

FOCUS December 2020



Stubbington and Hill Head Liberal Democrat Newsletter

Speak up now to shape Fareham



Local Plan ... it's your future
The big issues residents must consider
Liberal Democrats

Jobs, Shops, Road, Countryside...
We need to get the balance right

See Jim and Jimmy's video at www.crofton.focusteam.org.uk

Public consultation on Fareham's Local Plan will close soon. Fareham Today gives advice and links on how to make comments.

It's worth making the effort if you care about our town's future. Your comments will be read by a Government planning inspector who will rule on the plan.

But to carry weight with the inspector, they must be based on one of three grounds: **Compliance** with planning laws, **Soundness** in meeting the needs of the area within national planning policies, and **Co-operation** with other councils and public bodies.

Most public attention on planning focuses on house-

building.

But remember that urbanisation comes through roads, supermarkets and industrial units as well as streets and homes.

We all want to preserve the best features of our immediate surroundings as much as

possible. But the quality of our home area depends on the health and prosperity of our wider community.

As Liberal Democrats, we seek to ensure that Fareham's Local Plan is the best it can be for all of Fareham's people.

More on the Local Plan inside >

Battle over Peel Common

One major change from earlier drafts of the Local Plan is that the **land east of the re-routed Newgate Lane is restored to the Strategic Gap** between Stubbington and the Fareham/Gosport urban area.

But an appeal hearing starts

in January about the rejected plans for housing at Peel Common - the countryside between the new and old course of Newgate Lane. This was always designated as Strategic Gap, and we hope the appeal will be refused.

Neighbours brighten up their corner

The open space at Puffin Crescent is looking a lot brighter, thanks to local residents and business..

Resident Allan Priestley asked Councillor Jim Forrest if residents could plant flowers at the edge of the green, which was being ploughed up by cars parking or turning.

Fareham Council's gardens chief backed the idea, and Allan went to work with neighbour

Graeme Sign, helped by a donation of plants from The Fruit Basket in Stubbington Green.

Jim Forrest says: "Well done Graeme, Allan and The Fruit Basket. We're really lucky in Hill Head and Stubbington to have so many people prepared to dig in and keep our village beautiful."

Allan Priestley, left and Graeme Sign at the new garden



A coast to treasure

Walking on Hill Head's beach, prom and mudflats has been a blessing in times of lockdown, says *Bob Seymour of the Focus team.*

But our shore is also home to a wealth of life both on, around and beneath the surface. All need our help to keep the Solent healthy.

The shellfish are best left in the sands to filter pollutants and keep the Solent's water

clean. The many visiting birds really appreciate not being disturbed by a dog off its lead.

Leaving only your footprints in the sand and your rubbish in the bins keeps it clean and safe for us all to enjoy.

Nurturing a natural asset we can enjoy and take pride in is another local cause Liberal Democrats promote. We support the efforts of all who work hard to maintain it for us.

More stories online at www.crofton.focusteam.org.uk

Survey: What you said



Our survey in the Summer Focus was conducted across Fareham as well as in Stubbington and Hill Head. See the results at farehamlibdems.org.uk

Contact your nearest Focus team member

■ HAVE YOUR SAY



Councillor Jim Forrest
4 Hill Head Road
☎ 01329 511418



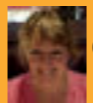
Jimmy Roberts
115 Gosport Road
☎ 07393 304498

Email Jim and Jimmy at:
croftonld@gmail.com



Bob Seymour
7 Halletts Close

Di Morgan-Rawes
5 Westways



Carole Stone
60 Marks Tey Road

We would like to keep you updated with campaigns and regular local information. Please provide your email and/or phone number and tick to give us your consent.

Name:

Address

My issue is:

Tick if we can keep you updated by email?

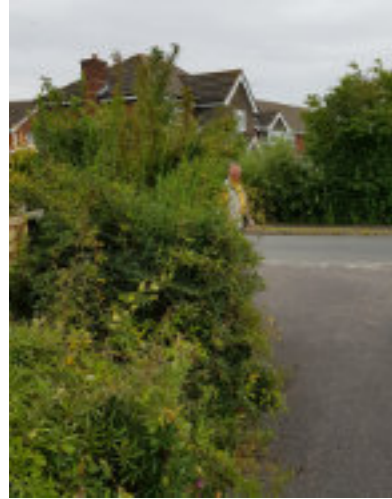
Email address

Tick if we can keep you updated by phone?

Phone:



Safer view at Country View



Fast-growing shrubs have made pedestrians invisible to drivers at the corner of Country Way, as well as obscuring the nameplate.

The Council agreed to replace them with a grass verge, after the Focus team asked residents for the most acceptable solution.

Tidy-up needed

Jimmy Roberts has reported broken door hinges on the junction box beside the bus turning lane which leave wiring exposed.



It looks as if it has been patched with gaffer tape, totally inadequate protection.

The St Marys Road nameplate at the junction with Green Road has been badly damaged and needs replacing.



Should residents pay to take kids to the beach?

Fareham Council plans to charge for parking at seafront car parks, including those in Hill Head.

Jim Forrest and others argued that the proposed charges were too high for parents and other local people who regularly visit the shore for whole mornings and afternoons in the summer.

The Council's Executive agreed to reduce them.

But Lib Dems say £6 for a full day is still too high for regular visitors - a residents' season ticket at a greatly reduced rate would be fairer to local Council Tax payers.

The Executive also dropped a plan to put height limits at the Salterns and Hove To car parks, which would have caused problems for sailors bringing boats to their clubs.

Jim Forrest argued that dragons' teeth to protect the grass surrounds would be enough protection against abuse to the green space by a minority of motor-home owners.



Solar panels here would cut the need for charges and could even cut council tax

Inset: Dragons teeth were quickly installed, but no sign yet of much-needed cycle racks

Why not harness the sun to pay?

Ticket machines at seaside car parks will be solar-powered - not surprising when we have the highest sunshine-rate in the country.

But why not use the sun to earn revenue for the Council without cost to residents?

Lib Dem-run South Cambridgeshire has installed

solar panels over its surface car parks - many French superstores do this.

The power generated could be used for charging electric vehicles, or sold to the National Grid.

And it would be in line with the Council's pledge to fight the Climate Emergency.

Cycling news: Plea for Burnt House Lane, praise for the Co-op

We've asked Meon Cross School if they can restore the lockable bollards in old Burnt House Lane.

They were installed when the school improved the surface so that pupils could walk safely to their new playing fields.

The bollards allowed the Council's bin lorries to travel between the two sections of

Burnt House lane, while stopping other vehicles from using it as a rat run.

But they were damaged, and replaced by plastic barriers, which sometimes fall and injure cyclists.

Jimmy Roberts says: "A resident who uses a tandem with her young child was injured when trying to steer round the barrier."



Meg Lampard shows Jimmy the barriers, hard to get round on the tandem she rides with her child

More on the Local Plan:

New care home in Hill Head?

Some residents have received flyers from a company proposing to build a 68-bed care home at the Hammond Industrial estate off Stubbington Lane.

The site is suggested in the Local Plan as suitable for such a development.

But a planning application would still have to be submitted in the normal way, and permission would depend on criteria such as transport access, building heights and impact on neighbouring properties.



Protection for village shops

Councillor Jim Forrest persuaded Fareham Council to upgrade Stubbington Green from "Local Centre" to "District Centre" in the debate on the Local Plan.

Jim says: "This will give Stubbington's shops increased protection under a section of the draft plan, which says: 'Development that would significantly harm the vitality and viability of a defined centre or small parade will not be permitted'."

"Unlike a Local Centre, The definition of a District Centre includes provision of day to day food and grocery shopping facilities

"So any proposal for a change of use of our essential shops would be unlikely to be permitted."

Top marks and thank you to Co-op management - they installed bike stands at their Welcome store in Cuckoo Lane within days of a request from Focus team member Alex Brims(Inset).

Sandra Abrams and Jimmy Roberts say it will be a boon to the many people switching from cars to bikes for local shopping.

