



InTouch

FAREHAM WEST – 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



Photos: Richard Davies Photography

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."

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

Now we're a cul-de-sac

After 40 years, local resident Ian MacIntosh is thrilled to have two new smart signs stating that Sandisplatt and Devonshire Way are 'No through roads' after local councillors got Hampshire County Council to replace the old ones. Ian says: "Many thanks for your efforts on our behalf – they have already achieved success and we now have two new signs stating we are a cul-de-sac!"

Keeping an eye on drains

We have expedited inspections where there have been drainage issues and assure residents that regular inspections and a rolling maintenance programme are in place to keep drains cleared. Councillor Tina Ellis said: "It's a Hampshire Highways responsibility, but please advise us if there are issues near you. "Not seeing the drain clearance team does not mean that our area has been missed and issues brought to their attention are prioritized and dealt with."

Winter grit

The cold weather could be far from over, so make sure grit bins are topped up.



Councillor Tina Ellis has been touring the ward, checking the bins. She met Mrs Nora Beale, of Oak Road (pictured) who was delighted that the one in Priory Road had been refilled. She was disgusted to find dog owners using the one in an alley off Abbey Road to dump poo bags. If you find an empty or damaged bin email the County Council at roads@hants.gov.uk.

Residents thank Tina for quick kerb jobs



Oak Road WI access

A BADLY damaged kerb caused difficulties for the wheelchair access of an elderly lady in Meadowbank Road.

The grateful homeowner thanked Councillor Tina Ellis for her quick response.

"The dropped kerb has been repaired today, many thanks for your assistance in getting this sorted."

Tina was also thanked for getting similar work done for the Women's Institute in Oak Road.



Meadowbank Road access

Community involvement for all

THERE are many ways Fareham residents can have a say in local affairs.

Forums such as One Community and Fareham Community Action Team (CAT) meetings are two of them, the latter hosted by the Borough Council and advertised on its website and Facebook.

Councillor Tina Ellis said the meetings gave citizens the chance to get their questions about local issues answered directly by councillors and officers.

She said: "A significant step forward is that there are now YCAT meetings where our younger community (aged 11-19) can discuss issues relating directly to them."

Public consultations are also to be found on the website. A recent one 'Taking the Lead on Responsible Dog Ownership' was distributed widely by Tina on dog walks at Blackbrook Park and around the Borough.

She added: "Take the time to get involved and have your say on a wide variety of topics; just search 'Consultations' on Fareham Borough Council website."

Call for more police heeded as Fareham crime rate soars



LACK of police resources is blamed for a rise in crime and anti-social behaviour in Fareham.

West Ward and the rest of the Borough have suffered a significant rise which is worrying residents and businesses. County Councillor Fred Birkett demanded top-level action. And he got it from the county's police boss himself.

Police Crime Commissioner Michael Lane's recommendation for 200 new officers, plus 65 staff police investigators and training for new PCSOs was accepted.

But it will cost an extra £24 a year on Band D council tax bills.

Statistics show Fareham has Hampshire's second lowest crime rate, but it experienced a steady rise during the past 3 years.

Fred Birkett said: "Although the Fareham area remains one of the safest places in Hampshire to live and work, this rise in crime levels is affecting people.

"Residents are worried about the increase throughout

our communities in anti-social behaviour, break-ins and violent crimes, all being reported in the media.

"Incidents are also affecting businesses, with data showing that between December 3, 2018 and January 14, 2019, 13 Fareham businesses were raided, several in the Highlands area."

Inspector Sarah Nicholson said: "We are continuing to carry out inquiries to establish if any of these incidents are linked, including reviewing CCTV and carrying out additional patrols."

Fred Birkett said: "I passed residents' concerns to the Executive Member for Health and Public Protection and the Police and Crime Commissioner with a request for extra resources to be assigned to Fareham, but not just to the town centre."

At the time we went to print, there was no indication as to how many of the new police recruits will be assigned to Fareham

A new home for youth charity

Volunteers renovated an old Council building in Frosthole Close which is now open for use by Fareham-based charity Y-Services.

The Victorian building, once an isolation hospital and physiotherapy unit, had lain empty for 5 years. Councillor Tina Ellis said the building with its unusual shape

would provide opportunities for the charity to undertake several different services, including a training facility for young people.

It needed a lot of work, including window repairs, painting, new kitchen and toilets, two floors renovated, water ingress and damp remedial work and removal of ivy from outside. Much of it was done by Y-Services volunteers.

It's selfish, dangerous and it's illegal



DOES this selfish driver expect mums with prams or the disabled to get past his car parked illegally on the pavement?

Councillor Tina Ellis, pictured trying to squeeze through, said it was hazardous for the blind, elderly, and disabled with buggies.

Such mindless parking is a danger to vulnerable members of our community

who are forced on to the roads to avoid obstacles on the paths and verges.

Open doors and overhanging items from work vans or private vehicles can cause significant injury.

Tina said: "When you park, please have consideration for others for whom the pavements are intended."



BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Fareham West



Leslie Keeble
173b Highlands Road
Fareham PO15 5PR
Tel: 01329 845339
email: lkeeble@fareham.gov.uk



Tina Ellis
173A Highlands Road
Fareham PO15 5PR
Tel: 01329 843936
email: tellis@fareham.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Fareham Crofton



Pal Hayre
52 Gosport Road
Stubbington PO14 2AN
Tel: 0771 269 5467
email: pal.hayre@hants.gov.uk



Geoff Hockley
27 Heath Lawns
Fareham PO15 5QB
Tel: 01329 287365
email: geoff.hockley@hants.gov.uk

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 West Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Leslie Keeble on 01329 845339 or Tina on 01329 843936.

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 Tina Ellis 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



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.



CONTACT SUELLA

14 East Street, Fareham PO16 0BN

Tel: 01329 233573

Email: suella@suellabraverman.co.uk

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

Daedalus D-Day Diary Dates



D-Day 0441 hours, June 6, 1944.

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

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.

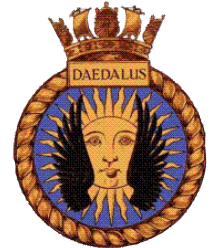
Plans are under way for a two-day spectacular show at what is now Solent

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