



# InTouch

STUBBINGTON & HILL HEAD – Autumn 2018

## Planning strategy in turmoil as Whitehall imposes more houses

**Fareham's planning strategy is in tatters due to the Government's 'crazily inflated housing figures'.**

It is in such disarray that officers have been told to tear up the Draft Local Plan and add even more houses to those already proposed.

Intensive lobbying of Housing Minister Kit Malthouse and senior civil servants by the Council Leader and Fareham and Gosport MPs fell on deaf ears.

Only 3 months ago we highlighted Whitehall's imposition of 30% more houses equating to allocation of another 2,000 on greenfield sites.

But the baffling criteria continue to change like the wind.

Council Leader Seán Woodward said: "The government will allow councils to submit plans on their original figures (for Fareham 420 houses per year) rather than in Fareham's case an additional 30% (544 houses per year) if they can get them in by January.

"Apart from being an impossible timescale to reach, the result of submitting such a plan would probably mean that after it was adopted the Council would need promptly to review it on the basis of the new figures, putting us back to square one.

"Coupled with that, the Government will impose an additional 20% 'buffer' on Fareham for failing to deliver the new figures over the last few years.

"That is based on the figure imposed on the Council just 3 months ago – rather like being failed in an exam for incorrectly answering a question that was not even in the syllabus!"

Councillor Woodward asked for the following assurances so the Council could submit its current Draft Plan for inspection:

- Protection from the Housing Delivery Test which will increase numbers a further 20%
- Appeals to be judged on current need in the Draft Plan
- Once adopted, no requirement to review the Draft Plan immediately based on the new numbers being far higher than Fareham's actual need.

"Despite the Council's commitment to deliver 6,000 new



**NO MINISTER!** Nothing to smile about when Kit Malthouse refused to budge after meeting Fareham MP Suella Braverman, Council Leader Seán Woodward and Deputy Leader Trevor Cartwright.

homes in one of the country's largest new communities, Welborne Garden Village, as well as an additional 2,000 on greenfield sites elsewhere, ministers have failed to give us the required assurances.

"Reluctantly, we have asked officers to commence work on a new Local Plan to accommodate the Government's crazily inflated housing numbers.

"We will now spend 2019 bringing that new Draft Plan through public consultation and onwards so that a public inquiry can be held.

"Throughout this period we will remain at risk of the Government making further changes to the numbers and, therefore, at risk of

hostile planning applications and appeals.

"Without doubt strategic countryside gaps could be at very real risk due to the Government's insistence on Fareham building too many houses.

"I would also like to reflect on the assurances given by Planning Minister Brandon Lewis that appeals would be judged on the 2015 Plan figures which proved worthless when the Cranleigh Road refusal was overturned leading to a developer frenzy.

"Finally, we have the very recent issue of the Office for National Statistics figures which demonstrate that far from a need for 300,000 new houses a year nationally, the need is actually only 213,000, meaning that Fareham currently has sufficient planning consents to last the required 5 years.

"The government has made its intention clear that it will insist on disregarding the new ONS figures thereby pushing the requirement back up again."

Fareham MP Suella Braverman and Gosport MP Caroline Dinenage said they were "bitterly disappointed" that Fareham would not be allowed to proceed with its original plan.

Caroline Dinenage said: "I share Fareham Borough Council's deep frustration that they have been set housing targets which feel unrealistic and excessive compared to neighbouring authorities.

"Suella and I have been robustly lobbying Government Ministers and officials to find a better solution to the current situation and I'm bitterly disappointed that these efforts have not delivered the results we all wanted."



**NEWS ROUND**

**Overnight campers action**

Motorhome overnighting along the Meon Shore road has increased significantly during this summer.

Action is in hand to make the signage clearer and Hill Head Councillors Kay Mandry and Steve Dugan will discuss with officers the best way to prevent a recurrence next summer.

**Getting up people's noses**

Bonfires were more prevalent during the summer and the number of complaints has increased as residents were unable to enjoy their gardens or hang out washing due to smoke and smell.

Those affected should note times, duration and location if known, ideally provide a photograph and call Environmental Health on 07079 240772 during working hours and 0800 374485 evenings and weekends.

**Public space assurances**

Following the issues with the public open space at Springfield Way, worried residents asked what was the status of similar open spaces in Hill Head and Stubbington.

Councillors Kay Mandry and Steve Dugan discussed the issue with Council officers who confirmed that all similar public open spaces in the area are owned and maintained by the Council.

**Soldier silhouettes**

To mark the centenary of the end of World War I, The Royal British Legion invites the public to say 'Thank You' to the generation who fought and sacrificed.

Sponsored by the Borough Council, 8 near life-size Silent Soldier silhouettes have been unveiled at locations across the Borough, including Stubbington

They depict 'Tommy' returning home silently after the war and will remain until the end of next year.

They have also been placed at Fareham Station, Warsash Victory Hall and Portchester war memorials.

**Hospital may offer breast screening Daedalus road closed for safety reasons**

**Most blood tests will be removed from Fareham Community Hospital and referred back to GPs.**

Portsmouth Hospitals Trust decided to end the blood test contract for the GP-led service, handing it back to Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group which passed it back to GPs.

The consultant and GP-led service at the Community Hospital performed 9,000 tests annually, administration being done free by the Hospital Friends.

In future, tests will have to be done at

GP surgeries, adding to pressures of parking and space, although Whiteley patients will have a choice of their local surgery or the hospital.

Better news is that a renal dialysis service should be starting at the hospital next year and discussions are under way between the hospital and Dr Jonathan Nash, consultant in charge of the breast screening service, to see whether it can be moved permanently to the hospital in time for the next screening round in 2020.

**Residents are frustrated that the road into Daedalus remains closed.**

At present the road is still classed as a private road built for Homes England and has not yet been adopted by Hampshire Highways.

Councillor Kay Mandry said significant infrastructure works were underway for the new housing development on the Gosport side of Daedalus Drive which needed some deep cut trenching near the control tower.

"This has resulted in restricted access and would be unsafe to have two-way traffic while the works are being carried out. The work should be completed by the end of the year. Meantime all partners are working towards the public adoption of the road."



**Battle plans are being drawn up to fight Old Street developers**



**Residents and councillors are sharpening swords ahead of the December planning inquiry that will decide the controversial Old Street development proposals.**

Fareham planners unanimously rejected the application to build 150 homes on two fields at the end of Plymouth Drive by Bargate Homes, who appealed the decision.

Hill Head villagers were insensed at the environmental effect it would have on nearby Titchfield Haven nature reserve.

A group from Knights Bank Road area invited Borough Councillors Steve Dugan and Kay Mandry and County Councillor Pal Hayre to discuss how to approach the inquiry.

They were invited later to the Civic Offices by Council Leader Seán Woodward (pictured) to discuss the way ahead.

The meeting was attended by the local councillors, plus a Hampshire County Council representative and a Fareham planning officer.

Fareham Borough and Hampshire County Councils reiterated their intent to robustly defend the original refusal and HCC denied rumours they were planning to sell Titchfield Haven.

Councillor Steve Dugan said: "Residents feel more confident about the process of the appeal, due to be heard from December 11 to 14 by public inquiry, and the areas they need to concentrate on when making their deputations."

**Residents defeat bid to grab their green space**

**A bid by mystery developers to grab two areas of public open space in Hill Head was foiled after joint action by residents and ward councillors**

Unbeknown to the Council, the land in Springfield Way – a quiet residential estate at the end of Beverley Road – was sold at auction in July by the company that built the estate.

The buyers gave two individual names and the unlikely address 'c/o Boarhunt Filling Station', leading to rumours they might be gypsies.

Suspicious were further aroused when the buyers applied for planning permission to erect 2-metre high fences around the spaces.

Concerned residents met Councillors Kay Mandry and Steve Dugan, who quickly liaised with planning officers.

Steve said the excuse for the fences was 'to prevent fur-



ther damage to the trees and vandalism'.

But locals had never seen such instances in 40 years since their houses were built.

He said: "This made them suspicious and, apart from the concern of losing their amenity which was enjoyed for many years, they feared it could become a compound for vehicles or storage for other items and that the trees would become damaged, leading to felling and thereby giving an excuse to develop the site."

But the prompt action by residents and councillors nipped it in the bud.

Tree Preservation Orders were made, which residents are applying to make permanent, and planning officers refused permission for the fences.

Steve added: "The decision to refuse the application took a little longer because the council wanted to ensure their decision was as safe as possible from a future legal challenge."

"It's certainly a victory for the Council and residents."

PHOTO: Residents celebrate their victory by posing on the public open space they fought to preserve.

**Girls' litter poster earns visit to the Mayor**

**'Let's lose this litter'. Residents will soon notice new posters around the Borough, encouraging people not to drop litter.**

The posters were designed by two nine-year-old friends, Faith Fairman and Bethany Ternan, who wrote to the Council recently about litter dropped near Faith's home in Fareham.

So they sent in a poster they had drawn and everyone liked it so much it has now been made into artwork for all 42 notice



boards in the Borough. Fareham Mayor Susan Bayford said: "This is a really great poster. It's nice to see young people taking pride in the cleanliness of our community." The Mayor invited Faith and Bethany to the Parlour to thank them for their hard work and presented them with Litter Champion certificates and a framed copy of their poster.

**Repairs to crumbling sea wall**



**Coastal flood erosion defence repairs started along Hill Head Sailing Club quay wall at the beginning of October.**

Multiple areas of damaged concrete were seen along the capping beam which forms an integral part of the quay wall structure, exposing the steel reinforcement.

Councillor Kay Mandry (pictured) said the damaged sections formed part of the quay wall that acted as the primary coastal flood defence, protecting recreational and commercial land, highway and service infrastructure.

The work is funded by Fareham Council and supervised by the Solent Coastal Partnership.

**BOROUGH COUNCILLORS - HILL HEAD**



**KAY MANDRY**  
76 Crofton Lane  
Hill Head PO14 3QE  
Tel: 01329 317923  
email: kmandry@fareham.gov.uk

**STEVE DUGAN**  
57 Martin Avenue  
Stubbington PO14 2RZ  
Tel: 07948 381721  
email: sdugan@fareham.gov.uk



**PAL HAYRE**  
52 Gosport Road  
Stubbington PO14 2AN  
Tel: 07941 969429  
Email: pal.hayre@hants.gov.uk



**COUNTY COUNCILLOR FAREHAM CROFTON**

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



**'I'm upbeat over these positive Conservative Government initiatives'**

- New Cancer Strategy to establish rapid diagnostic centres and lowering the screening age for bowel cancer
- National Retraining Scheme to upskill workers
- Freezing fuel duty for the ninth year in a row

It was good to hear these positive announcements at Conservative Party Conference in October - helping working families in Stubbington and Hill Head, building on positive economic news with unemployment at a 40-year low.

Locally, we continue to see the Daedalus Enterprise Zone delivering new business start-ups, new jobs and new skills training opportunities.

A highly-skilled and well-educated workforce is a key driver of economic prosperity - great local schools are clearly vital in that.

In October, I was pleased to welcome Nick Gibb, the Minister for Schools, to the Constituency and show him how local schools are rising to the challenge.

### CONTACT CAROLINE

Gosport Office: 02392 522121

Website: [www.caroline4gosport.co.uk](http://www.caroline4gosport.co.uk)

Email: [Caroline.dinenage.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Caroline.dinenage.mp@parliament.uk)

Twitter: [@cj\\_dinenage](https://twitter.com/cj_dinenage)

Facebook: [Facebook.com/caroline4gosport](https://www.facebook.com/caroline4gosport)

# Caroline DINENAGE



MP for Gosport

Since I was first elected in 2010, I have been committed to addressing our local infrastructure challenges.

Residents in Stubbington and Hill Head know as much as anyone the problems caused by traffic congestion from the Gosport peninsula.

After years of lobbying I was delighted when the hard work paid off and full funding for the Stubbington Bypass was announced last year.

I cannot overstate how important this road will be, not only for easing traffic jams, but also for job creation and economic prosperity in our area.

It was with dismay that I learned a statutory objection had been received delaying the entire project. I'm extremely concerned that this puts the future of the scheme at risk as the project needs to be delivered to time to keep it affordable.

This challenge is a disaster for both local commuters and taxpayers,



Gomer Junior School welcomed a visit by Caroline and new Schools Minister Nick Gibb.

whose money could now be spent on a costly legal battle rather than delivering a solution to our wholly inadequate roads.

In the last couple of months I have been doing all I can to ensure this project delivers the improvements we need.

'I hope to see the Stubbington Bypass back up and running as soon as possible.'



## Developers eyeing up Crofton land for 310 homes



**Persimmon Homes have requested a 'screening opinion and environmental impact assessment' for land east of Crofton cemetery and south of Oakcroft Lane for a potential development of up to 310 dwellings.**

Developers have a legal right to ask for this, which involves various agencies such as Natural England and Highways departments among others.

It will provide information on wildlife

habitats and traffic requirements which the developer would be required to meet and any regulatory issues should they decide to make a formal planning application.

No planning application has been made, but details of the screening carried out and an outline plan can be viewed on the Council website within the planning tab and searching for Oakcroft Lane or using the reference number P/18/1075/EA.

Councillors Kay Mandry, Steve Dugan and Pal Hayre will monitor the situation.

## Extra Government and County Council cash to deal with pothole crisis

**On-going work to deal with thousands of potholes on Hampshire's roads is being carried out by 12 highway teams.**

County Councillor Pal Hayre, pictured beside a pothole in Lychgate Green, said severe winter weather in February and March contributed much to the damage.

She said a 'pothole busters' programme was started immediately and the work would continue throughout this year and 2019.

"The transport budget made savings this year and the County Council has in ad-

dition approved a one-off increase to the Highways department of £5m to help pay for pothole busting and other structural damage at no extra cost to taxpayers.

Meantime, HCC's Operation Resilience is carrying out a long-term programme of highways work to make roads more resistant to severe weather and heavy traffic.

HCC Leader Roy Perry said the County was investing £10m annually on planned maintenance on top of Government funding and recently an extra £2.9m was awarded by Government for flood resilience and pothole repair.

"Safety comes first, which is why we had extra gangs out on the ground, as soon as possible after the snow and cold weather, to start tackling potholes on our roads."

Over 5,300 miles of road and 2,000 miles of verges are maintained by the County Council.

