

ST JOHN'S WINCHESTER CHARITY LOOKING TO BUILD 31 NEW ALMSHOUSES

St John's Winchester, which currently has 81 Alms Houses and the Moorside Care Home, has recently applied for planning permission to build a further 15 Alms Houses in Colebrook Street and 16 in Chesil Street.

Cllr Ian Tait who is a longstanding trustee of St John's has welcomed the applications and, as Ian is a member of the interview panel for new residents to St John's, he is well aware of what excellent accommodation these new homes will provide.

St John's has engaged widely with the community to keep them informed of developments and the proposals are making excellent progress through the planning system.

Steve Brine MP recently met up with Martin Lowry, Chair, and Clive Cook, Director, at St John's to be briefed on the project and has also welcomed this significant expansion of St John's. The new accommodation will meet the highest standards and be fully accessible to those with mobility issues.

Although St John's has 900 years of history it is looking very positively to the future and the needs of its residents and the wider Winchester community.



Cllr Ian Tait outside St John's Winchester

ST JAMES TERRACE TO CLIFTON TERRACE CROSSING

Cllr Fiona Mather has been liaising with County Council officers regarding work on a new Romsey Road puffin crossing. Design work has started and drawings are currently being prepared with a view to holding a public consultation on the proposed crossing in the Spring of 2018.

As part of the design process, careful consideration is being given as to where displaced traffic (caused by the necessary banning of some traffic movements into and out of Clifton Terrace) will relocate. An adjustment of the 20mph will also be considered.

THE CITY BRIDGE – COULD THERE BE A NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING?

For many years pedestrians have taken their lives in their hands when crossing the narrow City Bridge over the Itchen. At long last the Council is investigating the feasibility of constructing a new pedestrian bridge to run alongside the existing structure; similar to what has happened in Abbey Gardens.

Cllr Ian Tait has raised this issue and, although plans are at an early stage, Cllr Horrill (Leader of the Council) and Cllr Ashton, (St Michael's Ward Councillor and Finance Portfolio Holder) are backing the project. So fingers crossed!



Cllr Guy Ashton by the City Bridge

NEWS IN BRIEF.....

- Working with Hampshire County Council, Winchester BID and following advice from police, the City Council installed barricades to protect pedestrians in the High Street from a vehicle-based attack.
- The Council is paying close attention to the sale of the Colebrook Street Water Garden by a non-local resident. Preserving the garden would be a great outcome.
- Big Issue seller Kevin Collick turned on the amazing Christmas Lights following an online campaign organised by Winchester BID and the City Council.

CONSERVATIVES REJECT ALLOWANCE INCREASE

Conservative councillors on Winchester City Council have rejected a proposal by an independent remuneration board to **increase their councillors' allowances** by 8%. At a meeting of full Council in January, Councillor Ian Tait, who represents St Michael Ward in the City, proposed that the substantial increase should be rejected, when public finances are so stretched and staff are not receiving such a substantial increase. While almost all LibDem councillors voted for the 8% increase in allowances, Conservatives out-voted them, so saving £20,000 per year. Allowances are paid out of your taxes, so must not be wasted.



The last Cabinet meeting was held in Alresford and will be held around the District in future

NEW CANCER TREATMENT CAMPAIGN

Steve Brine MP met up with Victoria's Promise this January, the charity set up to support young women through their cancer treatment and beyond.

They launched their campaign in the first week of the new year to raise the £100,000 to bring their services to RHCH so that the young women treated there will benefit from the support the charity is presently giving the young women at other hospitals in Hampshire and London.

You can find out more via www.victoriaspromise.com/vp2w

SCHOOL FUNDING

The Government has delivered on its schools funding increase promise. As a result of the changes to the local funding formula for 2018/19, Hampshire schools have an increase of 2.6%, with Winchester schools specifically receiving an increase of 3.7%.

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE - KERBSIDE GLASS RECYCLING COMING SOON

Winchester residents should soon be able to recycle more types of waste as the City Council starts planning to collect glass as part of the regular kerbside collection. The Conservative administration is to include a monthly District-wide kerbside glass collection as part of the waste collection negotiations for the new contract that starts in 2019. In addition, we are working with Hampshire County Council and other councils to expand the range of plastics and other waste that can be recycled locally.



Cllr Jan Warwick

Councillor Jan Warwick, the City Council's Environment lead said, "Until now, it has just been too expensive to introduce glass collection, but initial discussions for the new contract have indicated that we can improve our recycling rates without **wasting taxpayers' money**. There is a lot of support among residents to increase what can be recycled, with glass collection being top of the wish list. We think that residents are willing for us to spend a bit of their money in order to **improve the service that we deliver.**"

A free container will be supplied to each household that wants one and there will be no **additional charge for using this service**. The existing 'bring sites' (bottle banks) will remain in place unless they are no longer needed once the new service has bedded in.

NEW LEISURE CENTRE AT BAR END

The plans for the new sports and leisure park at Bar End are firming up. Over the last few months, local residents have been working closely with the City Council's **design team, sports groups and other partners to define the Urban Design Framework** – which sets out what may happen in each part of the whole area. The outline business case has emerged alongside this, so the Council is now in a position to start procuring a construction company and an operator for the whole leisure park.

Councillor Guy Ashton, who represents residents of St Michael Ward, which includes **Bar End**, said, "The interest shown in this venture, by those who will be impacted by the project, has been tremendous. I have led the engagement activity, so I am delighted that the City Council is taking full account of the wishes and concerns **of the project's neighbours**."



Cllr Guy Ashton

We will continue to make significant changes to the proposals as a result of their feedback, which means that the new Centre will be built on the Garrison Ground, not the King George V Ground, and the size of the building will be constrained, so it fits alongside the athletics track and does not overly dominate the area.

STRONG AND COMPETENT LEADERSHIP IN OUR COMMUNITY

VISION FOR CENTRAL WINCHESTER

You have been having your say on what should happen to the centre of Winchester. After 20 years of local disagreement, the new Conservative administration at Winchester City Council has engaged with local residents, businesses and other stakeholders to create a new vision for how to improve the rundown part of our beautiful City.

Council Leader Caroline Horrill said, "The inspiring way that so many people have joined in the process to influence what happens next in Winchester, fills me with hope for the future. While the Supplementary Planning Document will soon be adopted, after we have reflected the comments that we receive, there will be many further opportunities to shape each step of the way. We will certainly use this open approach to development for all our major projects, so everyone can play their part."



The Cabinet directing people during the closure of the Bus Station for refurbishment

MAJOR OVERHAUL FOR JUNCTION 9

Steve Brine MP has warmly welcomed news that the M3 J9 will be redesigned under plans to create dedicated free flow lanes which will allow drivers travelling between the M3 and the A34 to avoid using the junction roundabout.

The roundabout itself will be redesigned into a new 'dumbbell' layout, which will increase capacity, improve safety and make journey times more reliable.

More than 6,000 vehicles currently use the junction each hour during peak times, and local residents have long been aware of the queues and congestion.

Steve Brine said, "I am delighted at this long-awaited news, and the proposals to separate out the long-distance traffic passing by Winchester from our local traffic.

"I am also pleased to see that improved access for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians are also very much part of the plans."

Subject to confirmation, construction could start in 2021 and take around two years to complete.



Today's Junction 9

www.stevebrine.com/junction9

FOCUS ON RHCH

Steve Brine MP has said the focus needs to be on securing RHCH, following news that there will not be a new Critical Treatment Hospital built between Winchester and Basingstoke.

Senior clinicians have been in discussions about the future configuration of services, and concluded that a new centre was not affordable and would have impacted other health services across the area.

Steve Brine said: "We have to maintain a sensible and balanced discussion about the future of acute care that, above all else, ensures the local NHS is there when we're acutely unwell."

www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs

QUESTION TIME AT CITY SCHOOL

Steve Brine MP visited St Faith's C of E primary school in December, as a follow up to a group of Year 4 and Year 5 children visiting Parliament in September.

The Winchester MP held a special question time session, which was decorated with key backgrounds and props that the school borrowed from Parliament's Education Centre on their visit.

Steve Brine said: "What a delightful visit, and all credit to the school for making use of the excellent accessories provided by the Education Service. I really enjoyed the session, and hope the children took a lot out of it."



Steve Brine MP at 'Question Time' with pupils from St Faith's School

Name

Address

Home/Mobile No

Email

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- Deliver leaflets
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We would like to keep in touch with you about any issues raised and our work locally. Please tick the relevant boxes below to indicate how you would like to receive this information.

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The information you provide will be used for these purposes only, and will be used only by the Conservative Party, including its candidates, representatives and associations. We will not give information to anyone else.

Please return to:

Winchester Conservative Association,
The Conservative Office, Manor Farm,
Itchen Stoke, Alresford SO24 0QT

HIGHCLIFFE FORUM - WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Whilst residents of Highcliffe often explain that there are limited facilities for local people, what comes over so strongly is their sense of identity and strong community spirit. The Highcliffe Forum is a clear demonstration of this, meeting on the first Monday of the month in the Mancy Room in All Saints Church at 7pm; the Forum really gets to the heart of issues affecting local residents.



Cllr Fiona Mather working in Highcliffe recently

Their excellent website gives much more information and can be found at:

www.highcliffeforum.wordpress.com

Cllr Fiona Mather, who has been a regular attendee for many years, praised the work of the Forum, saying that they have championed the concerns of locals so well and the meetings are very business like and well chaired.

CLAUSENTUM FEN RESTORATION

An energetic team, led by Marcus Swalwell of Clausentum Road, has made excellent progress with the clearance, regeneration and habitat improvement work on **Clausentum Fen**. **St. Michael's Brook** has been cleared of rubble, silt and weed, making way for its banks to be restored with faggots.

An overgrown beech, five large sycamores, dense scrub and dead elms have been removed, exposing the fen to sunlight. Water channels have been restored.

These important steps will bring back the biodiversity of this rare chalk wetland lost in recent years.

Cllrs Ian Tait and Fiona Mather have helped to secure local authority grants for this work and are keeping a close watch.

THE STRONG LOCAL TEAM FOR ST MICHAEL WARD



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