

## Waterfront Appeal Decision Announced

Hart District Council has welcomed the decision of Hazel Blears, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, to dismiss a planning appeal relating to land at Waterfront Business Park in Fleet.

Helical Bar (Fleet) Ltd had appealed to the Secretary of State, following the refusal of planning permission for 202 dwellings on the site and a public inquiry was held at the beginning of the year which lasted for seven days. The Council opposed the scheme on the basis that it involved the loss of land currently used for employment purposes, and, separately and independently, because it felt the design was not of sufficient quality. The Inspector who held the inquiry recommended that the appeal be dismissed.

The Secretary of State considered that the site had both an existing and future benefit to the District in terms of employment and economic growth. It was in a highly accessible and sustainable location with a long history of employment use. She felt that any review of this designation needed to be done on a systematic basis so as to not harm the potential for economic growth and employment in the district.

Turning to the proposed design, the Secretary of State concluded that the proposal would not fit well in the Fleet Road street scene, and would not have provided sufficient landscaping or amenity spaces within the development. The Secretary of State concluded that the proposals "would fall some way short" of Government policy which required development to create places, streets and spaces which meet the needs of people and maintain and improve local character.

She also had concerns that the development would not provide sufficient long-term resources for the provision of a Ranger service in relation to Fleet Pond. However, she gave the Council's recently adopted strategy for protecting the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (an area of international importance for the protection of the woodlark, nightjar and Dartford warbler) a ringing endorsement.

Hart's Interim Development Services Manager, Robert Jackson, welcomed the Secretary of State's decision saying: "This decision shows the importance of ensuring that there is a range of employment sites within Hart and that development must respect and enhance the local area".

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are always welcome to attend meetings of the council and committees.

Meetings commence promptly at 7pm.

June 10 Planning  
June 11 Cabinet  
June 16 Overview & Scrutiny  
June 15 Licensing  
June 25 Council

**Hart Life** is published each month by Hart District Council.

For further information on any of the articles or to submit an article or photograph for publication please contact the editorial team on 01252 774146



### Partnership Approach To Tackle Railway Crime Hotspot In Hook

The 'Safer Hart' Community Safety Team, Network Rail, Hampshire Police, Hook Parish Council, and British Transport Police have joined forces to warn young people in Hook about the dangers of messing around on the railway following reports of anti-social behaviour and railway crime incidents in the town.

Problems encountered at the railway during 2008 included: taking short cuts; playing alongside the tracks; objects being thrown at trains and obstructions placed on the line.

Crimes reported to British Transport Police at Hook station between January and April 2009 include; four incidents of damage to vehicles; five thefts in transit (where the final destination was Hook); four incidents of criminal damage and eight incidents of low-level disorder. On one occasion, a young person was 'train surfing' and on another young people were trying to jam cans in train doors as they closed.

As part of the 'No Messin' campaign, fronted by boxing champion Amir Khan, Network Rail is working with local organisations to reduce trespass and vandalism and promote positive activities for young people. Khan said: "I want young people to take a chance and try something new at a No Messin' Live! event, rather than on the railway, where all they'll be doing is chancing their lives."

Daniel Gill, Anti-Social Behaviour Caseworker for Hart District

Council, said: "We are keen to work in partnership with local organisations and agencies to tackle this problem. Young people are risking not only their own lives, but the lives of others and their behaviour must be challenged".

For more information, visit [www.no-messin.com](http://www.no-messin.com)



### Election Line-Up in Hart

EIGHTEEN candidates will contest the five Hart seats on Hampshire County Council in the county elections on June 4. The Conservatives and Labour fight all five seats with three Liberal Democrat candidates, two British National Party, one Community Campaign Hart and two independents.

Currently three seats are Conservative held and the Liberal Democrats hold two.

In the Hart by-election at Eversley caused by the death of Cllr Hugo Eastwood there will be Conservative, BNP and Independent candidates.

Nominations (\* denotes sitting councillor)

### Hampshire County Council elections

**Fleet:** \*Sharyn Wheale (Con), John Davies (Lab), Denis Gotel (Ind)

**Hartley Wintney, Eversley & Yateley West:** \*David Simpson (LD), Geoffrey Crompton (BNP), Sara Kinnell (Con), Roger Robertson (Ind), Joyce Still (Lab)

**Church Crookham & Ewshot** (Con held): Jenny Radley (CCH), Pritpal 'Nippy' Singh (Con), Jim White (Lab)

**Odiham:** \*Jonathan Glen (Con), Sean Clarke (Lab), Graham Cockarill (LD), Jerry Owen (BNP)

**Yateley East, Blackwater & Ancells:** \*Adrian Collett (LD), Edward Dawson (Con), Barry Jones (Lab)

### Hart District Council by-election

Eversley (Con held): Geoffrey Crompton (BNP), Janet Maughan (Con), Philip Todd (Ind)



**Yateley School Awareness Event**  
Parents of Yateley School pupils attended the school for an Awareness event on Wednesday May 6. Parents had a sample Personal, Social and Health Education class, a drug and alcohol interactive learning session, a question and answer session with local police officers and a presentation from a sexual health advisor.

Following the presentations, the parents were able to visit stalls manned by the attending organisations and agencies where they could pick up leaflets and ask questions.

The event was organised by the 'Safer Hart' Community Safety Team at Hart District Council and supported by Hampshire Constabulary, Connexions, Trading Standards, Edy-Act Youth Bus, Hampshire County Council Locality Team and the county

Youth Service, accredited Community Support Officers, the NHS Contraceptive and Sexual Health Team, and the Youth Inclusion Support Panel.

Councillor Stephen Gorys, Hart's Portfolio Holder for People and Partnerships said: "These events are a vital tool for parents with teenaged children. The more we know as parents, the better equipped we are to help and advise young people about whatever they may be facing". For more information, contact David Lipscombe, Community Safety Officer for the 'Safer Hart' Partnership, on 01252 774476 or the Hart press office on 01252 774461.



The "Hart-to-Hart" citizens panel are a group of residents from across the district who regularly take part in on-line surveys about services and other topics of interest. The results of these surveys help inform the council about the views of residents and make a valuable contribution to the decision making process. The panel are occasionally invited to take part in surveys by partners such as the Hampshire Police Authority, or the Fleet & Church Crookham Society.

Members of the panel have also attended focus group meetings to provide valuable feedback and suggestions for improvement. These focus groups have been used when reviewing the way in which the council delivers services and also as part of inspections by the Audit Commission.

If you would like to join the Citizens Panel – click on the logo on our website home page and fill in the online joining form.



## Inclusive Badminton –a Smash Hit

“A HUGE success,” was the verdict from Carl Westby, Hart’s Head of Leisure and Environmental Promotion, on a regional badminton festival for disabled youngsters aged 11-16.

The event, at Hart Leisure Centre saw young people from across Hampshire team up with others from Oxfordshire for a badminton coaching session.

During the morning they were taught a variety of skills by badminton coach, Martin Godfrey. After lunch they were able to put into practice what they had learnt via competitive match play.

Peter Hull, Disability Sports Development Officer from Sport Hampshire and IOW, who organised the event with Oxfordshire Sport Partnership and Badminton England, said: “It was a great opportunity for the children to develop their badminton skills. It also gave us the chance to show them what other activities were available for them in their local community.”

Kevin Wallace, assistant manager at Hart Leisure Centre who helped organise the day, said he hoped Sport Hampshire and IOW and the centre would continue to work together on similar projects.

“The benefits to the children are there for all to see,” he added.

For further information about local disability sports clubs contact Sport Hampshire and IOW on 01962 845178 or log on to <http://www.sportshampshireiow.co.uk>



## Staff Energy Group Formed

Hart’s Energy Group are working to reduce the amount of gas, electricity and water used by the council by monitoring and finding ways to reduce usage to help reduce costs and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.



## LOTTERY FUNDED

### Big Lottery cash funds Hart Adventure Play

YOUNGSTERS across Hart will shortly be able to take part in more adventurous play than conventional swings and see saws as a result of a £200,000 Big Lottery grant.

The grant was made to Hart District Council in partnership with the parish councils of South Warnborough, Crookham Village, Hartley Wintney, Long Sutton, Blackwater and Hawley, Eversley and Hook as well as the Friends of Oakley Park in Fleet.

The first £100,000 has now been spent on a variety of climbing boulders, skate ramps and balance wires.

Carl Westby, Hart’s Head of Leisure and Environmental Promotion, said: “Big Lottery and the Council would like young people over 11 to feed back their personal comments by using weblinks to complete an e-survey by the end of June.

## Forthcoming Events...

**Friday June 12** - Disability Awareness Day at the Harlington Centre Fleet on from 11:30am - 4pm

This is an information sharing event where there will be people on hand from different groups and organisations to assist you with any questions you may have.

**Sunday June 28.** Fleet Lions Funfest is a free fun day for children with disabilities and their families taking place at Calthorpe Park School / Hart Leisure Centre, Fleet 11.30 - 4pm There will be stalls, roundabouts, bouncy castles, rides, a climbing wall, music and entertainment. Each family may also enjoy a free swim on the day at The Hart Leisure Centre.

**Saturday July 11**  
Fleet Carnival 2009 see the Fleet Carnival website for more details.

<http://www.fc09.co.uk/>

“It will only take two minutes but it will help us in future to make further improvements to the design of play equipment in the district.”

The links are:

<http://www.strategicleisure.co.uk/hartparents.htm>

<http://www.strategicleisure.co.uk/hartyoungpeople.htm>



## Free Swimming

From April 2009 to March 2011 Hart Leisure Centre will be offering free swimming to the over 60's and under 17's, during public swimming sessions.

A £2.00 application fee (plus VAT = £2.30) and proof of age must be shown at the time of applying for the scheme.

Application forms may be downloaded from the Hart website using the address [http://www.hart.gov.uk/free\\_swimming\\_application\\_form-2.pdf](http://www.hart.gov.uk/free_swimming_application_form-2.pdf)



## Fleet Pond Book Launch

Fleet Pond Society President, Peter Martin pictured with his new book chronicling the

first 30 years of the society's life. Peter, who has been involved for all that time (and even earlier) has recorded his memories of what has been achieved by the volunteers and Hart's countryside staff.

To get a copy send a £4 cheque (including £1 postage and packing) to Peter at 17 Longmead, Fleet, Hants GU 52 7TX.