



Wendy Rider

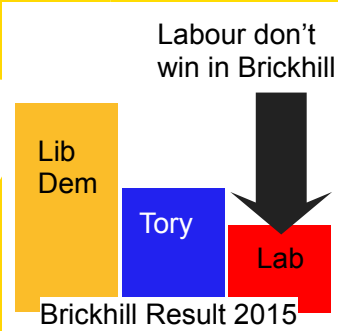


Charles Royden

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Brickhill FOCUS

Liberal Democrats
Open, Tolerant and United



Results for the 3 largest parties only shown
Full results at bedford.gov.uk/democracy

No. 377

Nov/Dec 2018

Stop School Cuts!

Bedford Borough Schools face £1.3 million cut by Tory Government

Schools across Bedford Borough are facing a combined cut of £1.3m as their budgets are slashed by the Conservative Government.

The amount allocated to Bedford Borough for each child in school is being cut, leaving the whole area with over a million pounds less to fund our schools in 2019/20. This is despite promises of a new national funding formula putting right the massive underfunding of local schools.

Local Lib Dems are asking residents to support the campaign against these funding cuts being imposed by the Conservative Government.

Mayor Dave Hodgson said "Our children are being let down by the Government. This is a complete disgrace. Bedford Borough's schools have been underfunded for years, and just as the picture was supposed to be looking better, the Government have now announced further cuts to our schools' budgets despite rising costs. Pupils of all ages and their hard working teachers are going to feel this squeeze. We must take the fight to the Government to get this cut reversed."

Stop School Cuts campaign launched

Local campaigner, **Wendy Rider** said "This is a really damaging cut. Our local schools have £1.3 million less than if the funding per pupil had just been frozen! This is despite additional costs faced by schools. We need your help to persuade the Government to look at this again. Please sign our petition to support this campaign."

Join our campaign today, sign our petition here and return the slip or sign online at www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/stopschoolcuts

I/we call on the Government to reverse their planned cuts to school funding in Bedford Borough.

Name	Address	email
.....
.....

Return to: Wendy Rider, 23 Orwell Close, Bedford MK41 7BQ

If you return this form, 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. We will include your name and address when submitting the petition to The Secretary of State for Education.

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You can sign online at www.bedfordlibdems.org.uk/stopschoolcuts



Schools right across Bedford Borough are losing out from the Government School Funding Cut.

Action to make Brickhill safer

With two murders and a stabbing in Brickhill in less than two months, residents will naturally be very concerned and will want to see action taken to reduce the likelihood of similar incidents in the future.

The police tell us that ordinary residents are unlikely to be at higher risk because of these incidents.

Unfortunately Bedfordshire Police is significantly underfunded and is not able to provide the level of policing which residents will want to see. In fact, the situation will only get worse, due to the need for the police to make more cuts, £4.7million, next year.

We will work with the police, to support them in their work and to press the government to provide the money that is so desperately needed.

We support the Times & Citizen in its campaign to see our police funded properly.

You can help too. Here are just some suggestions:

1. If you see a crime in progress, always call 999.
2. If it isn't an emergency and want to report an incident or get help, call 101. If you can, it is normally easier to use the online reporting tool (<http://tinyurl.com/101BedsPolice>).
3. Join Neighbourhood Watch. See <http://bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/> or call 01234 842861.
4. To report any issues anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 500 111.
5. If you have any young people in your family, talk with them and support them. Ask them if they are subject to any bullying or intimidation at school. Urge them to seek help if they have any concerns. Some good advice is available on the Beds Police website: <http://tinyurl.com/BedsAdvice>.
6. Support the Times & Citizen campaign.

You can make a difference

Brickhill Action File



Mark Fitzpatrick and Wendy Rider in Mowbury Walk. Some is in a bad condition and will be repaired

Carbon Emissions More than Halved



Dave Hodgson has more than halved the council's carbon emissions

Stunning new figures have revealed that the comprehensive energy saving programme introduced by Mayor Dave Hodgson has reduced Bedford Borough Council's carbon emissions by a massive 53%.

Works across the Council's buildings have included lighting upgrades, installation of solar panels, and Borough Hall has been converted from oil fired boilers to a biomass boiler.

This saves taxpayers' money as well as protecting the environment.

Update on Local Health Services



There have been some important changes to local healthcare services in recent weeks. The new **Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC)** on the Bedford Hospital site

opened in October and offers patients access to same day GP and Nurse appointments from 11am until 11pm. Patients will be referred to the UTC via the NHS 111 phone service and given a same-day appointment (in most cases). You can walk-up too, and wait to be seen.

NHS Commissioners had previously intended that the UTC would replace the **Putnoe Walk-In centre**, which they planned to close. We fought a successful campaign to save it of course and it remains open. However, please be aware that it now has an earlier closing time of 2pm on weekdays. This disappointing reduction could have been avoided had NHS Commissioners handled things much better.

Finally, a new extended access service is now in place, whereby appointments outside normal GP opening hours can be made for patients through your GP or via referrals from 111 at the **London Road Health Centre** and the **Riverfield Drive Medical Centre** on Honesuckle Way in Bedford. Your GP should be able to provide details.

All these services are in addition to the existing **out-of-hours GP service** based at Bedford Hospital, which is available by appointment only, again via 111.

Mayor Dave Hodgson and your local Lib Dem Team will keep working with the NHS and others to seek the best possible health care services for Bedford Borough residents.

Brickhill FOCUS Team

www.facebook.com/BrickhillFocus

Borough Councillor Wendy Rider

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Borough Councillor Charles Royden

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Chair of Brickhill Parish Council Mark Fitzpatrick

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

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

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Mayor of Bedford Borough Dave Hodgson

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www.mayordave.org.uk

Facebook.com/
davethemayor

Twitter
@davethemayor



FOCUS Team Advice Surgeries

Liberal Democrat Councillors Surgeries

Local Brickhill surgeries

Brickhill Drive shops: 10am,
Saturdays 24th Nov & 22nd
Dec.

Avon Drive shops: 10am,
Saturdays 8th Dec & 5th Jan.

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



www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com

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:

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

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