

Working for Portchester All-Year-Round: Conservative Councillors get things done!

InTouch is published by Fareham Conservatives at 14 East Street, Fareham PO16 0BN. Printed by Cedar Group, Unit 3 Triton Centre, Premier Way, Abbey Park Industrial Estate, Romsey SO51 9DJ



Portchester
InTouch

Local News & Action

Cllrs. Harry Davis, Nick Walker & Sue Walker Reporting Back

Nick donates another plaque!



Our local Councillor Nick Walker has donated another name-sign plaque, this time for the new Sir Randal Cremer House on Station Road.

Nick said: "June marked a significant moment as we inaugurated the Sir Randal Cremer House in Portchester, a remarkable social housing project by Fareham Council.

"The project's total cost reached approximately £2 million and received invaluable support from the Cremer Trust, with Chairman George Cantrill and fellow members gracing the event. I had the privilege of contributing the name plaque for this building.

"I extend my gratitude to the dedicated Fareham Housing team. Their efforts not only brought this project to fruition but also ensure its continued ownership and management for the days ahead."

Working together for Portchester Precinct...

A productive meeting took place last month as our local Councillors Susan Walker, Nick Walker and Harry Davis, met with Cabinet Member Councillor Nick Adams-King from Hampshire County Council.

The gathering centred around key concerns raised by the community regarding the pavement surface and obstructed CCTV views due to oversized and overgrown trees.

Councillor Susan Walker stated:

"It was a constructive discussion where we highlighted the issues affecting our local area.

"Councillor Nick Adams-King showed genuine interest in understanding the concerns of both residents and shop owners. We appreciate his attentiveness."

We will keep you informed of the progress.



Huge £30m investment to regenerate the Town Centre!

Fareham Borough Council is taking another big step forward in its plans to breathe new life into Fareham Town Centre through a comprehensive programme of investment and regeneration.

The new community, arts and entertainment venue, Fareham Live, with a total of around 1,000 seats, is already set to become a hugely important asset for the town with new modern parking alongside, and the Council is now considering the acquisition of a series of other assets, one of which is Fareham Shopping Centre.

Town centres across the country have been affected by the collapse of the department store sector, shifts in customers' shopping habits, and many high street brands either moving online or disappearing altogether.

While Fareham town centre has much to offer residents and visitors, with many national outlets and independent traders along with food and entertainment, it has been affected by national trends.

The Council wants to ensure that the town centre responds effectively and takes the opportunity to re-invent itself by offering a wide range of uses alongside vibrant and well-connected public spaces in order to ensure its success in the long term.

The Council has recently decided to take the bold step of setting aside over £30m of funding to support a significant regeneration programme.

Major investments are currently being made with the development of Fareham Live and the forthcoming demolition of the decaying Osborn Road multi-storey car park in favour of a new surface car park. The Council is now in active discussions with the owners regarding the possible acquisition of a series of town centre properties including Fareham Shopping Centre.

Work will be undertaken over the coming months to create a draft Regeneration Framework for public consultation and partner engagement.



Conservative Councillors are seizing the opportunity to regenerate our Town Centre!

Councillor Seán Woodward, Executive Leader of the Council, said: "We are committed to the long-term regeneration of Fareham town centre and have been making plans over several years for how this may be achieved. People now look to town centres to provide a broader mix of leisure and social activities, as well as retail outlets offering products and services that are not so available online, together with opportunities for town centre living.

"We need to acknowledge that the private sector alone will not bring forward the regeneration of Fareham town centre. The Council will be leading on harnessing the resources of both the public and private sector to help deliver effective regeneration over the coming years.

"This injection of over £30m of funding is just the start of ensuring that the town centre delivers what the residents of Fareham need for the future. Looking ahead we will be taking the important step of seeking early views from all parts of the local community on the regeneration opportunities that lie ahead."

Contact your local Portchester Councillors



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Harry Davis

Nick Walker & Susan Walker



Working for Portchester all-year-round

Local Portchester news - see inside...

An update from Suella Braverman KC MP



Suella Braverman writes:

There would be no NHS without the staff who run it.

But as with other healthcare systems across the world, the NHS is facing significant challenges that

mean patients are still waiting too long to get the care they need. So, in the NHS's 75th anniversary year, the Conservative government has set out a long term plan to staff our NHS.

First, we'll train more staff right here in the UK including doubling the number of medical training places and increasing the number of nursing and midwifery training places.

Second, we'll ensure that retention is prioritised and third, we'll modernise how NHS staff spend their time by increasing productivity to get more patients seen more quickly. Our long term NHS Workforce plan - the largest expansion in its history - will mean more staff, better care, shorter waiting time and better use of British technology.

Shovels hit the ground at Welborne!

It was a momentous occasion to welcome the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to Fareham to see work begin at Welborne.

After more than 17 years of planning, the first of many hedges was planted and work has begun. Welborne will deliver 6,000 new homes and will include new schools, retail, business, healthcare and leisure facilities.



ACTION from your Councillors Harry Davis, Nick Walker & Susan Walker

Working for Portchester all-year-round



"The Best Bakery in Fareham" is coming to Portchester Precinct!

Councillors Nick Walker & Susan Walker write:

There's good news on the way for our local shopping centre! At long last, the popular Soothills bakery is coming to Portchester.

Soothills, which also has bakeries in Locks Heath and Fareham High Street, is highly regarded by local people, with queues out the door!

We would like to wish the previous owners of La Boulangerie, Roy and Linda, all the very best with their retirement. We share their delight that the Precinct unit is remaining a locally-run bakery.



£7.5 million for road improvements

Hampshire County Council has committed a further £7.5 million a-year to fix 1000s more potholes.

This investment boost recognises the importance of good roads for Hampshire residents' quality of life and for the local economy.

This additional money will enable road teams to fix potholes and other defects faster, including by infilling whole stretches of road, allowing us to address not just the initial reported pothole, but other problems nearby on the same road, on the same visit.

Councillor Susan Walker reports: "In the time taken to undertake one permanent patch repair, between 4 and 7 infill repairs can be completed.

"So while infill repairs might be seen as a temporary solution, they enable the County Council to tackle immediate safety risks promptly with minimum traffic disruption.

"Permanent repairs will be made on a return visit."

Fareham Council offers an exclusive sponsorship opportunity for 40 individuals and 30 businesses to be part of history at Fareham Live.

Participants can sponsor their own small piece of the bespoke wall art, 'A Wave of Thanks', to be displayed in the foyer, featuring engraved coloured bars with the sponsor's name.

A WAVE OF THANKS

Be part of history in the making by becoming a founding sponsor of Fareham's new arts and entertainment venue **Fareham Live.**

Sponsor an exclusive bar on our beautiful 'Wave of Thanks' foyer artwork.

Sign up today at www.fareham.gov.uk/waveofthanks or call 01329 236100 #WaveofThanks

Public and corporate sponsorship packages available at a range of prices

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Fareham backs Citizens Advice

Fareham Council backs Citizens' Advice Fareham with a new 3-year deal, maintaining free, impartial support for residents. Last year, they aided 2,801 people on 8,982 matters, a notable rise from 1,727 the previous year.

The advisors handle weekly issues such as finances, housing, and charitable aid. They also made 80 home visits in 2022. To meet growing demand, the council increased the annual deal by £15,000, reaching £135,000 for 3 years. Notably, the outreach program returns to Portchester Library, after a long break due to COVID-19.

Susan Walker, in her capacity as Executive Member of Leisure and Community, said:

"Post-Covid and due to the Cost of Living crisis, Citizens Advice demand surged. This extra funding ensures prompt access to advisers for Fareham residents, addressing their needs without delay. Citizens Advice excels, and I'm thrilled to extend this SLA for three more years."

Well Done, Jenny!

Our local Councillors Nick Walker & Susan Walker were delighted to be able to nominate Jenny Jones as a recognition and reward for her voluntary work in setting up the 'Friday Fish and Chip Lunch Club' at Portchester Parish Hall.

Well done, Jenny!



Remember - Local Conservatives have kept the Borough's Council Tax the 4th lowest in England AND protected local services That's an impressive record!

Harry Davis, Nick Walker & Susan Walker - getting things done for Portchester!

Portchester Conservatives