

Brickhill FOCUS

Democrats
Open, Tolerant and United
No. 375
September 2018



Dave Hodgson has added another £1 million to the budget for resurfacing roads and pavements. This is on top of an extra £1m that had previously been added.

Pavement-Work

Brickhill's Lib Dem Borough Councillors, Charles Royden and Wendy Rider have backed Mayor Dave Hodgson's plan for adding an extra £2 million to this year's budget to be spent on resurfacing work and major repairs to roads and pavements in Bedford Borough.

Wendy Rider said "It has always been one of our top priorities to get the state of local roads and pavements improved. That is why we want to see this extra funding put to good use - bringing even more roads and pavements up to a higher standard."

"We know that there is a lot still to do but, even in this time of funding cuts, we are keeping this as a priority. Time and time again residents tell us how important this is as it affects everyone - pedestrians, cyclists and motorists."

The extra funding has been found thanks to good financial management of the council under Mayor Dave Hodgson. Last year the council managed to keep within its budget without overspending - just as it has done every year since Dave Hodgson's first budget was set in 2010.

Charles Royden added "If you know of particular roads and pavements that you think should be a priority for work just let us know by email or using the slip over the page."

Massive Response to Walk-in Centre Petition



Thank you to
everyone who
completed our
petition calling on
NHS
Commissioners not
to close the Putnoe
Walk-in Centre.

The petition has now been presented to the commissioners.

As we go to print on this FOCUS, the commissioners have just announced that they are halting their consultation on closure and instead have said they need to reconsider their proposals.

We will keep you up to date on what this means through FOCUS, but don't forget for breaking news you can also "like" the Brickhill Liberal Democrat Focus Team on facebook www.facebook.com/BrickhillFocus or sign up to our email updates at www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/signup



Clirs Charles Royden & Wendy Rider want to see more roads and pavements resurfaced in Brickhill and across the Borough

Travellers mess

As soon as three caravans moved onto the green at the top of Brickhill Drive on 7th August, we reported this to the Borough Council, to start the process of removal. They left before the legal eviction process was complete, but left behind an area polluted by human excrement. Cllr Charles Royden said: "It is an absolute disgrace. Council officers will have to clear this up - a horrible job. This all costs money, which we would much rather spend elswhere. We will ask the Borough to apply for an Injunction to help prevent future unauthorised encampments here. We will always respond to unlawful encampments immediately and update residents on our website www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com and on the Brickhill Focus Facebook page".



Meanwhile we are very pleased that the long-awaited Injunction for **Waveney Green** has now been granted. This should deter people from trying to move onto the green in future.

Charles Royden & Wendy Rider inspect the mess at the green off Brickhill Drive

hill Action File



During the recent dry weather, the Rooksmead pond fountain began to tilt and was not working fully. Your Borough Councillors arranged to switch it off. When the pond refills, they will get any repairs made and the fountain restarted. Cllr Wendy Rider said: "The fountain is very popular and we will make sure it is looked after properly".

For news on other action taken locally by Wendy Rider and Charles Royden, including the No. 6 bus route and real time bus information; Hawk Drive road safety; Kimbolton Road school crossing and speeding see www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com or wwww.facebook/BrickhillFocus where you can also sign up to the free Brickhill Bulletin email newsletter.

•FLASHBACK•

Remember when the Tories downplayed this year's cuts to our rail services?

What the Tories said:

Rail Lines Upgraded

Conservative leaflet February/March 2018

Brickhill

FOCUS

Team

What we got:

... trains hit by timetable 'shambles'

BBC News

While the Tories refused to stand up for the future of our local rail services, Dave Hodgson and the Lib Dems have been fighting relentlessly for a return of our full intercity services that have been cut by the government. Local rail travellers will not see an "upgraded" service either now or in the future under the government plans.

www.facebook.com/BrickhillFocus

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

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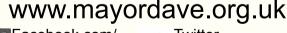
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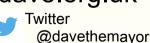
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More Support to Help Rough Sleepers off the Streets in Bedford Borough



Dave Hodgson, in partnership with local organisations, is ensuring there is extra help for rough sleepers

The Borough Council has successfully obtained additional funding for helping rough sleepers. This comes after the recent opening of Clarence House in St John's Street that provides supported housing for the most vulnerable people with complex needs.

Now the Council is expanding its range of support services to include:

- 6 additional support workers
- 36 new units of accommodation
- 10 extra emergency beds in the winter

Dave Hodgson said "This range of additional support services will help some of the most vulnerable people in our community. They were designed in partnership with excellent local charities and other partners, to ensure they reach those most in need."

Just compare our local services under Mayor Dave Hodgson with a nearby Tory-run council

Tory-run Northamptonshire Council in Turmoil!

Northamptonshire council backs 'bare minimum' service plan

The Guardian 9 August 2018

Libraries Plans to close 21 of 36 libraries facing a legal challenge

The i 10 August 2018

A cash-strapped council has approved massive cuts to jobs and services in a bid to tackle a £70m funding shortfall.

BBC.co.uk 9 August 2018

FOCUS Team Advice Surgeries

Liberal Democrat Councillors Surgeries

Local Brickhill surgeries

Avon Drive shops: 10am, Saturdays 15th Sep & 13th Oct

Brickhill Drive shops: 10am, Saturdays 29th Sep & 27th Oct.



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

If you have a grumble please get in touch.

Name:

Address:

Can we keep you updated by email and phone? If you enter your email and/or phone below, we will use them to contact you in accordance with our Fair Processing Notice below and Privacy Policy at www.libdems.org.uk/privacy.

Phone:

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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

If you return this leaflet, the Liberal Democrats, locally and nationally, may use information in it, including your political views, to further our objectives, share it with our elected representatives and/or contact you in future using any of the means provided. Some contacts may be automated. You may opt out of some or all contacts or exercise your other legal rights by contacting us. Further details are in our Privacy Policy at www.libdems.org.uk/privacy.