



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 showstopper.

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 Seán Woodward 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 remodeled 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 Jon Butts 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."

Seán calls for volunteers to restart Community SpeedWatch

A BID to restart Community SpeedWatch in Sarisbury and Park Gate areas has been launched.

South Hampshire's first SpeedWatch was started 10 years ago in Burrigde, but the group later folded.

County Councillor Seán Woodward is seeking volunteers to set up a new one in his division, which also includes Swanwick, Burrigde, Priory Park and Whiteley.

Volunteers use equipment to monitor the traffic speed, record the details and add them to a database.

Vehicle checks are then undertaken by the police and letters sent to registered keepers advising them they were speeding and reminding them why it is a community concern.

Councillor Woodward said he could provide a grant to start the scheme and

police would cover costs for vetting, training and support for office work.

Initial cost can be up to £3,000 to secure the monitoring equipment, high visibility clothing and a sign.

"This is a really valuable community project and helps slow traffic on our roads," he said.

Contact: sean.woodward@hants.gov.uk for an application form.



NEWS ROUND



Helping rough sleepers

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

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



Fareham Street Aid created the card with a QR code which can be scanned with money going straight to the Two Saints charity. Cards are available from reception at the Civic Offices, One Community in Fareham Shopping Centre and the Citizens Advice.

Choose 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 local people's lives.

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.

To nominate your hero either fill out our nomination form online, call communications on 01329 236100.

Your call

British Telecom is steadily removing telephone boxes as they are seldom used.

Now BT wants to remove the one in the Sarisbury Green Conservation Area in front of the shops.

We believe the iconic red box is a significant feature in the conservation area and have asked the Council to adopt it.

All ideas for future use gratefully received. Many villages use them as book exchanges or for housing defibrillators,

Brickworks income creation idea

BURSLEDON Brickworks museum trustees and fundraisers are pictured meeting County Council Leader Keith Mans and County Councillor Seán Woodward to discuss a new project.

The £1.8m New Foundations Project will create an ongoing income stream for the museum with refurbishment of sheds to incorporate small business units.

It is the largest Victorian steam-driven brickworks in the UK and its survival is nationally and locally important.

Seán Woodward said: "It was good to meet trustees Paul West and Andrew Fry, Jacqui Winter who is working on the fundraising and project co-ordinator Carolyne Haynes. This is a huge project which I am happy to support."



Whiteley hosts £5m BizSpace venture

A NEW business initiative was formally opened in Whiteley.

BizSpace is a £5m venture providing over 70 serviced offices offering easy-in, easy-out terms for new businesses in Fareham area.

Council Leader Seán Woodward, who opened the building with Khalid Aziz and former Pompey star Lee Bradbury, said it offered an excellent location.



He said: "These sorts of spaces are incredibly important to fledgling businesses as they are low risk and allow the proprietors to concentrate on what they do, while leaving BizSpace to look after the

building." PHOTO (l to r): Lee Bradbury, centre manager Louisa Jenner, Seán Woodward and marketing manager Khalid Aziz.

New £12.8m primary school to open in 2021



WHITELEY'S long-overdue new primary school, crucial to meet rising demand for pupil places, will open in September 2021.

The extra 3,500 homes being built in North of Whiteley spurred the County Council to grant planning consent for Cornerstone C of E (aided) Primary School.

Located on a new site within the development, it will replace the existing one-form entry school that opened in temporary modular buildings at Bader Way in August 2013. It will cater for 630 pupils aged 4 to 11.

The school will be designed and delivered by the County Council's Property Services, most of the £12.8m cost coming from developer contributions, plus a contribution from the diocese. The new school and site will be transferred to Ports-

mouth Diocese, which will be responsible for the admissions policy, running and maintenance.

The project includes a church room at the front of the school, which can operate independently and is fully funded by the diocese at a cost of £250,000.

When added to the £10.8m from the developers, the school requires just £1.75m from the County Council's own resources.

County Councillor Seán Woodward, who had long-campaigned for better educational facilities in Whiteley, said it was much-needed for the current Whiteley and for the northerly extension permitted by Winchester City Council of 3,500 extra houses.

"While the existing temporary buildings are of superb quality, it is important that the school moves into permanent buildings. It is also good news that Whiteley Church will have its own dedicated space for the first time in its 30-year history," he said.



Recarving their names with pride

THEIR names were carved with pride and a nation's gratitude for their sacrifice in two world wars.

But time and weather had almost obliterated several of the names on the 1914-18 side of Sarisbury's war memorial.

Fareham Council, which has been responsible for upkeep of the memorial since it was dedicated on Armistice Day 1921, was determined to restore them.

Councillor Jon Butts said: "Following wide-ranging consultations with stone-

masons, national memorial and conservation specialists the Council has now appointed a company with the technical capability to restore missing and badly eroded names as originally inscribed.

"This work will take place during a suitable spell of dry weather."

Sadly, they were unable to restore the names in time for this year's Remembrance Day, but during the moving service and wreath-laying none was forgotten.

Tributes to village figure

POPULAR Burridge village stalwart Ken Potecary, who played an active role in the community, has died aged 76.

As a long-serving chairman of Burridge Village Hall, Ken led a devoted band of volunteers through many changes and improvements to this popular community facility.

He was also a key supporter of 1st Sarisbury Scouts' recently completed self-build hall project.

Councillor Jon Butts paid tribute to Ken's engaging sense of humour and his contributions to local life and expressed sincere condolences to his family and many friends.



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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, why not join Sarisbury Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Call Joanne Bull on 07956 081 329 or email joannebull75@gmail.com

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.

'In my Father's house there are many rooms' John 14.2



HARD to believe this is a church, yet behind its ultra modern design it is still very much God's house where a Christian community worships.

The break with tradition was formally sealed when the former Locks Heath Free Church was reopened in September as Waypoint Church.

The £5m showpiece took a lot of time planning with valuable contributions from parishioners and £40,000 each from Fareham Borough and Hampshire County Councils.

Wishing Waypoint good luck, Councillor Seán Woodward said: "With The Edge youth club and the many groups meeting within the church the positive outreach is inspiring."

The external design opens into a fresh-looking, bright and welcoming entrance way.

There's a new cafe and the large bright worship area continues the open and welcoming design, plus a fantastic sports hall that adds to the new community centre facilities.

Seán Woodward added: "Congratulations are due to Senior Minister Mark Madavan, the elders and congregation for what they have achieved for the community here."



PHOTO: Councillor Connie Hockley, Councillor Seán Woodward, ward Councillor Sarah Pankhurst and Senior Minister Mark Madavan, who formally opened the extension in Hunts Pond Road, Titchfield Common.

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!

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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: "Unfortunately, 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 and report is in the hands of the Planning Inspectorate but should be over the autumn – winter period, which would allow formal Council adoption of the plan in early 2021.



Lauren Bull and daughter Lily try out the new inclusive swing.

Updated Swanwick playground swings into action

KIDS will be delighted with Lower Swanwick's newly refurbished playground.

And mums and dads as well, as one of the new play items is a mirror swing that they can use with their children.

Other improvements carried out by the Borough Council

include replacing the multi-climbing unit, a new round-about, floor graphics, relining the basketball court and a general repaint and tidy-up.

There's more good news as a consultation was held on proposed improvements to Clydesdale Road playground in

Whiteley, which will be implemented next year.

InTouch Team Leader Joanne Bull, said: "It is lovely to see local children enjoying our playgrounds. I am pleased the Council has allocated £500,000 to fund a significant improvement programme."

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