

Council Leader Seán Woodward said: "We are determined to help rough sleepers off the streets rather than helping them to stay on the streets.

"It is so important that people who wish to offer support such as money, food, sleeping bags, clothing etc should give it to the local charities who, with support agencies, deliver what is needed to these vulnerable people."



NEWS ROUND

Extra benches request

Councillor Louise Clubley has received requests from residents to have extra benches near the Leigh Road car park in Park Lane recreation ground. She has asked officers to investigate and also requested some stepping stones in the children's play area, following comments received from parents.

Please park sensibly

Complaints about inconsiderate parking are still being received, particularly in the narrow residential roads and on pavements. We ask residents to park within their driveways whenever possible and to be considerate to their neighbours. We continue to have a dialogue with the police who are aware of the issues, but can only assist if there is an obstruction.

Meadows are a picture

Many residents have been telling us how much they appreciate the continued work on Funtley Meadows, which has been looking beautiful with the wild flowers. Congratulations should go to the Council's Countryside Ranger, Mark Trigwell, who has worked tirelessly to bring this beautiful natural meadow to fruition.

Ward surgeries

Councillors Louise Clubley and Pam Bryant continue to hold monthly surgeries in the café area at Fareham Leisure Centre every second Saturday, 10.00am to 11.30am. Please do call and see them if you have any problems to discuss.

We're on Facebook. Go to Councillor Louise Clubley and Councillor Pamela Bryant

Litter pickers brave March cold

SEVERAL Fareham North residents joined Councillors Louise Clubley and Pam Bryant to help clear litter in Park Lane recreation ground.



The litter collected was a combination of waste blown into the shrubs and hedges by the wind, plus rubbish dropped by passers-by. Several sacks were collected, making the area look so much tidier. Grateful thanks to those who joined the team. We will hold another session in the autumn. It would be good to see any residents available to assist. Please check the councillors' Facebook pages for more information.

'Humbled' meeting the volunteers

ONE COMMUNITY Showcase brought dozens of groups together in Ferneham Hall.

Councillors Louise Clubley and Pam Bryant found it humbling to engage with so many local residents who spend their time volunteering to help others.

Fareport Talking News was a great example of a volunteer organisation making regular contact by sending out weekly news to those who are partially sighted.

Thanks to an enthusiastic chairman, Susie Lyczywek, and her volunteer committee.

PHOTO: Pam with chairman of Fareport Talking News Susie Lyczywek.



Pam and Louise forge another link in the family mayoral chain



NEXT YEAR'S mayormaking will be another family affair for North Ward Councillor Pam Bryant.

She was chosen as Deputy Mayor with daughter Councillor Louise Clubley as Deputy Mayoress at this year's mayormaking ceremony in Ferneham Hall.

It was second time around for Fareham's new Mayor, Councillor Susan Bayford, and it will be the same for Pam when she takes the chain of office next year, with Louise as Mayoress.

Pam said: "It is a great honour to become Fareham's First Citizen, having been privileged with the position of Mayor in 2002, when my late husband, John, was my Consort."

"However, very few Councillors are given this opportunity for a second time."

Louise is very aware of the responsibilities of this office, having seen her parents complete their duties during their civic years.

EVE WEBB OPENS THE FETE



A REJUVENATED village fete brought the Funtley community together for a day of fun and frolics at the recreation ground on June 23.

It was a fitting reponse for the hard work and many hours of organisation put in over the past year by Funtley Village Society to resurrect the event.

Funtley fete full of fun and frolics

It was opened by Mrs Eve Webb, one of the village's oldest residents, and there was plenty to keep people entertained, including old fashioned games such as



The dog show with several classes proved a difficult job for the judge who had come from the Animed Veterinary Group.



'splat the rat', a coconut shy and ye olde Funtley stocks, and a tug of war competition with local teams fiercely contesting the trophy.

Stalls selling crafts, books and delicious cakes gave a good choice to attract everyone.

Money raised will go towards the purchase of a defibrillator for the village.

Councillors Louise Clubley and Pam Bryant were delighted to support the organising committee and to enjoy time at the event.



Men's Shed rest room opened

COUNCILLOR Pam Bryant was invited to visit the Fareham Men's Shed when BBC So-lent presenter Nick Girdler officially opened a new rest room.

group of gentlemen achieve there, whilst enjoying quality time together.

Since opening in 2016, the group has constantly grown and now has over 40 members.

If you are interested in making new friends, call in any day between Monday and Thursday at their shed behind Titchfield Festival Theatre in St Margaret's Lane, Titchfield.

Contact: info@farehammensshed.org

PHOTO (l to r): Pam Bryant, Chris Hodgson, Nick Girdler and Councillor Connie Hockley.

She saw the variety of activities and work the

Thanks for your support

PAM BRYANT expresses her sincere thanks to everyone who voted for her in the Borough Council Elections in May.

The result gave Pam an overwhelming majority of 1,033, proving that North Ward residents are happy with Fareham's Conservative controlled Council.

Pam is delighted to continue helping the local community and is always available for any resident to contact.

She continues as chairman of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee and sits on the Health and Public Protection Panel and Scrutiny Board.

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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 North Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Pamela Bryant on 01329 281427.

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.

Tired old Ferneham Hall to get a multi-million pound refurbishment

FERNEHAM HALL, Fareham's top venue for stage shows, exhibitions and main events will be closed at the end of 2019 for a massive multi-million pound overhaul to meet 21st Century demands.

After almost 40 years' service, the building is looking tired, dated and in need of a facelift and the Executive decided it was time to meet modern community demands.

Portchester Councillor Sue Bell, executive member for leisure and community, said: "In 2015, a feasibility study showed the layout and design no longer met customer expectations which have changed significantly since 1982."

It means temporary venues will have to be found elsewhere across the Borough and when the hall reopens it will be under a new management structure.

But it will also fulfil one of the **Conservative** Council's long-awaited ambitions to provide a community venue in the town centre.

Councillor Bell said: "Remodelling of Ferneham Hall offers a real opportunity to combine a new arts and entertainment venue with a busy community facility.

"A key part of this vision is to plan a new facility which will be more commercial in its outlook and this will be achieved by appointing an operator."

Today's patrons demand large, air-conditioned buildings with space and natural light, auditoria with comfortable seats, unrestricted views, wheelchair access and café fa-



ilities. So the new Ferneham Hall will include:

- Alterations to foyer and box office area to provide a sense of arrival
- Improved audience facilities, toilets, catering areas, in terms of comfort, appearance and overall experience
- Improved access including a lift
- Fuel efficiency – individual parts to be lit, heated and ventilated independently
- Improved cast/crew areas, including stage and back-stage, to support high quality performances
- Community rooms for hire and/or workshops enabling venue to operate as a busy community centre
- Reduce size, improve comfort of main auditorium to suit audience numbers (400-500

seats)

- Smaller, intimate secondary performance space (100 seats) including screen and projector room
- Options for retractable seating and dance studio with sprung floor

When it reopens it will be under the management of a leisure trust operator.

Future operations will be based on the premise that the Borough Council owns the hall, the leisure trust manages it and the Council pays an annual revenue contribution to the trust until there is no deficit.

Sue Bell added: "Our vision is to provide a busy community and entertainment venue which includes daytime and evening activity, seven days a week.

"Our new-look building will offer a great choice of entertainment and provide new community facilities for those living around the town centre."

Start is imminent on M27 and M3 Smart Motorway work

HIGHWAYS England will shortly start work on a major scheme to increase the capacity of the M27 by a third between junctions 4 and 11 and the M3 between junctions 9 and 14.

It includes a replacement M27 all-moves junction 10 to serve Welborne.

The design for junction 10 is currently with Highways England for sign-off, so the Council will be able to determine the Welborne planning application for 6,000 new homes over the next 25 years.

Council Leader Seán Woodward,



pictured with Regional Sponsor for Smart Motorways Adrian McCrow, said:

"I have campaigned for years to see the M27 and southern section of the M3 upgraded to Smart Motorways and am delighted that £500m are now being spent to do just that.

"A third increase in capacity will bring many benefits to businesses and residents who suffer daily on these roads. Delays cost money, put off trade and add to pollution.

"I believe concerns about the loss of a hard shoulder are unfounded as many 70mph dual carriageways work well with an occasional lay-by.

"Thirteen emergency refuges will be placed on the M27 – one every 75 seconds for somebody travelling at 60mph."

