



InTouch

FAREHAM EAST & WALLINGTON – Winter 2019

Spitfires fly into battle to help keep Fareham's council tax low

SPITFIRES have come to our rescue yet again.

Five of the iconic WW2 fighters fly from Solent Airport and fuel sales for pleasure flights are reaping thousands of pounds in revenue for the benefit of Fareham council taxpayers.

And wise business investment by the **Conservatives** is sparing Fareham households massive annual council tax rises.

Out of an annual Borough Council spend of £47m, less than £7m comes from council tax.

Council Leader Seán Woodward stressed: "So 85% of what we spend includes our trading activities, among them a portfolio of mainly local commercial property that brings in millions of pounds in rental.

"For example, most units at Southampton Road, Park Gate (B&Q, Dunelm, Halfords, PC World, etc) belong to the Council. Without this income our council tax, currently almost the lowest in the country, would need to be far higher."

Despite losing all its Government revenue support grant, Fareham will raise its share of council tax for 2019-20 by only £5 a year, representing just a penny a day increase for the average band C property. Band D properties will pay £160 per year or just 44p per day for all Borough Council services.

In his budget summary, Councillor Woodward was upbeat about lucrative ventures at Solent Airport@Daedalus, where around £30m has been spent so far on infrastructure and new commer-

cial buildings such as newly-extended Fareham Innovation Centre, which is already 70% full.

Airport operations provide a financial return to the Council, flight movements increased to 30,000 annually and hundreds of new jobs were created at what is the Solent Enterprise Zone.

The target over the 25-year life of the Enterprise Zone for new jobs is 3,500, 1,100 of those being on the Fareham part of the site, of which half the total has already been reached.

Land was transferred to Fareham College to build a Civil Engineering Training Centre (CETC) to teach young people skills they need to undertake civil engineering works in this area where there is a huge skills shortage. A £39m capital

programme for future improvements includes:

- Ferneham Hall refurbishment £10m
- Spec build business units at Solent Airport@Daedalus £5m
- New council housing in Fareham, Portchester, Stubbington and Sarisbury £17.6m
- Phasing out single-use plastics by the Council
- Play area improvements £500,000
- Bus shelter replacement £300,000
- Holly Hill Cemetery extension £275,000

He added: "Setting a balanced budget without reducing services is more challenging every year. We have plans for another £1m of annual savings via efficiencies rather than service reductions."



Photos: Richard Davies Photography

All-party agreement failure may add £2.5m a month to J10 upgrade cost

WELBORNE was adopted into the Fareham Borough Plan 6 years ago, yet not a brick has been laid.

And it could be another 2 years before the concrete mixers start turning to prepare the first foundations.

Meantime, developers Buckland's application not being received in 2015 has contributed to cost inflation.

Fareham has raised £39m of public funding towards the J10 cost, but if it fails to tie in with the smart motorway work, it could add an extra £2.5m a month to the £65m bill.

Councillor Keith Evans said: "Families should, by now, be living in some of the new houses and the new motorway Junction 10 should be under way – the start of delivering 6,000 houses, 6,000 jobs, 3 primary schools, a secondary school and small shopping centre.

"The project was initially held up by significant land ownership/availability issues that needed High Court actions to resolve.

"The main landowners/developers finally submitted a planning application early in 2017, but this was inadequate and was refreshed (almost a re-submission) in

December.

"Hopefully, this will result in a planning consideration in April, leading, if successful, to houses on the ground starting in 2021."

He said bringing all the funding streams together was a major task, but more critical was ensuring the J10 plans were agreed to slot into Highways England timetables for the M27 smart motorway.

Fareham Council is working hard to get all parties – Buckland Development, the County Council, Highways England, Local Enterprise Partnership and Government – to agree funding and move towards detailed planning consideration.



NEWS ROUND

Puzzle it out
Westbury Manor Museum is starting a new monthly drop-in Puzzle Club for those who like puzzles and meeting new people.

With a lovely café offer for those who take part and vintage puzzles from the Hampshire Cultural Trust Collections, it's a great way to spend an afternoon – free!
Not suitable for children.

More police, higher tax bills
Hampshire residents face a £24 (band D) rise to their council tax bills to pay for the recruitment of 200 new police officers.

It was recommended by Police Crime Commissioner Michael Lane and rubber stamped by the Police and Crime Panel.
The extra cash will also pay for 65 police staff investigators and training for a new intake of PCSOs.

Honoured
Congratulations to Fareham College Principal Nigel Duncan who received an OBE for his services to Further Education in the Queen's New Year Honours list.

Dog mess sorted
Residents told Tom that dog mess hadn't been cleaned up on the High Street in weeks.
Tom contacted the Council's Head of Environmental Services and arranged to have the whole road cleaned.

Winter grit
As winter tightens its grip, it's important to make sure grit bins are topped up.
Councillor Tom Davies has been touring the ward, checking the bins.

He asks anybody who finds an empty or damaged bin to contact the County Council by emailing roads@hants.gov.uk.

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Barn blaze sparks arson warning

FARMERS are warned to guard their winter feed after fire ripped through a large barn, causing thousands of pounds damage.

35 firefighters from 5 stations fought the blaze at Spurlings Road in January, which destroyed 1,000 bales of hay.

Owner Andrew Malyon, who's chairman of Hampshire NFU, claims it was started deliberately and it was lucky nobody or any animals were hurt.

"It is not the first time that this has happened. We think it's arson," he said.
Councillor Tom Davies said: "If it was arson, I hope the police will catch the culprit."



Council sets example to cut plastics use

GIVE Plastic the Push!

The Council has launched a campaign to reduce use of Single Use Plastic (SUP) in the Borough.
It will set an example with the creation of a new policy on SUP with a commitment to:

- Stop using plastic straws and stirrers in Council buildings
- Stop using SUP cups in drinks machines in the Civic Offices, Broadcut Depot and Ferneham Hall by 2020
- Cease selling drinks in plastic bottles in the Civic Offices and Broadcut Depot by 2020

• Phase out sale of drinks from SUP bottles at Fareham and Holly Hill Leisure Centres, Westbury Manor Museum and Ferneham Hall by 2020.

A publicity campaign is under way to spread the message, providing tips on how residents and businesses can reduce use of plastic.

Councillor Tom Davies said: "This is a great policy and I'm glad FBC is taking environmental issues seriously. If you know of an event or group which the FBC plastic engagement officer could visit, send us your suggestion to publicity@fareham.gov.uk."

Tom lights the touch paper for tighter fireworks controls

A FAREHAM survey sparked demands for tighter controls or even a ban on sale of fireworks.

After being bombarded with emails from residents fearful of the noise and threat to their pets, Councillor Tom Davies decided to set up the survey.

Over 2,300 residents responded and 65% demanded a ban or more restrictions.

And he's now got backing from Fareham MP Suella Braverman who's promised to show the results to the appropriate minister.

Tom said: "Fireworks are a nuisance to the public. They scare animals, young children, people with a phobia/anxiety and elderly people.

"They injure thousands every year and cause damage to buildings, vehicles, emergency vehicles etc.
"And kids are still being sold them. Data from Fareham

Council showed four local establishments failed licensing checks."

Current law states that you cannot buy fireworks if you're under 18 and it's against the law for anyone to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am - except on certain occasions such as bonfire night.

Fireworks can only be bought in the UK between October 15 and November 10.

The RSPCA set up its own petition calling for a review into firework sales rules to protect animals from injury and distress.

It said: "We've launched a campaign to restrict the private use of fireworks to certain days of the year and reduce the decibel levels."

A Change.org petition generated over 500,000 signatures since it was set up on October 16 and the RSPCA urges people to email the Government.



Fareham MP Suella Braverman and Tom Davies discuss a campaign to restrict fireworks sales.

Play area election promise is delivered

TOM DAVIES has fulfilled another of his election pledges.

After public consultation in which 66% of respondents wanted a large multi-climbing frame, improvements to Eastern Parade play area were approved and a design released (pictured).

The Borough Council has awarded play company Wicksteed a contract to carry out the work in spring 2020.

Tom said: "Trim trail equipment will be replaced with a large boat themed climbing unit, one flat swing will be replaced with an inclusive swing and a springy and roundabout will be installed. Existing equipment will be painted and the play area will receive a general tidy up.

"I am glad to have delivered on an election promise and I've taken a keen interest in the development of this since concerned parents came to me about it in 2015."



Discount card to use at leisure

THE COUNCIL has introduced the 'Fareham Leisure Card', which offers discounts on a range of leisure activities from 44 outlets in and around the Borough.

To join the scheme, pick up a leaflet and application form from Fareham Leisure Centre, Holly Hill Leisure Centre or Ferneham Hall.

Cards cost £7.75, £18.35 for a family membership, £5.60 for students or free to some residents on a low income and are renewable annually.

For more information and a list of participating organisations, or if your company would like to be part of the scheme and offer discounts, contact the Leisure Card officer on 01329 824894.



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**BOROUGH COUNCILLOR
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Ferneham Hall revamp plans amended after public consultation



PLANS to transform Ferneham Hall have been amended after the Council listened to residents' views.

The arts venue is to undergo a multi-million-pound investment and the Council shared its vision for Ferneham Hall with the people of the Borough.

Following the consultation, the Executive agreed to alter its plans to reflect the views of residents, regular hirers and industry experts.

The changes include:

- Main auditorium to have 800 seats rather than the 400-500 originally proposed
- A flexible studio space that can be used for a range of activities instead of a studio solely dedicated to dance
- Making the secondary performance space more flexible to encourage a range of uses
- The remodelled venue will also act as a community centre

Councillor Tom Davies, on the Ferneham Hall Working Group, said:

"I'm pleased to see that the Council listened to feedback from the public and regular users and has amended the plans slightly with their suggestions.

"I'm excited for this redevelopment - it's going to provide great entertainment options as well as much improved community facilities."

Further information about the proposal can be found on the Council's website at: www.fareham.gov.uk/leisure/newvenue.aspx

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 East Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please call Tom Davies on 0783 299 1436

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.



Why I voted against original Brexit deal

Despite Brexit turbulence, unemployment remains at a record low, wages are rising faster than prices and the economy is growing faster than forecast.

As I wrote in the *Daily Telegraph*, no-one can doubt the Prime Minister's indefatigable pursuit of a Brexit deal, so it was with regret that I voted against the original deal in Parliament in January.

That deal was not Brexit. It would have locked the UK indefinitely into the EU's single market and customs union whilst annexing Northern Ireland so that it would be treated as a 3rd country by Great Britain.

I sincerely want to support a Government deal and am hopeful meaningful changes will be secured.

The last year was very busy. Over 2,500 residents came to my local events and I replied to more than 35,000 emails!

In some welcome personal news, I am expecting a baby in July. Rael and I are looking forward to becoming parents!

Suella

BRAVERMAN MP for Fareham

Suella was delighted to hold the first ever Solent Festival of Engineering at Fareham Leisure Centre which was attended by over 1,000 local children and students.

The aim of the event was to showcase and bust the myths about engineering, technology and the sciences.

The UK faces an estimated shortfall of 20,000 engineering graduates every year and Suella is passionate about encouraging the next generation of innovators.

She brought together over 50 national and international companies such as Rolls Royce, Google, NATS, Southampton and Portsmouth Universities, and the



Royal Navy and RAF to enable young people to learn more about the opportunities from further study and careers in the field.

From virtual reality, rocket cars, coding challenges, 3D printing, Lego building, drones, model railways, AI, learning about wi-fi, jet engines and gas turbines to life

on Mars and deep sea diving, pet scanners, magic and ship tankers, attendees were not short of interactive engineering experiences.

Suella holds regular events open to the public. If you would like to stay up to date with her events and news, sign up to her monthly e-newsletter by emailing suella@suellabraverman.co.uk.



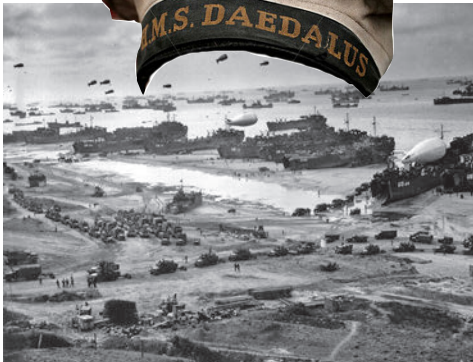
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D-Day 0441 hours, June 6, 1944.

The first aircraft take off from HMS Daedalus to support Operation Overlord – the Normandy Invasion.

Daedalus D-Day Diary Dates

It was a pivotal moment in the history of the Fleet Air Arm base where 435 units – the largest to operate from any UK airfield on D-Day – were deployed.

The Fleet Air Arm was joined by RAF squadrons, Royal Canadian Air Force Typhoons and Mustangs and US Navy Spitfires, softening up Hitler's Atlantic Wall and protecting the invasion armada.

That historic day which paved the way to victory over the Nazi regime will be recalled during 75th anniversary events commemorating the landings.

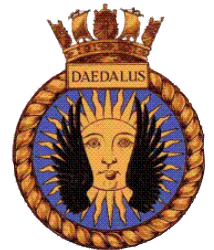
Plans are under way for a two-day spectacular show at what is now Solent

Airport on June 8 and 9, from 10am to 4pm, and Fareham residents are asked to diary the dates.

Vintage aircraft will play a key role and details of those taking part will be released soon.

There will also be children's activities, market stalls and stage performances by local groups.

Fareham East Councillor Tom Davies said: "Council officers are planning to make it a day to remember, so make sure you don't miss what will be the biggest event of the year."



Owners warned: Clean up your dog's mess or face tough new penalties

A NEW law is proposed to tackle dirty dog owners.

The Council is responding to complaints about dogs fouling and being out of control by seeking an updated Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

If approved, it would replace the existing PSPO which expires in March and extend the Council's powers for the next 3 years to:

- Tackle dog fouling
- Ensure people have a means to pick up dog litter
- Request dogs be put on leads if causing a public nuisance

- Ensure dogs are put on leads in sensitive places e.g. cemeteries
- Limit the numbers of dogs a person can walk at any one time
- Exclude dogs from certain areas e.g. play areas

It would also enable Council officers to issue on-the-spot fines to irresponsible dog owners. The proposed powers would not apply to people registered blind, or who rely on assistance dogs.

Councillor Tom Davies said: "We want to ensure that irresponsible dog owners don't spoil people's enjoyment of the public spaces in the Borough."

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