

CONSERVATIVES – Over two decades of outstanding civic service



# InTouch

TITCHFIELD & TITCHFIELD COMMON – Summer 2020

## Volunteers answer the call just as they did 80 years ago

**UNLESS you are in your 80s you will have experienced nothing like it in your lifetime.**

In summer 1940, the RAF fought almost down to the last Spitfire and Hurricane to drive the Luftwaffe from our skies.

Eighty years on another Battle of Britain began, only this time the outcome against an unseen enemy is not yet in our sights.

But the national spirit that led us to victory through the dark days of World War 2 surfaced again when an army of volunteers and professionals answered their country's call.

Fareham Council Leader Seán Woodward summed up local reaction: "We have lived through very difficult and unprecedented times. Council services have been stretched along with family budgets.

"Services that we all took for granted had to cease while the priority was to deliver the lifeline services such as refuse collection, environmental health, social services and education.

"There have been some fantastic examples of support throughout our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"People have tirelessly helped to put together essential parcels and activity packs, delivered items to shielding residents, collected food donations, picked up prescriptions or just been amazingly good neighbours.

"Many hundreds of people in need have been helped across the



Acts of Kindness volunteers are using one of the business hangars at Solent Airport@Daedalus provided free by the Council.

Borough and it is right that your Council should express thanks to them all."

It was a privilege to add his signature to Mayor Pamela Bryant's on hundreds of letters thanking all the Fareham volunteers who stepped up through the COVID-19 pandemic to help their community.

They include Acts Of Kindness Community (Solent), Waypoint Church, Citizens Advice Fareham, AFC Portchester, One Community and Portchester Community Association.

If you know of any unsung heroes we may have missed, we'd like their names and a brief description of their efforts.

You can get a nomination form at [www.fareham.gov.uk/thankavolunteer](http://www.fareham.gov.uk/thankavolunteer)

### BORIS REWARDS KERRY'S ACTS OF KINDNESS



Kerry Snuggs, leader of Acts of Kindness, was presented with a Points of Light Award from Prime Minister Boris Johnson by Fareham MP and Attorney General Suella Braverman.

## How we helped over 100 small businesses to stay afloat

**CRIES for help for businesses, industry and a host of other organisations flooded in from all corners of the UK.**

But not all benefitted from Government schemes, including many in Fareham.

So the Borough Council hopes Discretionary Business Grants will make all the difference to those struggling with property-related costs.

Council Leader Seán Woodward said so far over 100 small businesses across the Borough had received grants up to

£10,000. Applications were invited last month and this round of the scheme is closed. A total of £1m has been paid out.

Types of business which have been helped include small manufacturing firms, businesses located in shared offices, dentists, a podiatrist and a nail bar.

"This funding will be a lifeline for businesses which had slipped through the net for Government support during the pandemic," he said.

Electronics business Lee Godbold Ltd

based in Fareham Innovation Centre received a share of the funding.

Managing Director Lee Godbold said: "We were at a loss how to manage this unprecedented situation.

"I'd especially like to thank the Borough Council for approving our application for the Discretionary Business Grant funding which kept us up to date with our payments to Fareham Innovation Centre."

The Council also gave market traders at Fareham and Portchester £2,500 each.

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

**NEWS ROUND**



**Homes plan rejection appeal**

A developer has appealed against the Borough Council's refusal for plans to build up to 57 homes with access from Posbrook Lane.

Foreman Homes' outline planning application included providing parkland and landscaping.

An appeal date has not yet been fixed and it is unknown whether it will be a hearing or an inquiry.

**Crisis volunteers thanked**

Your councillors would like to thank all the volunteers who have worked tirelessly during lockdown.

Whether shopping for neighbours, delivering prescriptions or food hampers and hot meals, the list is endless and the community spirit has been appreciated by everyone.

We also recognise the work done by Acts of Kindness (Solent), Waypoint Church, One Community, Citizens Advice Bureau to name a few.

The Mayor is writing personal 'thank you' letters to individuals and organisations. To make a nomination go to [www.fareham.gov.uk/thankavolunteer](http://www.fareham.gov.uk/thankavolunteer).

**QA Hospital pilots safer scheme**

Worrying falls in attendances at A & E departments due to the Covid-19 risks, prompted the NHS, South Central Ambulance Service and the 111 Service to pilot a new scheme for South East Hampshire covering Portsmouth area.

Councillor Sarah Pankhurst said: "The NHS 111 Service, nurses and paramedics will now be able to book appointments for patients prior to attending A&E if deemed appropriate after triage."

It's a positive move to encourage patients not to fear Covid-19 dangers in hospital and to help the NHS avoid overcrowding.

**Support grants available**

Councillors Connie Hockley and Tiffany Harper have been working remotely to ensure community centres and halls have applied for and received the £10,000 Government support grant.

Titchfield and Ranvilles Community Centres, Catisfield Memorial Hall and Titchfield Parish Rooms are eligible.

**Renal unit opens at Community Hospital**

AFTER many years of planning, the renal home therapies unit opened to patients at Fareham Community Hospital in May.

Our thanks go to the Rotary Club of Locks Heath who funded the window and to other local charities who have generously donated.

The home therapies unit comprises two teams of nurses who manage patients dialys-



nurses are also based in the Fareham Community Hospital.

ing at home on two different types of renal dialysis.

There is a haemodialysis room and a peritoneal dialysis room. In both cases, community-based nurses visit home therapy patients for their ongoing care.

The Community

**Gas canisters menace at Abshot**

POLICE were called to the area around Abshot Community Centre after complaints of anti-social behaviour.

Youngsters had been intoxicating themselves with NOS canisters, dozens of which were found on the surrounding green.

Councillor Sarah Pankhurst (pictured), who has been liaising with the police and Executive Member for Health and Public Protection Councillor Trevor Cartwright, said:

"InTouch team leader Kirsty Dawson and I visited the site and found empty NOS canisters, which are highly dangerous when the gas is ingested. Anyone witnessing suspicious activities should contact the police immediately."



**This year Fareham is virtually in bloom**

LOCKDOWN has resulted in many residents devoting more time than usual to their gardens.

Sadly, the popular Fareham-in-Bloom competition had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

But the Borough's gardeners still had the chance to show off their displays in a 'virtual photographic Fareham-in-Bloom'.

Councillor Connie Hockley said: "It is one of the events that gives me great pleasure and it is a real pity they cannot be visited, judged and admired."

There will be a public vote collated through Facebook and a SNAP survey via the Council's website and e-panel between Monday, August 17 and Friday, September 11. Winners will be announced on Monday, October 6.

She added: "We hope many of you will visit the Council's website and vote for your favourite photo in the categories."

**Beacon of hope**

WAYPOINT Community Church has been a beacon of hope to people affected by the pandemic.



Councillor Sarah Pankhurst was told by church member Claire Johnson (pictured) there had been an increase in poverty in the Western Wards due to closures of small businesses.

Waypoint has been receiving donations of food and money and the Council gave a £5,000 grant for the cause.

The church did not want to step on the toes of Acts of Kindness who already offer a food bank service, but to provide a service where poverty is increasing.

**Plea to make 'pop-up' road scheme permanent**



PROPOSALS for a 'pop-up' highway scheme for Fishers Hill are in the pipeline.

The County Council is installing several of these temporary measures to support the Covid-19 recovery effort.

But some residents say the road is dangerous and the scheme should have been put in place several years ago and they want it to be permanent.

Titchfield Councillors Connie Hockley and Tiffany Harper, pictured viewing the stretch of road, say they were advised that, as Fishers Hill is unsafe for walking and cycling due to rat-running drivers and lack of footpaths, it is ideal for a modal filter.

This is a partial road closure with temporary barriers/signs/cones and a traffic diversion route.

The filter would enable people to walk and cycle through, with drivers being diverted via the A27 and

Mill Lane depending on their onward destination.

Access to all properties/destinations would be possible either side of the modal filter.

Consultation with residents will be carried out while the scheme is operating and details of how to comment will be posted on site and on the Hampshire County Council website.

It will be reviewed after 4 weeks to decide whether it should stay, be tweaked, or be removed.

If there is support for it to stay in its temporary form, there would be the potential for it to be made permanent, with the barriers replaced with something more attractive which could, for instance, be planters.

The deadline for installing this scheme is the end of August for the County Council to meet the funding requirements from the Department for Transport.

**Disposable bags alternative**

GREEN waste has piled up during lockdown as many residents worked in their gardens,

Although recycling tips are now open, it is necessary to book a slot to get rid of your green waste. Councillor Connie Hockley said: "There is another alternative which Geoff and I have used."

"You can buy disposable garden waste bags for extra green waste, costing £40 for 25 bags (including delivery) or £10 for 5 bags.

"You can put out as many of these bags on collection day as you wish. When you consider your time, the cost of petrol/diesel and the convenience, it probably does not cost too much extra."



**Burial space created for another 30 years**

AN EXTENSION to Holly Hill Cemetery will provide 350 more burial places and 240 plots for ashes.

It was consecrated by the Bishop of Portsmouth, the Rt Rev Christopher Foster, in an ancient ceremony which had to take place with the minimum number of participants during the lockdown.

It cost the Borough Council £300,000 and the grave space should last 30 years, with first burials in the autumn.

Councillor Seán Woodward said: "Holly Hill Cemetery is a beautiful, peaceful setting. In com-

mon with the existing cemetery the graves will not be available for pre-purchase thereby ensuring the cemetery's life is extended as far as possible."

PHOTO: Poignant moment during the consecration, with Seán Woodward (right) The Bishop and Diocesan Registrar Miss Hilary Tyler the only participants.



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**WE SERVE YOU ALL**

Whether you voted for us or not, your Conservative councillors promise the highest standards of service to the whole community. Contact us any time and we'll respond personally within 48 hours. If you'd like to join Titchfield Branch of Fareham Conservative Association for political and social events or help to deliver InTouch in your street, call Sarah Pankhurst on 0770 1393 396.



### £30bn plan to create jobs and support jobless

I know that many people in Fareham are anxious about the future as we emerge from Coronavirus.

People are worried about losing their jobs. As a Government, we will not just accept this.

Our Plan for Jobs, worth £30bn, is about supporting people to find the jobs that are out there, creating new jobs through investing in infrastructure and housing and finally protecting jobs by revitalising hard-hit sectors upon which many jobs depend.

Whether it is the Jobs Retention Bonus Scheme, the temporary VAT cut for tourism and hospitality sectors, the Eat Out to Help Out scheme, temporarily scrapping stamp duty on all homes under £500k, the new Green Homes Grant or creating hundreds of thousands of new fully subsidised jobs for young people through the new £2bn Kickstart scheme, I am optimistic that there will be opportunities for all as we embark on the next phase of recovering from the crisis.

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# Suella

## BRAVERMAN MP for Fareham



Our Plan for Jobs provides a wide-ranging package of measures to support everyone in protecting their incomes at this very challenging time.

From July 15, the Government cut VAT for hospitality, accommodation and tourism businesses in Fareham from 20% to 5% until January 12, 2021.

We have also launched the new Eat Out to Help Out scheme – giving people up to 50% off meals out, encouraging you back into restaurants, cafés and pubs.

Anyone who eats at a participating business, Monday to Wednesday during August, can receive the discount on food and non-alcoholic drinks, up to a value of £10 per person.

Businesses can claim the money back



Celebrating the reopening of this Titchfield café with ward Councillor Tiffany Harper.

from the Government weekly, receiving funds within 5 working days.

We are also creating new jobs by temporarily scrapping stamp duty on all homes under £500,000 until March 31, 2021. Everyone in Fareham buying a main home will see their tax cut, saving up to £15,000. Nearly 9 out of 10 people buying a main

home will pay no stamp duty. We will also provide £2bn to allow people to apply for a voucher to fund at least two thirds of the cost of upgrading the energy performance of their homes, up to a maximum of £5,000. Low income households will be eligible for up to 100% of Government funding, up to £10,000. This will reduce energy bills by up to £300 per year and help to save carbon.



Hook Lake: A popular walk

A STRATEGY to manage and compensate for erosion and loss of inter-tidal habitats has been sanctioned.

East Solent Coastal Partnership (ESP) proposes a project to evaluate all options and aims to produce a viable remedy.

Hook Lake, Warsash, comprising 44 ha (108 acres) of grazing land and reed marsh has been identified as a potential key area for compensating habitat.

Meantime, the County Council's Coun-

## Protecting paths and habitats

tryside Service is undertaking 3 phases of work to improve the Hamble Causeway between Warasah-Swanwick, which floods at spring tides.

**Hook Lake:** Councillor Keith Evans said the Environment Agency was legally obliged to mitigate against losses or replace them with new lands.

Agency policy is not to replace coastal defences which are in serious decline, but to create protected new habitats.

He said the project fell within the Borough Council's strategy to protect and enhance the environment and a comprehensive management structure would be set up to include all interested parties.

It won't cost Fareham a penny and will be fully funded by the Agency and the ESP.

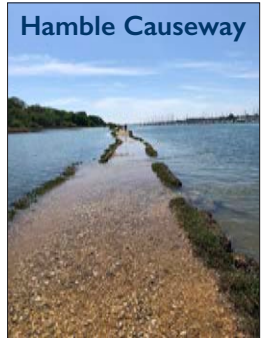
**Hamble Causeway:** County Coun-

cillor Seán Woodward said it was critical to repair the Hamble Causeway.

Phase 1 (Universal Marine to Crabbleck Lane) completed but needs a few repairs.

Phase 2 (Crabbleck Lane to Chinese Bridge) includes installation of rock rolls, repairs where water is scouring the bank and overtopping the path.

Phase 3 (Chinese Bridge to Pink Ferry terminal) received external funding and will be carried out in 2021 to include a new circular route.



Hamble Causeway



## Fiona sews for 16 hours a day to raise money for hospice

CHARITY work by a Catisfield resident has won tributes from ward councillors.

Fiona Walker, of The Old Post Office, raised over £3,500 for Rowans Hospice.

Councillors Connie Hockley and Tiffany Harper said she had worked 16-hour days making and selling over 1,000 face masks.

Tiffany said: "I can vouch for that, as whatever

time I walk my dogs past Fiona's house, I can hear her sewing machine and there is a constant stream of people stopping to buy and donate."

Fiona usually opens her home and gardens for tea and coffee to raise money for Rowans, but Covid-19 made her temporarily change tack.

**PHOTO:** Fiona (right) shows Connie her home-made masks.