

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

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Sarisbury & Whiteley InTouch

Local News & Action

Spring
2023

Cllrs Seán Woodward and Joanne Burton 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 Seán Woodward and Joanne Burton 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**.

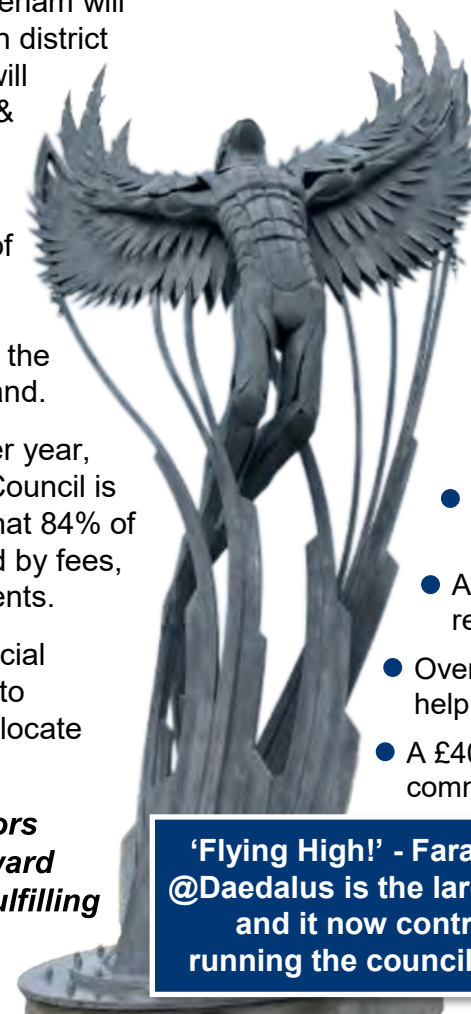
So, what does £3 a week get us in Fareham?

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 Joanne Burton and Seán Woodward are getting on with the job and fulfilling their election pledges to keep Fareham's Council Tax low.



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, Seán Woodward below.



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

Contact your local Sarisbury & Whiteley Councillors

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Seán Woodward

Joanne Burton

Local Sarisbury & Whiteley 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 Sarisbury & Whiteley all-year-round

Grant support for Hampshire Search & Rescue

County Councillor Seán Woodward recently had an inspiring visit to Hampshire Search and Rescue at Andark Diving and Watersports, Swanwick to present them with a casualty bag for which he had agreed a £800 Hampshire County Council grant.

The bag is like a very well insulated and robust sleeping bag to keep a person warm and dry. The group's members are not only trained in searching for missing persons but are also trained to a high level in life preservation, enabling them to keep alive those that they find who may not be breathing.

This was a fascinating training session in clearing, opening and preserving an airway and thereby maintaining life. HantsSAR is a registered charity and appreciate all the support they can get as volunteers to act like an emergency service. Thank you to the team lead by Nick Hemmings for all that you and your team do.



Update on the North of Whiteley development

Winchester City Council's development of 3,500 houses north of Whiteley is progressing well, with over 900 houses occupied. However, there are significant issues with indiscriminate pavement parking around Cornerstone Primary School. Councillor Seán Woodward has suggested hiring a private parking enforcement company to prevent potential accidents.

The land for the new Whiteley Secondary School will be handed over to Hampshire County Council after the occupation of the 1,075 houses and is expected to open in 2027. Whiteley Way will open in June, linking from TESCO through to the Botley Road. The new bus service usage level is low, so it's important to "use it or lose it"!

Parking safety issues around our local schools

The school run is a stressful experience for many parents, but it's also becoming increasingly dangerous. Sarisbury Junior School and Whiteley Primary School have sought support from their local Councillors to address the issue.

Junior Road Safety Officers are working on solutions to the problem and are receiving input from children, who often have creative ideas. Don't think about saving time, think about saving a life!



Visit to Sarisbury & Whiteley's excellent primary schools



Sarisbury Councillors and Seán Woodward and Joanne Burton have been visiting Sarisbury Infant School, Sarisbury Junior School, and Whiteley Primary School to meet with the heads.

These schools perform exceptionally well, providing over 1,000 young children with an excellent education and the very best preparation for the future.

From left to right: Whiteley Primary School with Chairman of Governors Carla Jefferson and Headmistress Lesley Pennington; Sarisbury Infant School with Headmistress Charlotte Weavers; Sarisbury Church of England Junior School with new Headmistress Catherine Nice.

Local Policing - getting action on the issues that matter

It was good to meet with Donna Jones (Hampshire's Police & Crime Commissioner) and deputy Terry Norton to discuss solutions to the anti-social behaviour problems in Sarisbury and across the Borough of Fareham as a whole.

Illegal car meets are growing in their frequency with large groups of young car drivers racing on public roads. Hampshire & IOW Constabulary have set up a special police operation called 'Op. Chromium' - to prevent & take action against those that partake or spectate.



Councillor Joanne Burton says:
"Zero tolerance is the best approach, local residents are fed up with this week after week"

A Warm Welcome...

Seán and Joanne thank Hope Church, Whiteley for the inviting them to attend the licensing of Reverend Amy Adeniran, by the Bishop of Portsmouth, the Right Reverend Dr Jonathan Frost. Amy has already worked in the parish for over four years. It was great to welcome her to our community.

Hope Church Whiteley is at Cornerstone Church of England Primary School and a warm welcome awaits.



Seán and Joanne at Hope Church, Whiteley, for which Amy was licensed by the Bishop.