



Steve Brine's WINCHESTER POST

Produced at no cost to the taxpayer by local Conservative MP Steve Brine and delivered by volunteers across Winchester, Alresford and surrounding villages.

MERGER OPPORTUNITY FOR HOSPITAL

- *Two trusts become one under newly unveiled plans*
- *Let's make this work for Winchester says local MP*

Hospital services are set to merge across Winchester and Basingstoke as two trusts become one under recently announced plans.

Basingstoke & North Hampshire NHS Foundation Trust and Winchester & Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust are drawing up plans to merge their organisations by April 2012.

The move will create a new 'super' Foundation Trust that is well placed to work with local GPs as they assume control of commissioning under major NHS reforms.

Winchester MP Steve Brine said he backed the move which could prove a real opportunity; "The Trust has kept me fully updated and I have consistently said to them I am only interested in protecting the key services we rely on locally. That

means full service A&E and maternity in Winchester and all that sits behind them to maintain a District General Hospital worthy of the name.

"There will be change but if merger with Basingstoke can create a new foundation trust that is sustainable for the long-term and ends the constant speculation about Winchester Hospital, I will back it whole-heartedly and I hope people locally will as well.

"The fact this proposal has the strong support of clinicians at both trusts is absolutely fundamental in my view. I will be staying very close to this process and keeping local services for Winchester centre-stage as I do."

See more
www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs



Winchester MP Steve Brine joined key local business figures at a recent Parliamentary Breakfast organised by the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce of the Winchester Business Improvement District (BID). Steve outlined the Government's growth agenda, talked about some of the key opportunities available to local business in 2011 and held a Q&A session with delegates.

Find out more and have your say www.stevebrine.com/business

News IN BRIEF

Bus summit for young people

Young people in the Winchester District had the chance to meet with bus companies recently thanks to a bus 'summit' organised by local MP Steve Brine. Transport is one of the top priorities for the Youth of Winchester (YOW) youth council so it was an ideal opportunity to discuss the main problems young people face on public transport and fulfilled an election promise made by Mr Brine. The meeting raised issues such as proof of age ID for young people, some bus drivers' negative perceptions of young people, and bus times.

Big Society goes local in Hursley



Hursley residents have been responding to Winchester City Council's Blueprint

Survey. This is an opportunity for communities to feed back their needs for the next 20 years. Residents reported their views on housing, education, employment, facilities, lifestyle and transport. Hursley Parish Councillor **Jan Warwick** (pictured with Steve Brine MP) led the local team and the findings will be available on the village website.

Local to Hursley: www.hursleyvillage.info

Winchester: www.communityblueprint.co.uk/

Recycling in Winchester

Local council campaigner **Gary Adams** (pictured) has a bee in his bonnet about recycling. Gary, who is standing for City Council in the St Barts/Hyde area of Winchester, says rubbish collections continue to be a hot topic; "One of my greatest frustrations is the limit to the type of materials that are collected for recycling. At the moment, certain items cannot be recycled. This needs to change, not only for the obvious environmental reasons, but because recycling more means a more even distribution between recyclable and non-recyclable waste, and as a result less rubbish sitting in bins, garages and gardens each week."



Find more www.garykadams.wordpress.com

Common sense plan for future of H.M.O's

...that's 'Home of multiple occupation' in case you wondered!

Winchester MP Steve Brine and local Stanmore campaigner Jamie Scott (pictured) are backing new powers for councils to manage shared homes in the city.

Winchester City Council will be given the power to create special "zones" which would require landlords to submit a planning application if they wanted to rent their properties to unrelated tenants – know as Homes of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) – in that area.

The change will enable high concentrations of HMOs to be controlled where councillors' decide there is a problem but will prevent landlords across the country being tied in red tape.

Jamie Scott says; "Local councils know where there are issues with the number of shared homes and now the Government has given them the power to have a say over how many are allowed. In Winchester that could well be Stanmore where many residents have expressed concerns



about the high number of HMOs. All of this is tied to the parking issue in Stanmore which is getting worse and worse and calls for a much bolder

solution than the half-baked two-hour permit scheme currently being mooted by the Lib Dems on Winchester City Council."

What do you think? Let Steve & Jamie know by calling 01962 791110 or email campaigns@stevebrine.com

Parking rethink urged

Local residents, business leaders and Winchester's local MP have voiced grave concerns about planned changes to parking arrangements in the city.

Steve Brine said proposals to introduce Sunday charges were badly thought-through and City Councillors should listen again to detailed representations being made by local business leaders and residents; "I understand the council must examine every possible way to balance its budget in difficult times and I am not saying Sunday charging should be ruled out altogether. I do however, think 10am is too early and the administration should seriously consider a noon start time. I think that would go some way to satisfying the businesses as well as city centre churches who fear the early charge will hit their congregations."

Steve Brine said he had received a lot of feedback on the proposals since featuring the issue in the Winter 2010 edition of *The Winchester Post*.

The MP said he was also really disappointed to see the free half-hour parking in some city centre spaces disappear and was working with city councillor **Fiona Mather**, who represents St Michael Ward, to make



representations to the council. Fiona says; "This is a really bad idea and I would urge the council to think again before it risks real damage to some of our retailers in The Square who need all the help we can give them right now."

Barton Farm takes on national significance as Localism Bill finally arrives



■ Steve Brine MP at the High Court with Save Barton Farm group members; and inset, one of the local City Councillors fighting Barton Farm, Cllr Eileen Berry.

The publication of the long-awaited Localism Bill in Parliament (on 17 January) has thrust Winchester's Barton Farm into the national spotlight.

The landmark Bill contains dozens of proposals that promise to reverse years of centralising and hoarding of power by Government.

Local MP Steve Brine told The Winchester Post; "This Bill will give our local communities powers to save local assets threatened with closure, by allowing them to bid for their ownership and management. It will end the era of central imposition of council tax caps with local residents having the power to veto excessive increase by demanding a referendum. Radical reform of the planning system will also give new weight to properly constituted 'neighbourhood plans'.

But the MP said it was the clause that will finally abolish regional strategies which will resonate most here. "The Localism Bill will abolish top-down regional targets in favour of democratic local decision-making with focused local plans that reflect Winchester's vision. It is probably the smallest clause in the Bill but the line that repeals the regional strategies once and for all is crystal clear and should be heard loud and clear in Winchester."

Steve concluded by saying the ongoing proposal to build 2,000 houses on Barton Farm could no longer be justified on the grounds it satisfies Government housing targets. "It is now for local people and Winchester City Council to decide together what is best for our city and to take account what local people want and what the local area actually needs in terms of new housing provision."

WARM HOMES



Insulation for park home residents was on the agenda recently when Winchester's MP visited a park home in Littleton.

Hundreds of people across the Winchester area live in park homes which are often poorly insulated leading to high heating costs and poor environmental impact. National Energy Action have been working to help park home residents heat their property more affordably, and have just helped insulate six homes on the Flowerdown Mobile Park Home Site.

Steve Brine MP also recently spoke in Parliament on the subject of park homes in a special debate among backbenchers;

See www.stevebrine.com for more information.

Meet the Manager

Local MP Steve Brine dropped into Winchester station recently to chat to manager Nicky Holland about refurbishments, building work and a host of commuter issues. They met as South West Trains were conducting a regular 'Meet the Manager' session.

Steve says; "I am a regular commuter like thousands of my constituents so issues around our station and the service provided by South West Trains are vitally important to many people locally."

Please feedback your thoughts and experiences on service, station and prices campaigns@stevebrine.com



More... NEWS IN BRIEF

Peepo! - New baby for Steve & Susie



MP Steve Brine and his wife Susie now have a son after the arrival of little William just before Christmas. William was born at Winchester's Royal Hampshire County Hospital. "We are thrilled and Emily is already besotted with her new baby brother. We would like to send our heartfelt thanks to all the team at the RHCH who looked after us so beautifully."

Winchester MP leads the fight against breast cancer



Local MP Steve Brine has continued to support the fight against breast cancer after meeting with the Prime Minister. Mr Brine led a delegation from several breast cancer groups to Downing Street in December to discuss issues around the advanced secondary stage of the disease.

Representatives from groups including Breast Cancer Care and Breakthrough Breast Cancer informed David Cameron of their concerns over access to clinical specialists and the accuracy of data on people living with the secondary stage.

Friends of CAB - Alresford

Alresford councillor Ernie Jeffs is backing a new organisation aiming to bring C.A.B outreach services back to the town. Ernie joined Steve Brine and local Lib Dem councillors at the launch of the Friends of Alresford C.A.B last year.

Can you help FACABO? www.facabo.org.uk



Nick Clegg's AV referendum

May 5th this year will (subject to approval in Parliament) see a national referendum on proposals to change the way we elect MPs. It will decide whether we continue to use what is known as first-past-the-post, where the candidate with the most votes wins, or move to a complicated system, known as the Alternative Vote, where second, third, fourth preferences (and so on) are taken into account.



Winchester MP Steve Brine says: "Our current tried and tested voting system gives everyone one vote and delivers clear outcomes. The Alternative Vote is a complicated, expensive (this referendum is costing £93m to hold!) and unfair system that gives some people more votes than others. It might sound like a small change but the danger is in the detail – it's a politicians' fix. Governments would be selected through backroom deals and people would have no control over where their vote goes. It should be voters that decide who the best candidate is, not the voting system. As an individual I will be voting NO in May and concentrating on the real issues facing the people I represent through vitally important local elections held on the same day."

See many more reasons to vote no at www.no2av.org

Mayor opens MP's constituency 'shop'

Winchester Mayor Cllr Richard Izard was on hand to cut the ribbon at a brand new constituency 'shop' opened by Steve Brine MP.

Cllr Izard joined local shopkeepers and other community representatives along with some of the constituents Mr Brine has helped so far. The office is situated next to Pickards newsagents, at 9 Stockbridge Rd in Fulflood.

Steve Brine says: "So many constituents contact me online or via social media these days, which is great, but there is no substitute for good old-fashioned face to face contact. There are of course still a number of people who don't have internet access and they deserve to be represented as well. I hope many people will continue to use the shop to contact their MP."



Opened with a handshake! "I will be the most open and accessible MP we've had," says Steve Brine outside his new constituency shop and office in central Winchester.

The future's green at N.C.S



A local firm is working hard to create the green jobs of the future.

Training company New Career Skills, based in Chandler's Ford, retrains mature career changers for jobs as plumbers, green engineers and electricians. In the last three years it has offered courses that enable people to get into the potentially lucrative 'green' market and provides training on the likes of solar power and heat pumps.

A strong advocate of creating jobs in the green industry, local MP Steve Brine met with students training at



the centre recently including those heating systems of the future. www.newcareerskills.co.uk

Join the winning team!

I would like to join the local Conservatives

I can deliver a few leaflets

I can put up a poster at election time

Contact me, let's talk!

Name: _____

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Contact your local MP / Make a Surgery appointment

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