



# Steve Brine's WINCHESTER POST

A 100% positive publication produced at no cost to the taxpayer by local Conservative MP Steve Brine and the team. It is delivered by volunteers across the City of Winchester, Kings Worthy, Alresford and surrounding villages.



**■ PAGE TWO**  
**G20 IN SOUTH AMERICA**  
Our local MP addresses world leaders in Argentina.



**■ PAGE THREE**  
**TRAIN OF THOUGHT**  
SWR's first birthday has not been a happy one says Steve Brine.



**■ PAGE FOUR**  
**GREEN WINCHESTER**  
Lots of achievements and plans for more but we must go further and faster, locally and nationally.

# MP LEADS NATIONAL HEALTH PUSH

Child obesity crisis, new cancer plan and maternity safety all in range.



Steve brought the Premier League trophy to Winchester this year as part of the hugely successful Primary Stars programme.

**Winchester's MP is working at the heart of Government tackling some of the biggest issues facing our NHS.**

Steve Brine, who is currently the Public Health Minister, published a world-leading plan to address **childhood obesity** this Summer.

He says; "The effects of obesity have a profound impact on a child's opportunities in life. It compromises both physical and mental health, adds to bullying and, because they are more likely to become obese adults, they will have a higher chance of developing cancer and type 2 diabetes. We have to act."

The plan includes measures to address the promotion of unhealthy food and drinks to children, new information to help parents make informed decisions when shopping and a new national ambition for all primary schools to adopt an 'active mile'.

Our MP is also leading a **new ambition to tackle cancer**. As part of the long term plan for the NHS, backed by new investment which will provide **an extra £20.5bn a year**, a package of measures will be rolled out with the aim of seeing three quarters of all cancers detected at an early stage by 2028.

Furthermore, Steve is working on a new **Maternity Transformation Programme** which will give the majority of women care from the **same NHS midwife** throughout their pregnancy, labour and birth. And Steve is backing an NCT campaign wanting to see routine six week perinatal checks for new mums via their GP.

And finally, Steve is leading a consultation which proposes a ban on the sale of **energy drinks** to children.

[www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs](http://www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs)

- **New national ambition to halve childhood obesity by 2030**
- **Long term plan for NHS to see step change in cancer survival**
- **Largest ever investment in NHS midwives and maternity support staff**
- **Clear message that energy drinks not appropriate for children**

## NEW TOWN THREAT RETURNS

### "HOW MANY TIMES DO WE NEED TO SAY NO?" SAYS MP

Steve Brine joined campaigners in Micheldever as they once again prepared to do battle over a proposed new town.

The multi-millionaire Magnier family are proposing to build 6,000 houses near Micheldever Station, almost 30 years after the site was first proposed. The city council is currently conducting a review of its Local Plan.

Steve told The Winchester Post; "These proposals will face the same united local opposition they did last time and the time before as the October public meeting demonstrated. My message to Winchester City Council, who must of course follow due process in reviewing their Local Plan, is to rule out Micheldever later this year when you get the chance because it's simply not needed by any measure."

[www.stevebrine.com/michnewtown](http://www.stevebrine.com/michnewtown)



Above; Steve addressing a packed public meeting in Micheldever last month and, inset, flashback to the last time a major development was proposed in this area.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## TACKLING DELAYS IN PAYMENTS TO SME'S

Ministers have announced steps to crack down on unjustified delays in payments to small businesses.

Government will lead by example, increasing its five day payment rule to 90 per cent of all invoices, boost the powers of the Small Businesses Commissioner and look afresh into unfair payments practices alongside what further steps the government could take to tackle late payments.

Steve Brine MP comments; "Small businesses are the backbone of our economy but the late payments of invoices is still an issue for many and it's certainly been raised with me locally."

## GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

Steve Brine opened the inaugural Global Mental Health Ministerial Summit in London last month, supported by the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge.



The event, which brought Ministers from over 40 countries together with policy officials and nearly 300 delegates, provided the platform for the Lancet Commission on Global Mental Health to launch their landmark report on the issue.

Opening the summit, Steve said; "This Summit is a bold experiment to bring together the mental health sector with political leaders so we lift the lid on mental health. For us to really make advances, all people in all countries need to be open and transparent about the road ahead and we need to talk to one another."

[www.stevebrine.com/GlobalMHsummit](http://www.stevebrine.com/GlobalMHsummit)

## HPV VACCINE - FOR BOYS

Our MP announced in July that boys aged between 12 and 13 in England will be given a vaccine to protect them against HPV-related cancers.

Steve Brine's decision follows new scientific evidence and advice from an independent panel of experts. The vaccine not only protects men from HPV-related diseases but also helps reduce the overall number of cervical cancers in women.

## WATCH PMQs

Steve Brine has once again thrown open his allocation of tickets to constituents via ballot and is inviting entries for Wednesday 5th December 2018. Enter at

[www.stevebrine.com/PMQs](http://www.stevebrine.com/PMQs)



# Westminster Report

## @BRINEMINISTER

YOU CAN SEE MORE OF STEVE'S WORK VIA [WWW.STEVEBRINE.COM/WESTMINSTER](http://WWW.STEVEBRINE.COM/WESTMINSTER)

Visit my constantly updated BREXIT pages here

[www.stevebrine.com/brexit](http://www.stevebrine.com/brexit)

Clearly things move fast in the Brexit negotiations so Steve's special pages online are a great place to stay updated on the very latest from our MP.

He tells The Winchester Post; "Everyone knows I voted Remain but it's time to move forward together and be positive about the future. The 2016 referendum was a close run thing and, as a result, the country is still very divided."

"My strong view is that no-one voted to be poorer so I will support a deal that respects the result but, first and foremost, does no harm by putting practical reality for our economy and our country over theoretical dreamy ideology."

## STEVE AT G20

Winchester MP Steve Brine represented the UK at the G20 meeting of Health Ministers in Argentina this Autumn.



Travelling in his role as Public Health Minister to the seaside city of Mar Del Plata, Steve addressed the summit on childhood obesity, strengthening health systems and the UK delegation led a simulation exercise on the challenge posed by AMR (anti-microbial resistance). [www.stevebrine.com/G20](http://www.stevebrine.com/G20)

## TIME IS NOW FOR MEDICAL CANNABIS

Steve Brine has welcomed news that specialist clinicians will now be able to legally prescribe cannabis-derived medicinal products.

He said it was 'absolutely right' that the Home Secretary has decided to reschedule these products after receiving advice from experts during the two-part review he commissioned in June. It means that senior clinicians will be able to prescribe the medicines to patients with an exceptional clinical need.



Steve says; "Recent cases involving sick children made it clear to many of us in Government that our position on cannabis-related medicinal products was not satisfactory. This move will help patients with an exceptional clinical need, but is in no way a first step to the legalisation of cannabis for recreational use."

## IT'S OK - STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH



Improving student mental health & wellbeing

The Government has set out ambitious plans for a new deal on student mental health. Mental health problems among young people are a significant issue today and more UK students than ever before are presenting with mental health conditions.

A university Mental Health Charter, backed by the Government and led by the sector, will drive up standards in promoting student and staff mental health and wellbeing, and there will be a Department for Education-led review into issues students face when going to university.

Steve Brine said: "This is an important issue and we want to make sure that it is a top priority for the leadership of all our universities. I know many of my constituents, with children and grandchildren starting at university this Autumn, will welcome the charter."

[www.stevebrine.com/studentmentalhealth](http://www.stevebrine.com/studentmentalhealth)

## A NEW GENERATION OF COUNCIL HOMES

Winchester City Council is already building new council homes via its New Homes Programme with ambitious plans to build 600 homes by 2020.

The Conservative run authority will now be able to go further after lobbying from Leader Cllr Caroline Horrill and local MP Steve Brine convinced Ministers to remove the cap placed on local council Housing Revenue Accounts, which prevents them from using their asset base to borrow to build more homes. Cllr Horrill told The Winchester Post;

"The need for affordable housing across the Winchester district has never been greater and the borrowing cap has been a massive constraint on the council's ability to build so this is a very welcome change." [www.winchester.gov.uk/projects](http://www.winchester.gov.uk/projects)



# ROSE BURNS LEADS ON RIVER PARK FUTURE

A new group, led by Cllr Rose Burns, is being set up to look at the future of the River Park site in Winchester.



Cllr Rose Burns brought Steve Brine to meet Hyde residents at a recent street surgery outside the King Alfred Pub in Saxon Road.

The work will consult local residents and meet regularly to discuss ideas which could be implemented once the new Winchester Sports and Leisure Park is built.

Cllr Burns told The Winchester Post; "This space is one of the few green spaces in a city which is increasing in population and density. While there are opportunities, there are also constraints. The area is located next to a conservation area, a site of historic significance and a nature reserve with an important chalk-bed river. These three factors contribute significantly to the character of Winchester and need to be preserved in any future development of the site." Contact Rose: [Rburns@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:Rburns@winchester.gov.uk)

# SAFE CROSSING FOR OTTERBOURNE

City and County councillor, Jan Warwick, is leading calls for a safe crossing outside the NISA LOCAL store on Otterbourne's Main Road.

The road has become increasingly busy in recent years and has seen greater numbers crossing to use the shop which replaced Budgens in 2017. There are also fears traffic will increase significantly during planned 'Smart' motorway works on the



M3 and if Eastleigh Council succeeds in building thousands of new houses in nearby Bishopstoke.

A concerted local campaign is aiming to persuade Hampshire County Council to install a permanent pedestrian crossing on Main Road.

Cllr Jan Warwick, who is working with Steve Brine on the campaign, said; "It is essential for our children and older residents to safely cross the Otterbourne Main Road to access their schools, bus stops or the refurbished store. I have recently met with engineers from Hampshire County to understand how we can build a safe crossing point. We need everyone to come together on this so please sign up via my Safe Crossing for Otterbourne Facebook page."

[fb.com/SafeCrossingOtterbourne](https://www.facebook.com/SafeCrossingOtterbourne)

# BUSINESS RATES CHALLENGE

A leading Winchester City Councillor has joined MP Steve Brine in calling for root and branch reform of the business rates system.

Cllr Guy Ashton, who holds the Portfolio for Finance at Winchester City Council, crunched some numbers this summer and found that, while a dozen of the 300 shops in the city centre are vacant, the vacancy rate is actually decreasing and is four times lower than the national average.

Guy told The Winchester Post; "We sometimes hear blame for a changing retail environment laid at the door of WCC around rent and rates but this doesn't stack up. Government sets the rate and private landlords - including charities we may support, private individuals and pension funds - set rent. And behind every retail closure there's an individual story that explains what happened.

"For policy makers in Government, it's the trend they must spot and, where possible, act upon. The recent rates revaluation has hit



Guy Ashton out chatting with local businesses at the Kingsgate this Summer.

many but, of course, reflects the prosperity of Winchester and that's a double-edged sword. It was also long overdue and that must change which is why we support plans to move to more regular revaluations because we cannot have cliff edge spikes like 2017 ever again."

Winchester operates a discretionary relief scheme which local MP Steve Brine lobbied Ministers to introduce, but Guy adds; "We both remain firmly of the view that the fundamentals of business rates need to change and a level playing field with online would be a good place to start."

# FARMING MINISTER COMES TO TOWN

Local MP Steve Brine brought the Farming Minister to meet NFU members in Winchester recently.

Steve had promised to give local farmers and landowners a chance to

speak directly with George Eustice MP and around 40 members asked questions covering a number of different sectors of the local farming community, ranging from diversification and beak trimming to Bovine TB

as well as issues relating to a new domestic farming policy post-Brexit.

[www.stevebrine.com/farmingminister](http://www.stevebrine.com/farmingminister)

Steve Brine's Summer Tour returned during Parliament's recess in August and September and this year it was bigger than ever. The team visited communities right across the area, from Oliver's Battery to Kings Barton.



Local campaigner and Parish Councillor Tracey Anderson, brought Steve Brine to Kings Barton this Summer for the first ever street surgery on the new estate.



A busy 'supermarket surgery' saw Steve speak to shoppers for a good couple of hours at Tesco in Winnall. Special thanks to the team for hosting and for letting Steve use the in-store public address system!



Cllr Lisa Griffiths joined Steve in the centre of Alresford for a Saturday morning street surgery on a bustling morning in the market town ahead of the Alresford Show.



Steve - and friends - joined popular councillor Eileen Berry in the heart of her St Barnabas ward as they met local residents outside the Stoney Lane shops in Weeke.



# FOCUS ON RAIL SERVICE

Following what he described as a very poor start to the South Western Railway franchise last year, Steve has joined a new cross-party group in Parliament to address the issues affecting local commuters.

The APPG Wessex Rail recently heard from Sir Michael Holden, who carried out a review into SWR's franchise from a performance perspective, and came up with a number of recommendations for improvement.

Steve said: "I have many years behind me campaigning on these issues, and I am acutely aware of, and very much share as a commuter myself, the frustration right now. "I am also acutely aware of the issues around the Carnet, which is not exactly what many of us had in mind when it came to the trailed part-time season ticket. I can certainly promise constituents I will carry on taking up grievances via casework but also engaging with SWR, Network Rail and Ministers because we have to work with them all in pursuit of a better rail service." [www.stevebrine.com/trains](http://www.stevebrine.com/trains)



Steve Brine with fellow Hampshire MPs and Michael Holden at the Wessex Rail group.

# NIGHTSHELTER HITS 30!

Winchester Churches Night Shelter celebrated its 30th birthday this September at a special event in the city.

The charity's aim is to enable people to rebuild their lives and escape homelessness for good, and they have been well-supported by Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council.

Steve Brine, who attended the event, said; "Thirty years is a huge achievement for this charity which so many of us support locally. I look forward to working with Michele and the many volunteers as the Nightshelter goes from strength to strength."



Mayor Cllr Frank Pearson joined the birthday party in Milner Hall.

# OLIVER'S BATTERY IN PARLIAMENT

Steve Brine welcomed a team from Oliver's Battery to Parliament in July, as the ten-strong group, led by Constance Leach, were invited to discuss their recently published parish plan.

It represents three year's work to reflect the vision of local residents and includes

a comprehensive and detailed plan for the community over the next decade. They were joined by Cllr Jan Warwick who represents Oliver's Battery on Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council. Steve said; "It was good to give thoughtful consideration to some of the key priorities in the plan and to identify where I and Jan Warwick can help. We will move forward together."

# NEW STUDENTS FOR 2018/19

Thousands of new students arrived in Winchester this September and Steve Brine dropped into Fresher's Fayre as a guest of the Winchester Student Conservative Society - the largest political society at the University.

He spent a few hours chatting with new students about politics, life in the city and getting involved with the Conservative society as well as meeting many of the other stallholders and societies. The MP said:

"This was my 11th Fresher's Fayre and I never want to miss it because it's such a lively and vibrant event. I was an SU President myself and have a lot of time for what societies can offer while you're at university."



[www.stevebrine.com/students](http://www.stevebrine.com/students)

**HEALTH TRUST NEEDS OUR SUPPORT**

Steve Brine has said staff at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital need support after a critical CQC report was published this September.



The trust is now rated "Requires Improvement" overall. For caring the trust was rated "Good" but for safety, effectiveness, responsiveness and well led it was told there is much work to do. Speaking to local TV, the MP said; "This CQC report is worrying but I don't think it comes as a huge surprise because of the pressures our emergency department has been under and the ageing building it inhabits. I have already met with the Chief Executive to hear the work they've done since the inspection back in June and how they plan to use the £4.06m the Department of Health has just given the Trust for capital investment."

[www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs](http://www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs)

**RETIREMENT LIVING IN ALRESFORD**

Our local MP laid the official date brick for McCarthy and Stone's new Retirement Living development on The Dean in Alresford this summer.



Steve said; "It was a pleasure to visit the site and hear first-hand about the new development which will help to meet the housing needs of retirees in Alresford and the surrounding areas."

Local campaigner Annie Saunders added; "The development will comprise of a mix of one and two bedroom luxury apartments, specially designed for those aged 70 and over. Apartments will be available to reserve off plan towards the end of 2018 with first occupations expected summer 2019."

[www.stevebrine.com/mccarthystone](http://www.stevebrine.com/mccarthystone)

**60 YEARS OF ELDERFIELD**

Steve Brine and Cllr Jan Warwick helped celebrate Elderfield's 60th birthday this September.

Elderfield, in Otterbourne, is run by the Langley House Trust which helps ex-offenders, prisoners, and those at risk of offending to live crime-free. The Trust was formed in 1958 by a group of Christians spurred by passion, commitment and a desire to see the lives of offenders changed for the better.

Steve says; "The residents have all made mistakes but no-one is beyond hope or help in my view and with one of the lowest reconviction rates in the country - under 3% whilst people are in Langley housing - facilities such as Elderfield are making communities safer across the country."

[www.stevebrine.com/elderfield](http://www.stevebrine.com/elderfield)

**ITCHEN VALLEY BREWERY**

Steve marked National Beer Day with the team at Itchen Valley Brewery in Alresford this June. The enterprise has been going since 1997, and in 21 years they have produced 69 beers and seen brewery numbers quadruple.

Following the visit, and some lobbying on the part of our MP, it was confirmed that the brewery had secured a deal to sell their beer in the Palace of Westminster. Cheers!

[www.itchenvalleybrewery.com](http://www.itchenvalleybrewery.com)

**GREEN Winchester**

[www.greenwinchester.com](http://www.greenwinchester.com)



**Doorstep glass collection** - there have been many claimants [#fakenews] but our Conservative City Council is delivering this to homes across the District from 2019. Leader Caroline Horrill and Cllr Jan Warwick lead the way!



**Final Straw Winchester** - our very own campaign to end single use straws is going great. Sign up via Facebook.

**NATIONAL ACTION - OUR ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Helped save bees by restricting harmful pesticides
- Banned plastic microbeads in care and cosmetic products
- Cut plastic bag use by 86% through our 5p charge
- One of the world's toughest bans on ivory sales
- £3.5bn to improve air quality and reduce harmful emissions
- Ban on plastic straws, stirrers and cotton buds

"An environmental revolution is taking place as we aim to be the greenest government ever. The Prime Minister launched a landmark 25 Year Environment Plan this year which sets out how we will improve the quality of air and water, create richer habitats for wildlife and crucially, tackle the menace of single use plastic. This is all music to my ears and must be taken forward by a combination of national action working in partnership with business and sensible local activism."

*Steve Brine MP*

See much more at GREEN WINCHESTER and sign up for Steve's email [www.greenwinchester.com](http://www.greenwinchester.com) and follow on social media; [greenwinchester](https://www.facebook.com/greenwinchester) and [SBGreenWinch](https://twitter.com/SBGreenWinch)



**Cycle Winchester** was launched in May - Steve Brine spoke at the event in Abbey Gardens - with the ambition to make Winchester better by bike. What's not to like? [www.cyclewinchester.org.uk](http://www.cyclewinchester.org.uk)

**VINEYARD CHURCH**

The Storehouse at Winchester Vineyard Church provides clothing and equipment, as well as food bags and toiletries, for approximately 450 families every year. In addition, they distribute fresh supermarket food to hospices, refuges and individuals.



Following recent refurbishment at the church, The Storehouse has moved in to a brand new and expanded space and re-launched with the help of MP Steve Brine, who expressed his thanks to the many volunteers. [www.winvin.org.uk](http://www.winvin.org.uk)

**WINDEPENDENTS**

Steve Brine joined Winchester in celebrating independent shops across the city this Summer.



The Winchester Independents High Street market saw around 30 businesses make use of a free high street stall, for a 'market' of independents for the day.

Steve said: "It was a pleasure to spend time chatting with some

of our independents and to see them out front for once selling quality, mostly local goods. There is definitely an appetite to do this more regularly."

[www.stevebrine.com/windependents](http://www.stevebrine.com/windependents)

**Ways to contact your local MP**

@ [steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk)

[www.stevebrine.com](http://www.stevebrine.com)

[www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP](https://www.facebook.com/SteveBrineMP)

01962 791110 or 020 7219 7189

Steve Brine MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

[@BrineMP](https://twitter.com/BrineMP)