



# InTouch

STUBBINGTON & HILL HEAD – Winter 2019

## Spitfires fly into battle to help keep Fareham's council tax low

### SPITFIRES have come to our rescue yet again.

Five of the iconic WW2 fighters fly from Solent Airport and fuel sales for pleasure flights are reaping thousands of pounds in revenue for the benefit of Fareham council taxpayers.

And wise business investment by the **Conservatives** is sparing Fareham households massive annual council tax rises.

Out of an annual Borough Council spend of £47m, less than £7m comes from council tax.

Council Leader Seán Woodward stressed: "So 85% of what we spend includes our trading activities, among them a portfolio of mainly local commercial property that brings in millions of pounds in rental.

"For example, most units at Southampton Road, Park Gate (B&Q, Dunelm, Halfords, PC World, etc) belong to the Council. Without this income our council tax, currently almost the lowest in the country, would need to be far higher."

Despite losing all its Government revenue support grant, Fareham will raise its share of council tax for 2019-20 by only £5 a year, representing just a penny a day increase for the average band C property. Band D properties will pay £160 per year or just 44p per day for all Borough Council services.

In his budget summary, Councillor Woodward was upbeat about lucrative ventures at Solent Airport@Daedalus, where around £30m has been spent so far on infrastructure and new commer-

cial buildings such as newly-extended Fareham Innovation Centre, which is already 70% full.

Airport operations provide a financial return to the Council, flight movements increased to 30,000 annually and hundreds of new jobs were created at what is the Solent Enterprise Zone.

The target over the 25-year life of the Enterprise Zone for new jobs is 3,500, 1,100 of those being on the Fareham part of the site, of which half the total has already been reached.

Land was transferred to Fareham College to build a Civil Engineering Training Centre (CETC) to teach young people skills they need to undertake civil engineering works in this area where there is a huge skills shortage. A £39m capital



Photos: Richard Davies Photography

programme for future improvements includes:

- Ferneham Hall refurbishment £10m
- Spec build business units at Solent Airport@Daedalus £5m
- New council housing in Fareham, Portchester, Stubbington and Sarisbury £17.6m
- Phasing out single-use plastics by the Council
- Play area improvements £500,000
- Bus shelter replacement £300,000
- Holly Hill Cemetery extension £275,000

He added: "Setting a balanced budget without reducing services is more challenging every year. We have plans for another £1m of annual savings via efficiencies rather than service reductions."



## Tigers give leader a hairy biker experience

**HE THOUGHT he was just there to see young bikers put on a splendid display at Solent Airport.**

But the little dare-devils decided otherwise and used Fareham Council Leader Seán Woodward as a prop.



"They placed me at the end of a ramp to jump over. Fortunately, they all made it across," said Seán after surviving the ordeal.

The Tigers and The Rockets showed their skills, the latter enjoying their first day's training at the airport where they are now based.

The Tigers donated cheques totalling nearly £4,000 to Wave 105 Cash for Kids and Sophie's Appeal for cancer research.

After dusting himself down, Seán Woodward said: "We are pleased to have the Rockets join in using the community facilities at Solent Airport.

"It is good to see 40 children learning the importance of teamwork, leadership skills and discipline while wowing the crowds with their performances and raising money for good causes."





**NEWS ROUND**

**Dealing with health issues**

We're often asked what the Council is doing to address the lack of appointments and other issues with the Stubbington doctors' surgery.

Your local Council does NOT provide healthcare, so if you have concerns contact the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), using the details below.

They are legally required to provide adequate health care for residents.

To make a complaint about a health-care provider, go to the comments and complaints page. If you do use the inquiries email address, there may be a delay in the CCG complaints team contacting you.

If you have any comments or queries, contact: Fareham and Gosport CCG, CommCen Building, Fort Southwick, James Callaghan Drive, Fareham.

**Leaky roof repairs**

The sports hall at Crofton Community Centre has suffered a leaky roof for several years.

Although many repairs have been carried out, the problem persists and has lately caused closure of some areas due to concerns over safety issues with water on the floor.

Fareham Council will replace the roof and cladding sometime in March.

**Results awaited**

Decisions are still awaited for the public inquiry into the developers' appeal for the proposed development in Posbrook Lane and the public inquiry into the Stubbington bypass.

The results are expected by the end of February.

**More police, higher tax**

Hampshire Police Crime Commissioner Michael Lane has responded to residents' demands.

200 new officers will be recruited, plus 65 staff police investigators and training for new PCSOs, but it will cost an extra £24 a year on Band D council tax bills.

**Threat to ancient church lifted**

**FAREHAM planners rejected an application to build 16 homes in Ranvilles Lane next to an historic church.**

The original application to build 26 dwellings on the site of The Grange, a former residential home, had been reduced by 10 because of the impact on 12th Century Crofton Old Church, a Grade II listed building.

When the amended plan, which included two accesses, came before the planning committee, councillors rejected officers' advice to allow it.

They said it lay outside the defined urban settlement boundary and would adversely affect the strategic gap.



**They screen cross-Channel cable work**

**HOARDINGS erected around a field beside The Shack in Stubbington Lane are not to screen housing development.**

Residents' fears were allayed by Councillor Steve Dugan who said it was part of the cable laying for the cross-Channel electricity link.

He said it involved digging trenches for ducting to take the main supply cables from France to Chilling sub-station.

"It will mean some disruption while the ducting is laid across Stubbington Lane, but this will be done by closing one half of the road at a time and using lights to control the traffic.

"The eastern end of Salterns car park will stay closed until the work is complete, but The Shack is open for business as usual. The ducts will be buried and the field restored to its original state."



**Nature reserve saved from irreparable harm**

**EUPHORIA! The picture that sums up residents' delight after a controversial plan for 150 homes beside Titchfield Haven Nature Reserve was thrown out.**

After visiting the site, Christina Downes said Bargate Homes' scheme for land west of Old Street would inflict "very substantial harms" to the environment and outweighed any advantages.

Her report followed the 3-day public inquiry in December at which there were fierce objections from Hill Head Residents' Association, residents from Old Street and Knightsbank Road and local Conservative Councillors Kay Mandry, Steve Dugan and Pal Hayre.

The appellants tried unsuccessfully to use Fareham's lack of a 5-year land supply, but Council representatives dismissed this with evidence of sticking to the



rules in the original refusal.

And the Council was supported by an impassioned plea from Mr Barry Duffin, who brought his 40 years' experi-

ence working at the Haven to the hearing and undoubtedly helped to sway the verdict against the developers.

He gave vital evidence on the layout and nature of the landscape which forms the nature reserve and its surrounding area.

He also explained the number of different species of birds, their breeding habits and how they would be seriously affected by the additional noise, light and drainage issues caused by the proposed development.

Councillor Steve Dugan said: "It is clear that significant importance is still given to the protection of the countryside, habitats and strategic gaps, despite the pressure on the Council to build more houses.

"Very well done to all those who campaigned and provided evidence to achieve this outcome."

**All trim for next Remembrance Day**

**A HEDGE has been cut back because it hid Stubbington's war memorial.**

Residents complained after Remembrance Day that the hedge around the site blocked their view of the service.

The issue was discussed at village forums, and a Council officer attended the January 'Love Stub-



bington' meeting.

It was agreed to trim the foliage nearest to the Red Lion to half its height.

Councillor Kay Mandry, pictured discussing the issue with a resident, said: "Now there is a clear view of the memorial and it is much easier to see anyone crossing the road and, therefore, safer."

She thanked residents for their opinion and the Council team for its prompt action.

The tree in the corner of the car park by the cottages on Titchfield Road has also been trimmed.

**Daedalus progress moves apace**

**FAREHAM Borough Council plans to continue developing Daedalus into a significant commercial area, creating skilled employment opportunities for local people.**

The Fareham Innovation Centre, which provides office, workshop space and office support for fledgling businesses, has now been extended due to demand for additional space. The centre is now 70% full.

Access and signage has been provided to connect the airport to the Stubbington/Hill Head seafront for pedestrians and this will be extended to vehicular access this year.

Café at Zero 5 is open and serves a range of hot and cold food and drinks, this is adjacent to the outdoor viewing area which enables visitors to get close to the airport's activities.

**Steve reveals what's going on behind the airfield fence**



**ACTIVITY the other side of Solent Airport fence along Gosport Road has been puzzling residents.**

Councillor Steve Dugan revealed that it's to create a large new area of public open space.

The picture shows the general layout of the space, which will comprise walkways, cycleways and a play area and will be fully landscaped and screened from the road by mounds, some of which are now complete.

Over the next few months, the new fencing on the southern boundary of the airfield will be completed and culverts across the watercourse will be installed.

Starting in February, work will begin on excavating the swales and seasonal ponds for the open space which will be followed by erection of street furniture including signs, picnic benches and route markers.

Steve said: "This work will provide a pleasant area for all and allow cyclists to have a safer route away from the main road."

The project is part of the agreed work plan for IFA2 and National Grid has engaged I & H Brown to carry it out.

For more information about this and the IFA2 project, go to <http://ifa2int-erconnector.com/project-sites/public-open-space/>

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**COUNTY COUNCILLOR FAREHAM CROFTON**

**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 Stubbington & Hill Head Branch of Gosport Conservative Association? Please call Steve Dugan on 07948 381721.



## It's not all about Brexit

### Recent news from the Conservatives includes:

- Publishing the Long Term Plan for the NHS – detailing how to spend the £20 billion funding increase.
- Tackling domestic abuse with a new law to cover all forms of abuse
- Enacting the Ivory Bill to protect elephants from the ivory trade
- New Plans to cut down on all avoidable plastic waste and improve recycling

It might be easy to miss these announcements, but they show whatever else is going on important work is being done to improve our country for all.

We have also seen more good news on job creation locally with unemployment half the national rate and significantly down from 2010.

I also look forward to hearing further from talks to resolve the Brexit impasse and uphold the result of the referendum.

# Caroline

## DINENAGE

MP for Gosport

Like many Stubbington and Hill Head residents I was opposed to the planning application to build 150 houses on the land west of Old Street.

I objected on behalf of my constituents, arguing that we needed to protect green spaces in our area.

I am relieved that the planning inspector dismissed this appeal brought by the developer. This is good news for local residents.

I recently met the new Police Commander for Gosport and Fareham, Chief Inspector Mark Lewis, and raised concerns such as the number of bike thefts locally. It's important



to build strong links and learn how I can support the police to protect my constituents from crime.

The public inquiry into the Stubbington bypass has concluded and as soon as the Department for Transport receives their report, I will meet Ministers to push the case for this much needed investment.

Well done Crofton Anne Dale and Crofton Hammond for outperforming the national average for reading, writing and maths – thanks to the sterling work of teachers and pupils!

### CONTACT CAROLINE

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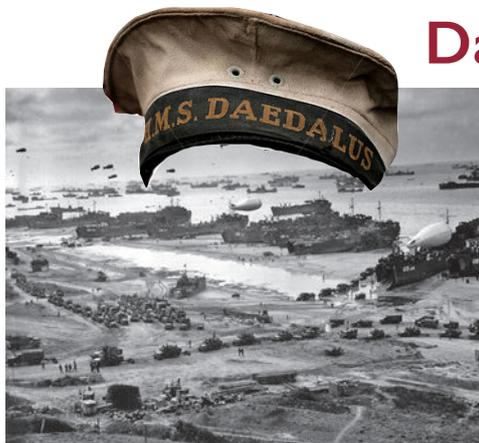
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## Daedalus D-Day Diary Dates



### D-Day 0441 hours, June 6, 1944.

The first aircraft take off from HMS Daedalus to support Operation Overlord – the Normandy Invasion.

It was a pivotal moment in the history of the Fleet Air Arm base where 435 units – the largest to operate from any UK airfield on D-Day – were deployed.

The Fleet Air Arm was joined by RAF squadrons, Royal Canadian Air Force Typhoons and Mustangs and US Navy Spitfires, softening up Hitler's Atlantic Wall and protecting the invasion armada.

That historic day which paved the way to victory over the Nazi regime will be recalled during 75th anniversary events commemorating the landings.

Plans are under way for a weekend spectacular at what is now Solent

Airport on June 8 and 9, from 10am to 4pm, and residents are asked to diary the dates.

Vintage aircraft will play a key role and details of those taking part will be released soon.

There will also be children's activities, market stalls and stage performances by local groups.

Hill Head Councillor Steve Dugan said: "Council officers are planning to make it a day to remember, so make sure you don't miss what will be the biggest event of the year."



## Irresponsible dog owners to face stricter controls and penalties

### A NEW law to tackle dirty dog owners is proposed.

The Council is responding to complaints about dogs fouling and being out of control by seeking an updated Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

If approved, it will replace the PSPO which expires in March and extend the Council's powers for the next 3 years to:

- Tackle dog fouling
- Ensure people have a means to pick up dog litter
- Request dogs be put on leads if causing a public nuisance
- Ensure dogs are put on leads in sensitive places e.g. cemeteries
- Limit the numbers of dogs one person can walk at any one time

### •Exclude dogs from certain areas e.g. play areas

It will also enable Council officers to issue on-the-spot fines to irresponsible owners, but will not apply to people registered blind who rely on assistance dogs.

Councillor Kay Mandry said: "We want to ensure that irresponsible dog owners don't spoil people's enjoyment."