

Autumn 2022

Fareham TODAY

Funding available - up to
£25,000 FREE energy-
efficiency improvements
for eligible homes as part
of the 'Warmer Homes'
programme.



FAREHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

A message from the Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council, Councillor Seán Woodward

Welcome to the autumn issue of Fareham Today. After the driest and hottest summer on record, I for one am looking forward to the cooler and more colourful autumn months. We've been working hard over the summer and this issue is packed full of just some of the things we have been doing as well as what we have planned for the future.

I am delighted to announce the winners of the Fareham In Bloom 2022 competition on pages four and five. The standard this year was incredibly high as always, but it made judging the winners extremely difficult. I am sure you will agree that the winners must have worked extremely hard to make such impressive gardens and outdoor spaces.

Pages six and seven introduce our new Warmer Homes programme. This offers eligible residents up to £25,000 of free energy-efficiency improvements for their home, which is really worthwhile with energy bills and the cost-of-living soaring. You can also sign up to the Solar Together scheme, back for another year to offer reduced-cost solar panels. Residents can find out more about this, as well as how the Council is working toward becoming carbon neutral, on pages 12 and 13.

We had a fantastic programme of events for all the family over the summer and pages 10 and 11 show a heart-warming roundup of all of the activities. We also have even more events planned for the months ahead, such as our Nutcracker Christmas Lights event which you can find on page 3. Speaking of fantastic events, turn to page 8 for the latest news on our new community arts and entertainment venue, Fareham Live. We are all very pleased that remodelling work is finally underway and excited about the theatre, music, art and community events to come once it has opened its doors in 2024.

As always, if you would like to share your thoughts on how we can continue to improve the Borough that we all share, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Seán Woodward



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Fareham Borough Council

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SATURDAY 19TH NOV



Nutcracker Christmas!

Our Christmas lights switch-on is a free event for all the family, with festive gift stalls, delicious food, entertainers, fun fair rides and a special finale show.

The theme for 2022 is 'The Nutcracker' – the classic story of a little girl who befriends a nutcracker, which comes to life on Christmas Eve and wages a battle against an evil Mouse King.

The Christmas lights will be switched on at 5.30pm by the Mayor of Fareham, Cllr Mike Ford, and then there will be a very special finale show to end the day's events which is not to be missed.

So put the date in your diary and keep an eye on our website and social media pages for further details as the big day gets closer!



Find out more and check out the timetable of events at:
www.fareham.gov.uk/christmaslights



OUR WINNERS!

We are delighted to announce the winners of this year's Virtual Fareham in Bloom competition.

Green-fingered residents were invited to enter by submitting a photo for one of six categories online.

A member of the judging panel, along with a community volunteer, visited the two gardens that received the highest number of votes from the public in five of the six categories. Entries in the 'Something Small' category were judged purely on the photo and description submitted.

Winners will be invited to a tea party in the Mayor's Parlour to receive their prize and certificate. Well done to all the runners-up, who will also receive a prize in the post.

The competition was once again proudly sponsored by **St Margaret's Nursery** and **Fareham Shopping Centre**.



Best Garden
**Paul & Kay
Burnham**

Community
Floral Display
Brett Wylde



Sustainable
Garden
Adey Gardenier

Commercial
**Ranvilles
Nursing Home**



Young
Green Fingers
Levison Johnstone



Something
Small
Andrew Hurst



Best Garden



Commercial



Community Floral Display



Something Small



Young Green Fingers



Sustainable Garden



The entries from the winners and runners-up can be viewed at: www.fareham.gov.uk/inbloom

Winter warmer

Get **FREE** energy-efficiency home improvements



Scan me!

We have been awarded funding from the Government's Sustainable Warmth competition, to offer fully-funded energy-efficiency improvements for eligible homes as part of the 'Warmer Homes' programme.

Funding under the Warmer Homes programme is available until March 2023, for the following energy efficiency measures:

Improved insulation

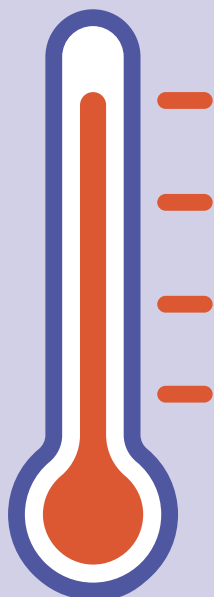
Air Source Heat Pumps

Solar PV panels

If your home is connected to the gas network, funding of up to **£10,000** is available. If your home is not on the gas network, funding of up to **£25,000** is available.

The Warmer Homes programme is available to owner occupiers and private rental tenants only. If you are a private rental tenant, your landlord will be required to make a financial contribution and give consent for the improvements. If you are a landlord, your tenant will be required to give consent for the improvements and you will be required to make a financial contribution.

Funding availability through the programme is subject to eligibility, technical feasibility and your home's EPC rating.



**up to
£10,000**

If your home is connected to the gas network

**up to
£25,000**

If your home is not connected to the gas network

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

You may qualify for the funding if you meet the following criteria:

- **Your home has an EPC rating of E, F or G (limited funding is also available for EPC D rated properties).**

Or:

- **You receive a means-tested benefit.**



APPLY TODAY!

Funding is offered on a first-come, first-served basis and applications take no longer than 5 minutes!

Apply online:
visit www.warmerhomes.org.uk/programme
and click 'apply now'

or **call us on:**
Freephone 0800 038 5737



WHAT HAPPENS ONCE YOU APPLY?

Once we receive your application, we will check your eligibility and you will be assigned an installer.

1. Your installer will get in touch to arrange your technical survey.
2. You will receive a 'Quote Pack' from your installer, including a quote and details of the proposed work.
3. The Warmer Homes team will assess the information provided by the installer.
4. If approved, the installer will be in touch to arrange your installation date. Your installation date will depend on your installer's availability.
5. Once your measure(s) have been installed, your installer will provide a 'Handover Pack' including your warranty information and any other relevant paperwork.
6. The Warmer Homes team will be in touch to ensure you are happy with the service provided.

You can find out more about the Warmer Homes programme and if you are eligible at
www.fareham.gov.uk/warmerhomes



Work has now commenced on Fareham's exciting new Community Arts and Entertainment venue, Fareham Live!

Following a long delay as a result of the COVID pandemic, the remodelling work has now started at the former Ferneham Hall site, with completion expected in late 2023.

Following a launch in spring 2024, BH Live will be the new operator for the building and will manage the venue on our behalf. BH Live manage 17 venues, leisure centres and attractions across Dorset, Hampshire and London, including Bournemouth International Centre, Portsmouth Pyramids and Fairfield Halls (Croydon). They will deliver an exciting line up of performances and events to suit a range of tastes for the community to enjoy.

What will the new venue offer?

A bigger main theatre with more comfortable seating

Improved stage and backstage areas to support high quality performances

A flexible smaller secondary performance space

A flexible studio space

A new bar and café area

Spaces for community groups and organisations to hire

Changing Places Facility



For more information about BH Live please visit their website www.fareham.gov.uk/farehamlive

Affordable Housing development underway in Fareham

Work is underway on another affordable housing project from Fareham Housing.



Located in the town centre, the development at Queens Road will deliver two three-bedroom homes. These houses will be made available at a Social Rent (the most affordable of affordable homes) and will be occupied by households from Fareham Borough Council's housing register.

Fareham Housing is working with Southampton based Daintree Developments to deliver these projects. The homes have been specifically designed to reflect the character of the area as well as being wheelchair accessible and energy efficient. Features will include solar PV panels and air source heat pumps to provide heating and hot water, supporting the Council's commitment to be carbon neutral across its buildings and services by 2030.

In addition, two nearby Council owned properties at Arundel Drive are being converted to five-bedroom homes with disabled accessible bedrooms and a downstairs wet room.

Larger properties, particularly those which are disabled accessible, rarely become available. These new homes will help to meet the specific needs for some of the larger families on the Council's Housing Register.

For more information about Fareham Housing developments go to www.fareham.gov.uk/housing

Summer fun!



Once again this year, we organised a fantastic programme of activities for children of all ages throughout the summer holidays. Here's a snapshot of the highlights.



Thumbs Up Friday

Thumbs Up Friday took place every Friday during the school summer holiday in the gardens at Westbury Manor Museum. Children under 11 enjoyed different free activities each week, such as Lego building, bubble making, arts and crafts and circus workshops.

Play Day

Play Day provided a range of woodland themed activities for all the family at Holly Hill Woodland Park. Families could bring a picnic and enjoy a day in the woods while taking part in activities such as den-building, a music workshop and making a bird feeder.

Access All Areas

For older children, the ever-popular Access All Areas scheme included some exciting activities such as sailing, paddleboarding, driving taster sessions, motorcycling, Top Rock Climbing and much, more!

You can keep up to date on all the events and activities happening in the Borough at www.fareham.gov.uk/events



As part of our commitment to become Carbon Neutral across all our buildings and services by 2030, Fareham Borough Council is making some significant changes to the way we do things.

We have now published the first annual update of our Climate Change Action Plan.

Back in October 2020 we undertook an extensive programme of work to calculate our baseline Carbon Footprint. Our Climate Change Action Plan was then published in June 2021, focusing predominantly on reducing the Council's operational carbon footprint.

This annual update tries to find ways we can lower the carbon emissions created when we provide services to our customers, as well as how we can help our residents and businesses reduce their carbon emissions

What's more it shows that since our initial carbon footprint calculation in 2020, we have already reduced our carbon emissions by 9%!



You can find the full Action Plan on the Council's website: www.fareham.gov.uk/climatechange



Solar Together is Back!

Hampshire County Council has teamed up with iChooser once again this year to re-launch the innovative 'Solar Together' programme, providing cleaner, greener and more sustainable power for Fareham residents.



The programme was very successful, and it is back again for 2022. It offers high-quality solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and battery storage through a group-buying scheme. This brings Fareham households together to get the most competitive prices. The more people that register, the better the deal will be for each household.

Residents can register for free, without obligation, by providing details about their roof, such as its size and orientation.

An 'auction' will then be held, where pre-vetted solar installers will submit bids for the work. Residents who have registered will then be provided with a solution to best suit their roof specifications and associated costs. There is no obligation to continue and installers will only contact those who accept the offer to then survey the property and set an installation date.

You can register your interest and find out more information at www.solartogether.co.uk/Fareham



Re-wilding Anson Grove

In October 2021, our Countryside Service team applied for funding from Portsmouth Water to help restore a 900 square-metre area of chalk grassland at Anson Grove public open space.

The bid was successful and, working with a local contractor and members of the Fareham Conservation Volunteers, it was possible to clear the site of invasive species and sow a mixture of grasses and wildflower seeds.

Projects such as this make us more resilient to a changing climate, while increasing biodiversity. It also demonstrates how small changes can have a big impact. The results have been fantastic, and the Council is very grateful to Portsmouth Water for agreeing to fund the project.





WESTBURY MANOR MUSEUM

Step inside the elegant Westbury Manor Museum in the heart of Fareham to discover a wealth of stories about the town's people, heritage and industrial past.

Managed and operated by Hampshire Cultural Trust, Westbury Manor Museum has plenty to see and do for all the family.

You can find out about the Borough's origins as a Stone Age settlement, the infamous workhouse scandal of 1837 and its long traditions of brickmaking and strawberry production. Youngsters can become an amateur archaeologist and even handle real artefacts, use the interactive tablets to find out more about the displays, and have fun with the museum trail quiz with hands-on history playsets.

If you get peckish, there is also a fantastic café within the museum,

which is open to all. From brunch to lunch and cream teas, it's the perfect setting for a bite to eat or something to drink. And, while you are enjoying something delicious from the locally sourced menu, you can take a look at the curiosities adorning the café's walls.




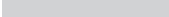
Before you leave, why not visit the gift shop for a range of gifts and souvenirs inspired by the museum's collections and exhibitions? From books to jewellery, bags to toys, there is a wide selection of gifts to browse and buy. Proceeds also help to support the work of Hampshire Cultural Trust throughout the county.

































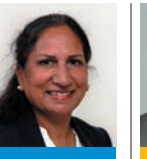









To find out more about Westbury Manor Museum, please visit www.hampshireculture.org.uk/westbury-manor-museum

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