



STUBBINGTON & HILL HEAD – Summer 2018

Fury as new housing criteria wreck Fareham draft plan

NEW HOUSING levels forced on Fareham by Government will wreak 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 have to decide how to incorporate 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.

PHOTOS: Kay Mandry discusses the proposed Old Street development and its impact on Titchfield Haven Nature Reserve with Peter Wason and Bill Hutchison. Inset: 1,100 homes could go on 270 acres between Longfield Avenue and Stubbington.

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

Planning updates

Development across the area is still a concern and we continue to provide information to allow residents to give their views on current proposals in Stubbington and Hill Head.

Oakcroft Lane: The site of the derelict house currently has a planning application with the Council but no date has been set for it to be considered by the planning committee.

Old Street: The application to build up to 150 houses on the fields was turned down by the planning committee, but the developer, Bargate Homes, has lodged an appeal which will be decided by a public inquiry due to be heard December 11-14.

Bargate Homes has also proposed a development on the fields between the old and new Newgate Lane of 200 houses. No planning application has been made yet.

Cash for local projects available
County Councillor Pal Hayre has £8,000 available from her budget to allocate to projects in Crofton Division.

Legitimate groups and organisations, but not individuals, can apply by completing an online application.

She supported the following in 2017/2018:

Stubbington Stroke Support Group £500; Crofton Youth Project £343.94; Citizen's Advice, Fareham £500; PALS Society £991.03; Brendon-care Stubbington Luncheon club £750; Renovation of Titchfield Haven viewing area £2,000; Crofton District Guides £500; Stubbington Village WI £700; Seafarers' Sailing Club £1,000.

Outdoor surgeries

Your local Conservative councillors will be available in Stubbington village on Saturday mornings at least once a month.

You can meet them outside Forget Me Not between 9.30am and 12.30pm to discuss any local issues.

Steve thanks voters

STEVE DUGAN (pictured) thanks everybody who supported him in the Fareham elections in May.

He said: "I have quickly realised the amount of work involved and how much goes on behind the scenes, and this has given me a completely new perspective on our local area.

"I am under no illusions that we can please everyone, but there are many subject matter experts among the Council officers who help councillors in dealing with residents' concerns.

"They also go about their daily business of providing a full range of services to their customers – residents, local businesses and those needing additional help.

"Given the withdrawal of many government subsidies to local authorities, staying within the set budget is no mean feat."



Teenage shelter is a popular choice

A SMART-LOOKING teen shelter has been erected next to the skate park at Stubbington Recreation Ground.

It is giving the young people somewhere to meet and interact and was selected by popular choice after the Council consulted residents and teenagers.

The consultation, which went into local schools, the Community Centre, Holy Rood Church and social media, prompted 170 responses.

The total cost was around £10,000. Tesco's Bag of Help made a contribution, Y-Services gave £2,000 and Fareham Council funded the remainder.



Civic honour for Arthur's 'enormous contribution' to the community



TWENTY THREE years' outstanding service to the community and local government were rewarded for former Hill Head Councillor Arthur Mandry.

He was admitted to the Roll of Honorary Aldermen of Fareham Borough at a special Council meeting on June 14.

After his retirement from Hampshire Constabulary as Detective Chief Superintendent, Head of Hampshire CID, Arthur then helped set up the National Lottery.

He was elected as councillor for Hill Head ward in 1995 and became the Mayor of Fareham in 2001-02; he was appointed deputy leader of the Council between 1999 and 2001 and again from 2006 to 2012.

He was executive member for planning and transportation and later executive member for public protection, chaired many committees and was also vice-chairman of the planning committee from 1999 until his retirement.

The Council also recognises his enormous contribution as its representative on many local organisations concerned with the benefit of Fareham and the welfare of its residents.

We wish Arthur well for his retirement and thank him for his very substantial contribution to the benefit of others over the years.

Solar bid to stop bins overflowing

SOLAR BINS could be introduced along Hill Head foreshore in a bid to stop them overflowing during hot summer days.

A 3-month trial started in June after the issue was raised at a recent Crofton Community Action Team (CAT) meeting.

Hill Head Councillor Kay Mandry, who is pictured with the solar bin that has replaced the original one, says it will use stored energy to compact the contents when the bin is almost full.

She says: "These are expensive so a cost analysis will take place on completion to see if they are a

viable alternative."

Kay Mandry says this is a trial for Fareham and other councils are already operating solar bins.

"Fareham standard bins hold 100 litres; solar bins hold 3 times that capacity."

Other options being investigated by Council officers include:

1 The possibility of larger trade waste bins placed in car parks at key locations, but accessibility for refuse vehicles may be an issue

2 Increasing size of the existing bins. Consideration will need to be given to manual handling is-

sues when emptying as operatives have quite a distance to walk back to the van from some locations

3 Increase weekend/bank holiday emptying by adding a late afternoon shift; but this may have staffing implications

A 7-day-a-week emptying schedule is in operation along the foreshore during the summer months and the existing bins are usually adequate except for warm sunny weekends.

Known problem areas will be assessed to see if additional bins are appropriate.



More seashore improvement requests met

EXTRA work on Hill Head's new sea defences has been carried out in response to local concerns.

Councillor Steve Dugan said the new sea wall was finished months ago, but the following additional work took place in June:

- Standpipe and tap at eastern end moved to shingle planter to reduce water flow onto the promenade
- Areas of grass verge re-seeded at western end
- Gabion stone exposed during winter beach loss removed and beach walkover carried out to

remove further debris

'No dog barking' signs appeared on parts of the beach. These are allowed on private land, but some were positioned on public land below the mean high tide line and Councillor Kay Mandry arranged to have them removed

A Hill Head resident voiced concerns about the beach access steps on Cliff Road becoming overgrown with stinging nettles causing access issues and a risk of falling.

Steve Dugan contacted Council officers who quickly sent a team to deal with the problem.

Makeover for viewing area

TITCHFIELD HAVEN Nature Reserve viewing area has been refurbished.

The work was done by the Haven volunteers, supported by grants from County Councillor Pal Hayre and the Hammond Memorial Hall Trust.

Hill Head Residents' Association was instrumental in getting the project started to give better access for wheelchair users.

PHOTO: Councillors Kay Mandry and Pal Hayre try out the new seat with Richard Astbury, of Hill Head Residents' Association.



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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 Stubbington & Hill Head Branch of Gosport Conservative Association? Please call Steve Dugan on 07948 381721.



InTouch with Westminster

Caroline

DINENAGE MP for Gosport



Summer 2018

Some exciting announcements from Parliament:

- NHS spending to increase by £600 million a week over the next five years
- New training places for doctors, midwives and capital investment in our local hospitals
- Passing the EU Withdrawal Act 2018
- Approving the expansion of Heathrow and improving connections between the airport and the South Coast

In Parliament, after considering 1,400 amendments and 250 hours of debate the EU Withdrawal Act has become law.

It means the Government can now fully prepare Britain for life after the EU. This historic Act will also repeal the European Communities Act 1972 and legally end our membership of the EU.

Having pledged to respect the result of the referendum, I welcome this landmark piece of legislation.

Back in the Constituency I was pleased to visit Crofton Anne Dale School and open their fantastic

new library. It was a pleasure to see the children so enthusiastic about reading and I thoroughly enjoyed my visit.

The long overdue report into historic deaths at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital was published. Since an initial meeting in 2010 with a gentleman whose father died at the hospital, I pledged to support those involved in getting to the truth.

The report makes very chilling reading, I can only imagine how difficult it must have been for the families of the 456 victims whose lives were shortened. I am also mindful of the many local people who have worked at the hospital over the years and done so with great professional integrity and compassion for their patients.

I have called upon the police, Government other agencies to consider carefully the implications of the report and respond urgently.

A support package has been set up by the Department for Health and Social Care for those involved. Call 01132 545290 or gosportenquiries@dh.gsi.gov.uk - my own Gosport constituency office stand ready to help in any way we can.

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Hall to close for revamp



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.

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 fulfil one of the **Conservative** Council's long-term ambitions to provide a community venue in the town centre.

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

It includes changes to the box office and foyer, better access with a lift, community rooms, auditorium reduced to 400-500 capacity for more comfort, smaller 100-seat secondary performing space, dance studio with sprung floor.

Cuts bring weed invasion

WEEDS are running riot in streets and footpaths across the ward and the rest of the Borough.

Warm weather and thunderstorms combined to help them grow at an alarming rate.

Residents are demanding that the County Council, which is responsible for highways weed control, should take urgent action to clear up the unsightly mess.

The County Council undertook pesticide spraying on roads and pavements twice a year to kill the weeds, which were then removed by Fareham Council's street sweeping service.

But Hampshire reduced the treatment to once a year to cut costs.

County Councillor Pal Hayre, pictured with local resident Katherine in Gosport Road, said:

"It's a false economy as it simply allows the weeds to take greater hold and causes damage to the highways for which the County Council will have to pay to put right."



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InTouch is published by Gosport Conservatives, 167 Stoke Road, Gosport PO12 1SE and printed by Cedar Group, Unit 3 Triton Centre, Premier Way, Abbey Park Industrial Estate, Romsey SO51 9DJ