

**CONSERVATIVES** keeping our community



# InTouch

**PORTCHESTER EAST – 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 Seán 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**

## **Conservatives deliver your new Lidl superstore**

**YOU'LL** be able to buy your turkey from the new Portchester Lidl superstore this Christmas.

Building work at the site at the junction of the A27 and Castle Trading Estate will begin in April.

It will open in December, after Fareham planners unanimously approved Lidl's revised application to increase its size by 34% and parking from 70 to 100 spaces.



Councillor Geoff Fazackarley, who spearheaded a petition with 4,000 signatures and supported the application at the Council meeting, said:

"This is just what the people of Portchester wanted and the **Conservative** Council has delivered."

"It will create jobs and increase local shoppers' choice."

It is the first of a new design of Lidl store in the UK.

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

NEWS ROUND



Santa Geoff to the rescue

Geoff Fazackarley came to the rescue when a Santa Claus booked for a kids party fell ill.

It happened at Sainsbury's where he made sure the youngsters were not disappointed.

Margaret, the café manageress, said: "He was amazing. We'll be booking him again next year."

Geoff is used to the role as he's been playing Santa for years at local schools and clubs.

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.

Councillor Geoff Fazackarley says: "It's free and has saved motorists thousands.

"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."

Kitchen update grant

An application for community funding has been received from Lucy Redfern, community leader at Castle Street Day Centre, for £4,000 to refurbish their kitchen, which needs updating.

This will allow a lunch club to be started, in-house catering to be offered to users and boost bookings. It is hoped to start a take-away service for the elderly.

Total cost of the project is £7,600, to which the centre will contribute £3,600 from fund-raising activities.

New buses

First Solent chose Portchester Castle to unveil its new bus fleet, which is now operating on its two Solent Ranger X4 and X5 routes that connect Portchester, Fareham, Gosport and Portsmouth with Southampton.

The 17 new buses cost £2.75m, bringing the company's total investment in its fleet to more than £15m over the past 3 years.

Flooding closes A27 subway

THE SUBWAY under the A27 has been closed after it kept flooding.

Highways engineers who are trying to solve the problem say it is caused by a geological fault.

Meantime, Councillor Geoff Fazackarley and InTouch team leader Trevor Alford, pictured right inspecting the subway, have helped several elderly residents across the busy road.



Trevor pursues flood issues

RESIDENTS have complained about flooding behind the shops in West Street, Portchester.

InTouch team leader Trevor Alford has been working hard to try to resolve the problem and others in the area.

He has taken the matter to Hampshire County Council, but it is a complex issue involving three bodies – the County, private landlords of flats either side and the water company

He said: "We are trying to sort it, but flooding is caused by pipes on everyone's land and trying to get someone to pay is a nightmare."

PHOTO: Trevor gets his feet wet as he views the extent of the flooding behind the shops.



Cranleigh: Geoff and Trevor will fight bid to spoil our countryside



THEY'RE BACK. Despite past planning refusals and huge opposition from councillors and residents, persistent Persimmon Homes are pushing to develop the Cranleigh Road site.

This time they have reduced the number of homes from 135 to 120 after submitting an envi-

ronmental statement (ES) before Christmas.

Portchester East Conservative Councillor Geoff Fazackarley and InTouch team leader Trevor Alford pledged to fight to save the green fields.

Geoff, pictured at the site with Trevor, said: "In July 2006 the Borough Council won a planning appeal against Gudgeon Developers Limited for 230 homes in the same area.

"The Secretary of State rejected the appeal and agreed with the Council planners that it would damage the character of the area and blur the boundaries between Portchester and Fareham."

Portchester West Councillor Nick Walker spoke at the appeal in 2006 and asked the minister to reject the application because it would:

- Intrude into open countryside
- Spoil the coastal view from the sea
- Lose an important local gap
- Impact on nature conservation interests
- Overload Cranleigh Road with extra traffic

Trevor Alford said: "The area north of Cranleigh Road is designated as countryside, meaning it is not suitable for any form of development, which puts more pressure on our identity as a beautiful place to live.

"There are major stresses on the housing waiting list, but that's why Welborne is so important.

"We would like to see a nature reserve for our community to support the children of Portchester."

The application goes to the committee in March.

Geoff and Trevor support Portchester's community and welfare centres



PORTCHESTER is lucky to have three vibrant community hubs - the spacious new Community Centre provided by the Conservative-run Borough Council, Castle Street Day Centre and Parish Hall.

Councillor Geoff Fazackarley, as a trustee of the Community Centre, and InTouch team leader Trevor Alford work hard to support both.

"In these austere days, they provide havens for the young and elderly," says Geoff.

The Day Centre opens Mondays to Fridays 9am-4pm and offers individual services and a range of activities to the elderly, the lonely, those with dementia and others in respite care.

Activities include bingo, quizzes, word games, arts and crafts, musical bingo, darts, horse races and much more.

It takes private clients and referrals by Adult Services.

There are regular visits from hairdressers, a chiropodist and volunteers from the Red Cross who offer head, shoulder and neck massages.

For more information, call 023 9222 1165 and a member of staff will be happy to answer any questions and/or arrange a visit.

PHOTO: Trevor Alford (left) and Geoff Fazackarley visit the Day Centre.

Enjoy a good run for your money

A NEW way to keep fit has received a community grant of £3,000 to get it up and running.

Portchester resident Andrew Smith applied for the grant to enable a Parkrun to be set up in the Borough.

Parkrun UK is a non-profit organisation that stages a series of free weekly 5km timed runs in areas of open space around the UK.

Parkruns are open to all, are safe and easy to take part in and there are currently over 340 in operation in the UK. Runners of all abilities are welcome.

Events take place every Saturday morning at 9am and are free to attend. They are run by teams of community volunteers

The route for the Fareham Parkrun is the easy access trail around Cams Hall estate and golf course, starting and finishing at the Cams Mill pub.

Clear up after Fido or face £100 fine

ANTI-SOCIAL owners who don't clear up their dogs' mess are being targeted in a Council clamp-down.

InTouch team leader Trevor Alford says dog fouling and litter are the most frequent complaints he has to listen to.

He said: "The Council has adopted a strategy to try to educate dog owners, while allowing offenders to be financially penalised."

It is seeking a Borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order to apply fixed penalty notices and will raise these from £75 to £100 There are over 600 dog waste bins around the Borough and owners are advised to use them or pay the penalty.



BOROUGH COUNCILLOR Portchester East



Geoff Fazackarley  
79 White Hart Lane  
Portchester, Fareham PO16 9BG  
Tel: 02393 112231  
Email: gfazackarley@fareham.gov.uk

You can also contact Geoff at:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Portchester-Conservatives/649186565200637?fref=ts  
www.twitter.com/PortchesterE

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 Portchester Branch of Fareham Conservative Association? Please phone Nick Walker or Sue Bell on 02392 384943.

I SERVE YOU ALL

Whether you voted for me or not, your Conservative councillor promises the highest standards of service to everyone in the community. Contact me any time and I'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](http://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 Tanners 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