



Wendy Rider



Charles Royden

Published & Promoted by Mark Fitzpatrick on behalf of The Liberal Democrats all at 20 Nursery Gardens, Brickhill, Bedford MK41 8DU.
Printed by Swan Print, Shuttleworth Road, Bedford MK41 0EP

Brickhill FOCUS

Liberal Democrats
Open, Tolerant and United
No. 373
April 2018



Bedford Car Park Charges Frozen!

There will be no increase in parking charges this year thanks to the decision by **Mayor Dave Hodgson** and colleagues.

This includes the two hours free parking deal. The deal was first introduced by **Mayor Dave Hodgson** in 2013. As well as two hours free on Saturdays in council town centre car parks, Queen Street car park is free for the first two hours every weekday as well.

Wendy Rider said "This is great news for residents as well as our local town centre shops. Since we introduced the free parking deal we have seen footfall in the town centre grow despite the rise in online shopping. I know that local people want to see a vibrant town centre in Bedford and this free parking deal really helps."



Cllr Wendy Rider at St Peter's Street Car Park

- **Council Car Park charges frozen.**
- **Two hours free on Saturday and**
- **All day free on Sunday in Council Town Centre Car Parks.**
- **Free for two hours at Queen Street Multi-Storey on weekdays.**

Full car park information can be found at www.bedford.gov.uk/car parks

Charles Royden said "There has been a lot of criticism in the national press that some councils are using parking charge increases as a stealth tax. We are clear that this is something we are not doing here in Bedford Borough."

COUNCIL PARKING CHARGES TO SOAR

Daily Mail, 10 March 2018

Not in Bedford!

No Garden Waste Charges Here

Neighbouring Tory-run Central Beds Council is consulting on charging £40 for their residents' green waste collections.

Charles Royden said "We are not doing this in Bedford Borough. We want to encourage recycling and composting."



Brickhill Action File

Road repairs in Brickhill

The recent bad weather has not helped the state of the roads in Brickhill. Councillors Charles Royden and Wendy Rider are pushing for the resurfacing of Windrush Avenue and part of Torridge Rise. They have also asked for resurfacing of damaged sections of Kimbolton Road and Brickhill Drive.



Cllrs Charles Royden & Wendy Rider in Windrush Avenue



...and in Torridge Rise. Both roads need resurfacing

Working for Brickhill - all year round

Stagecoach No. 6 bus route

We have complained to Stagecoach about the poor service on the No 6 bus which does not come close to meeting its timetable. If you have experienced problems with the buses, do let us know. See over for addresses.

Avon Drive recycling facilities

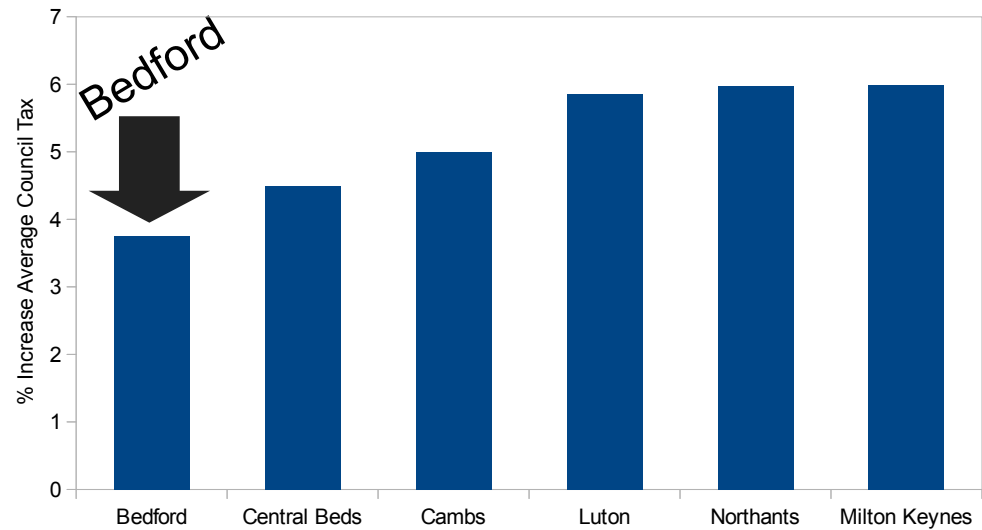
An extra temporary glass recycling bank has been installed recently. These will be replaced by a permanent larger underground bank later.



Cllrs Mark Fitzpatrick and Charles Royden at the Avon Drive bottle bank

Sign up for local news by email:
www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/signup

Keeping Council Tax Bills Down



No-one welcomes their annual Council tax bill, but here in Bedford Borough the increase is the lowest of all neighbouring authorities. The combination of the 1.75% **below-inflation** core council tax rise plus the Government's 2% social care charge - for care for the elderly and vulnerable - is a **smaller rise** than **Central Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Milton Keynes or Luton.**

Tories Letting Bedford Down

Conservatives at National and Local level have been accused of letting the people of Bedford Borough down time and time again:

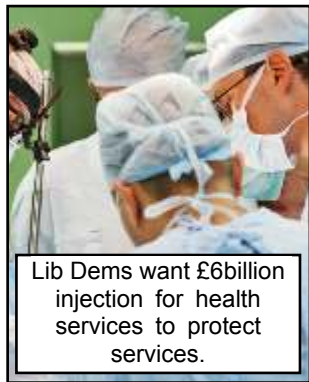
- Threats hanging over Bedford Hospital
- Removing fast peak time intercity trains
- Closed our courts
- Cut funding for local council services
- Supporting a southern sprawl of 9,000 houses merging villages south of Bedford

£6billion for NHS

Vince Cable and the Liberal Democrats are calling for an extra £6 billion a year to protect the NHS, paid for by an extra penny on Income Tax.

The money raised will be guaranteed for the NHS and social care services.

Local campaigner **Wendy Rider** said "Our NHS is at breaking point - with delayed operations, full wards and record waiting times in A&E departments. We are being honest with people and saying we all need to contribute a little more, with the money going direct to the NHS. Our health services are worth an extra 1p on income tax to give our doctors and nurses the funding they need to continue providing a world-class health service."



Lib Dems want £6billion injection for health services to protect services.

New Support for Homeless

The brand new facility for rough sleepers with complex needs has recently opened in Bedford.

Dave Hodgson said "This is a major, exciting advance in the support we are able to provide for some of the most vulnerable people in our community. It is the very first of its kind in this area."

The 29 bed Clarence House will not only provide accommodation but also 24-hour specialist, intensive support to some of Bedford Borough's most vulnerable people so they can they break the cycle of homelessness.

If you are concerned about anyone sleeping rough, you can contact the national 24 hour rough sleeping referral line StreetLink on 0300 500 0914 or online at www.streetlink.org.uk



www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com

Keep up-to-date with Brickhill Liberal Democrats on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BrickhillFocus and on our main website, www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com

FOCUS Team Advice Surgeries

Liberal Democrat Councillors Surgeries

Local Brickhill surgeries

Avon Drive shops: 10am, Saturdays 28th Apr & 26th May.

Brickhill Drive shops: 10am, Saturdays 14th Apr & 12th May.

Bedford Central Library
Every Saturday, 11am-12noon.

Mayor Dave Hodgson's Surgeries

Second Tuesday every month 4pm-6pm at Borough Hall
For an appointment ring 718620



Cllrs Mark Fitzpatrick, Wendy Rider & Charles Royden

Brickhill FOCUS Team

www.facebook.com/BrickhillFocus

Borough Councillor Wendy Rider

23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, Bedford MK41 7BQ.

☎ 303254 📧 wendyrider41@gmail.com

Borough Councillor Charles Royden

St Mark's Vicarage, Calder Rise,
Brickhill, Bedford MK41 7UY

☎ 309175 📧 charlesroyden@gmail.com

Chair of Brickhill Parish Council Mark Fitzpatrick

20 Nursery Gardens, Brickhill, Bedford MK41 8DU

☎ 357259 📧 mark.x.fitzpatrick@gmail.com

Parish Councillors: See www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com for full details. Wendy, Charles & Mark as above plus:

Peter Blakeman ☎ 355952 📧 pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com;

James Cross ☎ 07490 367607 📧 james.cross@live.co.uk;

Vince Holloway ☎ 214533 📧 vholloway1975@gmail.com;

Ann Reeve ☎ 343260 📧 r_reeve1@sky.com;

Corinne Royden ☎ 309175 📧 corinneroyden@gmail.com;

Lynne Seymour ☎ 305683 📧 lynne@puttingbrickhillfirst.com.

Mayor of Bedford Borough Dave Hodgson

37 Kathie Road, Bedford MK42 0QJ

☎ 718620 📧 dave.hodgson@bedford.gov.uk

www.mayordave.org.uk



Facebook.com/
davethemayor



Twitter
@davethemayor



If you have a grumble please get in touch.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Please return to:

Councillor Wendy Rider, 23 Orwell Close,
Brickhill, Bedford MK41 7BQ

Can you help us?

Yes I would like to help by:

- ☐ Delivering FOCUS in my street
- ☐ Displaying a poster at election time
- ☐ Making a donation
- ☐ (to Bedford Liberal Democrats)
- ☐ Joining the Liberal Democrats