Swimming gold medallist Adam Peaty opens showpiece leisure centre

Rio Olympics star admits: ‘I was scared of water as a child’

OLYMPIC swimming star Adam Peaty opened the £9m state-of-the-art Holly Hill Leisure Centre and admitted:
“Although it might be hard to believe, I was actually scared of water when I was younger.”

Adam, who triumphed at the Rio Olympics by winning Team GB’s first gold medal in the 100m breaststroke breaking his world record set the day before, was acutely afraid of being bathed as a young boy.

The 21-year-old super star was full of praise for the showpiece centre in Sarisbury which boasts a 25-metre pool with 6 lanes and a learner pool, gym, spinning room and dance centre.

In a landmark day for the Western Wards, he told guests: “I know how important it is that we educate more people about the health and safety benefits of swimming, especially those who live in coastal areas such as Fareham.

“I think the pool here at Holly Hill Leisure Centre will go a long way in helping to do that.

“It’s also at local pools like these where future athletes are discovered and, for me, it’s very exciting to think that could happen here at Holly Hill.”

A plaque was unveiled at the centre by Adam and the Mayor of Fareham, Councillor Connie Hockley.

Fareham Council Leader Seán Woodward said: “This is the delivery of my longest standing pledge, made over 25 years ago, and I am so grateful to all those who made it possible.

“It is the culmination of a project which began after our suggestion, strongly supported by residents, that we needed another swimming pool in the Borough.”

Over 2,000 people have signed up for membership and the pool is open to all.

Fareham’s Conservative-run Council has also provided new sports pitches near the leisure centre, worked with volunteers to improve the woodland and lake and has also agreed a £130,000 multi-use games area which will be provided in the new year.

Water, water………
Good news has been received as we write. Those of our residents who prefer to swim from our beaches at Hill Head may do so with confidence, safe in the knowledge that the 2016 bathing water quality at Hill Head has been classified as ‘GOOD’. Beach signs will be displayed accordingly.

England’s 5th lowest district council tax – that’s CONSERVATIVE budgeting
HILL HEAD COASTAL PROTECTION PROJECT - UPDATE

**Phase 1**

The beach was re-nourished with 4000 tonnes of material. This will help to reduce the risk of further damage this winter to the existing fragile sea wall. Extensive timber groyne refurbishment was also implemented which will help sustain healthy beach levels and control movement of the shingle along the shoreline.

**Phase 2**

Following option engineering the leading option to construct a new seawall has been identified. The Eastern Coastal Partnership welcomes the opportunity to share with you the outline of the design of the replacement seawall. If the necessary funding and consents can be secured, this could see the construction of the new seawall in the summer of 2017.

The key advantages of the preferred option are:

- The beach huts can remain in place for the duration of the work
- This option has the least environmental impact
- Shortest construction time, minimising impacts on the local area
- Simplest construction methods
- The sheet pile wall is the most cost effective option.
- The existing seawall can be partially encapsulated within the new sea wall.

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**TIM KNIGHT ALDERMAN**

At a special meeting of Fareham Borough Council held on 16 June 2016 it was resolved that Tim Knight be admitted to the Roll of Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Fareham in recognition and acknowledgement of his eminent services to the Council from 1999 to 2016. Our congratulations to Tim.

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**ELECTORAL RE-ORGANISATION**

Electoral re-organisation is the order of the day with proposed changes to both Fareham’s constituency boundary and to Crofton division’s County Council boundary. The Fareham constituency is proposed to be enlarged by the addition of the Winchester ward of Whitely which is currently in the Meon Valley constituency which will cease to exist. This will not result in any ward changes. Stubbington and Hill Head will remain as part of the Gosport constituency. This change is to be the subject of consultation until 5.12.16. For the County Council election, part of Fareham’s Town Division is to be added to Crofton Division, subject to the ratification by Parliament. The additional area includes the roads to the north of the strategic gap bounded by Longfield Avenue in the south and the Avenue in the north; Bishopsfield Road in the east and Peak Lane in the west. Again, there are no changes to ward boundaries. The underlying purpose of both changes is to equalise the electorate in both Constituencies and County Divisions within stated parameters. Some residents of Stubbington and Hill Head are already confused and mystified by their inclusion in Gosport constituency and we hope this will help explain why.

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**FBC FINANCE - MORE SAVINGS**

On the financial front the Government’s Comprehensive Spending Review in November 2015 announced further cuts in public spending. An outcome of that is that Fareham would have to reduce its annual revenue budget by almost £1 million by April 2018, or increase its income. Savings are propose by a reduction in employee budgets of £379,000 annually mainly by not filling vacant posts. Other savings are to be made by minor changes in non-essential services and increased income generated by improved property rental streams.

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**AND NEW INVESTMENT IN DAEDALUS**

Capital schemes in the current Finance Strategy to 2021 total £43.9 million. This includes £26 million investment in Daedalus to provide a Phase 2 Innovation Centre, aviation hangars and other buildings, and highways and services infrastructure.

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Boost for Your Local Conservatives
Councillor Chris Wood has re-joined The Conservative Party after previously being a member between 2006 and 2011. Chris Wood, who was first elected in 2013, stated that “The Conservatives are investing in our local area as demonstrated by Hampshire County Council contributing £8.5m towards the Stubbington Bypass bid. I wasn’t elected to provide opposition for opposition’s sake and believe I can achieve more for our area working with colleagues than being sat on the opposition benches”. The next County Council election is in May 2017.

Making it Safer to Cross our Roads
After consulting with local residents it has been decided that a new traffic island is to be built on Gosport Road near to the junction with Harold Road. This will make it safer to cross the road and access the bus stops on either side. These bus stops will be moved a couple of yards apart to ensure cars can still pass parked buses and are not impeded by the traffic island.

In addition to this, a new crossing point has been installed outside the Welcome Store on Cuckoo Lane at the request of residents.

New Pavement Outside Crofton Old Church
Work will soon start on a new pavement outside St Edmonds Church on Lychgate Green. Cllr Chris Wood has been pressing for this new pavement for 3 years since receiving the request from members of the congregation.

The pavement will be built to reflect the historic nature of the site and will make it safer for those who until now have been forced to walk on the grass when getting to and from their cars, which isn’t all that practical in the winter months.

Christmas is Coming
The Stubbington Traders’ and Crofton Lions’ Christmas Carol Event will be taking place in Stubbington Village Centre on Saturday the 10th of December between 4pm and 6pm.

This year the event will feature a children’s choir made up of pupils from our local primary schools, a hog roast, mulled wine, free Christmas hats and even more Christmas lights as Cllr Chris Wood has used £1,500 from his County Councillor Grant to buy new lights for the Christmas tree and 13 additional mini-trees.

Stubbington Bypass Update
The Solent LEP, supported by Hampshire County Council, have submitted an £8.5m bid to government to unlock the £34m required to build the Stubbington Bypass. Should this funding be confirmed in the Government’s Autumn Statement, as is hoped, the final detailed designs will be completed over the next 12 months with construction set to start in 2019. The bypass has already been granted planning permission and is expected to be open to vehicles in the summer of 2021. Once the funding has been confirmed HCC will start planning the necessary traffic calming measures for Stubbington and Hill Head.
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

In Touch is the Conservative way of keeping you informed about what is happening in the place where you live. We try to include information that is topical, of local interest and is up to date. It is entirely funded by voluntary contributions and delivered by volunteers. Are you able to assist with the delivery end of the chain? A road or two of your choice roughly once a quarter. If you can, please get In Touch with one of your Councillors or Committee Members.

Councillors' Surgeries

A Conservative Councillor will be at the Crofton Community Centre on the second Saturday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon to listen to your opinions & views on local issues and answer questions. These surgeries have been held continuously there for over 17 years.

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