



InTouch



FAREHAM NORTH WEST – Autumn 2019

It's 'curtain up' in 2022 for a transformed Ferneham Hall

THE LAST night of this season's pantomime at Ferneham Hall will be a show-stopper.

It will be two years before the curtain rises again, then it will reveal the present jaded building stunningly transformed into a new community, arts and entertainment venue.

This will be the flagship of the Conservative Council's vision to revitalise Fareham town centre over the next few years.

Councillor Fred Birkett said: "Ferneham Hall has become tired and dated over the 40 years of its life, and transforming it is one of the Council's key priorities. "This exciting concept will see it become a bustling hub of activity, daytime and evening, seven days a week, offering something for everyone."

And the new £12.3m centre will be professionally managed for the Council by leading leisure and events operator BH Live, which manages 17 venues in the South and London, including Portsmouth Pyramids and Bournemouth International Centre.

Ferneham Hall will close on January 6 after the cast in this year's panto 'Beauty and the Beast' take their final bow so the project can take centre stage. It will include:

- Main auditorium with 808 seats, retractable on the ground floor and fixed on the first floor balcony, bigger stage dimensions to attract wider range of professional productions.



Vision: Artist's sketches of the remodelled Ferneham Hall and (below) the spacious foyer.

- New larger foyer continuing up to a first floor bar and terrace, with areas for small pop-up exhibitions. All-day café on the ground floor, with outdoor seating available.
- Secondary performance space with 120-capacity auditorium, demountable seating, projector and screen. Flexibility allows uses such as cinema screenings, conferences, dance, community or club meetings.
- First floor studio to accommodate a range of activities eg yoga, dance, exhibitions and conferences.

•Large, flexible meeting room for hire on the ground floor. Organisations will be encouraged to hire the studio and other spaces if required.

The design team is looking to ensure the building has a low carbon footprint and is investigating solar panels, photovoltaic panels and an air source heat pump.

Councillor Peter Davies added: "Town centre shopping areas will have to transform over the next few years.

"The need for a traditional shopping centre is declining. We can see that in our own shopping centre. "Shopping centres will need to develop and attract residents for other purposes and a brand new community, arts and entertainment venue will bring residents into Fareham and be a vibrant venue in the town centre."



Artist sketch: Buckland Development

A NEW community north of Fareham moved a step closer when Council planners granted outline consent for Welborne Garden Village.

Welborne development gets green light

Buckland Development Ltd plans include up to 6,000 new homes, new district and local centres, schools, shops and community facilities.

Other features of the development:
•Major improvements to Junction 10 on the M27 turning it into an all-moves junction
•More than 1,000,000 sq ft of employment space creating around 6,000 new

jobs
•Community and health facilities; local pub and hotel

•New secondary school, 3 new primary schools, nursery and pre-schools
•Sports facilities, play areas and allotments

•270 acres of natural green space
There is also the possibility of a new rail station to serve the community.



We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year





News on the Grapevine

Poor surfaces



Uneven pavement surfaces and potholes abound in the roads in North West Ward. Councillor Peter Davies (pictured) has found yet another one in Highlands Road. If you know of any others, let Peter know.

Missed again

Councillor Peter Davies will ask Fareham Council why they always miss clearing the weeds on the footpath from Highlands Road to Nashe Way.



Christmas wishes

Fred Birkett and Peter Davies are proud to represent Fareham NW Ward as Conservative Borough Councillors. Fred said: "We have met so many people and, although not always able to provide the answers wished for, I hope we have been able to help most people who have asked. "We have especially enjoyed working with the teams at the Highlands Hub, the new Scrap Store at Frosthole and Fareham North West Community Centre. "To all, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year."

Mixed prospects on the local buses

THE F2 bus has been reduced to a two-hourly service and now receives a County Council grant to keep it going.

Councillor Peter Davies continues to try to get a Sunday bus service to Highlands but has been



unable to achieve this so far. He said: "The future of the other subsidised route in our ward – No. 20 – seems assured." Peter's pictured with a crowd of happy passengers.

Donor card to aid rough sleepers

A DONATION card has been launched making it easier to give money to a charity which directly helps rough sleepers in Fareham rather than giving cash directly to individuals.

It will be particularly welcomed in wards where the problem has led to demands from residents to tackle it.

Councillor Fred Birkett said Fareham Street Aid had created the card with a QR code which can be scanned with money going straight to the Two Saints charity.



"It can be shown if you are approached for money as a way of saying that you are donating to a Fareham Street Aid partner."

They are available from reception at the Civic Offices, One Community in Fareham Shopping Centre and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

"Those using the card should carry it close to hand so it can be easily produced when needed."

One Community will take clothing and food donations.

Work starts to get rid of Fareham's 'Berlin Wall'



FOURTEEN years of unsightly dereliction ended when the bulldozers moved on to the Hampshire Rose site.

It marked the start of construction that will transform the eyesore behind the ugly hoarding, nicknamed Fareham's 'Berlin Wall'.

The former pub site on the corner of Highlands Road and Fareham Park Road will provide much-needed homes, which should be ready next summer. The Conservative-run Council has invested £2.85m to redevelop the site where 18 affordable homes for rent, comprising 9 one-bedroom flats and 9 two-bedroom flats are being built.

They will be owned and managed by Fareham Housing, the Council's housing service.

Contractors F E Chase delivered letters to nearby residents to put them in the picture.

Before work could start, ecologists had to trawl the area to rescue and relocate protected species.

The sounds of the JCBs were music to the ears of NW Ward Councillors Fred Birkett and Peter Davies.

Fred said: "The Hampshire Rose site was one of the reasons why I became a Borough councillor."

"Every time I drove past, I wondered when something would be done to this site and I was determined to drive this development forward."

"As Executive Member for Housing I am delighted that work has started, providing much-needed social housing."

PHOTO (l to r): Council Leader Seán Woodward, Fareham Mayor Pamela Bryant, Peter Davies, Housing Scrutiny Panel Chairman Kay Mandry, Fred Birkett.

Homes plan still unresolved

THERE is still an application for 28 houses on the fields at the top of Fareham Park Road.

Councillor Peter Davies (pictured) said: "The Council has yet to consider this as Natural England is concerned about the increase in nitrates (see Page 4) in the Solent, which can be the result of increased amounts of wastewater from new dwellings."



We're seeking your local heroes

RESIDENTS are asked to nominate local heroes for Citizen or Young Citizen of Honour awards.

The annual awards honour those who have made a difference to the lives of local people. There are two categories – under 18s and 18+.

Previous winners have been nominated for bravery, helping others at school or college, coping with something life changing, volunteering, helping the local environment or caring for an individual.

Councillor Fred Birkett said: "No matter what it is, we want to hear about it, so we can give local heroes the recognition they deserve."

Winners will receive invitations to Mayor Making in May with two guests to receive their award from the outgoing Mayor; a reception with the new Mayor to receive Citizen of Honour certificates; the Civic Service and Remembrance Day Service; a £100 anytime spend card.

To nominate your hero either fill out our nomination form online or call 01329 236100.



New laws restrict drone flying over Fareham

DRONE flying is restricted over a large part of Fareham Borough.

Since new UK laws came into force this year, it is now illegal to fly a drone within 5km (3.1 miles) of an airfield.

Other sensitive areas such as prisons are included in the raft of new Government legislation.

Councillor Fred Birkett said: "I understand there are lots of rules about drones, and people may not be aware that flying drones in most of the Borough is illegal."

Banned zones include Daedalus airfield, sensitive areas are around Portsmouth Naval Base and the restricted Portsdown MoD research establishments.

Flying drones in the no-fly zone is a criminal offence with a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison.

From November, any drone weighing more than 250g must be registered with the Civil Aviation Authority and users will be required to undertake mandatory on-line safety tests.

Drone pilots who fail to register and sit the tests will face fines of up to £1,000.

Police have also been given new powers to enforce the drone laws

Carbon neutrality date

FAREHAM is forging ahead with plans to mitigate effects of climate change, targeting carbon neutrality by 2030.

It's the latest of the environmental initiatives introduced by the Council, which include development of a comprehensive recycling service, planting 30,000 trees around Daedalus and removing Single Use Plastics from Council operations by the end of 2019-20 financial year.

At the October meeting, councillors discussed the scope of a newly-formed working group.

First priorities will be to develop a plan to identify the Council's carbon footprint to provide a baseline against which progress can be measured.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS Fareham North West



Peter Davies
142 Highlands Road
Fareham PO15 5PS
Tel: 01329 846239
email: pdavies@fareham.gov.uk



Fred Birkett
22 Lynden Close
Fareham PO14 3AL
Tel: 0750 5000 987
email: fbirkett@fareham.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLORS Fareham Town



Peter Latham
Posbrook Gardens
Triangle Lane
Titchfield PO14 4HD
Tel: 01329 843267
email: peter.latham@hants.gov.uk



Fred Birkett
22 Lynden Close
Fareham PO14 3AL
Tel: 0750 5000 987
email: fbirkett@fareham.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 North West Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Fred Birkett on 07505 000 987.

Let us deliver Brexit and get back to domestic priorities



I am honoured to be standing for re-election as your **Conservative** Member of Parliament on 12th December.

This General Election is vital because we need a new Parliament to support Prime Minister Boris Johnson to get Brexit done. Like the majority of voters in Fareham, I voted and campaigned to leave the EU in the 2016 Referendum because I see the many opportunities for trade, migration, sovereignty and laws.

Boris' new deal offers these opportunities and that is why I support it. Your vote will make the difference on 12th December.

By voting **Conservative**, we can secure a majority in Parliament so that we can deliver Brexit, restore democracy, bring this constitutional crisis to an end and move onto other domestic priorities like more police in Fareham, more funding for our local schools and better NHS services.

None of the other parties offers this. Labour and the Liberal Democrats want to prolong the uncertainty and not honour democracy. Vote **Conservative** on 12th December to get Brexit done!

CONTACT SUELLA

14 East Street, Fareham PO16 0BN
Tel: 01329 822646
Email: suella@suellabraverman.co.uk
Facebook: @SuellaBravermanOfficial
Website: www.suellabraverman.co.uk

Suella BRAVERMAN

AS YOUR **Conservative** Member of Parliament since 2015, I have worked on a large variety of local issues and been a voice for Fareham in Parliament.

My track record includes:

- 1 Leading Fareham Community Hospital Taskforce to support more services there, including the Same Day Access to local GPs
- 2 Supporting young people and skills through my 4 annual Apprenticeships and Jobs Fairs with Fareham College and seeing a doubling of the number of apprentices in Fareham since 2015
- 3 Fighting for better transport such as upgrades to Junction 10 and better train links.
- 4 Assisting thousands of people in Fareham to find better housing, resolve problems with pensions or benefits, secure a school place and better social care for an elderly relative.

Thousands of residents have at-



tended my public events for Senior Citizens, Health Services, Brexit and better Broadband.

More needs to be done and that is why I am pleased that Fareham will see more police on the beat locally following worrying incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour in Fareham Town Centre and Locks Heath.

I am delighted that all schools in Fareham will see an increase in their funding with Sarisbury Junior School, Hook-with-Warsash, Park Gate Primary, Brookfield Community School and Cams Hill schools receiving significant amounts to address their previous lower levels of funding.

And I am glad that we are seeing record investment in our NHS, mental health services and social care.

I hope that I can count on your support to continue the work.

Nitrates pollution disrupts Fareham housing plans

FAREHAM planners are well advanced identifying new sites to meet Government demands for up to 2,500 extra homes, but the Council could still fail housing delivery tests due to the nitrates pollution factor.

After being forced to take its development plan back to the drawing board, it hopes to put the revised strategy and any necessary new policies before the December Executive meeting.

But Executive Member for Planning and Development Councillor Keith Evans said that although progress was being made to achieve nitrate neutrality on development

sites, there were still 1,700 on-hold house applications.

He said: "These delays are not good news because until this backlog is cleared, Fareham is at serious risk of failing government housing delivery tests with resulting penalties requiring even more short-term housing delivery – a real mess."

"Fareham, with other local authorities, is strongly engaging with government departments and statutory organisations to get some common sense applied and to see longer term solutions as opposed to short term fixes."

Meanwhile, if the Executive agrees the

revised strategy there will be a public consultation during the winter.

The Council will then merge the results with the 'on-hold' draft Stage 1 and prepare the plan that it proposes to submit to the Planning Inspectorate.

This new overall Borough Plan will be published for general comment in early summer 2020, before going to the Inspectorate in mid to late summer.

The examination timetable is up to the Inspectorate but should be over the autumn – winter period, allowing formal Council adoption of the plan in early 2021.

Prestigious Queen's award for Fareham's YServices



Y-SERVICES the charitable organisation looking after youth services across the Borough, were honoured to receive a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

It's the highest award a voluntary group can receive and was presented by the Lord Lieutenant for Hampshire, Mr

Nigel Atkinson.

Andy and Maria Kennedy, who founded the charity in 2011, received the award.

Councillor Fred Birkett said: "Y-Services is well-known across the area as being a great organisation offering a range of diverse groups and young people fantastic oppor-

tunities.

"This prestigious award is well deserved."

PHOTO (l to r): Y-Services CEO Andy Kennedy, quadriplegic yachtsman and Deputy Lord Lieutenant Geoff Holt, Fareham Mayor Councillor Pamela Bryant and Lord Lieutenant Nigel Atkinson.

Website: www.farehamconservatives.org.uk Email: farehamconservatives@gmail.com

Promoted by Cllr Mrs Susan Bayford on behalf of Suella Braverman both of 14 East Street, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 0BN.

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