



# Safe place to meet?

## Council plans to build teen shelter for the village

Fareham Council is planning to erect a Teen Shelter in Stubbington. This follows a petition from local youngsters asking for a place where they could meet informally.

The Council will consult residents about the best site for the shelter - probably in the Recreation Ground - the *Ad Lib* team will be happy to pass on your views, balancing the needs of our youngsters and the interests of people living nearby.

And we're still seeking your opinion on another idea to improve the Rec. There's been a favourable response to the idea of a drinking fountain/water filling station to reduce dependence on plastic bottles.

(Who can forget the *Blue Planet* film of birds and sea creatures dying because the oceans are choked with waste plastic?)

Several councils around the country are showing an interest in reviving drinking



fountains, and Lib Dems are pressing Fareham to back the idea, as highlighted in our Autumn editions of *Ad Lib*. We'd like your suggestions of where to site one.

Above: Hill Head Lib Dem campaigner Alex Brims and Stubbington Councillor Jim Forrest check out the Recreation Ground for possible sites for a teen shelter.

Inset: An example of a teen shelter. Closed or open-side versions are available

## Old Street: Builders slip in an unwelcome Christmas gift

PLANS for some 150 houses on land to the west of Old Street have now been submitted.

Our autumn issues warned this was likely, and we alerted hundreds of residents through emails and our Facebook page when the plans were posted on the Council's website.

The deadline for comments was January 12 - so the timing of the application just before the Christmas break meant the time available for many residents to voice their views was very limited.

You can see the application - ref P/17/1451/OA - at [www.fareham.gov.uk](http://www.fareham.gov.uk)

Fareham Council does not support the application. The

land is part of the Countryside Gap, even under the revised Local Plan now being considered.

But a Government inspector



over-ruled the Council's refusal of a similar-sized scheme in Portchester.

We hope that the importance of this site as a buffer for the nationally important Titchfield Haven nature reserve will protect it from a similar fate.

## NHS: Quicker appointments - but can you get there?

Lib Dems are pressing Fareham Council to look at options to restore a bus service to the Community Hospital at Locks Heath.

A new system to assess the urgency of consultations means some patients may be able to have same-day appointments at the hospital if their local surgery cannot offer them.

But Lib Dem councillor Maryam Brady pointed out that people with mobility problems have difficulty getting there.

The hospital had a bus service when it opened, and Lib Dems have always

argued that it was withdrawn too soon and patient numbers are now growing.

The new housing for elderly people being built alongside the Community Hospital should also provide new potential passengers.

Surely one of the X4/X5 Southampton routes could be tweaked to include a loop to the hospital for some journeys.



Fareham Community Hospital

## Long wait at crossing

SOME months ago, the time pedestrians have to wait at the Burnt House Lane Pelican crossing was extended.

This was initially done to reduce traffic queues during roadworks in the area.

But the change was made permanent after the roadworks ended, without any consultation with residents.

Many people have asked us if the shorter waiting time can be restored. What do you think? Give us your views at the address below.



How long do you have to wait?

## Crumbling pavements

ALEX Brims has written to the County Council about the poor state of some of the pavements on roads off Plymouth Drive.

A resident pointed out that about five years ago many local pavements were resurfaced - but not all.

Many of those pavements are now in poor condition with broken tarmac, raised iron work and kerb edges and with large puddles which are particularly dangerous for the elderly in icy conditions. We're checking whether there's a programme to resurface them.



Alex Brims, right, and local resident Charles Cotton check out pavements.



## A case for cameras?

Flashing speed limit reminder signs have been in action recently at sites in Crofton.

We've asked if figures are available for the number of times they've been activated by vehicles exceeding 30mph, in which locations and in which directions.

And we'll ask if the results justify the use of speed cameras with fines for those who have ignored the warnings.

Mays Lane, /Peak Lane, Gosport Road, Longfield Avenue and Titchfield Road are particularly prone to excess speed.



## Solving a thorny problem

There were some really nasty thorns on this shrub overhanging the pavement from the Titchfield Road electricity sub-station.



Overgrown pavement in Titchfield Road

Jim Forrest reported it to the Highways team at the County Council, and within a few days it had been pruned to leave the pavement clear of obstruction. The eyesore patch of weeds - also belonging to the electricity board - which had



Tidied after a report by the Ad Lib team

spoiled the outlook of a neighbour's garden was cleared at the same time.

You can report pavement obstructions like this online through an interactive map at [Hants.gov.uk](http://Hants.gov.uk)

## Pointing way to school

We're backing staff at Crofton Hammond School who asked local councillors if the sign at the Bells Lane end of Mancroft Avenue could be altered to include the distance to the school entrance - some 400 yards.

This followed an incident when an emergency vehicle was unable to find the school, which is set back from the road.



## Planning updates

### LIDL: Fight to protect jobs

LIDL is being allowed to demolish its existing store in Newgate Lane, and the adjoining Apex Centre business units, to enable them to build a bigger store.

Three of the Planning Committee members voted against the proposal. They had tried to insist that the present store could not be demolished until the businesses in the Apex Centre are relocated.

But officers advised that planning rules would not allow such a condition.

Lidl say they will help the companies relocate - let's hope they keep that promise, because there are some high quality products being made there, providing work, and work experience, for engineering students at CEMAST.

Delivery times to the new store will be limited, to help ease congestion.

### IFA2: Safety and noise tackled

IFA2, the inter-connector project at Daedalus, took a step closer at recent Council meetings.

The plans have been modified, reducing the size of the building and improving landscaping proposals to reduce its impact.

Safety concerns have been addressed, with live tests to ensure aircraft instruments would not be affected, and there are important

conditions in the planning permission to prevent excessive noise.

The plan will fund a swathe of open space and woodland stretching from Southways to Peel Common and including a children's play area and a raised observation area.

We'll continue to monitor the project to ensure it works to the benefit of local residents.

## Something to say? Write, call or email us

Name/s .....  
 Address.....  
 Phone .....  
 E-mail.....  
 My local issue is ...



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The Ad Lib team, working for you all year round