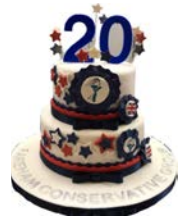


CONSERVATIVES – Two decades of exceptional civic service



# InTouch



FAREHAM EAST – Spring 2019



## ‘Here’s another fine mess they’ve gotten us into’

**IT READS like a Laurel and Hardy farce, but for Fareham planners the mess they have been gotten into by the Government is no laughing matter.**

In less than a year, yet more green fields have come under threat as Whitehall demands the Borough Council finds space for up to 2,500 extra homes.

And these come on top of the 2,300 houses we have already been forced to add to the new Draft Plan 2011-2036.

“What an awful Government-inspired mess this has been,” said Executive Member for Planning and Development Councillor Keith Evans.

To meet the original target of 2,300, the Council proposed having as much brownfield development as possible, plus large new greenfield sites in Warsash, Portchester, Titchfield Common and South Fareham, which sparked furious protests from residents.

The dust hadn’t settled before Whitehall moved the goal posts again with a new formula to calculate housing need, a stronger obligation to take up unmet housing need from nearby councils and severe penalties for non-planning approval or non-delivery.

The mess became a mire and led to the Council having to sus-

pend the Draft Plan and take it back to the drawing board.

Keith Evans led fierce Council opposition to the changes, but intensive lobbying of Housing Minister Kit Malthouse and senior civil servants by the Council Leader and Fareham and Gosport MPs fell on deaf ears.

He stated: “Government ignored our objections and is proceeding with the new mechanisms – although it conceded on one point and will introduce the measuring against new numbers effectively from 2020 rather than being backdated.

“We are working through the numbers, but it looks certain to be in the range of 1,800 to 2,500 more houses above the original additional 2,300 – an enormous increase and one which will have to be met in the main from further new greenfield sites.”

Fortunately, the suspended Draft Plan remains valid while the Council confirms the extra numbers and evaluates all the remaining green space in Fareham.

Residents are being consulted on site options which will be merged into the current Draft Plan before a new plan is issued for public comment in the autumn/winter 2019.

Keith Evans added: “Fortunately, we have a good knowledgeable team of planning officers who are helping to minimise delays and the additional costs.”

## Celebrating 20 years of outstanding Conservative administration

**FAREHAM Council is the envy of every local authority in Hampshire and way beyond.**

**Conservatives** have brought consistency, stability and prosperity since taking over running the Borough 20 years ago from the failed Lib Dem/Labour pact that left the Council facing bankruptcy.

The anniversary on May 4 was celebrated with a party at Portchester Parish Hall, attended by nearly 100 councillors, one former and two sitting MPs, party workers and supporters.

It also marked the date that Seán Woodward was elected as its dynamic Council Leader.

He said Fareham had steadfastly voted **Conservative** because the Council was seen to be delivering for local people.

“We have consistently set the lowest taxes and best services of



most district councils, high quality parks, leisure facilities, a good refuse collection service and, as far as we can, clean streets.

“We support local commerce and industry with fantastic business facilities, including our industrial estates and business parks at Solent Airport@Daedalus.

“We invest in commercial property to raise millions of pounds to deliver excellent services and work with others to bring huge road infrastructure investment in our Borough.

“We treat taxpayers’ money as it should be treated – to be spent only as necessary and always prudently.

“It takes a great deal of planning and delivery. We have an excellent team of officers who deliver for our residents day after day. I am so grateful to them for their work.”

**Almost England’s lowest district council tax – thanks to CONSERVATIVES**



NEWS ROUND

Cats need help

Cats Protection (Fareham) is asking for volunteers, foster helpers and donations.

A spokesman said: "This is a crazy time of year for us and right now we are stretched to breaking point."

Visit their website for more information at fareham.cats.org.uk

Leisure Centre 'outstanding'

Fareham Leisure Centre, which is managed by Everyone Active on behalf of FBC, has been recognised for its outstanding services following a thorough assessment by Sport England's leading national quality scheme, Quest.

It is the first leisure centre nationally to gain four consecutive outstanding judgements.

Grants cash available

County Councillors Peter Latham and Fred Birkett each receive an annual budget of £8,000 to allocate to local projects and organisations in Fareham Town Division.

Legitimate groups, but not individuals, can apply for a grant by completing an online application form. The scheme opens again in June and runs until the end of February 2020.

Contact them on the telephone number below.

Weed spraying under way

The County Council was scheduled to start weed spraying in Fareham from the beginning of May.

Contractors will work west to east through the Borough to complete the job by the end of the month.

This is much earlier than the last few years and should be more effective.

Help for homeless

The Government has announced a Flexible Homelessness Support Grant, and local charity Two Saints will benefit by £40,000, allowing them to extend outreach worker hours and enable more homeless people to get help.

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FarehamEast

Clean up after Fido or face a fine

A CLAMP-DOWN on dirty dog owners came into force in Fareham on April 1.

The Council's new Public Spaces Protection Order was introduced to encourage dog owners to be more responsible.

It allows the Council to continue to tackle dog fouling and request dogs be put on leads if causing a nuisance in public.

They must be on leads in sensitive places such as cemeteries and are ex-

cluded from certain places such as play areas.

The PSPO also limits the number of dogs a person can walk at any one time to four.

The Council created a more flexible and inclusive definition of those people exempt from the order including the blind, deaf and those who rely on an assistance dog.

People who don't clean up dog mess face a fixed penalty of £100 or a £1,000 fine if they are taken to court.

More cops to tackle Borough crime wave

HAMPSHIRE will get 200 additional police officers to combat the rise in crime.

This is in addition to the 150 police officers already safeguarded by the PCC.

That means there will be a total of 350 more police officers in Hampshire next year.

Proportionally that's an extra two dozen police officers for Fareham Borough.

Tom Davies has been campaigning for the last year to ensure that Fareham gets the level of resources it deserves, including liaising with our Police and Crime Commissioner and he

has been covered in the local media on several occasions.

He said, "I'm really glad Hampshire Police are committing extra resources to front line policing. The exact figures are still to be published but Fareham should end up with an extra two dozen police officers from this."

"Given that crime in Fareham seems to be at levels we've never seen before it's very welcome news."

"In the last few weeks there's been a spate of crime in the town centre, Wallington and around Park Lane and Wickham Road."

Huge response to call for change in use of fireworks law  
**THERE'S been a bonanza of support for Tom Davies' and MP Suella Braverman's lobbying of the Government to change the law on private use of fireworks.**

A current petition by Amy Cullen, signed by nearly 300,000 people, calls for a ban on the sale of fireworks to the public and for fireworks displays to be restricted to licensed venues.

She wrote: "Every year fireworks are set off unnecessarily. Fireworks are a nuisance to the public. They scare animals, young children and people with a phobia."

"They injure thousands of people every year. They cause damage to buildings, vehicles, emergency vehicles and kids are still being sold them."

There are 11 other petitions calling for stricter fireworks regulations.

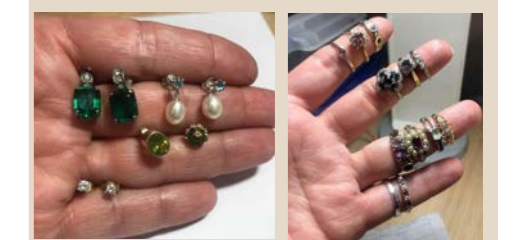
They have raised concerns on the impact on veterans, particularly those suffering with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), public nuisance and noise effects on children and animals, concerns about fireworks used as weapons and the effects on the emergency services.

An inquiry into the law on fireworks has been launched by MPs, with the case for banning their sale to the public to be examined.

Tom Davies added: "We urge interested residents to contact us with their experiences."

Who owns these gems?

Police have recovered these items of stolen jewellery in Fareham and Gosport and are trying to trace the owners.



Extend residents' parking zones petition

FRUSTRATED residents are annoyed with the County Council's negative responses to repeated calls for residential parking zones.

They have continually told Councillor Tom Davies it's the only way to solve town centre parking crisis.

So Tom, aided by new InTouch team member \*Steve Ingram, are starting a petition which they intend to hand to the County Council.

Tom said parking was one of the top issues raised when he was canvassing before his election to the Council last year.

"Too many told me it was getting harder and harder to park outside their homes."

"Often it was the elderly and disabled who suffered most, having to walk some distance

to get to their front door." He suggested the solution was to extend the residential parking zones across the town centre where most residents want them.

"Sadly, I was quickly told 'no' by Hampshire County Council. I approached them soon after I was elected and they gave me a resolute 'no way' despite multiple times of asking."

"So I've given it a year and written to them again, with the same response."

"I suggested to them that I would prove how strongly our town centre residents want some action taken on this issue."

To sign the petition please go to: <https://tiny.cc/wzr65y> or email Tom.

\*InTouch team's newest member Steve Ingram has held senior management posi-

tions with various national companies for the past 35 years.

He joined Portsmouth Naval Base as a fitter and turner apprentice after leaving school.

He and his wife Beverley have lived in Fareham for over 25 years and they have two sons, one of whom is severely handicapped.

"It has installed in me a passion to fight for people who suffer with any disability."

"I relish the challenge of becoming an InTouch team member helping make Fareham an even better place for everyone to live in," he said.



Steve Ingram

'Big Belly' digests loads of litter

TWO new smart bins have been installed in the Borough as part of a trial to help reduce the amount of litter.

The bins, nicknamed the 'Big Belly', replaced another brand of solar bins at Holly Hill play area and Passage Lane car park in Warsash.

They can hold up to 808 litres and compact the litter several times a day, so more can be disposed of and fewer collections are needed.

'Big Belly' is currently used by more than 80 councils and is operated by a handle or by using a foot pedal. A sensor emails the Council office

when it's full, so the bin can be emptied.

The trial lasts until August 2019.

Councillor Tom Davies said: "We are hoping these smart bins will make a real difference and reduce the amount of litter in the Borough."

"But we need to monitor the trial to see if they work well, with a view to introducing them across the Borough."



Those 'Blackout' days are back

OLDER residents will remember the wartime 'Blackout'.

It's main function was not to give the Luftwaffe easy targets and it also saved a lot of precious fuel.

Now it's back. Nothing to do with air raids, but street lights are switched off every night between 1am and 5am, saving the cash-strapped County Council £243,000 a year.

HCC had to make savings of £140m and County Councillor Peter Latham said 85% of people consulted in 2017 backed the blackout idea.

FLASHBACK: An ARP warden adjusts one of the strictly enforced wartime blackout times. Even the slightest chink of light through blackout curtains would spark the cry 'Put that bloody light out!'



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Fareham Town



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BOROUGH COUNCILLOR  
Fareham East



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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 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.



### Prepare for a 'No Deal' and just get us out

Like many residents in Fareham, I am disappointed and frustrated that the Government did not deliver Brexit on March 29 as promised.

As a Brexiteer, in Parliament I have consistently voted against extending Article 50, against holding European Elections and against a 2nd Referendum.

Instead, I voted in favour of No Deal so that we could just get out.

Sadly I was in a minority in Parliament. The solution is clear: the Government and Prime Minister need to prepare for 'No Deal' and take the UK out of the EU.

The relevant plans are in place and by providing certainty to the country and businesses, we will be able to move on from this damaging impasse.

I will keep working for this in Parliament and will do all I can to ensure that we deliver Brexit, ie leaving the Customs Union, the single market and taking back control over our borders and laws.

# Suella

## BRAVERMAN MP for Fareham

### Campaigning for better social care

Many residents are worried about social care for their elderly and vulnerable relatives.

The Government is committed to improving social care. £1.8 billion is allocated for 2019-20 through the improved Better Care Fund, ie a 23% increase on last year.

For Hampshire, an extra £4.7m has been allocated for winter pressures, and in Fareham, I have visited excellent residential care homes like Gracewell, Hamble Heights and Abbeyfield where residents are brilliantly cared for.

Despite the good work, there are many people who find the Continuing Health Care system slow,



bureaucratic and unfair.

John White, from Fareham, (pictured) came to see me about caring for his sister-in-law who was suffering with Alzheimer's

disease.

Funding applications were rejected by West Hampshire CCG and the appeals process was delayed so that funding was only granted after 6 years – too late for his sister-in-law who had sadly passed away.

I am working with local residents, Ministers and Hampshire CC to improve the system. I also spoke about the issue in Parliamentary debate on April 24, which you can read here:

[www.theyworkforyou.co.uk](http://www.theyworkforyou.co.uk)

If you would like support on this matter, please get in touch with me.

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## High Sheriff's award to Fareham Y-Services

### Y-SERVICES started the year with two high profile achievements.

After hearing about their work, Hampshire High Sheriff Mark Thistlethwayte visited the charity, meeting volunteers, workers and trustees.

As a result, Y-Services for Young People received a High Sheriff of Hampshire Award at a ceremony in the Great Hall in Winchester on March 20.

Y-Services' opened their scrapstore in Frosthole Crescent, which they had taken over from the Borough Council.

The dilapidated former Victorian isolation hospital had lain empty for 5 years and needed an immense amount of work to restore, which was achieved by the Y-Services team and local volunteers.

Among the facilities, it will provide:

- Community scrap store. Local companies donate surplus materials to be reused for art and crafts projects by nurseries, schools, youth clubs.

- Training facility for young people, including opportunities to enhance their CVs, learn new skills and develop confidence to be 'job ready'.

- Drop-in facility for young people

requiring support by a youth worker or other professional.

- Creative arts and crafts sessions for the community,

Opening times are Monday 1-3pm, Tuesday 4-6pm, Wednesday 1-3pm and the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month 9-10.30am.

PHOTO: Councillor Connie Hockley, who opened the store, with trustees chairman Andy Kennedy.



## Appeal looms as planners reject huge green field housing scheme

### DEVELOPERS lodged an appeal after their controversial scheme to build 350 homes east of Downend Road was thrown out by Fareham planners.

Miller Homes' plan for the Winnham Farm green field site had brought fierce objections from residents and councillors fearing traffic impact at the A27 junction and the Delme Roundabout.

And those fears were taken into account when the planning committee rejected it for two reasons:

- A big increase in pedestrians using the narrow road bridge over the railway.

Drawings submitted by Miller Homes provided an inadequate

footpath to ensure pedestrians' and road users' safety. Works to the bridge titled 'priority shuttle working' would result in unacceptable harm to safety of highway users.

- The site is not sustainably located in terms of access to local services and facilities.

Planning committee chairman Nick Walker said: "I had concerns about this application from a highway point of view.

"This would be the impact for pedestrians across the railway bridge, the increase in traffic along Downend Road and on to the A27 and the increase of the potential for rat-running along side roads."