

CONSERVATIVES keeping our community



InTouch

FAREHAM EAST & WALLINGTON – Spring 2016

Zero Borough Council tax increase for 7 years

We saved Band D residents almost a year's tax

Now we're forced to ask for a modest rise

BUT.. All good things have NOT come to an end

THERE'S been no rise in your district council tax since 2009.

It's because your **Conservative Council** doesn't waste a penny of your money, carefully budgeting to maintain top-class services.

This time, due to on-going reductions in Government grants which will disappear altogether over the next 4 years, we're asking for a very modest rise.

A pre-budget survey showed an overwhelming **85% support** for our strategy.

Council Leader Séan Woodward says: "Despite the Chancellor's austerity burden falling on councils, it certainly does not mean all good things have to come to an end in Fareham.

"Look what we have delivered in those 7 successive zero years;

look what's in store for the future.

"Had we reflected 24% inflation in your council tax during that period, it would now be £173 and Band D residents would have paid an extra £123 over the 7 years.

"Even with the loss of half our grant support from central government, we have managed to preserve essential services and freeze council tax.

"Effectively you have enjoyed saving almost a whole year's Fareham Borough tax bill."

The average Band C property will go up by just 1p a day to enable us to preserve essential services

Band D properties will rise by £5 making the bill £145 per year.

Add the County Council, Police and Fire & Rescue demand and the overall bill will rise £50 pa.

We honour our pledge to youth



Seán Woodward explains to Toni Lummis (centre) and Lucy Mills at a vibrant YCAT meeting how the Council is fulfilling its promise to support the Borough's youth.

We have appointed an officer to engage with young people and put £30,000 into a pot which is available to youth clubs for specific projects. And that's not all...

- The splendid £9m Holly Hill Leisure Centre opens at Sarisbury this summer
- We will not be raising town centre car park charges for the 6th successive year
- Free parking everywhere else, including seafronts and shopping centres, will be maintained as promised

**WISE INVESTMENTS
KEEP TAX DOWN** →

**Our £8m property investments
bring in returns of over £0.5m (7%)**

**Renting out surplus space in the
Civic Offices realises £200,000 pa**

Find cash for vital M27 junctions NOW – transport boss tells minister

IMPROVEMENTS to J9 and J10 of the M27 are critical, Hampshire's transport chief told a government minister.

Preparatory work for the multi-million J9 scheme ended in 2014.

County Councillor Séan Woodward, and Meon Valley **Conservative** MP



George Hollingbery stressed the urgency when they met Andrew Jones, who's responsible for Highway England's motorways and trunk roads (pictured).

"It is unacceptable for HE to walk away from its responsibilities by starting work, then abandoning the site.

"Whiteley and Welborne are to take 9,500 houses, there is investment from Solent Local Enterprise Partnership to dual Whiteley Way from Rookery Avenue to TESCO and to install lights at the Rookery Avenue roundabout.

"This traffic needs to use an improved junction 9 to leave the area," he said.

He also told the minister funding was vital to make J10 an all-moves junction.

England's 5th lowest district council tax – that's CONSERVATIVE budgeting



NEWS ROUND

Meet Tom at your local

Tom Davies invites Fareham East residents to join him at the pub for an informal chat about any local issues or comments you have.

Tom said: "It would be great to meet you at one of my events. I'm always keen to hear new stories and learn more about what's important to you."

Sat, Feb 27 – 7pm Castle in the Air, Fareham Quay
 Fri March 4 – 7pm The Fareham, Trinity Street, Fareham

Parking tickets fight back

Has the 'yellow peril' stuck an unfair parking ticket on your windscreen?

Now you can fight back against the Council via a new website called DoNotPay.co.uk, says Tom Davies.

"It's free and has saved motorists thousands. So rather than worry about a parking ticket you feel you didn't deserve, have a look at this website for help.

"It's simple to use – just pick out your reason from a list, type a few of the details and it generates an appeal for you to send to the Council."

Superfast Broadband

BT Openreach in conjunction with the County Council will upgrade connections to over 34,000 premises across Hampshire between January 2016 and September 2018.

It will make Superfast Broadband available to more than 95% of premises in Hampshire.

On completion, the total of homes and businesses with access to superfast services will be 570,000. The project has funding of £16.5m.

New site needed for defibrillator

With the sad demise of Wykeham House School, the AED sited at the front entrance to the school, which was available to the local community and mentioned in the last issue of *InTouch*, needs to be relocated.

If you have any suggestions, please contact your County Councillors.

Lack of advertising blamed for closure

THERE is hope that a replacement for Solent Arena, the former roller rink on Standard Way, might be found elsewhere. It was forced to close at the end of 2015 for financial reasons, after Fareham Council had ploughed £20,000 towards running it.

InTouch team leader Tom Davies said the Council had managed to recover some of the money, but the problem was that people simply did not know it existed.

"It was the only roller rink for 50 miles so the potential catchment area is huge. "I am encouraging the Council to try to find

a new venue. "With better advertising, I can't see why it can't attract many customers and financial success. The community just needs to get behind it."

PHOTO: Tom Davies outside the former centre in Standard Way.



Clear up after Fido or face a £100 penalty

EVER THROWN a sweet wrapper on the street or allowed your dog to foul the pavement, thinking it won't matter because the Council will pick it up?

You are committing an environmental crime and Fareham Council will not tolerate it any longer.

Tom Davies says: "Litter is an eyesore, unhygienic, dangerous and costs millions of pounds to clear up.

"It is also the main reason the rat population is rising so fast, which is why Fareham decided to get tough on litter louts."

An enforcement team will issue a £75 FPN to litter bugs, including cigarette ends and chewing gum. Councils have begun the process to change legisla-

tion to implement a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to improve powers for enforcement officers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN).

Once a PSPO is in force, the offence of not clearing up after a dog can be dealt with by issuing a FPN of up to £100.

There are over 600 waste bins around the Borough, which allow people to dispose of dog waste, so there's no excuse.



Tom's persistence finds solution to drawn-out Wickham Road parking problems



Solved: Tom Davies (right) discusses the Wickham Road yellow lines with Councillor Trevor Cartwright.

DOUBLE YELLOW lines will be painted along much of Wickham Road, Fareham and should solve the problem drivers experience with parked cars narrowing the highway.

Relentless efforts by *Fareham East Conservatives* paid off when the Council's executive member for public protection, Councillor Trevor Cartwright, decided the issue in January.

Residents and motorists had been complaining for years about dangerous parking making it hard to

navigate and impossible for large vehicles to pass, but nothing was done until the local *Conservative* team stepped in.

Chairman Tom Davies said residents were consulted and clearly favoured extending the double yellow lines along much of Wickham Road. Some parking zones will be kept to act as a speed deterrent.

He said: "I'm so pleased we've finally sorted this out after it dragged on for so long and I was happy to have brought it to the Council's attention.

"I have recently acquired an allotment along Wickham Road so I know first hand how dangerous it can be. There have been 31 accidents in the last 5 years, several of them serious. This is an overwhelming victory for the residents."

New yellow lines have already been painted at St Christopher's and nearby areas and the new ones will be painted in a few weeks' time.

The Council will monitor surrounding roads for the next 12 months to ensure the yellow lines do not create problems elsewhere.

Tom joins MP in fight to save forts

SOME of Fareham's historic forts are crumbling and urgently need repairs.

Tom Davies and Fareham MP Suella Fernandes have teamed up to try to save them, particularly Fort Fareham.

Suella said: "Action must be taken now to stop history crumbling away for ever, and I have met with Historic England to discuss conservation."



Tom said: "Fareham has a wonderful, rich heritage and we have a duty to future generations to do our bit to conserve our culture."

The ring of forts was ordered by Prime Minister Lord Palmerston in the 1860s to defend Portsmouth from a French attack, but were never called into action and were labelled 'Palmerston's Follies'.

PHOTO: Tom inspects the Fort Wallington brickwork

Strategy to protect coast

A 100-YEAR strategy defining the options available to protect our coastline from the River Hamble to Portchester from flooding and erosion has been agreed by the Borough Council.

The options and recommendations were prepared by the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) and, if implemented, will help to reduce the risk of coastal flooding and erosion to over 2,800 homes and 10,000 people, as well as key environmental assets.

The strategy recognises that the ESPC and the Council will need funding from non-traditional sources and work with a wide range of partners.

Fareham East *InTouch* team leader Tom Davies said the strategy included parts of the ward's shoreline which have the potential for long-term erosion.

River dredging might be the answer to stop Wallington flooding



Remember these scenes in December 2012?



WE'VE SEEN the River Wallington at bursting point again in the past couple of months, showing that urgent attention and funding are needed.

With memories of the river flooding the village in December 2012, there is still much to be done despite recent improvement works

Tom Davies, pictured below checking the river's level, says dredging might be an option and he will be speaking with Environment Agency bosses again in a few weeks' time.

He said: "I'd like hear your thoughts on the matter. A resident survey will be going out next month and it will give you a chance to have your say."

The Environment Agency deputy director stated that in light of events up north, defences and procedures needed a complete rethink.

The Agency had given preference to river management techniques with overflow zones, but perhaps now dredging may be back on the agenda.



COUNTY COUNCILLORS Fareham Town



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

George Ringrow
 11 Sutton Court
 Fareham PO14 1FH
 Tel: 01329 822823
 email: george.ringrow@hants.gov.uk



COME AND JOIN US

If you support **Conservative** principles and would like to **vote** to select your Council and Parliamentary candidates, to **attend** social and political events or **help** us by delivering *InTouch* in your street, then why not join Fareham East Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please call Keith Barton on 01329 286396.

WE SERVE YOU ALL

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.

WELCOME
to my newsletter



I cannot quite believe that I am writing the first edition of my 2016 newsletter already. I have thoroughly enjoyed representing the people of Fareham for the past 9 months and I am looking forward to the challenges the New Year brings.

It is a pleasure to have been able to immerse myself in such a great community and I thank you all for being so welcoming to me.

My team and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy New Year.

I hope to be an effective advocate for Fareham in Parliament, working for more opportunities in education, better access to health services and greater investment and jobs here.

Suella



FERNANDES MP for Fareham

Please support my campaign to bring A-Levels back to Fareham

THOUSANDS of teenagers from Fareham have to travel very far if they choose to study A Levels.

I am working with Cams Hill School, supported by all local schools, to prepare an application to the Department of Education to become a Free School Sixth Form, offering A Levels in the heart of Fareham.

Headteacher Gwennan Harrison-Jones (pictured) is leading the team and wants volunteers to support the application.

We also need evidence of the demand for the A Levels in Fareham so please write to me indicating whether, if you have school-age children, you would be interested in sending them to Cams Hill for A Levels.

It is important that the whole community supports Cams Hill in this proposal which will benefit hundreds of teenagers for years to come. The first team meeting is in the Spring, so let me know if you would like more information at:

<http://www.suellafernandes.co.uk/campaigns/education-levels-fareham>



CONTACT SUELLA

14 East Street
Fareham PO16 0BN
Tel: 01329 233 573
Suella@suellafernandes.co.uk
www.suellafernandes.co.uk

Surgery dates

I will hold surgeries at different venues across Fareham. Please call to arrange an appointment to meet me. Surgery, Friday, March 18 Victory Hall, Warsash. Friday, April 29 Community Room, Tesco, Fareham.

Keep up to date

To stay up to date with all of my recent visits and speeches in Parliament please sign up to my newsletter at www.suellafernandes.co.uk/newsletter

Arrange a tour

I am happy to arrange tours of the Palace of Westminster for groups of my constituents. To book please contact my office with a minimum of three months' notice, as they are very popular.

FAREHAM CONSTITUENCY NEWS

Broadband petition to Chancellor

Many constituents have problems with broadband, for example in Taners Gate and Whiteley, so I met with communication companies and British Telecom to discuss connectivity and mobile coverage.

I joined MPs from all political parties to deliver a letter to Number 11 Downing Street calling on the Chancellor to continue investing in extending broadband coverage.

Wearing my firefighter's helmet

I was delighted to spend the day with the crew based at Fareham Fire Station, where I took part in the firefighters' normal day.

We discussed local and national challenges facing the service with Hampshire Chief Fire Officer Dave Curry and Station Commander Danny Miles. I am grateful to the Fire and Rescue Service for hosting me. The quality of training and dedication by the crew is exceptional.

Task Force launched

I have launched Fareham Community Hospital Task Force to discuss local health issues and push forward my campaign for increased facilities at the hospital, where I was pleased to spend a day working with volunteers (pictured) who do so much to help staff and patients.

Residents tell me more services are needed at the hospital. I raised the issue with Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt when he visited in February.



At the Chancellor's door



Learning to fight fires



Meeting Friends of Fareham Community Hospital