



Steve Brine's

Winter 2009

WINCHESTER POST

For Winchester, Alresford and surrounding villages from Prospective Conservative MP, Steve Brine

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Believing in Winchester - major focus on planning! www.stevebrine.com

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Praise for Hospital at Party Conference www.stevebrine.com

READY FOR CHANGE

Yes! But Winchester must vote for it says Steve Brine

The environment, Britain's economic crisis and the NHS were right at the top of the agenda for Winchester's Prospective Conservative MP at this year's Party Conference in Manchester.

Local family man Steve Brine spoke in the main health debate and made a passionate defence of Winchester's Royal Hampshire County Hospital. "I didn't move here to become the local MP", Steve told The Winchester Post. "This is my home and the place Susie and I want to bring up our family. Emily was born at the RHCH in 2007 and was at the front of my mind as I addressed conference on the importance of maternity services and A&E to the future of District General Hospitals."

You can see more on the back page.

As widely reported, George Osborne outlined specific measures to start tackling the country's damaging debt crisis. Steve says; "As I watched the Shadow Chancellor make clear, we are all in this together and we all have to deal with the legacy of this Government if we are to put Britain back on her feet.

"I was particularly pleased to see the focus on protecting vital public sector jobs in Winchester and Military personnel on active service overseas as well as details of our ambitious programme of apprenticeships to give young people locally real hope of sustainable long-term jobs for the future."



■ Steve Brine attended the Climate Clinic/Stop Climate Chaos reception and signed a pledge ahead of the crucial Copenhagen Summit in December 2009. He says; "This is an extremely important summit, we must ensure that a 'real deal' is done at Copenhagen.

An agreement can only be considered a success if it is capable of keeping warming below 2 degrees Celsius (the threshold for dangerous climate instability). The UK government should not be afraid to blow the whistle if a proposed deal will fall short of securing

2 degrees. Conservatives also want to see a deal done to secure the future of our rainforests at the summit; the issue which originally got me involved in politics as a schoolboy." See much more on this story and Steve Brine www.stevebrine.com

TOO CLOSE TO CALL...

The next General Election in Winchester looks set to be another close run thing. "No-one owns Winchester" says Prospective MP - turn to page 3

A Green Winchester publication, printed on paper from sustainable forests

BELIEVING IN WINCHESTER

The issues of housing, planning and development are never far from the local papers here in Winchester.

The city and surrounding areas have faced a barrage of new developments in recent years and we know developers keep a beady eye for their next opportunity. Many believe centrally imposed government housing targets are to blame and are looking to the Conservatives for help.

Prospective MP Steve Brine says; "I have consistently campaigned against these dreaded targets. If I become the local MP as part of a new Government led by David Cameron we will abolish them

along with all of Labour's regional planning nonsense. Put simply, I believe in Winchester and in the ability of people here to decide for themselves how this area will change and develop."

Conservative-led Winchester City Council has shown real leadership ahead of a possible change of Government next year and recently suspended its Local Development Framework. Council Leader George Beckett says; "The effect of this new programme is to ensure that no irreversible or significant decisions are taken, particularly as regards housing numbers and Strategic Development sites, before the general election."

The BIG ISSUE

90-home scheme rejected

Winchester: Reserve site not needed yet - planners

■ Above: Glimpses from The Hampshire Chronicle and right 'Winchester we have a problem!' - Steve Brine's Winchester Post front page from Spring 2008

Greenfield sites in the firing line

Up to 400 new homes could be built in plan.



www.stevebrine.com/winchesterchallenge

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR BARTON FARM?

Cala Homes say they will submit an outline planning application for 2000 homes on the Andover Road site by the end of 2009 and recently held further public exhibitions in Winchester.

They involved the revised 'Masterplan' which "draws on the best qualities of Winchester's suburbs yet have a distinct character true to its time - fully integrated with surrounding neighbourhoods."

Prospective Winchester MP Steve Brine tells The Winchester Post; "I attended a briefing with Cala in October and it is clear to me they have done a lot of work and invested a lot of money in this revised plan. We now have the re-routed Andover Road and the 'Barton Farm High Street' proposal plus all sorts of hyperbole about Winchester deserving the "very best" from this new development. My view hasn't changed - Winchester does deserve the best and should not be hoodwinked by slick

presentation and piece-by-piece attempts to pacify objectors living near the site.

"None of this faces up to the simple fact that Winchester's infrastructure cannot cope with another 2000 houses on its doorstep. Cala can rush this all they like but a General Election is coming and if the Conservatives win we will put the Barton Farm decision back solely in the hands of elected Winchester representatives."

www.stevebrine.com/bartonfarm



RESERVE SITES



■ Cllr James Stephens with Steve Brine at Pitt Manor with Popcorn keeping an eye out for any developers!"

Pitt Manor is a large site off the Romsey Road on the outskirts of Winchester.

Plans emerged recently for 200 homes on the site. Prospective MP Steve says; "This development would affect a large part of Winchester and we have to ask how much more this part of Winchester and its existing infrastructure can really take?"

Pitt Manor is known as a "Reserve Site" in the existing Local Plan as identified by the previous Liberal Democrat administration at Winchester City Council. It is triggered IF the area fails to meet housing targets but the (now Conservative controlled) Council recently made clear it will seek every legal means possible to protect sites such as Pitt Manor pending a possible change of Government next year.

LOCAL HOMES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE



Centrally imposed housing targets force us to embark on large unsustainable development to satisfy the Government - not local need.

Steve Brine says; "Our development policy is not anti-housing, far from it. We need new affordable homes for local people such as those in Bridgett's Lane, Martyr Worthy" (pictured). The Prospective MP has discussed with Conservative leader David Cameron plans that will oversee the creation of new Local Housing Trusts for those communities that wish to develop new housing to benefit their area. "If elected next year, a Conservative Government

will believe in Winchester," Steve adds. "And we will relax the rules that prevent thousands of empty properties being used to help people on local authority waiting lists."





STAYING AT HOME

■ Prospective Winchester MP Steve Brine has praised a new service that is helping older people stay on top of their gardens. Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council are working with the Shaw Trust to provide the subsidised programme for over 60's, launched in July 2009. Hampshire commissioned this service following consultation which identified garden maintenance support as a key factor that could assist people to stay in their own homes and maintain independence. Steve is pictured above with Mr & Mrs Bogan in Abbots Barton who are delighted with the help.

You can access the service by calling 0845 6044 643.



ALLOTMENTS IN SOUTH WONSTON

■ South Wonston Councillor Stephen Godfrey and Prospective MP Steve Brine are backing residents in South Wonston aiming to open a brand new allotment site on land adjoining Worthy Down.

Avril Burt, who lives in Downs Road, has formed the South Wonston Allotment Steering Group and is working with the Parish Council to negotiate a possible future purchase of land (off Lower Road) from the MoD.

More information www.stevebrine.com/campaigns

NEWS-IN-BRIEF

Honest Food Campaign



The Conservative Party's 'Honest Food' campaign has achieved a major success in its bid to improve country of origin food labelling by securing the backing of Tesco, the UK's largest retailer.

Schools

A new Conservative government would give all schools the chance to apply for 'Academy' status – with schools rated 'outstanding' receiving pre-approval. And to help reduce the burden on all schools, the Conservatives would simplify Ofsted inspections and give inspection exemptions to 'outstanding' schools.

Speed Cameras



The Shadow Transport Secretary announced radical plans to improve road safety and end the relentless expansion of fixed speed cameras at the recent Conservative Conference. Theresa Villiers MP said that Labour's dependence on fixed speed cameras has "blinded them to the effectiveness of the alternatives".

ID Cards Update

The man aiming to be Winchester's next MP has confirmed his desire to see the back of Government plans for ID cards. Steve Brine said he was pleased to see some movement from Ministers in this regard but added; "I want to see the scrapping of the National Identity Register and ContactPoint database and a complete reversal of the rise of the surveillance state."

You can catch full detail – and links – for all these stories at www.stevebrine.com

NEW WINCHESTER STUDENT SOCIETY



A brand new student society has been launched at the University of Winchester which aims to elect a new Conservative MP for the city.

The Winchester Student Conservative Society (WSCS) was unveiled recently at the annual "Freshers' Fair" event.

Steve Brine TV - watch a short-film from this year's Freshers Fair at www.stevebrine.tv and contact the Society at WinchSCS@googlemail.com or via Facebook.

Pictured; Society President, Martin Higson (right) with Tom Hanson.

BACKING OLYMPIC AMBITION

Steve Brine paid a visit to Winchester City Penguins Swimming Club at a recent training session.

The Prospective MP for Winchester met coaches Kevin Terry and Stewart Crowe as well as parents who are keen to enlist support for the club's campaign to bring a new competition standard swimming pool to Winchester. Steve said; "I want Winchester to have the very best in every area. We now have an Olympic standard running track at Bar End and we should aspire to have a swimming pool of the highest standard as well."



■ Steve with the coaches and Jan Warwick of the Penguins.

TOO CLOSE TO CALL

The next General Election in Winchester looks set to be close.

From Mark Oaten's initial 21,000 majority in 1997, Ladbrokes have local family man Steve Brine and the Liberal Democrats neck and neck, with both parties on odds of 5/6. Steve says; "The local Liberal Democrats seem to think Winchester is already won but I don't think people here want to be taken for granted. No-one owns Winchester and my message to local voters is – whatever the polls say, the next General Election will be much closer than many people think. Gordon Brown currently has a comfortable majority of seats in the Commons and it will take every possible Conservative vote to remove New Labour from Number 10."



Winchester Hospital praised at Conservative Conference

Prospective MP Steve Brine, spoke passionately in support of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital when he addressed the Conservative conference in Manchester.

Speaking in the main health debate (pictured) he said small District General Hospitals, such as Winchester, were the bedrock of the NHS and called on the Shadow Health Secretary to protect maternity and A&E services in a future Conservative Government.

He said; "David Cameron has pledged the NHS will be our number one priority in Government and it is my priority in Winchester.

"I told the conference that we have an excellent hospital with one of the lowest infection rates in Europe and rising patient numbers. But I also reminded the Shadow Health team that rising costs, from nationally negotiated pay awards to the impact of the EU's Working Time Directive, are pushing our local Trust into difficult times.

Steve made clear that although he accepts change and reform at the RHCH in coming years, the focus must always remain on services – not buildings or dogma – for the benefit of local people. He said his "red lines" for Winchester Hospital remained obstetric-led maternity as well as consultant-led A&E

which he called the "twin pillars" of a successful hospital at the heart of the community."



"Steve Brine TV – You can watch Steve in action at www.stevebrine.tv



■ Sleeves rolled up! Steve Brine on the wards at the RHCH chatting with staff, Chief Executive Martin Wakeley and Shadow Health Minister Anne Milton.

www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs

Want to CHANGE the Government?

- YES** I would be pleased to support Steve Brine's campaign
- I enclose a donation of £_____ towards Steve Brine's Parliamentary Campaign (payable to Winchester Conservative Association)
- I can deliver a few leaflets where I live
- I can put up a poster at election time
- I pledge my vote to Steve Brine
- Please contact me, I would like to help

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone _____

Mobile: _____

Please return to: **Steve Brine, Winchester Conservatives, The Coach House, Worthy Park, Winchester SO21 1AN**

The information you supply will be treated in the strictest confidence in accordance with the Data protection act 1998. From time to time we may contact you with further details on Party Policy. Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive further details.

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Talking water with top local charity

The Shadow International Development Secretary visited Winchester recently to meet with Winchester based charity Wells for India.

Andrew Mitchell MP was invited to the city by Prospective Conservative

MP Steve Brine who specifically wanted the Shadow Cabinet member to meet representatives from the charity. His visit coincided with the annual trip to the UK of Om Prakash Sharma, who is the charity's Programme Director in India.

Wells for India, based at The Winchester Centre, in St George's Street, works with local partners on water related projects in Rajasthan helping to provide access to clean water for drinking, cooking, washing, care of animals, crops and basic sanitation.

Jos Garbett said, "Andrew Mitchell seemed genuinely interested to hear how we're using low-cost, sustainable technologies to provide safe, clean water for some of the poorest people in the world. This was a great opportunity to meet the Shadow Secretary of State, and we're grateful to Steve Brine for arranging it."

Prospective Winchester MP Steve Brine added, "Wells for India is a successful and effective charity. It's very much a Winchester organisation and we're really proud of it. I know we have many problems at home but millions of people live every day without the basics and access to clean water is right at the top of that list. International Development will be central to the way a David Cameron administration approaches foreign policy, I hope Andrew learnt a lot from the Wells for India team and will take that knowledge into Government if we are elected next year."

www.wellsforindia.org

