



# Fareham Youth Council

## Notes of Annual General Meeting and Quiz a Councillor

<b>Date</b>	16.07.14
<b>Time</b>	4:30pm
<b>Venue</b>	Fareham, Civic Offices
<b>Present</b>	Fareham Youth Council, Councillor Trevor Cartwright (Youth Champion), Councillors, representatives from Y Services and Henry Cort

### Welcome

Fareham Youth Council gave a short presentation on who they are, what the youth council do and highlighted some of their achievements throughout the past year, including presenting to the Welborne Standing Conference, promoting themselves at Council Connect, having tea with the Mayor and helping out at SNAP Disco.

They also told the audience what they hope to achieve in the future and advised the young people how they can join.

## **Quiz a Councillor**

Young people had the chance to ask Councillor Cartwright questions on local issues effecting young people, such as feeling safe in the Borough, open spaces and the need for places that young people can to go.

**Q.** How safe is Fareham and what has the council done to make it safer?

**A.** I am Executive Member for Public Protection and I am Chair of Fareham Community Safety Partnership. We put on SNAP discos for young people, and regularly meet with sergeants to target hot spots in Fareham. We have also carried out Test Purchasing Operations in which the Police send young people to shops to see if they serve alcohol to under 18's.

We are the 3<sup>rd</sup> safest area in Hampshire so we are doing well.

Our new priorities include reducing domestic abuse, crime and youth offending.

**Q.** Could you put a pedestrian crossing on Warsash Road?

**A.** This comes up a lot but it falls under Hampshire County Council. In order to install a crossing, it has to meet criteria. Unfortunately Warsash Road doesn't meet that criteria.

**Q.** Why did you choose to become a Councillor?

**A.** It was something that I wanted to do later in life. I was interested in local politics in Warsash, so I stood for election in 2000 and here I am! I enjoy meeting people, helping them, solving problems. It's quite a diverse job.

**Q.** What are the reasons behind the cinema at Whiteley?

**A.** Whitley is split in two halves with Fareham. Winchester City Council decided that a cinema would bring more people to the area.

**Q.** Is there going to be funding for Youth Clubs next year?

**A.** Funding comes from Hampshire County Council and it is very difficult to get.

Cllr Evans – Funding for Youth Clubs is small- the lowest in the country. It is unlikely that there will be youth provision next year.

Cllr Mrs Hockley – Funding is dreadful and has been for years – the only way to keep Youth Clubs going is if we get funding. We will do everything we can to ensure existing clubs will run at the moment. We are lucky with what we have now.

**Q.** Can we have cricket nets, Skate Park or recreation ground in Warsash?

**A.** We have Warsash Common; unfortunately there is no money for a skate park at the moment. There is one at Wicor, Stubbington, Locks Heath and Fareham.

Cllr Ford – To have cricket nets we need a cricket club, but there isn't one in Warsash.

**Q.** Can you add a park to Locks Heath Centre?

**A.** We only own part of it, New River Retail own the rest so it would be up to them.

**Q.** How will you stop graffiti at the new skate park in Fareham?

**A.** We rely on you guys to report it to us if you see anyone doing it. There are ways of channelling it such as graffiti boards like in Wicor, which are set up specifically for that purpose.

**Q.** How do councillors affect local decisions?

**A.** It goes through the Executive which is made up of six councillors, including one who is appointed as the Executive Leader. It is responsible for almost all the functions and services of the Council. Decisions go through the Executive for them to discuss and debate and then the decision is made.

**Q.** How is the outdoor gym equipment maintained?

**A.** It is made of hard wearing metal so it won't take much maintenance.

**Q.** How are the improvements to Park Lane going to create a safe environment?

**A.** It will be a safe area for young people, we are moving the play area and skate park away from under the trees.

**Q.** How does the local council interact with the government?

**A.** Mark Hoban is the MP for Fareham and we have Hampshire County Councillors at Fareham so we liaise with them. The national government tells us what needs to be done so we have to do it.

Fareham is made up of 31 councillors including:

Conservative - 23 Councillors

Liberal Democrats - 5 Councillors

Independent - 2 Councillors

United Kingdom Independence Party - 1 Councillor

**Q.** How was Park Lane first proposed?

**A.** We took the decision to look at the whole borough and worked our way through to find out what was needed. We then consulted with residents and came to the conclusion that we needed to improve that area.

**Q.** Could we have a Play Zone or something similar in Fareham?

**A.** We can't do anything as a council, it is down to businesses.

**Q.** Are there any new ideas for Locks Heath?

**A.** We are taking over the land at Coldeast, a new swimming pool and fitness centre is planned, allotments, community facilities and a woodland walk are all something that will be coming soon to the area.

**Q.** How has the council bridged a gap between them and the youth?

**A.** We consult with the Youth Council, and the Community Safety Partnership run Access All Areas in the summer, which is free activities for 11-17 years olds.

**Q.** Once we get too old for the Youth Council, how else can we get involved?

**A.** There is a consultations page on our website where you can have your say on local issues. You can also join the e-panel when you are 18. Politics can influence what is going on in your area and it is important to get young people involved.

**Q.** What party are you in and why?

**A.** I am part of the Conservative party because it is the party that was most appropriate to me. They are the lead party and it has also been an area that appeals to me and that I am most interested in.

**Q.** What support is there for teenagers under 16? Are there any job opportunities at the council?

**A.** The council do offer apprenticeships to young people in a range of different departments, some of which have ended up getting full time jobs out of. You can also speak to school governors who can help.

**Q.** What does Fareham hold for the future of youths?

**A.** Welborne is being planned which is a new town including up to 6000 homes, community facilities, schools, and shops. It is difficult to pin point but we as a council need to make sure we are being prosperous, doing the right thing and encouraging people into the area.