

Conservative-run Fareham Council: 24 years of outstanding civic leadership

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Locks Heath InTouch

Local News & Action

Spring
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Cllrs. Susan Bayford & Malcolm Daniells Reporting Back

Haven House at Titchfield Nature Reserve **UPDATE**

We are delighted to report that, following Fareham Borough Council's decision to protect Haven House at Titchfield Haven National Nature Reserve from sale by Hampshire County Council for at least 6 months, work is moving ahead at pace with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and Hill Head Residents' Association to arrive at options and a business plan to present to the County Council with the intention of potentially taking over the nature reserve and Haven House.



Borough Council Leader Seán Woodward is calling for the County Council to hand over Haven House, Haven Cottage and the nature reserve at no cost to be run by the local community. Given the huge local interest and support, a funding page has been set up for contributions to the work of bid preparation at:

www.gofund.me/5be9c5a7

Our local Councillors Susan Bayford and Malcolm Daniells hope many people will offer their tangible support so that Haven House can rise phoenix-like from the ashes and that the management of the reserve will be secured for future generations.

Too good to lose!

Haven House had 85,000 visitors annually prior to its unnecessary closure by the County Council.

Wise Conservative investment and spending pays off -

Fareham Council excels: Low taxes, Great services



Upgraded entertainment, open spaces, arts and leisure facilities



More jobs and investment opportunities for local people and businesses



In the face of the toughest of financial pressures our Conservative Borough Council has managed to deliver a balanced budget with a tiny increase for the average home in the Borough of just 1p per day, making your tax bill for all of Fareham Council's services just £3 per week. ***Almost the country's lowest!***

While other authorities set record-high tax increases, the average home in Fareham will pay just **one penny per day** more in district council tax... meaning households will receive all of our Borough services & amenities for **just £3 per week**.

Councillor Seán Woodward, Fareham Council Leader, is proud of the Council's achievement in providing excellent services and infrastructure for residents at one of the lowest district council taxes in England.

With a budget of over £50 million per year, the council tax raised by Fareham Council is less than £8 million, which means that 84% of the Council's expenditure is covered by fees, charges and commercial property rents.

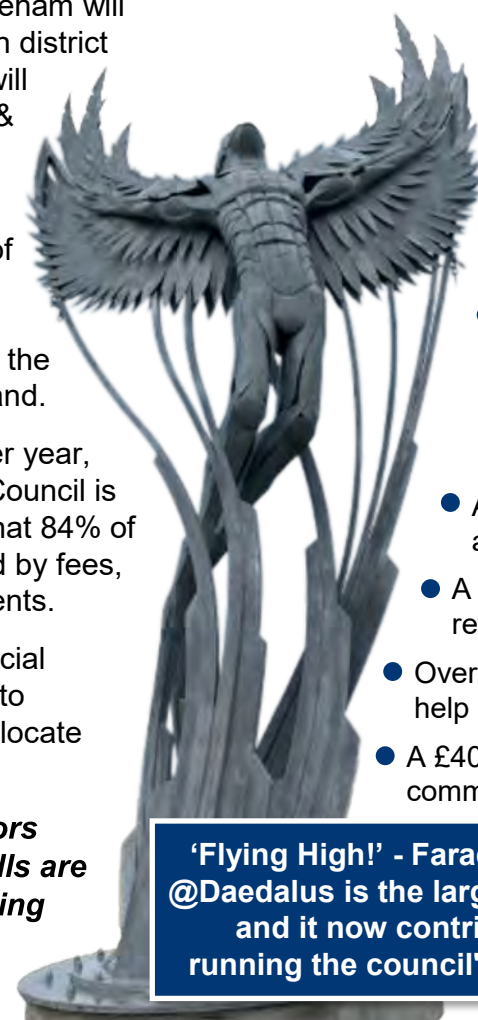
Fareham Council's impressive financial management is evident in its ability to deliver essential services and still allocate funds for ambitious capital projects.

Our local Conservative Councillors Susan Bayford & Malcolm Daniells are getting on with the job and fulfilling their election pledges to keep Fareham's Council Tax low.

So, what does £3 a week get us in Fareham?

Despite the tight costs of service delivery, Fareham Borough Council has an impressive capital programme of £62 million over the next five years, including...

- £25 million for building new council houses and upgrading existing stock.
- Plans to demolish the 50-year-old Osborn Road multi-storey car park and replace it with a modern surface car park, electric car charging points and solar panels to generate power.
- Air-ground lighting at Solent Airport to attract and keep more aviation tenants.
- A £1 million children's playground refurbishment programme across Fareham.
- Over £3 million of disabled adaptation grants to help people make adaptations to their homes.
- A £400,000 programme of works to improve community centres.



'Flying High!' - Faraday Business Park at Solent Airport @Daedalus is the largest employment site in the Borough, and it now contributes significantly to the cost of running the council's services - reducing YOUR tax bill!

The King's Coronation

Residents may well be planning events to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III which will take place on Saturday 6th May.

Fareham Borough Council has produced a web page to help with ideas and guidance to hold an enjoyable and safe event.

Just scan the QR code!

Additionally, Hampshire County Councillors have a grant fund available to help with events.

If you are interested in knowing more about the grants, which will be available during April, please do contact our local County Councillor, Mike Ford below.



We look forward to hearing of all the local events happening to celebrate the King's Coronation!

Contact your local Locks Heath Councillors

Susan Bayford & Malcolm Daniells

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Susan Bayford & Malcolm Daniells



Mike Ford

Local Locks Heath news - see inside...

An update from Suella Braverman KC MP



Suella Braverman writes:

As Fareham's MP and Home Secretary, my goal is to have more police, less crime, and safer streets.

By the end of March, 600 new police officers will join

Hampshire's police force, part of our national programme to recruit 20,000 new officers.

We've also invested in Fareham's safety with millions of pounds for new CCTV cameras and street lighting through the Safer Streets Fund.

We're committed to tackling domestic burglary and anti-social behaviour, and our excellent PCC, Donna Jones, is leading the way in making Hampshire safer for everyone.

5,000 new apprentices in Fareham since 2015

Since 2015, over 5,000 new apprenticeships have been created in Fareham, thanks to the Conservative government's focus on improving skills and productivity.

As Fareham's MP, I've hosted annual apprenticeship fairs that have connected talented young people with businesses. My most recent fair was extremely well-attended at the Fareham Job Centre with Mayor & Mayoress Anne & Mike Ford below.

These apprenticeships provide students with paid opportunities to gain industry knowledge and build new skills.

I'm proud to have contributed to this effort and to see so many people choosing apprenticeships as a viable career path.



Local News & Action from your Conservative Councillors...

Working for Locks Heath all-year-round

Tennis Courts Resurfaced

Fareham Borough Council's Locks Heath Tennis Courts are situated in Locks Heath House Park, also known as St John's Park. These courts are well used by members of the Locks Heath Tennis Club and last year, member Roger Gray contacted Susan Bayford to advise that the two courts required resurfacing.

Roger and Susan met with the council's Public Spaces Officer, which we reported in a previous edition of the In Touch, who agreed that the work needed to be carried out.

Councillor Bayford was delighted to meet Roger and a group of club members at the resurfaced courts on a beautiful day in February.



Action to tackle empty property concern

Residents have contacted Councillor Malcolm Daniells regarding a property on Church Road.

For a while there have been several issues, including break-ins, vandalism and misuse of the property.

Malcolm is grateful for the insight he has received from residents. He has been working with the Police, Council and owners to ensure the property is not a danger to others or causing further concern.



Let's accelerate Speedwatch!



Our Councillor Malcolm Daniells successfully obtained two radar speed signs for Church Road in Locks Heath.

We are lucky to have three volunteers keen to continue their Speedwatch group, but we need more helpers. If you would be interested in joining them, please get in touch with Malcolm.

Celebrating the Genesis Centre's 25th anniversary



Councillor Susan Bayford was delighted to attend the 25th Anniversary of the Locks Heath Genesis Centre, which provides excellent support to young people from across the area.

The event was full of family fun and games, displays of youth work over the years plus arts and crafts displays.

An excellent youth band, Rosewaterindie entertained us with their great music.

This group has been supported by Y Services for the past 4 years and continues to go from strength to strength.



Fareham Borough Council's Daedalus Scrutiny Panel visited CETC and CEMAST facilities, located at the Solent Enterprise Zone in Daedalus.

CETEC provides apprenticeships in civil engineering, construction, and groundworks, while CEMAST offers advanced skills training in engineering and manufacturing.

Both facilities offer top-notch training to students locally and beyond, crucial to the region's construction industry and skilled employment.

New doors for LCSA

The Lockwood Community and Sports Association (LCSA) has received support from Fareham Borough Council in many ways since becoming a charity ten years ago.

The latest addition was the replacement of two doors in the much used Sports Hall. These specialist doors were required as they old pair had been leaking for some time, damaging the sports hall flooring.

We know that the Trustees really appreciate the support that they receive from Council Officers in the Leisure and Community Department.

