

# South-East Hampshire Green Party -

Covering Fareham, Gosport, Havant,  
Portsmouth, and Waterlooville



## PRESS RELEASE: Save our School Playing Fields

The Green Parliamentary candidate for Havant is calling on local people to vote in defence of the school playing fields at Warblington and Purbrook.

An estate of 85 units is proposed for Warblington School field, with the road leading to development coming out right by the level crossing on New Lane, while xx homes are planned for Purbrook school field.

Tim Dawes, the Green Party candidate for Havant said: "Proposals to sell off school playing fields are a disgrace. Local people want new houses built on brown field sites, not the few remaining green spaces within our urban areas.

"Greens want to see better sports facilities at all school levels and to find ways of allowing the rest of the community to use them out of school hours. Britain now has worst problems of childhood obesity than Germany and we win fewer medals at the Olympics than France.

"School and junior level athletics and team sports like football, rugby and cricket are in steep decline. Labour promised to stop the sell off of school playing fields, but in fact, since 1997, the number sold for housing has continued to grow. Leading Conservatives in Havant have openly advocated building on school playing fields."

Tim organised public exhibitions of the plans, obtained by through the Freedom on Information Act, after discovering that the true nature of the proposals had been hidden from local people by Conservative-controlled Havant Council. This led to a petition with more than 300 signatures being handed in to council.

Tim said: "The road that would lead to the development on Warblington School field would start next to an already dangerous level crossing. No proper safety risk assessment has been undertaken and many local people feel that it would put the lives of crossing users in danger.

"The road also goes through, and will completely destroy, a local nature reserve established by parents and pupils from Fairfield Infants School."

Tim can be contacted on 023 92 471 811 / 077 661 65 946