

NO INCREASE IN COUNCIL TAX

Conservatives promise no increase in council tax for the third year running

Gosport Conservatives have pledged to freeze council tax again next year. It would be the third year running the Conservative administration will set a zero per cent increase in tax for local residents. Having made difficult and tough decisions last year to keep costs down and improve efficiency, the Conservatives have maintained delivery of all services to the public.

Over the past 3 years the workforce has been reduced by about 25 per cent. 41 jobs were cut last year including 40 per cent of senior management staff. This has enabled the Conservatives to streamline the organisation and make Gosport Borough Council very lean and efficient.

Council leader Mark Hook said "Despite the coalition Governments cutbacks we have still delivered all the services the public demand from us. The new contracts put in place in April for our main duties (refuse, street cleaning, and grounds maintenance) have delivered savings totalling millions of pounds over the lifetime of the contracts. With prudent housekeeping we will deliver another year with no increase to the council tax.

COALITION WORKING IN GOSPORT.

Many residents will be pleased to know, under your Conservative administration, there are regular meetings held with the leaders of the 4 opposition parties, (Labour, Independent, Liberal Democrat Independent and Liberal Democrat) to keep them informed what is happening in the Town Hall. Three of the four play an active part and attend regularly to keep in touch with what is happening. The only party not to attend a single meeting is Peter Chegwyn's Liberal Democrats. Perhaps they are too busy in-fighting to attend?

CONSERVATIVES DELIVER GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY

It's official!

That's the verdict from the public spending watchdog, the Audit Commission. They praised the Conservative administration for making "tough decisions made by political leaders in the face of budget cuts this year." In its annual report into the council's finances, the Audit Commission has given Gosport's Conservative run administration a stamp of approval. They said: "Officers and political leaders have taken tough decisions and acted promptly to address the financial challenges faced by the council. It has made good progress in delivering savings."

JOIN US?

Would you like to consider joining Gosport's Conservative Association and the Conservative Party nationally? For as little as £5 you can become a registered supporter or a full member of the Party for £25.00, with full voting rights. Either way your help would be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested we would be most pleased to hear from you.

Details can be obtained from **GCA, 167, Stoke Road, Gosport, PO12 1SE**, email office@goscons.plus.com or by telephoning **02392588400**.

WATERFRONT COMMUNITY FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

Gosport Conservatives have always believed the Waterfront festival could be delivered through private sponsorship rather than have public money pay for it. A community body comprising of 2 Conservatives, Mark Hook and Justin Henshaw, 1 Independent councillor Dave Smith, and a local business, GS Builders, set to the task of delivering the festival at no cost to the council tax payer. Working together, supported by 9 Conservative councillors giving their time freely, they put on a great weekend of entertainment watched by over 15,000 spectators. "Not only did we save the council taxpayer £30,000" said Cllr Justin Henshaw "we also provided top class acts like Toploader and T Rex. It was great to see so many people enjoy themselves." Work is already taking place to ensure next years event is just as successful.

AND THE WORK GOES ON.....

Under the Conservatives many improvements to Gosport have happened and at the same time your council tax has not changed. A few examples of what we have delivered include:-

- Improved sheltered accommodation for the elderly at Juniper Court, Bridgemary
- A new pontoon at Gosport Ferry
- More affordable housing at Alver Village
- Improved play areas for young people
- More street cleaners

There are many more which we are currently working on including:-

- Enterprise Zone at Daedalus, creating jobs for local people
- The veterans village at Haslar
- New Gosport leisure park on the old Holbrook site
- Better provision for homeless families at Agnew House, Forton
- Improving the Alver Valley Country Park.

Gosport Conservatives will continue to deliver the best for Gosport including value for money services.

In conclusion please remember, whilst the other political parties are busy fighting each other, we will continue to fight for you!

We can make things happen!