

FIGHT FOR FARNHAM

...for your children and future generations

The Farnham Interest Group (FIG), represents The Farnham Society, Farnham Building Preservation Trust and East Street Action. It has been fighting against the changes made by Waverley Borough Council and Crest Nicholson (CN), the developer, which would create a massive and unsustainable scheme on land off East Street and around Brightwell House.

FIG IS NOT OPPOSED TO DEVELOPMENT, BUT A MUCH BETTER SCHEME IS CALLED FOR

Waverley is putting CN demands before local needs and is failing to seek the best possible scheme by going back to the market and allowing other developers to come forward. The limitations and changes to the scheme (which includes moving out the Gostrey Centre) are all justified by financial imperative and by CN's inability to make the sums add up.

However, this view has been formed without any attempt to retender the development; Waverley has simply accepted CN demands. FIG is of the view that if a new tendering process were undertaken then it may well be possible to attract other developers who could promote a better scheme for Farnham.

Just look overleaf for the full list of changes, losses and broken promises, completed or yet to come.

THE ONLY WAY TO HALT THE SCHEME IS BY JUDICIAL REVIEW (JR)

This is a legal process. To find out about it and what outcomes it can present, go to: www.farnhamsociety.org.uk; to undertake it, we need to RAISE FUNDS from the people of Farnham and around.

Our fundraising has had a magnificent start with a gift from a mystery local donor of £50,000! We need £85,000 more for high quality legal representation. Will you respond, in the same public-spirited way as our donor, always remembering, as with the widow and her mite, £10 from one person could be as generous as £10,000 from another.

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR FARNHAM?

Time is very short. Please fill in the donation form below and send it with your cheque to the address shown below; or you may prefer to pay by bank transfer to Sort Code 30-93-20 Account No. 00119575. We only go ahead if we have raised enough in donations by the closing date, SUNDAY 1st August, three weeks or less from when you read this.

Encourage friends of like mind, family or neighbours to cherish and protect our town's future. For more donation forms, photocopy your own before filling it in or ring 01252 722193 (answerphone if no direct reply).

With our grateful thanks for your support,

Simon Bradbury (Farnham Interest Group)
Email: sfbrads@btinternet.com

• Your chance to protect Farnham's future

• Waverley: so many changes, losses and broken promises

• Stop Waverley's approval to the changes to the Brightwells scheme

• Every donation counts; all information held in confidence



FIGHT FOR FARNHAM JUDICIAL REVIEW 2016 CAMPAIGN

I donate £.....to the campaign. All information will be held in confidence and all donations gratefully acknowledged.

Should the case not proceed or the claim be withdrawn all donations will be returned pro rata.

Name (s)

Address.....

Phone..... email

Please **EITHER** send this form with a cheque, made payable to The Farnham Society, to the following address:

FIG, c/o 13 Lickfolds Road, Rowledge, GU10 4AF

Please write the reference FIGjr on the back of your cheque.

OR donate by BACS transfer to The Farnham Society at Sort Code 30-93-20 account number 00119575. Please give the reference FIGjr when transferring by BACS and also email sfbrads@btinternet.com giving your name, address and amount donated to confirm that the transfer has been made.

CHANGES, LOSSES AND BROKEN PROMISES

In 2002, Waverley published a Brief, setting out what was required from the developers, and what was to be provided for the people of Farnham. Since then, the economic balance has been altered in favour of the developer, many changes have crept in and many promises broken.

IT'S ALL ABOUT MONEY

In 2008, Waverley expected a land payment from CN of **£8.76m**. It is now being offered **£3.19m**. In December 2003, for a bigger earlier scheme, Waverley invited Herald readers to submit ideas for how to spend part of a dividend from CN in the region of **£20m**. While land values have rocketed, the return to us has plummeted.

The development has been much delayed, not by the protesters in Farnham - as Waverley would have you believe - but by CN's apparent inability to provide the financial assurances required to complete the scheme. As recently as the Compulsory Purchase Inquiry on the Marlborough Head (2013), it claimed it was viable and "shovel ready". Having failed to attract funding from commercial money markets, it now appears that Surrey County Council is investing in the scheme. For the first time since 2003 other potential bidders should now be allowed to come forward who might be able to make a better pitch and deliver more for Farnham.

The affordable housing provision now contains no social housing for renting, available for those on the council waiting list.

THE BUILDINGS AND NATURAL ASSETS WE WOULD LOSE

Waverley reneged on the promise of a new purpose built **Gostrey Centre** at the heart of the proposed scheme, and the Centre has been forced to relocate to the edge of central Farnham to the Memorial Hall, in the face of developer demand for more shops making more money.

We used to stroll through the gardens under lovely trees watching the bowls and the tennis; Waverley and CN now plan to build on part of the gardens and our listed **Brightwell House** would be dwarfed by the proposed extensions and the surrounding blocks.

100 established trees face the chop throughout the site; a sacrifice of natural assets and environmental benefits for bricks and mortar. The grounds of **Brightwell House** have not been preserved in their entirety, and the development would encroach on the green space of the gardens.

The **Redgrave Theatre** is due to be demolished. Farnham has not been recompensed for the loss of the theatre building which was built by public subscription.

The FIG started the fight to save Farnham in 2013 when it stood up against a Compulsory Purchase Order that would destroy our popular landmark pub, the **Marlborough Head**, a great community asset but now part of a land grab for the development.

The proposed **Town Square** is not a civic open space but will become a privatised 'patio' for retail tenants; it would be controlled by the management company of the whole site. Not most people's idea of a **Town Square**.

ABOUT YOUR HEALTH

Surrey County Council, responsible for roads and traffic, is allowing CN to pretend it can come up with an answer to the increasing congestion and air pollution in the town centre. With hundreds more cars coming in to serve the needs of **239** new flat-owners, the health risks are bound to increase for customers and shopkeepers, pedestrians and residents alike.

SPORTS FACILITIES

The **Brightwells Bowling Club** was threatened with eviction in 2006, the Clubhouse has been demolished and the bowling club Competition Green destroyed for CN to build over it.

Brightwells Tennis Club has been relocated – to a site at risk of flooding.

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