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Castle Car Parks

All of us worked hard in trying to stop the charges coming in at Portchester Castle car parks. We believe very strongly that Portchester is different from the other coastal car parks because both serve the Church, the Sailing Club and the Scouts, as well as the numerous residents who avail themselves of the walks and views. Both car parks are at the end of a long cul-de-sac and their charges will undoubtedly create additional car parking in Castle Street and surrounding roads which are already suffering from this problem. We put these points forward on a number of occasions, but unfortunately the Conservative controlled Council ignored our comments and insisted in bringing these charges in.



As can be seen from the photo, the residents came together to meet the Press and explain their concerns over the introduction of any charges.

We now understand that the Agreement between Fareham Council and English Heritage is almost ready for signing. Also that agreement is nearing completion with English Nature regarding the installation of parking charge points.

We believe that charges will be implemented in these two car parks in the very near future.

Recycling Centres

The County Council has lifted the one visit per week for residents taking waste to the household recycling centres. This also applies to the Port Solent site which is operated by Portsmouth City Council.

The requirement to book visits online will remain in place for the time being and residents will be able to book visits to suit their needs.

HAMPSHIRE LIBRARIES

There's 'more to explore' at your library says new Hampshire County Council campaign.

Pop in to your local branch to see what's on this autumn or visit Hampshire Libraries online to explore the expanding digital service.

For anyone with ill health, a disability or caring responsibilities, the library can come to you. This includes books in standard and large print alongside a wide range of audio books.

FLY TIPPING

Fareham Council has been successful in a prosecution at Portsmouth Magistrates Court against an individual who was fly tipping in Fareham.

The District Judge sentenced the offender to the maximum Community Order in the pre-sentence report, which was 300 hours of litter collection and ordered to pay £960 in costs.

If the perpetrator can be identified Fareham Council will always prosecute.



ASHLEY BROWN

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It is with disappointment that the appeal for development on the land to the east of Downend Road has been successful.

Local opposition was significant and many residents took the time to submit objections. Particular concern was drawn to the safety of Downend Road bridge and the pollution caused by queuing traffic at the A27 junction. Another concern was The Thicket and Cams Hill roads being used more frequently as rat runs.

The Inspector said "this is clearly a busy and well-used route, I saw nothing to give particular cause for concern". Many residents and myself do not share this optimism.

The need for housing is clear. Green field sites, often far from local infrastructure and with inadequate highway provision, appear to be the go to targets by developers within our borough.

Now Downend Road West is back in the Local Plan, it is safe to assume this site will conclude in a similar way. I guess the majority deserve the governments we vote for.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

This year Bill and Barbara Wright will be holding their usual magnificent christmas light spectacular in The Crossway.



They will be collecting for the local food bank as it generated so much interest last year, and hope that people will give generously to this cause.

NATASHA'S LAW

On 1st October new food labelling came into force which will help to protect consumers with allergies.

The new law requires foods which are classed as 'pre-packed for direct sale' to be labelled with full ingredients, including the allergens they contain.



PAUL WHITTLE

Resident - Shrubbery Close,
off White Hart Lane

Dear Councillor Price

I am writing to thank you for the support you give to residents in Portchester; in recent months I have seen how local people have appreciated your assistance in a range of matters. My family have seen first-hand your help with issues like trimming of overgrown trees, correction of street signage, support to local schools, information about planning issues, fighting for the coastal car parking situation ... and much more as well.

It is also a great idea to have the email newsletters on a regular and frequent basis with more immediate information and updates, thanks to Councillors Gerry and Jean Kelly for that too - I recommend neighbours to sign up and get it.

It was also good to see you all in action once more this year at the wonderful Portchester Gala, what a great occasion bringing the community together again!

I encourage other local Portchester people to connect with you and the great local council team when they need support; we are very lucky to have such a dedicated team here who seem to work to hard all year round for us. Thank you.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR PORTCHESTER

■ **Portchester Gala**

Our congratulations go to all at the Portchester Community Association for the organisation of the Portchester Gala at the castle on Saturday, 18th September. It was wonderful to see an estimated six thousand at the castle this year. The warm September weather proved to be much better than was expected.

ASSHETON COURT

Below is an artist's impression of the proposed new Assheton Court.



The current Assheton Court was built in 1971 and is now outdated. Fareham Council is proposing to replace it with a new "older persons' affordable housing scheme" which makes better use of this site to provide more, better quality homes.

This redevelopment would provide additional homes in a central location for shops, services, public transport and community groups to help ensure that residents do not become isolated. The proposals also outline that the new flats will be greener, more energy efficient and more accessible for elderly residents.

FERNEHAM HALL

Ferneham Hall closed its doors in January 2020 for the transformation works, but the project was put on hold later that year due to the pandemic. We are pleased to report that the work has now restarted which will see the multi-million-pound project replaced with a new arts and entertainment facility to be called 'Fareham Live'.

The budget has now increased for the works from £12.57 million to £13.35 million.

■ **Cranleigh Road**

The County Council are proposing to carry out lining and signage work on Cranleigh Road at the two bends, so as to highlight dangers at these points.

PORTCHESTER CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

This year the Christmas tree and the lights in the Portchester precinct will be switched on at 5.00pm on Friday, 3rd December by our Olympic medal winner Declan Brooks.

Local schools and choirs will be there to celebrate the start of the festive season.

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION

The collection of garden waste sacks will end between 6th - 17th December.

You can now call 01329 236100 to sign up for the new collection over the phone or visit the council website: www.fareham.gov.uk

There are two sizes of garden waste bin that you can choose from:

140 litre bin costs: an annual subscription of £50 plus a one-off bin purchase of £34.

240 litre bin costs: an annual subscription of £60 plus a one-off bin purchase of £36.

The bins will be collected on a 2-weekly basis.

MONTHLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Many residents are telling us that they are finding the monthly newsletters that we are sending out very helpful. The newsletters have lots of information about our Wards, including planning applications. If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter please send your email details to Cllr Gerry Kelly at: gkelly@fareham.gov.uk

Please be assured, we do not give your email address to anyone else, it is only used for sending out our monthly newsletters and complies with strict data protection regulations.

Our website is: <https://www.portchesterliberaldemocrats.com>

Council Surgery

We wish to remind you that we have now resumed our Council Surgeries on the first Saturday of each month between 10.30am and midday in the Library/Health Centre foyer.

Please come along for a chat with us.

ALTERATIONS ON THE A27 DELME TO DOWNEND JUNCTION

Hampshire Council Council has received grant money from the Government to enhance the A27 between the Delme roundabout and Downend Road junction so as to encourage more people to leave the car at home and use public transport, cycle, or walk for their local journeys.

Proposals are: (but are subject to change)

- Provision of a westbound bus lane and bus priority signals;
- Provision of a two-way dedicated cycle track;
- Installing a Toucan crossing at the Cams Hall Estate junction;
- Widening the northern footway to create a shared-use path between St Catherine's Way and the Downend Road junction;
- Providing cycle access to Cams Hill 'service road' and linking it to a shared-use path;
- Provision of a diagonal Toucan crossing at the Downend Road junction to Shearwater Avenue.

Waste of Money

Cash strapped Hampshire County Council have admitted they are spending nearly £1 million on upgrading video and sound equipment in their Council Chamber.

We know that the cramped venue in Winchester was used just four times a year for Council meetings before the pandemic, but not used since. There are better ventilated alternatives freely available for meetings in the Winchester complex.



We strongly believe that the Tory County Council is wasting money on this project when they reveal severe cuts such as £36M from social care and children's services.

PORTCHESTER PRECINCT CAR PARK

During the Summer we have had two encampments of travellers staying in the large precinct car park causing issues for both the adjoining residents and those normally using the car park.

These encampments take up a lot of Council officers time, incurring a lot of money to get them removed and cleaning up after their departure.

Roger has proposed to Fareham Council that height barriers be erected at the entrance and exit points to this large car park so as to prevent travellers gaining access. This proposal is going to the relevant committees for a decision.

INFRASTRUCTURE CYCLING AND WALKING PLAN (LCWIP) FOR FAREHAM

A survey has been carried out by Hampshire County Council to be ready for future national funding opportunities which will provide improvements in infrastructure and inspire people in healthy lifestyles.

Since the pandemic began, we have seen more people walking and cycling as their preferred means of travel to work and for leisure. We would like to improve walking and cycling facilities and networks to encourage this continuing trend both for the health and wellbeing advantages and for the clear environmental benefits in reducing the number of cars on the road.

FAREHAM GARDENS SCOOP TOP AWARDS

We congratulate Portchester Crematorium, Portchester Memorial Gardens for winning Gold Award in the South and South East Bloom Awards and the Borough Council open spaces Gold for Portchester Common. Red Barn Allotments also received a Level 4 - Thriving Award under Britain in Bloom "It's your Neighbourhood Awards".

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