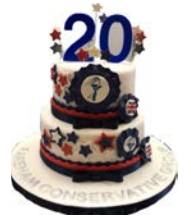


CONSERVATIVES – Two decades of exceptional civic service



InTouch



SARISBURY & WHITELEY – 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



Back again in June

Bad weather led to last year's show on Sarisbury Green being cancelled. The good news is it will be back this year on June 13, so save the date and prepare to support your community.

Welcome return

Park Gate carol concert made a welcomed return after years and was enjoyed by scores of residents.

Middle Road traders provided hot soup, hot dogs, mince pies and other food for the band and carollers.

Thanks to all who supported the event, especially to Sheila Searle for her inspiration and Ben Kimble for erecting lights.

New Year celebrations



Sarisbury & Park Gate Conservatives were delighted to be hosted by Simon and Sarah Martin at their home recently for a New Year's celebration.

The event was attended by our councillors and MP, with many members new and old.

We are always delighted to welcome new members and look forward to a busy 2020.

A case of shingles

There are concerns over the roof of Whiteley Community Centre which, being cedar shingles, has a finite life.

The Council recognises that the roof is nearing the end of its life and should last for one more year.

This will allow repairs to be included in the Community Building Review, which will identify budget allocations required to address priority works for Fareham's community buildings.

Be warned – Speedwatch is back

NINE people have volunteered to join the resurrected Community Speedwatch scheme.

After receiving police training, they will be deployed in Sarisbury, Swanwick, Park Gate, Whiteley, Burrige and Priory Park.

They will focus on the following roads: Barnes Lane, Swanwick Lane, Barnbrook Road, Botley Road, Yew Tree Drive, Sweethills Crescent, Brook Lane and Lockwood Road.

Community Speedwatch is regarded by the police as an educational scheme and the teams have no power to issue a summons or a fine, but the registration details of vehicles travelling too fast are recorded on a police controlled database.

Motorists travelling significantly above the limit will receive letters advising them of their speed and persistent offenders could be prosecuted.

Register your vehicles or be charged £5

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.



It's to make it fairer for county residents who contribute to the annual £100m cost of dealing with waste.

InTouch team leader Joanne Bull (pictured) said: "It is important our waste tips remain free of charge for residents and only fair that those from outside Hampshire should pay for disposing of their rubbish."

You can register up to 3 vehicles on the HCC website www.hants.gov.uk/vehicle-registration-hwrc

Rookery Farm homes plan attacked



ACCESSES to 150 homes planned for the Rookery Farm landfill and recycling site off Botley Road have come under fire.

Residents fear roads leading to the site couldn't cope with the extra traffic and they're worried about pollution from the nearby motorway.

Their concerns cropped up at two special CAT meetings attended by 150 residents held in Burrige when Fareham's new Draft Local Plan had its first consultation airing.

Most of the proposals for the 175 houses to be added to the Local Plan by 2036 are off Botley Road in Swanwick

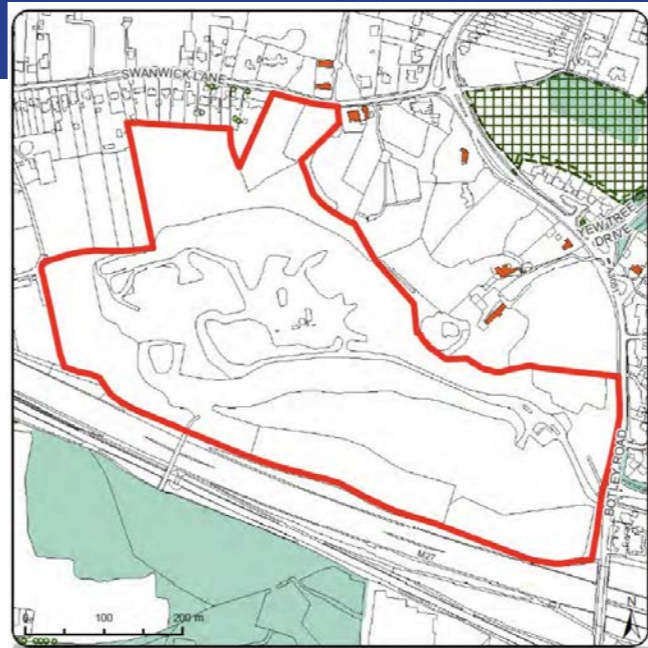
and Park Gate, with the main access to Rookery Farm from Botley Road and secondary access from Swanwick Lane.

InTouch team leader Joanne Bull (pictured) has studied the draft plan and said: "I am very concerned, particularly at the prospect of an access to Swanwick Lane which, unlike Botley Road, is not an A-road and is certainly not capable of carrying an even greater weight of traffic."

"There are also real concerns for any building on a former landfill site next to the M27 motorway in terms of noise and air quality. Traffic levels through Park Gate are also very high with frequent congestion."

"If such a proposal were to move ahead, there needs to be a full assessment of local impact and a roundabout on Botley Road would be required at the Rookery Avenue junction. There should definitely be no access open onto Swanwick Lane."

PHOTO (right): The Rookery Farm site beside the M27.



Happy days for little ones in new surroundings

LITTLE Sunbeams Preschool pupils were excited to move back into their new, larger setting at Waypoint Church in Titchfield Common.

They were temporarily re-housed in a Portacabin during refurbishment, a project part funded by Fareham Borough and Hampshire County Councils.

The Ofsted registered 'good' pre-school is run by a volunteer committee on a non-profit basis with five permanent staff looking after 2 to 4-year olds and feeding many infants' and primary schools in the Western Wards.

The pre-school now has a fine new setting which

can accommodate more children, with free-flow play into the garden behind the church.

PHOTO: Councillor Seán Woodward and Waypoint Minister the Rev Mark Madavan meet the happy pupils.



Jon won't seek re-election

SARISBURY Councillor Jon Butts has thanked constituents for their support after deciding not to seek re-election in May.

He said: "Of my four years' service, I will remember most the dedication and spirit of the community group volunteers I have worked with, and assisted where possible."

"They make a real difference to the lives of people and families in our area. Their ongoing commitment 'behind the scenes' often goes unseen, so I have been keen to encourage wider appreciation and recognition of their work whenever possible."

Jon says he wants to make more use of his spare time.

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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 joanne.sarisbury@outlook.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.

Iconic phone kiosk to be preserved, but can anyone suggest a new use for it?

ONE OF the fast disappearing landmarks on British streets, the iconic red telephone kiosk, will be preserved on Sarisbury Green.

Locals say it's an important part of the conservation area and Sarisbury Residents' Association has agreed to repaint it this summer.

InTouch team leader Joanne Bull was pleased to learn it would be saved. She said: "BT is offering up for adoption some of their iconic K6 red phone boxes for community use - for just £1 under 'The Adopt A Kiosk scheme'."

Joanne (pictured) said the K6 was rolled out nationwide in 1935 under the direction of Postmaster General Sir Howard Kingsley Wood, later to become Chancellor in Churchill's wartime cabinet.

80,000 kiosks were manufactured at 4 Scottish cast iron foundries and the Sarisbury kiosk should carry the manufacturer's plaque on the rear or their moulding mark inside.

Carron Co of Falkirk won the first GPO contract for the K2 version which stimulated support, although it was only for installation in London, but they would make all the K2, K4, K6 & K8 varieties until 1983. The longevity of the GPO contracts was a remarkable compliment to the engineering skills in central Scotland.

It's uncertain at this stage whether an alternative use can be found for the Sarisbury kiosk.

However, InTouch editor Tim King discovered many kiosks have found their way into Europe, particularly Germany, and are often used as free street libraries like the one he pictured in Bad Münstereifel in the Eifel region where they also display its 'sister' icon, a red pillar box.





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.

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 our local economy.

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Row looms over NHS surgery car park extension plan

A SERIOUS clash is brewing between the Borough Council and the NHS over its refusal to build medical provision for 3,500 houses under construction in Whiteley.

The NHS says Whiteley will have to make do with the current overloaded surgery for the expected extra 9,000 patients.

It claims there is plenty of space at the existing surgery in Yew Tree Drive to accommodate all the new patients by using upstairs rooms and extending the car park.

But the surgery (pictured) already handles over 5,000 Whiteley patients, plus 8,000 from the closed Locks Road Surgery, and extending the car park would destroy ancient woodland.

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "What the NHS omits to say is that such a move would require planning permission. Advice



repeatedly given by Fareham planning authority is that planning permission is unlikely to be granted.

"A planning application has just been submitted for 50 extra car parking spaces. This contrasts with the position in the Welborne development where a health and wellbeing building in the community

is required to be constructed by the developers."

InTouch team leader Joanne Bull said if development went ahead at the Rookery Farm site, a least damaging solution would be an extra surgery car park with a crossing on Botley Road to access it.

"It could be used for staff parking, freeing up spaces in Whiteley Surgery car park which could be improved with an IN and OUT onto Yew Tree Drive," she said.



Brickworks museum's scheme to generate income

BURSLEDON Brickworks Museum at Swanwick has announced a £1.8m scheme to create ongoing income.

The New Foundation Project was revealed to Councillor

Seán Woodward when he visited the museum and met County Council Leader Keith Mans, trustees and fundraisers.

The scheme will include refurbishment of sheds to incorporate

small business units into the brickworks.

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

Seán Woodward said: "It was good to meet trustees Paul West and Andrew Fry along with Jacqui Winter, who is working on the fundraising, and project co-ordinator Carolyn Haynes.

"This is a huge project and I am delighted that Keith Mans agreed that the County Council pledges £100,000 towards the project on condition the remainder of the funding is secured."