



PORTCHESTER

SEPTEMBER 2011

EAST AND WEST WARDS

NEWS

YOUR PORTCHESTER TEAM

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Welcome to our "new look" Newsletter

After a number of years producing a single sheet Newsletter, we have decided to change the style to this new 4 page format which we hope you will find more interesting and user friendly.

Portchester Community Centre

We are very pleased to advise you that the proposed new Community Centre is progressing well having been granted planning permission on 27th July.

Shown here is an artist's impression of how the new Centre will look. We are still very concerned that there will be a lack of space within the new building. The Borough Council promised that we would have a Centre of 900 square metres whereas the proposal is only about 840 square metres, which is a shortfall of 60 square metres. Even at 900 square metres the Centre would have been approximately 250 square metres smaller than the existing Community Centre when the upstairs rooms were in use.

The extra cost to provide the extra 250 square metres is about £750,000 and as a community we need to find ways of raising this very large amount of money. We need to be looking to the National Lottery and big business and also the Local Councils to provide this extra money. We will do our bit to try to achieve this aim. If you have any ideas or contacts with large companies who may be prepared to donate to this worthy fund, then please let us know. We are concerned that without the extension the Community Centre will not be able to provide all of the facilities that we all know are needed in Portchester.



See inside for more local news and information about our area.

Vandalism at Castle Street Play Area

David is seen here looking at the damaged play area and has been liaising with Officers to make the area safe.

In late July a large area of safety base (about 1 metre by 0.5 metre with a thickness of 8 cm) was HACKED UP and thrown onto the surrounding grassed area.

In this financial year the Council has no more funds available for repairs to play areas and as the whole of the area has now to be replaced the damaged area has been temporarily filled with tarmac.

Vandalism costs us all money, deprives us of services and puts us all in danger.



Strategic Development Area

Fareham Borough Council has approved the Core Strategy which sets out for the next 15 years where new housing and businesses will be built as well as highlighting areas which will be protected from future development. This includes the development of a new community to the north of Fareham and development at the old Cold East Hospital site and HMS Daedalus site. The timescale for the north of Fareham Development is as follows.

Autumn 2011 to Spring 2012	Community engagement on options for the new community
Summer 2012	Consultation on draft Area Action Plan for new community
Spring 2013	Examination in Public on Area Action Plan for new community
Autumn 2013	Area Action Plan for new community adopted

The developers of the site are currently working on the following timescales:

2013	Outline planning permission for the new community sought
2014	Detailed planning permission and infrastructure sought
2014	Preparation of site starts
2016	Development of housing and other facilities

The Green Machine

Fareham Borough Council has purchased a small electrically powered vehicle which is intended for general use in and around Fareham town centre for grounds maintenance and litter collection. The vehicle is powered entirely by electricity and it has zero emissions, therefore the road fund licence is free.

British Red Cross

British Red Cross needs volunteers to work two hours per fortnight (mornings) in their Medical Loan Department at the rear of Portchester Health Centre. For details either call in or telephone 02392 382213.

Fareham Civic Offices

At this year's Budget Fixing Meeting, the Liberal Democrats proposed that solar panels be installed on all of our Civic buildings. This proposal was rejected by the Tory majority. A few months later they came forward and proposed that these panels should be installed on the Civic Offices, the Depot, Fareham Leisure Centre and Sheltered Housing Schemes at Downing Court and Barnfield Court. We are disappointed that they did not take up our original suggestion, however we are pleased that they have now supported our idea.



LIBERAL DEMOCRATS - We Always Have Time to Listen To You

Two beneficial issues at Wicor Recreation Ground

- Wicor changing rooms are to be demolished and replaced with a modern facility that will meet the minimum requirements of the Football Foundation. This work is scheduled for completion in December 2012.
- Green spaces and playing fields are the heart of any community. The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge provides the opportunity to ensure these outdoor spaces are guaranteed for future generations. The Borough Council have been successful in securing Wicor Recreation Ground as a Field in Trust and it is now permanently protected as a Queen Elizabeth II Playing Area.



Home Zone

Chris has been liaising with the County Council concerning the issue of the repair and replacement of the rotting timbers in the Home Zone. He understands that the contractor who originally carried out the work has been appointed to carry out the remedial work. The company has ordered the replacement sleepers and the work therefore should be carried out in the near future.

Anson Grove

Roger has been involved in the issues at Anson Grove where SSE gained access in maintaining the power lines. He has achieved that in future before any access to Council land is granted, the Council will agree with the contractor a method of access and reinstatement.

Regarding Anson Grove, the Council Officers agree that the appearance of the access is not satisfactory and they have contacted Dalcour Maclaren to contribute to the cost of gap filling/planting in the cleared entrance point. If this financial contribution is unsuccessful the Council will then undertake the planting with Hawthorn based on a mix of 60/80cm and 90/120cm specification to improve the appearance of the site and this work will be undertaken in mid-late October.



AFC Portchester

Roger is pleased to have initiated the application for a Queen's Award to Portchester AFC and that it has now been granted. AFC Portchester is one of 130 winners of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the MBE for groups of volunteers who work in their local community for the benefit of others. This is a prestigious UK National Honour.

Recent LIBDEM Survey Results

During the last months we have been carrying out a Survey of Portchester residents' views. The main concerns are: 1. Green Preservation; 2. Planning; and 3. Anti-social behaviour. 36% were not satisfied on litter cleaning. Also more youth club facilities were required for our younger residents. The other main issues were the need for a weekly bin collection, parking charges and the need for household collection of glass and food. We are continuing with the Survey.

Items for your Information

- **Council Advice Surgery** - Our Council Surgery will be held in the foyer of the Portchester Health Centre/Library on 17th September, 15th October and 19th November between 10.30 am and 12 Noon. As from January 2012 our Surgery will be held on the first Saturday of the month.
- **Fareham Community Action Meetings** - The next meeting of the Portchester CATs will be held at the Portchester Parish Hall on Tuesday, 25th October at 7.00 pm .
- **E Panels** - Fareham Borough Council operates two consultation E Panels, one for adults and the other for 13-19 year olds. If you are interested in becoming a member you can register via www.fareham.gov.uk/consultation.
- **Fareham Borough Council Underspend** - In the year ending 31st March 2011 the Council underspent by £543,806.
- **Cams Community Club** - This Club is held at Cams School and caters for the retired residents of Fareham. It is affordable, and provides fun and sociable activities. For further information telephone 01329 231641 between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm.
- **Apprenticeships** - Fareham Borough Council has recognised the need to train young people and therefore has identified 13 positions in a number of areas suitable for apprenticeships. These positions were advertised earlier this year and commencement of placements will take effect week beginning 5th September.
- **Donation** - Roger has personally donated £2,000 to Portchester Community Centre. This gift will be used to provide seating to commemorate his 40th year as a Borough Councillor.
- **Grant** - Hampshire County Council has awarded a grant of £10,000 to help preserve the history of the Royal Armouries at Fort Nelson in Fareham, this supports the £3.5 million redevelopment.

Let us know what YOU think ...

Local Liberal Democrat Team are always interested in any ideas to improve our area. If you have any suggestions or even a problem we might be able to help with, please use the space below to let us know.

Name:

Address:

.....

Phone:

Please provide your Telephone Number

Can you help the local Portchester News team?

- I will help deliver Portchester News in my area/street
- I want to join the Liberal Democrats
- I wish to give a donation to local funds
- I will display a poster at election time

Please return to one of your Portchester

Local Liberal Democrat Team

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS - Keeping in Touch, All Year Round