

CONSERVATIVES – Two decades of exceptional civic service



InTouch



FAREHAM NORTH – Spring 2020

Low tax, top-quality living – we're the envy of the nation

FAREHAM'S got it all – thanks to the Conservatives. And we've every reason to blow our own trumpet.

We're the envy of the nation when it comes to health, happiness and satisfaction with life. And much more.

Not our words, but those of the latest Halifax survey that rates the Borough the second best place in the UK to live.

What's more, we provide all-round first-class services for one of the lowest council taxes in the country.

And that still holds good, although we will be increasing our element by just 1p per day for 2020-21 for the average property.

Presenting the annual budget, Council Leader Seán Woodward said: "I'm not at all surprised, but it's good to have the place and community recognised.

"We've got it all, we're very well connected to London, we have access to the sea, the river Hamble and countryside. It's a great place to work, to live and to bring up a family."

Since taking over the near-bankrupt Council nearly 21 years ago, **Conservatives** have battled to maintain first-rate services in the face of Government support dwindling to zilch.

We've done it by prudent handling of ratepayers' cash and multi-million pound investments, all contributing to the low council tax envied by almost all councils nationwide.

While Fareham collects just £7m in council tax, it spends



£45m on services to residents and has a £93m capital programme, which includes £7.5m to build much-needed council houses for the first time in a generation.

It also includes further investment in Solent Airport@Daedalus to provide space for many new businesses to create more employment.

Ferneham Hall is being rebuilt and modernised in a £12.5m project to provide a

fantastic new entertainment and community venue, while improvements to Fareham's two leisure centres will cost £6.3m.

Fareham Leisure Centre will get:

- Expanded ground floor gym area by extending the building
- Internal splash pad added to the swimming pool
- New reception counter and refurbishment of the foyer
- New studio space and climbing area on lower ground floor
- Conversion of squash courts to soft play area
- Refurbishment of dry changing rooms and café
- Additional parking

Holly Hill Leisure Centre will get:

- Conversion of large pool store into sauna and steam room
- Improvements to main foyer layout.

Seán Woodward added: "While the government says austerity is over – and for many public services that may be true – for local government it certainly is not, so we continue to make savings while delivering excellent services as the revenue support grant has now fallen to zero."



Boris gives Suella the power of Attorney

to PM Boris Johnson during Brexit was rewarded in his Cabinet reshuffle with the prestigious post of Attorney General.

The 39-year-old barrister is now the chief legal advisor to The Crown, with several associated responsibilities such as overseeing the Crown Prosecution Service and Serious Fraud Office.

Her appointment has already ruffled a few judges' wigs as she was quoted recently stating the courts should stay out of politics and Parliament must 'retrace power

ceded to the courts'.

"In reality, repatriated powers from the EU will mean precious little if our courts continue to act as political decision-maker, pronouncing on what the law ought to be and supplanting Parliament," she said.

Fareham **Conservative** Association chairman Ray Hanslip said:

"We know she will undertake her new responsibilities with the same enthusiasm and attention to detail that she brings to her constituency work."

CONGRATULATIONS! She's done us and her family proud.

Fareham MP Suella Braverman's loyalty

Almost England's lowest district council tax – thanks to CONSERVATIVES



NEWS ROUND

Register to recycle

If you live in Hampshire and need to use recycling centres, you must register your car number before April.

Cars from outside the county or those not registered will be charged £5 per visit.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras will check vehicles entering recycling centres against registered number plates on the database. You can register on the HCC website.

Fallen tree cleared



Residents braved atrocious weather to help Councillors Pamela Bryant and Louise Clubley when gales brought down a large tree, blocking Highlands Road near the scout hut.

Louise and Pamela thanked helpers who worked for 2 hours advising and directing drivers to avoid accidents. Network Rail workers cleared the road.

Surgeries

North Ward Councillors and County Councillors are available for residents at their surgeries, usually held monthly on the second Saturday.

Please note that it is by prior notice and an appointment will be required, so please contact one of the councillors whose details are at the foot of the page.

We're on Facebook. Go to Councillor Louise Clubley and Councillor Pamela Bryant

Making a stand against scammers

FIFTY three percent of people aged over 65 have been victims of scams. But help is available.

Friends Against Scams is a National Trading Standards Scams Team initiative, which aims to prevent people from becoming victims by empowering them to take a stand against scams.

Scams cost the UK economy £5 to £10 billion a year, but only 5% are reported

Our statistics indicate that the average scam victim has lost over £3,000.

Anybody can join Friends against Scams and make a difference in their own way.

Councillor Louise Clubley said: "Complete the online training and raise awareness throughout your community.

"Together we can create a scam free nation.

"More information can be found on www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk, and please let us know if you choose to be a Scam champion and do the training."

Big investment plan for Leisure Centre

EXCITING new ideas are proposed to improve facilities at Fareham's award-winning Leisure Centre.

Everyone Active, which manages the centre for the Borough Council, announced a significant investment after their contract was renewed for another 10 years.

Councillor Louise Clubley said the plans included adding a splash pad to the swimming pool, creating a new studio space and climbing area, refurbishment of the dry changing rooms and café area.

An extra 43 car parking spaces will also be provided.

Louise Clubley said: "I am delighted with the new improvements and the tremendous efforts by Everyone Active in supporting charities.

"Since 2013, funds have been raised for Breast Cancer Now by hosting a variety of events including quiz nights, car washing, group exercise sessions and cake sales.

"A total of £6,000 has been raised for this worthy cause.

"Fareham North residents benefit from having such a vibrant centre in their locality."

Fareham may be spared County's libraries axe

FAREHAM residents have been assured that the Borough's libraries are not on the County Council's closures list, but opening hours may be cut.

It follows the controversial announcement that the County has to reduce its £80m budget shortfall and the libraries must contribute £1.76m in efficiency savings.

The preferred option is to close up to 10 of the smaller, less-used Council libraries and reduce opening hours in the remaining 38 by 15%.

County Councillor Peter Latham said: "Another option would be not to close any libraries, but reduce the opening hours by 25% across the board.



"Either option would produce a saving of just over £1 million per annum.

"If the first option is chosen, not one of the 4 libraries in Fareham would close because they are all so heavily used.

"The Council would prefer not to close any libraries, but savings have to be made."

However, fewer people are visiting libraries, preferring digital options.

In the past 8 years, there was a 27% reduction in visits from 7 million to 5.1 million, but virtual visits increased 270% from 460,000 to 1.7 million.

There is a public consultation – deadline March 18 – for which HCC identified 3 priorities:

- 1 Promoting reading with a particular focus on children's literature,
- 2 Establishing the libraries as hubs to support healthy and thriving communities.
- 3 Investing in digital services to help people access information and services online.

The consultation is available at www.hants.gov.uk/library-consultation or call at your local library where public drop-in sessions are being held.

Councillor Latham (pictured) added: "Your views are important and we would welcome your input."

Final act for 2 years as staff take centre stage



STAFF and volunteers took over the stage at Ferneham Hall on January 5 after a record breaking run of the pantomime *Beauty and the Beast* by Jordan Productions.

The hall had been staffed by some of those present for most or all of its 38 years, entertaining people of Fareham and South Hampshire.

All those present, including the cast were thanked, as the curtain came down for the last time until the exciting new venue reopens in 2022.

Reform taxi operating call

URGENT reforms are needed to bring taxi and private hire operators into line.

The Local Government Association wants legislation to improve passenger safety nationwide.

Although Fareham Council follows strict guidelines within the Borough, a proliferation of app-based companies and out-of-area working is preventing councils taking enforcement action.

Councillor Pamela Bryant said: "Reforms are needed to reflect the increasing use of mobile phone apps to book taxis and PHVs, and to give councils national enforcement powers so they can take action against any vehicles operating in their areas, irrespective of where they are licensed."

Colourful Burnham Wood leads the way down the garden path



SPRING is here and Fareham gardeners' thoughts will be turning to the annual 'In Bloom' competitions.

Several residents in Fareham North have regularly set high standards with their entries and carried off numerous awards.

Councillor Louise Clubley said Burnham Wood residents had been outstanding with their entries and enhanced the entrance to their street with a colourful array of bedding plants around trees.

Jan Purnell has organised the displays and planting for several years and they have received 'outstanding' awards in the Fareham In Bloom and South and South East In Bloom competitions.

This year's competitions will be launched in April. Details at www.fareham.borough www.fareham.gov.uk



PHOTOS: (above) Brian Green, Jan and Keith Purnell in a Burnham Wood front garden. (below) Pamela Bryant admires spring blossom in Burnham Wood.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS Fareham North



Louise Clubley
14 Highlands Road
Fareham PO16 7XL
Tel: 01329 281427
email: lclubley@fareham.gov.uk



Pamela Bryant
14 Highlands Road
Fareham PO16 7XL
Tel: 01329 281427
email: pbryant@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: 07505 000 987
email: fred.birkett@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 North Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Pamela Bryant on 01329 281427.

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.



Now we can move on from the Brexit paralysis

Thank You to everyone who voted for me at the General Election in December.

We secured a record-breaking result for the Conservatives, with an increased majority and share of the vote since 2017.

I am humbled and grateful to be re-elected to serve as your MP again and, regardless of your political preference, I am honoured to serve ALL Fareham constituents in my capacity as your voice in Parliament.

Above all we can move on from the divisions and paralysis of recent years.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson promised that he would take the UK out of the EU and this he did on 31st January.

With stability in Government, we can now look forward to investing in more local police (156 in Hampshire initially), more real terms funding for every school pupil in Fareham and record levels of investment to the frontline of our NHS.

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)

Suella

BRAVERMAN MP for Fareham



Whilst I was delighted that Fareham was judged to be one of the best places to live in Britain, I am aware that we still need to work hard to improve our local transport infrastructure.

There are increasing concerns about the safety of Smart Motorways and the ongoing construction on the M27 has worried many residents, thousands of whom use it as part of their daily commute.

On some smart motorways, the refuge points are too far away and the technology is not responsive or effective.

I share those concerns and you can see me raising them directly with the Secretary for State for Transport,



Grant Shapps, in the picture.

I am pleased that the Government has now decided to review the projects with a view to increasing the safety measures.

I will keep working with central government to ensure that a solution is found that prioritises passenger safety.

Junction 10, as part of Welborne Garden Village, also needs vital upgrades to convert it into an 'all-moves' junction.

I have been working with local, regional and national government to identify the funding to ensure that the delivery of the upgrades is guaranteed.

Once delivered, this will significantly reduce congestion, lower journey times and support

New measures to tackle louts and drug addicts

THE BOYS in Red are reinforcing the Boys in Blue to target louts and drug addicts in Fareham town centre.

Two security officers in distinct red uniforms are patrolling with powers conferred by Hampshire's Chief Constable.

It's a pilot scheme operating varying hours Mondays to Fridays.

And it complements the Council's successful bid to tackle rough sleeping, for which it has secured an extra £141,450



funding for 2020-21.

The new security officers' powers can:

REQUIRE giving of names and addresses for anti-social behaviour and drug taking
ORDER persons aged under 18 to surrender alcohol
SEIZE tobacco from persons

under 16

DEAL with begging

REQUIRE names and addresses for road traffic offences

CONTROL traffic except for escorting a load of exceptional dimensions

And they will be able to direct rough sleepers to the support provided by the Council's partner charity, Two Saints.

Councillor Louise Clubley (pictured) said Two Saints were able to employ two outreach workers with the short-term funding the Council was given in 2019.

This year's extra cash will pay for two more outreach workers, who will focus on those leaving prison with complex needs such as substance misuse and find them suitable accommodation.

She added: "The security team has leaflets to hand out to rough sleepers with information about where they can get help."

Fareham could be forced to take Portsmouth, Gosport homes shortfall

FAREHAM could be called upon to help absorb a shortfall of 4,000 houses in Gosport and Portsmouth.

It means the Borough's new development plan, recently issued for public consultation, had to add two highly controversial Strategic Growth Areas (SGAs).

These could lead to the farmland gap between Fareham South and Stubbington and an area south of the M27 west of Downend Road being swamped with hundreds more houses.

Executive member for planning and development Councillor Keith Evans said: "We are required to include a 10%-15% contingency and we have to show the planning inspector that

we have positively considered any unmet need in adjacent authorities.

"Fareham's base requirement is to provide 520 homes a year over the 2020 to 2036 plan period which, including a 15% buffer, is 9,500 – 100 more per annum than the original draft plan.

"After discounting sites already approved such as Welborne, plus those provisionally approved but on hold, and including the estimate for future 'windfall' development, the net number of additional dwellings we have to find over this 15 year period is under 200."

Full details are on the Council's website.