# FAREHAM EAST & WALLINGTON SPRING 2018 Www.farehamlibdems.org.uk FAREHAM needs a Strong Opposition Make Your voice heard on 3 May



This is an important time for Fareham as the new Local Plan is being debated and residents views are being sought.

# On Planning, we are continually questioning how decisions are reached and arguing for transparency.

Residents justifiably complain to us of a lack of infrastructure accompanying new developments. *Maryam and Katrina* want to take a more assertive approach when developers say that it is not "viable" for them to provide affordable housing. We believe our Council should lobby central government to lift the borrowing limits for councils to build housing which is actually suited to the needs of the residents of our borough. Community Hospital



#### Same Day Access to a GP ?

# More funding is still needed for both Health and Social care.

We recognise that it makes sense to share resources amongst a number of practices. The intention is also to allow practices to focus more attention on patients with complex needs.

We believe however, that new models of service provision alone cannot bridge the gap between need and the available funding.

In the case of Fareham Community Hospital (FCH), there remains the big issue of accessibility, how do you get there when it is not served by any buses?

Since Councillor, *Dr Maryam Brady* pressed for its restoration, Fareham Council is considering options to provide a bus service to the hospital.

Working hard for YOU all year round

# **Taking Local Action for YOU**

# A Winter's Tale ?

#### We discussed with the Police and FBC's Community Action Team, your concerns about rough sleepers.

The Post Office fenced off their land in front of their office but residents are now concerned about the increase in 'homeless' people sitting around other areas of the town centre.



#### The **Severe Weather Emergency Protocol** is the Council's emergency plan for helping homeless people in cold weather. It comes into force when temperatures are below freezing on three consecutive nights.

The charity "*Two Saints*" runs the hostel at 101 Gosport Rd. It provides short term accommodation and help for 'homeless' people from Fareham and Gosport.

*Maryam* spoke with the housing team about funding a *regular, temporary expansion* through the winter, of the hostel's capacity.

We are pleased to be able to say that a four-month trial expansion, jointly funded by Fareham and Gosport has been underway since December.

# Are you concerned about a homeless person?

*Contact the hostel on* 01329 281995 or *StreetLink* 

## **Action for a Safe Corner**

#### Sharon Peters, of Westborn Rd, and other

**residents** complained to us that visibility for traffic at the corner of Osborn Rd and High St was poor and pedestrians attempting to cross the road could not see oncoming traffic.

We worked with Council Officers so the bushes and shrubs on this corner have recently received a Spring Trim by the Streetscene



department of Fareham Council.

At *Katrina's* suggestion, the work was carried out in advance of the bird nesting season of the year.

The area now not only looks trim and well cared for but is *safer for all*.

# **Commercial Bait Digging**

Several residents have contacted us with concerns about large-scale bait digging occurring within the creek. This activity affects wildlife including migrating birds.

Digging for bait in Fareham Creek is not illegal, as long as it is not done on a commercial basis.

As previously, we have been working closely with the authorities to find a solution, however it remains difficult for

them to take action in this area without some evidence.

Notices are in place around the creek detailing what can and cannot be conducted in the area.



### What is StreetLink?

If you are concerned about someone sleeping rough, You can send an alert to *StreetLink* by visiting: *www.streetlink.org.uk* or by calling: 0300 500 0914.

Details provided by a member of the public are sent to FBC or "Two Saints" so they can help connect the person to local services and support.

# **Lib-Dems Always Have Time for YOU**

### **Action on Play Areas**

#### Despite what you may have read

**elsewhere**, we believe the Council is doing a fine job, with limited resources, providing good quality play areas for our children.

There is an ongoing *5-year* programme to repair and improve *all 43 play areas* for young people up to age 15.

Working alongside Council Leisure & Community officers, *Katrina* successfully lobbied for extra equipment for younger children to be fitted to *Bath Lane recreation* 



*ground*. This included a stand alone goal post and a toddlers' climbing frame, which were fitted in 2015. The programme allows for a further upgrade in 2019/20.

#### We are delighted to be able to report that refurbishment of the Eastern Parade play area has been brought forward to 2018/19.

Whilst this play area is unlikely to be extended, a consultation is expected to take place this summer. School children at Redlands school and local residents will be asked to propose improvements that they would like to see in the play area, including provision of new or different equipment.



The **West St**, town centre play area is also due for an improvement in 2022/23.

### **Action on Sewage**

Residents of Drift Road, Wallington have suffered their road being regularly blocked by sewage tankers for far too long.

*Katrina and Maryam* have been "on the case" for months, working with Council Officers to find out who is responsible for fixing the fault in the sewage system close to Drift Road.

Currently the stop-gap remedy involving weekly visits by a drain clearing vehicle, as shown below, is all that keeps homes in the area from being flooded with sewage !



Clearly this is not a sustainable solution and after *Katrina's* further request for action, a response has been received from Southern Water who have reported that:

- Tanker visits should be restricted to 9am-5pm on Fridays, avoiding the need for late night attendance.
- The County Sewerage Engineer has been assigned the task of finding a solution and investigations have been undertaken and are ongoing.
- To date, the root cause has not been identified. The property developer has been contacted to determine how the new houses in Delme Drive were connected to the main sewer.
- Southern Water have given an undertaking to keep us, your Ward Councillors, up to date with progress.

Sadly the inconvenience caused by the tankers weekly visits is necessary to minimise the risk of blockages and potential flooding from the sewers in the vicinity.

#### The NHS ?

Our National Health Service and Social Care is in crisis. That's why the Liberal Democrats are fighting to put an extra penny on the pound on income tax to fund the NHS & Social Care. That works out around the price of a cup of coffee a week for the average person. Visit

www.libdems.org.uk/save-our-nhs for more on this.

#### **Cold Calling Ban !**

Lib Dems campaigned to end cold-calling in relation to pensions, claims management and other financial services. The Government have now **committed to a total ban** on pensions cold-calling, as well as prohibitions on other forms of coldcalling if these are shown to be detrimental.

Visit: www.libdemvoice.org/ 56929-56929.html for more on this story

# **Council Tax Rise**

We support an increase of Council Tax simply because there are very few other means available to Local Authorities to pay for the services on which we all rely.



We believe that investing in commercial and other property, both within and outside the Borough, may be the government's preferred way of keeping council tax low but there are significant risks involved in such dealings.

*Katrina & Maryam* want to see incentives brought forward to reduce the number of empty homes, allowing more scope for councils to afford tax relief for residents on low incomes.

# **Contact the team**

The Local Lib Dem team want to hear from you on any issue, big or small that you'd like help with.

Now that the Westbury Manor refurbishment is complete, we are again holding Councillor surgeries from 1030 to 1130 on the first Saturday of each month.



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NAME	
EMAIL	
ADDRESS	



I can give about 1 hour a month to deliver leaflets in my area.

I would like to display a poster at the next election to show my support for the Liberal Democrats.

I would like to join the Liberal Democrats

Your Comments:

Send your comments to FREEPOST, RSZA-EELS-H	КТК
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21 Furzehall Ave, Fareham, PO16 8UD

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