

UPDATE ON PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Wales Street: County Councillor Fiona Mather, since being elected in 2013, has held meetings, sent out lots of emails and had many phone calls with officers in her determination to deliver a much needed pedestrian crossing for local residents there is no pedestrian priority crossing point for the entire length of Wales Street and Easton Lane.

Her campaign has resulted in a worked up design for a new zebra crossing presently being consulted upon and, provided this reveals no obstacles, due to be approved by the County Executive member early in 2017 with delivery following on.



Cllr Fiona Mather in Wales Street

St James Terrace: Cllr Fiona Mather has been working with the County Council, who recognise the need for a crossing of Romsey Road at this point, and is pushing for progress. Contractors will carry out a series of digs in the early months of 2017 to ascertain what engineering works and crossing type the existing underground services will allow. Update to follow.

Worthy Road: which has no crossing its entire length: again Cllr Mather continues to apply pressure. Pedestrian improvements (including a controlled crossing) and traffic calming measures will start as soon as Cala has built enough houses to trigger their obligation to fund the works.

ADOPTION OF GRANGE CLOSE

A long running issue, the adoption by the County Council of the northern end of Grange Close in St Cross, will finally be resolved. The developer had allegedly failed to bring the road up to adoptable standards and Cllr Fiona Mather negotiated the County's reduction of its requirements and its acceptance of a positive and creative solution, drawn up by resident, Magdalen Rees, supported by her neighbours.

Cllr Ian Tait adds: "I got involved with this issue years ago. It's excellent that a constructive team of residents, the County Council and the County Councillor have resolved the problem".



Cllr Ian Tait in Grange Close

NEWS IN BRIEF.....

- Cllrs Mather, Tait and Ashton believe unsightly commercial waste bins are a blot on the city centre and have called for a briefing on the solution used by Westminster City Council - daily commercial rubbish collection.
- Cllr Fiona Mather and Council officers have arranged for the traffic barrier (opened for Kingsgate building works) in College Street to be kept closed (except for delivery of materials) to protect pedestrians and schoolchildren.
- Harvard University asked the government for an introduction to a Local Authority running a successful Troubled Families Programme (a scheme that "turns round" families). Hampshire County Council was the chosen example of best practice.

WINNALL: IMBER ROAD SUNKEN DRAIN COVERS

Past resurfacing has raised the surface of Imber Road but the rainwater drains were not raised, resulting in each one effectively becoming a pothole dangerous to drivers and especially cyclists.

County Councillor Fiona Mather has arranged that the County Council will raise the height of the frames and gullies so that they are flush with the road surface, solving a longstanding problem.

MP MEETS NEW CHIEF CONSTABLE

Steve Brine MP met with the new Chief Constable Olivia Pinkney in the New Year, to discuss a range of issues including preparedness for flooding, the new national police funding formula and rural crime.

They also discussed the unique challenges around policing events such as Boomtown, which is held on the outskirts of the city each summer.



AIR AMBULANCE RECEPTION IN PARLIAMENT

Steve Brine attended a Parliamentary reception for Air Ambulances before Christmas, which gave MPs the chance to meet with air ambulance charities and ambulance services.

He said: "Our air ambulance crew, which covers Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, need to raise a staggering £275,000 each month just to keep flying, so I ask my constituents to take a look at what they do for our community.

www.hiowaa.org



M3 ACCIDENTS

Steve Brine has expressed growing concern over the increase in accidents between J9-13 of the M3.

He said: "This is a growing cause for concern. We should be careful not to jump to conclusions but the figures don't lie and I plan to meet Highways England to get their thoughts on what is happening."

MP HOLDS LATEST 'ASK THE NHS' MEETING

Steve Brine held his latest public meeting on 12th January on the future of the local NHS.

The event heard from a top panel of key local clinicians, with the focus on the recently published Service & Transformation Plan (STP) which charts future health and social care services across the county.

The Q&A raised the link between the NHS and social care, the management of long term conditions, future NHS funding and local GP services, as well as the proposal from HHFT to build a new £350m Critical Treatment Hospital between Winchester and Basingstoke to care for the sickest patients.

Steve Brine said: "The NHS has been my number one priority from day one and, while we all know it's under great demand at this time we should all be really proud of what it delivers day after day and be positive about its future. The fact that was the overwhelming the tone of this meeting was just great."



See more: www.stevebrine.com/asktheseries

DAN SMYTH WINS CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Dan Smyth, from St Faith's C of E Primary School, won Steve Brine's sixth annual Christmas Card competition back in December.

The 6 year old came top over 370 entries from 11 schools across the constituency, and won a family trip to see the Cinderella pantomime at the Theatre Royal.

Steve Brine said: "My congratulations go to Dan and all the Year Group and Commendation winners, alongside my thanks to Professor Joy Carter from the University of Winchester who was a brilliant guest judge."

CONSERVATIVE CONTROLLED COUNTY COUNCIL CUTS CARBON EMISSIONS BY MORE THAN A THIRD

Energy efficient buildings and street lights have helped Hampshire County Council to cut its carbon emissions by more than a third since 2010 and to save £3 million for Hampshire taxpayers (£2.9 million in avoided energy costs and £200,000 of carbon tax savings).

Councillor Fiona Mather said "I welcome this news which is great both for Hampshire taxpayers and the environment."

This has been achieved by adoption of good energy saving habits by both HCC staff and Hampshire school pupils, by improvements such as re-roofing projects, boiler and lighting replacements and a major programme of street lighting replacements.

In addition 23 Solar Photovoltaic systems across the County Council's corporate buildings deliver efficiency savings of £45,000 per year, and generate 450,000kWh of power annually.

STRONG AND COMPETENT LEADERSHIP IN OUR COMMUNITY

THE SECRET IS OUT...

Winchester is the best place to live in the UK in terms of quality of life, a study has found.

One key measure was Winchester's weekly earnings which were found to be 27% higher than the UK average, while crime, education, population densities and the weather were also taken into account.

The study found 96.6% of residents reported being in good or fairly good health, compared to a national average of 94.6%. Life expectancy rates were also higher than the national average.

Steve Brine said: "Seems the secret is out then. Of course those of us who live here know this to be true but I don't think we ever take it for granted. If this helps with investment into the city and spreading prosperity further across the area then it's good news.

"We should remember however, that Winchester has its challenges and pockets of relative poverty so nobody should see this as job done.



Winchester is also known nationally as Christmas City

COUNTY COUNCIL FUNDS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH WELLBEING CENTRES

Hampshire County Council is committing nearly £6million over the next five years to supporting the expansion and development of the county's network of community based mental health wellbeing centres.

The Wellbeing Centres are currently provided by voluntary sector organisations with mental health expertise and act as a 'one stop shop' with a menu of services covering employment and housing, as well as a range of support to help people with their physical health as well as their mental health. People can self refer or are referred by their local GP. The centres also support people with more serious mental health conditions, working in conjunction with the local County Council/NHS mental health team.

In a further boost for mental health provision, Steve Brine has backed new government measures to transform the way we approach and deal with how youngsters receive support and care, and there will be new support for every secondary school to increase awareness and help tackle the unacceptable stigma around the issue.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WINCHESTER??

The City Council has set out its priorities for the next 3 years: promoting the local economy; ensuring that all residents have access to quality housing; improving health and happiness; and protecting and improving the environment of Winchester. With all Government grants being stopped, the Council will deliver these outcomes by being more efficient and entrepreneurial.

The City Council has purchased the Garrison Ground from Tesco. The 14 acres of playing fields at Bar End will be used by the community for sports and leisure purposes. This is great news for Winchester, as it gives us more options for delivering excellent new leisure facilities, which should be finished by 2019.

Plans to double the number of Council homes being built by Winchester City Council over the next 3 years will be achieved by the Council taking a fundamentally different approach from many other councils. In addition to the 92 new homes being built now, more will be started this year, helping more people to afford to live in Winchester.

KNOWLEDGE PARK AMBITION

Business leaders and the City Council have joined the University of Winchester and Steve Brine to launch ambitious plans for a local knowledge park.



They aim to bring hundreds of high-skilled jobs to the Sir John Moore Barracks site which the MoD have confirmed will close in 2020.

Steve Brine said: "I hear time and again from business leaders that we have a serious lack of commercial space in the city so this land becoming available could tie up well with our long-stated ambition to foster high quality, well-paid, employment."

Steve Brine MP with Professor Joy Carter of the University of Winchester and Cllr Stephen Godfrey, recent leader of WCC

STRONG AND COMPETENT LEADERSHIP IN OUR COMMUNITY

KEEPING IN TOUCH

CAN YOU HELP US?

- Display a poster at election time
- Deliver leaflets
- Join the Conservative Party
- Vote by post
- Stand for Council

Please let us know of any local issues which are of concern to you:

Please give us your contact details so we can keep in touch with you about the issues you have raised

Name

Address

Home/mobile number:

Email:

Send to Winchester Conservative Association, The Conservative Office, Manor Farm, Itchen Stoke, Alresford SO24 0OT

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FLASHING SPEED WARNING SIGNS

County Councillor Fiona Mather has helped to fund an electronic flashing speed warning sign in Sleepers Hill from her devolved budget. The sign stores data on speed and traffic volumes and figures so far show that it is having a significant effect on traffic speeds.

Fiona Mather says *"I believe such signs could have a valuable role in calming traffic speeds and was disappointed when the Town Forum budget, proposed by me for funding such signs, was voted down by the Lib Dem dominated Town Forum and the money reallocated to Community speedwatch (a scheme with a history of suffering from dwindling enthusiasm of hard to get volunteers)."*

"I will continue to investigate the possibility of funding signs on other roads in Eastgate Division."



Cllr Fiona Mather with resident Paul Barlow in Sleepers Hill

NEWS FROM WINCHESTER EASTGATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St Faith's has been ranked 4th in the country(!) for three years, 2013-2015, of SATS level 5+ data. Congratulations to all for a fine achievement.

Winnall has a new head teacher, Mrs Alison Rhodes, chosen from a strong field of applicants. They are fortunate to have Rosemary Walker as new Chairman of Governors. Strong additions to a strong team.

At the excellent St Bede's, work is progressing well on a new flood wall, a joint project of the City and County Councils.

All Saints has been enjoying the new extensions a recent County Council project and going from strength to strength with supportive parents, staff and governors.

THE STRONG LOCAL TEAM IN EASTGATE DIVISION



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The Hampshire County Council Division of Eastgate covers the wards of St Michael, St Bartholomew, south of Worthy Lane, and the Sleepers Hill area of St Paul.

Your Conservative City Councillors are listed below:

St Michael

Cllr Fiona Mather (contact details shown below photo)

Cllr Guy Ashton 07568 850448
gashton@winchester.gov.uk

Cllr Ian Tait 07973 735493
itait@winchester.gov.uk

St Bartholomew

Cllr Rose Burns 01962 862849
rburns@winchester.gov.uk

Winchester Conservative Association - 01962 679910 - office@winchesterconservatives.org.uk

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