



**Gosport Conservative Association, 167, Stoke Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 1EB**

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## CHAIRMAN'S END OF YEAR MESSAGE



This has been an interesting and enjoyable year for me as chairman of the Gosport Conservative Association. Meeting new and diverse challenges as they arose, has kept me very busy.

The Association is full of very nice people who are dedicated to helping the Conservative cause of electing an MP and councillors for the borough of Gosport. We are very lucky to have an excellent MP in Caroline Dinenage and a strong team of councillors led by Councillor Mark Hook. They all work tirelessly for the benefit of the borough and us.

As we come into the festive end of year with Christmas and the New Year looming closely on the horizon, it will be a time to have fun and re-charge our batteries. However, in the New Year we go into 'Election Mode' and continue preparations and briefs to ensure that we fight hard and elect Caroline once again, which I know we will.

There is much to be done before the elections in May 2015: Plans to be formulated, doors to be knocked, canvassed and leaflets delivered. We will need lots of willing helpers. The elections in May are tremendously important for our country. We must keep on doing what we do best as a party, putting into practise the common sense politics that have seen so much progress during the past four years.



I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year from myself and all of us here at the Gosport Conservative association H.Q.

*Peter Lockyer*



## **Councillor Mark Hook (leader of Gosport's Conservative led Council) reflects on challenging times.**

*2014* was another difficult year in politics, both national and local with the EU on the agenda, the Scottish independence vote and now the demands for more devolution of power for both Scotland and England. Locally we have seen the austere measures taking hold and the continuation of the reduction in financial support of local authorities by the coalition Government. This has the support of local people. When asked how you would mend the country's finance an overwhelming majority said they would rather cut spending than raise taxes. This is a view supported by your Conservative controlled Borough Council who have not increased the local council tax since we have been in control from 2009. Five years of council tax freeze with the determination to deliver no increase for 2015/6.

As we enter into 2015 we look to continue to build on the success we have achieved so far. People can be quick to forget what has been achieved over a short period of time with the support of our Conservative Council. A new ferry pontoon, the Gosport leisure centre, the Premier Inn hotel alongside the Sailmaker pub, the Alver Village, knocking down the old naval quarters to deliver new and affordable homes, a new Aldi store being built in Mumby road, the enterprise zone at Daedalus, new CEMAST college, work undertaken in the Alver Valley to make it into a country park, new eclipse bus service, extra care facilities in Juniper Court at Cunningham Drive, the new Agnew family centre and refurbished homeless facilities in Barclay House. We helped 5 new businesses to come to the High Street along with the provision of new street furniture. These are just a flavour of some of the projects undertaken and delivered over the past 5 years.

So what is in store for 2015 and beyond?

With the help of my fellow Councillors we will continue to develop the country park in the Alver Valley, encouraging people to enjoy a healthier lifestyle by using a green oasis in an otherwise highly dense urban area. We will also look to bring in a garden centre as a focal point and entrance into it.

We recognise we need to help those with housing difficulties and that is why we will be building council houses in St. Vincent road, the first to be built in four decades, with the promise to build more in the Borough. Additional extra care units will be built on the old Addenbrooks site in conjunction with Hampshire County Council.



The bus station site and the waterfront is an area where we would look to make improvements to but we are conscious of the importance of supporting the traffic infrastructure surrounding it.

Job creation is still at the forefront of everything we do. We will continue to press for more local jobs for local people, jobs on the enterprise zone, on the Haslar development, on the old Cyanamid site and on our waterfront. We need to reduce the 25,000 people out commuting daily. By bringing jobs into Gosport this will help the problems we all experience on the A32.

After five years in control we are gradually winning the battle but we need the support of the people of Gosport to continue to deliver on our ambitious plans. I do not believe there is another political party in Gosport that has the drive, determination, enthusiasm and vision to take Gosport forward as your local Conservative team have. The others are quick to knock as we push forward but I will not respond to their negativity, rather concentrate all our efforts on delivering you all a town to be proud of.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a prosperous Conservative New year from your Conservative Councillors team.

## The West Lothian Question

Gosport MP Caroline Dinenage has slammed Labour party plans to deny English people the same rights as those enjoyed by Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish voters. While the Conservative party has pledged to deliver English Votes for English Laws and will force a vote on this by the end of November; in the House of Commons, representing Labour Sadiq Khan attempted to claim there was no popular demand for English-only votes.

Caroline hotly contested this; “saying that “I represent a constituency in the South of England, and while he keeps talking about this as...something coming down from Westminster, and there being no requirement for it...I get letters about this every day, every week; English people want English votes.”



Speaking outside the House of Commons chamber Caroline said; “English people just want basic fairness in the political system. All they want is a fair deal for England in which their voices carry the same weight as those of people in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. It is unbelievable that the Labour party are trying to block this; yet this is sadly predictably from a party that just doesn’t trust people in England. They don’t trust voters with equal constituency sizes, they won’t allow people a say on Europe and now they won’t even give voters in England the same rights as those of people in every other part of the UK. They’re out of touch with English people, and rather than trusting us they want to rig the system and sneak into Government via the back door.”

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## Aldi set to make the difference in Gosport?



The steelwork of the coming Aldi supermarket is near completion and the store will soon be open for business. It will of great interest to see how the addition of yet another competitor for your money affects the shopping experience here in Gosport.

Competition can never be a bad thing, shoppers will have to be enticed into the supermarkets and that can only do happen by providing quality with competitive pricing.

No longer are people just looking for the cheapest way of filling their shopping trolleys, now the emphasis has shifted towards demands for quality.

Asda, Tesco, Waitrose and Morrison, cannot ignore the threat to their businesses and their response can only be to the benefit of us all as customers look carefully at what is on offer.

# Give us the tools and we will finish the job

(Winston Churchill to the Americans WW2).

Many Conservatives are concerned at the threat from UKIP, but the threat is one born of the seeming impotence of government to control immigration. While we remain members of the EU we are restrained by the freedom of movement agreements that have been thrust upon us by Brussels with the agreement of not this government, but of those who went before.

UKIP's policy is simplistic to the extreme, get out of Europe and there are those who will jump onto that particular bandwagon before they have realised or considered the consequences. We do not appreciate being told what to do in our own country or who we can allow in or how we can use our British legal system to deal with criminals.

No help at all are the Lib Dem partners in coalition with their love of the Human Rights Act that appears to favour the undeserving.

Interference in legal matters that prevent us from deporting undesirables is just one issue that cannot be tolerated is amongst many that really must be addressed before we jump. We need a better deal for Britain that will allow us to see benefits of EU membership outweighing those aspects that do not sit well with our desire to retain our sovereignty and national identity and control our own borders against

a flood who will come here just to take advantage of our more than generous benefits system.

Immigration is no bad thing when those who come here with the skills and the desire to work and to contribute towards making Britain a better place, but we are entitled to get upset when we are paying out from our taxes for those who do not meet that important criteria. Many will say that we have enough home grown scroungers and criminals, certainly we have no need to import them.

It is important that these issues are addressed, but with common sense and reason towards achieving what is achievable within the law.

Populace promises are unhelpful and deceitful and those who make them know that they will not be in any position to make them good.

Below is a link that everyone should use to view the interview with Sir John Major who does not pull his punches when assessing the value and relevance of UKIP.



<http://www.conservativehome.com/video/2014/11/watch-sir-john-major-ukip-are-anti-british.html>



**Britain now faces a choice:** we can squander the economic security we have gained with Labour's plans for higher taxes and higher spending, or we can stay the course with our long-term economic plan that is working.

- **The deficit is falling**
- **Unemployment is falling**
- **The economy is growing**

We do not shy away from the problems that remain unresolved in the British economy. **But it's only by working through the plan that we can deliver more security for hardworking families.**

**That's why we're clear: we must stay the course to prosperity. So please get behind our plan**

Our long-term economic plan backs people who want to work hard and get on. It backs the aspiration to save, to work, and to own your own home.

The Chancellor has announced:

-  We will **overhaul stamp duty** so that 98% of stamp duty payers pay less tax when they buy their home.
-  We will continue to back businesses to create jobs in all parts of the country - with **action on business rates and more help for the high street.**
-  We will **abolish the employers' jobs tax on apprenticeships** for people under 25 to help more young people get the skills they need.
-  We will **raise the personal allowance**, and higher rate taxpayers will also benefit - a down payment on our commitments to raise the personal allowance to £12,500 and the higher rate threshold to £50,000 in the next parliament.
-  We will cut tax for families by **abolishing the air passenger duty paid for children.**
- And we will **support savers** by letting husbands and wives inherit their partner's ISA and keep its tax-free status.
-  These measures are all part of our long-term economic plan that is building a stronger, healthier economy.

**Next year Britain gets to choose: do we squander the economic security we've gained by repeating the mistakes of the past? Or do we finish the job?**

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

## OCTOBER 2014

Report by Councillor Stephen Philpott  
Chairman of The Economic Development Board



- 01/10/14 Government & BAE Systems sign £600m deal to secure work in Portsmouth for the next five years safeguarding 2,000 jobs.
- 04/10/14 Gosport High Street is transformed into how it would have looked 100 years ago to launch the Artists Rifles exhibition.
- 07/10/14 It is announced that the four day World Series Americas Cup regatta will take place in the Solent in June 2015 (later revised to July 2015) and July 2016.
- 08/10/14 Starvale Developments buy Haslar Gunboat Yard. They plan to provide 1,200 sq ft of business space and up to 10 new homes. An estimate 80 new jobs could be created.
- 14/10/14 Minister for Portsmouth, Matthew Hancock, visits the city to sign the £124.8m infrastructure package for the Solent area.
- 14/10/14 Ben Ainslie Racing say half the jobs at their new base in Old Portsmouth will be for local people. When it opens in May next year there is expected to be between 50 and 100 new jobs including 14 apprenticeships.
- 15/10/14 Unemployment falls to a six year low, but Gosport's figure rises slightly. Up by 19 to 767.
- 15/10/14 The Solent LEP unveil their Inward Investment Strategy – focused particularly on the marine and maritime sectors – at the UK's first Mipim property exhibition in central London.
- 16/10/14 Tourism South East reveal a 7% increase in tourist numbers to the Portsmouth area compared with the previous year.
- 20/10/14 The Solent LEP launches its £1.85m Bridging the Gap event at Portsmouth Guildhall.
- 26/10/14 Final demolition work commences at Rowner.
- 29/10/14 Results of the public consultation into access to Gosport and Fareham are published:  
78% in favour;  
85% in favour of new Peel Common roundabout;  
75% in favour of Stubbington bypass;  
81% in favour of re-routing southern end Newgate Lane;  
80% in favour of A27 improvements.
- 30/10/14 It is announced that 15 opportunities for business leaders are available on a range of Solent LEP panels:  
Bridging the Gap;  
Business Support Investment Panel;  
Employment & Skills Delivery Panel;  
Solent Growth Forum;  
Inward Investment Delivery Panel;  
Land, Property & Infrastructure Delivery Panel.

# The Solent Enterprise Board

The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was formed after the Government offered local areas the opportunity to take control of their future economic development. It is



a locally-owned partnership between businesses and local authorities and plays a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.

The Solent LEP is led by the business community and supported by three university partners, the further education sector, three unitary authorities, eight district councils, one county council and the voluntary and community sector – all working together to secure a more prosperous and sustainable future for the Solent area.

It is the first LEP in the country to have a fully-elected board of directors. They have been drawn from the area's key business, education and local authority communities.

With a population of more than 1.3 million and over 50,000 businesses, the Solent area is an internationally-recognised key economic hub anchored around the Isle of Wight, the two cities of Portsmouth and Southampton, the M27 corridor and the Solent waterway.

An initial deal will see £124.8 million invested in the Solent area. £46 million has been confirmed in the first year and as part of the Government's on-going commitment to the Solent area it has provided an indicative award of a further £78.8 million of funding from 2016/17 onwards.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is included in the Deal?

• **A package of works in Fareham and Gosport — (aimed at enable access to the strategic sites at Welborne and the Solent Enterprise Zone) — with funding agreed for**

**(1) preliminary works associated with the Stubbington Bypass, and**

**(2) a Local Road network improvement package (including Peel Common Roundabout), and**

**(3) initial site preparation work/land remediation at Welborne, and a provisional allocation to**

**(4) M27 Junction 10 upgrade to all moves starting beyond 2016. It is recognised that in addition to this co-investment and the provisional allocation to M27 junction 10, the local area have identified a requirement for further co-investment to support improvements to the strategic transport infrastructure on the Fareham/Gosport peninsula (including the construction of the Stubbington bypass) and onsite development at Welborne.**

- North Whiteley — routes to join the existing community of Whiteley and the planned new development to the north of Whiteley to the existing highway network

- Cross-Solent connectivity — to modernise and relocate the ferry terminals in East Cowes and Southampton

- IoW College — building a centre of excellence for composites, advanced manufacturing and marine technology

- Eastleigh College — upgrading existing college facilities, including a new Advanced Technology block

- Solent Growth Fund — extending an existing programme to provide further business start up grants, support for young entrepreneurs and expansion funds for existing businesses.

- Solent Mitigation and Itchen Package a package of measures working with Defra and its agencies to take a more strategic approach to environmental disturbance mitigation across the Solent area and to specifically address flooding risk in Itchen Riverside, releasing land for housing and business.

- Better use will be made of public land which will be either re-used or sold where appropriate. Government will work with the LEP and local partners to create a Strategic Land and Infrastructure Board to take a more strategic view of public land and property in the area, and to support the joint planning and delivery of transport. The Cabinet Office Government Property Unit will chair the Board which will prepare a joint asset strategy and a programme for the disposal and re-use or redevelopment of surplus land and property. The Homes and Communities Agency, Ministry of Defence, Department for Transport, Highways Agency and Network Rail will be members of the Solent Land and Infrastructure Board and the Defra agencies. Membership will be extended to other key public and private sector bodies.

continued

**How does this benefit the people of the Solent?**

The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, which brings together two great waterfront cities of Portsmouth and Southampton with the Isle of Wight and south Hampshire, aims to drive growth across the area by investing in high profile strategic projects to enable housing growth and enhance transport connections between Portsmouth and Southampton and across the area, and supporting business growth, with a strong focus on marine and maritime, and advanced manufacturing sectors.

**-What is the benefit for local businesses?**

Both large and small Solent business will benefit from much-needed road improvements between the Gosport peninsula and Portsmouth and improved connectivity between Southampton and the Isle of Wight, as well as the investments in the skills base. Small businesses in the Solent will also benefit from a Solent Growth Fund which will provide £2m per year from 2015 to 2021 to support young entrepreneurs, provide start up grants and expansion funds for existing Solent businesses.

The Growth Deal will bring together local, national and private funding to focus on three key priority areas as identified in the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan:

- Enabling flagship sites for housing and employment
- Enhancing transport connectivity across the area
- Growing the skills base and supporting business growth

In addition, there is £250,000 further funding to support the existing Solent Business Growth Hub, launched earlier this year as part of the Southampton and Portsmouth City Deal. The Business Growth Hub provides a one stop shop to help businesses across the Solent access national and local business support services.

The initial £124.8m Growth Deal builds on significant recent investment in growth opportunities in the Solent, including:

Regional Growth Fund total allocations £24.4m

Growth Places Fund total allocation: £18.1m

Enterprise Zone (Daedalus) funding £18.8m

**THIS FUNDING HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SOLELY BY THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF YOUR LOCAL CONSERVATIVE MPs, CONSERVATIVE LED COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILS.**



It was a very proud day for everyone involved with the Fareham College Group as the practical completion of the new CEMAST centre was celebrated with a ceremony where the plaque was unveiled.

The ceremony was held just 322 days since the College marked the construction of CEMAST, when two students cut the first sod on a patch of rugged ground on what was then nothing more than an old airfield. The ambition and excitement from that day has now been joined by pride and accomplishment.

Due to tireless efforts by so many this project has come to a magnificent



conclusion. The various VIP guests, including Mark Hoban, MP for Fareham, Shaun Woodward, Leader of Fareham Council, Mark Hook, leader of Gosport Council, the Mayors of both Fareham and Gosport, Gary Jeffries, Chair of the LEP and members of the Fareham College Corporation gathered in the impressive concourse and after speeches by the Principal of Fareham College, Nigel Duncan, and Deputy Principal and CEMAST Project Director, Peter Marsh, the plaque was unveiled.



The construction budget was agreed in July of last year at £7.3million. Last week the final account was confirmed with the construction firm Leadbitter at £7.3million; a truly impressive achievement. The College is supremely grateful to the funding partners, who each contributed £3million, for their belief in this project. These partners include Hampshire County Council, the Skills Funding Agency, the DCLG's Regional Growth Fund and the Solent LEP Growing Places Fund.

Local MP Caroline Dinenage was delighted to welcome Matt Hancock the Minister for the Portsmouth area to the Daedalus Enterprise Zone in her Gosport constituency.

During the visit, the Minister was given a tour of the site and looked around the new CEMAST centre where he watched practical demonstrations and spoke to students and apprentices about their experiences at the College. He also visited Aerotech Solent Limited and attended a meeting with Caroline and key stakeholders from the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership.



Speaking after the visit, Caroline said:

“It was fantastic to welcome Matt Hancock to the Daedalus Enterprise Zone and to show him just a few of the exciting projects which are underway at the site.

He was very impressed by the cutting edge facilities at CEMAST as well as the aircraft at Aerotech and we had an extremely productive meeting to discuss the future of the site and what needs to be done to ensure that it reaches its full potential.”

Since becoming elected, Caroline has remained committed to boosting economic growth in her area. She was instrumental in securing Enterprise Zone status for the former disused airfield at Daedalus and has been part of a number of successful Regional Growth Fund bids across the area including the 'Bridging the Gap' fund for small and medium businesses.

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## **Gosport demands better**



**Pick up after your dog  
We are watching**

### **Is this your dog or do you know who owns it?**

The person whose pet this is was quite content to allow it to foul the childrens' play are in Charlotte Drive, Priddys Hard and then just walk away.

With many grassed areas throughout Gosport declared 'dog free zones' the Council is determined to ensure that children can play without their parents worrying that they may encounter the results of this totally irresponsible dog owner who could not be bothered to clean up after his pet.

With the areas being designated as a 'dog free zone' there will be notices posted to this effect and offenders will face penalties.

There can be no excuse, clean up after your dog or face the consequences. Wherever you are in the borough, your photograph could appear in this newsletter so that your neighbours will be aware of your attitude towards our home environment and the safety of our children.

# Councillor Peter Langdon condemns biased inaccurate 'The News' reporting

'Cuts leave council with £740,000 to find in it's budget' - [published 1.10.14](#)

**Wrong**, there is a residual £250,000 to find which was reported and is with care, containable.

Once again another unfair, unbalanced and inaccurate article has been published by the News our local newspaper, demonstrating bias in favour of their Liberal Democrat management political agenda.

At the Gosport P & O Board Meeting held on 29 September (and attended by 'The News' reporter Ben Fishwick throughout) the 2013/14 budget and Audit was reported and debated by members. The main points of the budget and audit reports were:



- The deficit has reduced from £80M to £70M (£57M for Housing subsidy)
- An underspend of circa £730,000 (showing the council do not spend the budget for the sake of spending it).
- The majority of the savings go into our reserve fund which now stands at over £1,750,000 for spend to save initiatives.
- That the Housing Revenue Reserve Fund now stands at £1.8M thus allowing us to build council houses for the first time in 4 decades.
- Our working balance remains at £890,000. Ernst and Young, the external auditors employed to carry out the annual audit on the accounts issued an unqualified report on the statement of accounts saying we have a robust mechanism in dealing with the new NNDR system delivering funds for GBC and that we had an excellent methodology in dealing with our budgetary requirements.
- Reported an indicated revenue support grant reduction in the Central Government grant and business rates retention totalling £740,000 next year and £100,000 in the following two years, and showed how prudent spending this year has helped the council prepare for these reductions. It will not be easy to produce a balanced budget next year but with the savings made this year, the council is in a good position to achieve this and will not abrogate the responsibility to do so.

It is clearly evident that the 'The News' failed to report any of the positive points above, rather choosing to highlight yet another unjustified personal attack on the Council Leader by the Liberal Democrats. Of its merits, it might be said the only surprise was the usual missing headline, '**Resident's FURY at....**'

With regard to the article highlighting the football club, over recent years the council has also invested over £485K in cricket (new pavilion and practice nets) 820K on better changing rooms and clubhouse for rugby, £100K for St Vincent's all weather pitch and has invested £56K in the local bowls clubs as well as the £483K in the football club. We believe we should offer the best facilities where practically possible in all sports including sailing and angling. **No mention of these made in the article to provide balance.**

Instead of reporting the good progress made this year, the 'The News' continues to poison through, inaccuracy and innuendo and lack of proper research, just about everything the council undertakes and achieves? It is apparent that the News cannot be trusted to consider the harm, both to the council and Gosport as a whole, that this irresponsible newspaper is creating.

**Extract taken from 'The News' Website Blog - this posted 2:04 PM on 03/10/2014**

*It should be noted that the football pitch is owned by Gosport Council and that the council has a duty to maintain it in good order. The Football Club leases it from the council at an annual cost of some £7,000.*

*Gosport's investment in the football club was not challenged by the Lib Dems when £171,000 was included in the capital programme 2011/2016. The spend was also small in comparison to that allocated to both Gosport's Rugby and Cricket clubs infrastructure improvements in recent years.*

*Had there been any impropriety the independent auditors would have been on it like a shot.*

*GosportVoice ( Gosport Lib Dem spokesperson) simply tries to distort everything. As for the last three years, this financial year's Independent audit resulted in a first class report.*

*The unpleasant and distorted article above was once again the work of the Lib Dems and a reporter who fails to determine the facts and swallows everything that The Lib Dem leader says. There was much good news for the reporter to report at the meeting all of which was ignored. Why?*

*Of interest Government's closure of the Government Audit Commission and introduction of competitive tendering has resulted in the cost of Gosport's audits reducing from some £150,000 a year to £80,000.*

# Association events, all are welcome.

## 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Hill Head and Stubbington are having their annual Christmas Coffee Morning 10 30 am, at Jill and Roger Norman's 47 Cuckoo Lane. Seasonal drinks, mince pies, raffle etc. everyone welcome. Ticket price £4.50 from Roger & Jill on 01329 663269.

## 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Conservative Luncheon Club Christmas Luncheon, at Court Barn Conservative Club, 12.30pm for 1pm. Special guest: Caroline Dinenage MP. For Members of the Luncheon Club only. Tickets can be obtained from Lesley in the Office – Tel : 02392 588400

## 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Stephen & Sarah Duncan-Brown's Christmas Buffet lunch. To be held at their home 10 Marine Parade East, Lee-on-the-Solent at 12.30pm Price: £12 per head. Raffle. Please contact Sarah on 02392 552325 for tickets.

## 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Chairman's Christmas Coffee Morning. Come along to 167 Stoke Road from 10.30am to 12.30pm for our annual coffee morning and the '100 Club' Christmas draw. Everyone is very welcome.

## 2015

## 17<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Western Wards Annual New Year Supper at the Bulson Hall, Lee-on-the-Solent. Guest Speaker is our very own Caroline Dinenage MP. Tickets £17.50 per person Time: 7pm for 7.30pm Raffle. Tickets can be obtained from Sarah Duncan-Brown on 02392 552325 or Jennifer Evans on 02392 550640.

## 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015

Executive Council Meeting at 167 - 7pm

## 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015

AGM at Parish Centre 7 for 7.30pm



**Do you need advice?**

**Money problems, tenancy, domestic disputes etc**

**Free impartial advice in strict confidence**

**Tel: 08444 111 306 for telephone advice admin Tel: 02392 520112**

**Gosport Citizens Advice Bureau, a registered charity providing free confidential advice on the phone, in person or on-line. No appointment necessary, call in at -**

**Martin Snape House, 96, Pavillion Way, Gosport, Hants. (Behind Morrisons)**

**Gosportcab.org.uk**

## Can Common Sense Win??

## The Editor's Grump (a very personal view)

My analysis of the UKIP situation does have me worried, that surely my interpretation of the facts cannot be right. It all seems so ridiculous.

People have become incensed over the immigration problem that appears to be hurting us all so much as we see our culture and our way of life being taken over by immigrants who have taken advantage of the European Union's right of free movement and the generosity of the British benefits system. This is happening to the extent where our sense identity is being suppressed in a flood of different cultures, religions, languages and threats from radicalisation perpetuated by a mentality that belongs back in the dark ages.

Our laws are now coming second to the European Courts where the judges are not of our British culture and appear intent on thrusting laws and regulations upon us which are alien to our sense of fair play and common sense. The phrase in 'Europe but not ruled by Europe' is one that many will have great affinity with. We should be able to exclude those with a criminal past, to keep our country safe, but we have seen human rights lawyers grow rich at our expense and to our disadvantage.

We do not appreciate being told what to do in our own country or who we can allow in. No help at all are our Lib Dem partners in coalition with their obsessive love of the Human Rights Act that appears to favour the undeserving.

UKIP's policy is simplistic to the extreme, 'get out of Europe' and there are those who will jump onto that particular bandwagon before they have considered the consequences. Our Conservative party is battling against rules and regulations that for us are destructive and untenable; we would like to impose strict criteria for those wishing to come to our country. Basically we would want people to come here with skills that we need and who can contribute, pay taxes and will respect our British way of life and traditions.

We cannot afford to blindly accept those who arrive with nothing to offer and who are drawn to our shores by the promise of benefits. Our Lib Dem coalition partners however are travelling in a different direction that prevents us moving forward. They are determined that the EU super-state should be perpetuated at all costs.

David Cameron has promised a referendum on EU membership in 2017, if he gains a majority in the elections this coming May. Now here is where my brain begins to hurt. If David Cameron wins a majority and the referendum is held, whatever the result it will not be to the benefit of UKIP. If the British people vote to leave the EU, UKIP is redundant. If the people vote to stay in the EU, then similarly UKIP becomes a spent force.

UKIP policies for government are far from being clear and/or credible. They will not have to deliver so they can promise whatever is popular without reference to deliverability or the country's best interest.

My analysis tells me that UKIP cannot contemplate a referendum that will remove the main plank of their existence. So we have to ask, just what are they going to do? If enough people vote UKIP and we get a Labour government let in by the back door, they may have their cause intact, but a Miliband led government can only result in even closer union with Europe and Farage's aspirations will be lost in the socialist mists of time.

For those in the European Parliament who would not wish to see Britain leave, Nigel Farage has to be their best ally in their machinations to scupper a Conservative majority in 2015.

**They do not fear UKIP, but they do remember Margaret Thatcher and her Conservative determination to stand up for Britain.**



**IF YOU ARE PROUD TO BE BRITISH**

**IF YOU WANT CHOICE**

**THEN YOU MUST VOTE CONSERVATIVE**

**THERE IS NO OTHER WAY**