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InTouch



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SUPPORT FAREHAM'S FANTASTIC LOCAL SHOPS

With restrictions easing and shops largely re-opened, Cllr Tom Davies has issued a rallying call to residents to buy local and support town centre traders.

During lockdowns there was a growth in people using local traders and he said it was vital that that support continued as businesses tried to get back to normal.

"We have amazing local shops in Fareham," he said. "We have not only the shopping centre but an array of independent shops along West Street towards the railway station.

"I visited the Robin's Nest Emporium, a fascinating place full of all sorts of wonders, as well as a cafe and two hours free parking. The emporium contains dozens of little shop areas from dozens of traders. There really is something for everyone.

"I am passionate about helping our smaller shops and traders thrive, and so is our council."

The Council has partnered with Enterprise South to provide:

- Access to a free legal helpline - Tel: 023 8082 7477
- Free, confidential 1:1 session with an enterprise advisor
- A free business review or specific focus on issues such as: Financial management/fund raising; marketing; skills audit; diversification; growth; business planning; and financial planning

Business owners can register their interest in the support packages that are on offer by emailing businesssupport@enterprisesouth.co.uk or calling 0844 332 0131.

Government backs delivery of Welborne

New Government funding will support the delivery of Welborne Garden Village.

The Government is making more funding available to cover the technical costs of the M27 Junction 10 works and for the capital cost of the development.

Buckland Development Ltd has proposed to potentially increase its contribution to Junction 10 to as much as £50m in amended plans that are subject to a further three-week consultation.

The Government has recognised that we carry significant costs around the delivery of a garden village at Welborne which go beyond the typical remit of local authorities, announcing a further £130,000 capacity funding in addition to the £1.1m already received.

It has taken months of negotiations to find a way forward on the delivery of the Junction 10 Scheme so that the much-needed housing can be delivered.

Local Plan Update

Changes to the way the Government assesses how many new homes are required in each local authority area mean we are consulting on another version of our Local Plan.

The government-required number of properties per year up to 2037 was reduced to 403, but has now been increased again to 541.

We will aim to provide these properties while maintaining a strategic gap between Fareham and Stubbington and enabling brown field housing growth in Fareham Town Centre. There are no plans for housing in Wallington.

A special edition of Fareham Today is being delivered to all homes in the Borough as part of the consultation. We will also hold Community Action Team meetings and virtual exhibitions.

Graffiti clean up around town

Clean up teams from both Fareham Borough and Hampshire County Councils have been out and about in Fareham removing all the graffiti tagging that's been blighting our town recently.

A big thank-you to Fareham and Hampshire officers and staff for their prompt and effective removal of the eyesores.

If you've seen any more tagging or graffiti please do let Cllr Tom Davies know.

A few other bits of graffiti had turned up in more obscure parts of town and Tom cleaned up some tagging himself.



News in Brief

County Council Grant Funding

Grant funding of £16,000 in total is available to local organisations in Fareham Town to enable them to undertake projects of benefit to their groups and potentially the wider community.

If having read the guidance at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/county-councillor> you are involved with any group that may be interested please do get in touch with County Councillor Peter Latham - peter.latham@hants.gov.uk or Pamela Bryant at pamela.bryant@hants.gov.uk

M27 noise barriers

Many Wallington residents have lamented the decision by Highways England not to erect sound barriers along the new smart motorway by the village.

Highways England base their decision on the existence of Noise Important Areas (NIA) and other mitigation options, and decided that better tarmac would be sufficient.

We disagree and continue to urge Highways England to reconsider.

The issue was raised at the last meeting of the Wallington Village Community Association executive.

Cllr Tom Davies has written to Highways England on a number of occasions, as has MP Suella Braverman.

Councillor Davies found an older version of the environmental assessment online which suggests in the appendices that, "the 3m barrier offers the best value for money". Tom will continue to work with our MP and the WVCA on a unified voice to try and get the decision changed.

Fareham East is safest in Conservative hands

Waste less, recycle more

We all would like to waste less and recycle more, but how?

Councillors have been getting to grips with two recent government consultations. "DRS" is a deposit return scheme where a small part of the price of a product would be returned to the customer when they returned the packaging. Older residents will remember schemes like this for glass bottles.

The new scheme proposes to increase the level of "on-the-go" drinks' bottle recycling. We may in future see "reverse-vending-machines" (RVM) in our shops.

A second scheme requiring the producer to pay for recycling of materials used in packaging has been consulted upon. This is intended to incentivise a reduction of packaging and a move to easier and better value recycling. This includes films and foils as well as cardboard, plastics, aluminium and wood.

Under consideration is the separation of each refuse type at source and changes to the kerbside collection service to ensure a "less contaminated waste stream".

This may result in significant changes to the waste collection service you receive from the council including which day of the week we make collections.

The Council has considered these two proposals and provided responses to the government. We will keep you informed on progress and how they might impact residents.



Resident Gloria Jobling sorting recycling waste

News in Brief

Thanks for putting your trust in us



Peter Latham and Pamela Bryant have issued a big thank you to all those who voted for them in the Hampshire County Council elections to represent Fareham Town.

Peter is an experienced county councillor and will continue as Chairman of the Regulatory Committee.

It is the first time Pam has been elected to the county council. She is delighted to have been selected to sit on the Culture and Communities Select Committee. Pam has been a Fareham Borough Councillor for many years and has just been elected to serve for a third consecutive year as Mayor. "We are aware that residents of Fareham have put their trust in both of us and we will not let them down," they both said. "We are here to help all residents as well as representing their views in the council chamber."

Grant awarded to Refuge

Following an application from Southern Domestic Abuse they have been awarded £4,999 from the Council's Community Fund towards the replacement of carpets, nets, blinds and curtains at Fareham Women's Refuge. The bid was supported by Cllr Tom Davies. The Refuge is a crucial facility for the area, providing a place of safety and support for women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

Contact your Councillors

County Councillor



Pamela Bryant
14 Highlands Road,
Fareham. PO16 7XL
Tel: 01329 281427
pamela.bryant@hants.gov.uk

County Councillor



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

Borough Councillor



Tom Davies,
Civic Offices, Fareham.
PO16 7AZ
Tel: 07832 991436
tdavies@fareham.gov.uk

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.

Suella



BRAVERMAN MP for Fareham

Solent Freeport gets thumbs up

Nice to see you!

With the gradual easing of restrictions, it has been great to see more people out and about in Fareham.

Whilst there is significant concern over the new variant, the Government has taken a prudent approach and will make decisions based on data.

The crucial consideration is whether the link between infections and hospital admissions has been severed.

At the end of May, 99,816 cumulative doses had been administered in Fareham and by the time you receive this newsletter, we will have surpassed 100,000 in our local area, a huge achievement by our healthcare providers as part of our unparalleled national vaccine programme.

Solent Freeport has been given the go-ahead by Chancellor Rishi Sunak creating one of the most exciting opportunities in a generation for our local area.

The UK's bespoke, flexible Freeports model combines customs zones with tax reliefs, planning freedoms and support for regeneration and innovation.

The Solent Freeport promises to deliver significant economic benefits, while:

- creating more than 26,000 jobs locally and 52,000 jobs nationally.
- boosting earning potential.
- regenerating our communities.
- enabling the Solent transition to a net zero carbon economy by 2050.



Suella at the Port of Southampton with BBC South's Peter Henley. Photo before Covid restrictions.

The Solent Freeport will unleash the potential of our proud historic ports and boost income to Fareham and surrounding areas.

Donna's plans for 600 more police officers

Donna Jones met with Chief Constable Olivia Pinkney immediately after she was elected as the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

She outlined her priorities to recruit 600 more police officers and to remove red tape and bureaucracy so officers can spend more time on patrol.



She would also like a review of the 101 and 999 services, so when people report a crime, they get feedback. As a member of the Police and Crime Panel Cllr Trevor Cartwright is looking forward to meeting Donna at the next meeting to learn of her further plans for the coming four years.

Thank you to our charities

So many of our charities and volunteers have done wonderful things across the pandemic and we wanted to take the chance to say thank you to all of you.

To everyone who has helped or tried to make a difference, we appreciate it and Fareham appreciates it.

Charity One Community, which runs a number of community support activities, needed some additional heavy duty shelving for their warehouse which we were happy to be able to provide. Their focus has been on the 'big 3', a package of support provided to local groups, comprised of funding advice, governance and building community resilience, and volunteer and skills support. They are always in need of additional volunteers and donations, if you're interested in helping out please email Hayley at info@1community.org.uk.

