

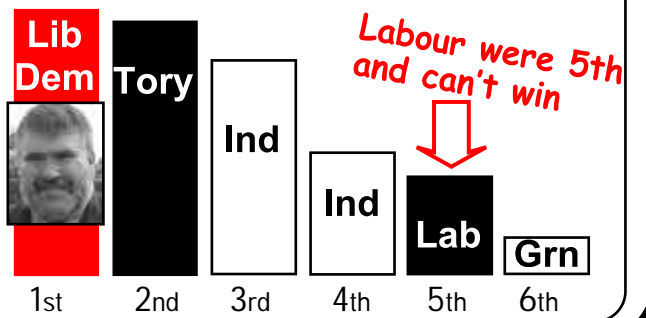
# Brickhill FOCUS



No.  
337

Winter  
2010

## Last Bedford Mayor Election



# Dave leads £35m Investment in our Schools

Under Mayor Dave Hodgson, £35 million is being invested over the next 4 years in new and improved schools for local children. Dave Hodgson said "Giving children the best educational opportunities is absolutely crucial. That means improving our school facilities and building new schools where they are needed."

The plans include new classrooms at Cauldwell Lower School (pictured) and new schools in Shortstown, Great Denham, Wixams and Kempston Rural. The Woodside school site will be refurbished as Putnoe Primary school and there will be £1½m for schools to be made more accessible for children with particular needs.

Dave Hodgson said "This is just the start. I'm working to secure even more investment from the government and other sources to create excellent new schools, classrooms and educational facilities."



## BIG CASH BOOST COMES TO BEDFORD BOROUGH SCHOOLS

*Times & Citizen*

## Action on dangerous parking



The Borough's new CCTV enforcement car in Dove Road with Cllr Wendy Rider, Borough Parking Officer, Cllr Charles Royden and Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick. It will tackle dangerous parking near schools and elsewhere, with fines being quickly issued to offenders.

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

## Brickhill Action File

### Mayor Dave Hodgson in Brickhill

Dave Hodgson is a regular visitor to Brickhill, working with local Councillors, visiting schools and listening to residents.

Dave Hodgson &  
Charles Royden  
in Mallard Hill.



Dave Hodgson  
& Wendy Rider  
in Douglas Road.

Some of the issues raised are relatively small, such as this broken street sign in **Douglas Road**. Issues like this do affect the appearance of an area. We are determined to do our best to make Brickhill cleaner, greener and safer.

Mayor Dave Hodgson visited Brickhill during the recent snow to see for himself problems which some residents were having with garage access, after BPHA stopped providing grit. Dave Hodgson has asked for this to be raised with the BPHA Board and also got the Borough's 'Gritter Crew' to make access safer.

## Liberal Democrat FOCUS Team - Working for You



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# Making the Lib Dem Difference



Mobile libraries protected by Mayor Dave

Difficult decisions have to be taken by councils in these challenging financial times, but which particular decisions you take is crucial for local residents. Neighbouring Central Beds Council is run by the Tories, whereas Bedford Council is led by Lib Dem Mayor Dave Hodgson. Next year's Budget Plans show the difference:

## Tory-Run Central Beds

Lollipop schools crossing patrols **axed** by Tory-run Central Beds  
Leisure centres **Tory-run Central Beds closing 3**  
Mobile libraries **axed** by Tory-run Central Beds

## Lib Dem Led Bedford

Lollipop schools crossing patrols **Saved**  
Leisure centres **No closures**  
Mobile libraries **Saved**

Mayor Dave Hodgson and the Lib Dem team have targeted savings from cutting waste and back-office costs to protect services to residents. Savings proposed include banning bottled water and refreshments for internal council meetings; charging staff and councillors for parking at Borough Hall; and cutting publicity costs, including axing the council's "Bedford News" magazine.

## Christmas recycling and refuse collection

Don't forget you can recycle your real Christmas tree at Mowsbury Park (Kimbolton Road Car Park) from the 3rd to 10th January.

As usual there will be no green waste collections from 20 December until 24 January, with weekly recycling collections every week instead. Refuse and recycling collections will take place on the normal days of the week over the Christmas and New Year period.

**For Brickhill Liberal Democrat Borough & Parish Councillors contact details, see [www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com](http://www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com)**

We wish you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

## Brickhill Bulletin

Have you signed up for the **Brickhill Bulletin** yet? It is a free e-mail newsletter from the Brickhill FOCUS Team.

Urgent news, useful information and more besides. To subscribe, just send an email to Mark Fitzpatrick, [markfitzp@cix.co.uk](mailto:markfitzp@cix.co.uk).

**Cllr Charles Royden & Mayor Dave Hodgson** checks up on winter gritting plans



# Don't Miss Gritting Updates

An initiative from the Liberal Democrats means that it is now easier to find out what is happening during times of severe weather. As well as the special website at [www.bedford.gov.uk/wintergritting](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/wintergritting) you can now follow gritting information on twitter [www.twitter.com/grittertweets](http://www.twitter.com/grittertweets); these can be sent to you as free daily text messages, which include local weather, gritting operations and school transport cancellations.

Earlier this year Dave Hodgson made sure that the council was well prepared and had good supplies of gritting salt by buying 3,000 tonnes from Sweden because of the national shortage.

Information about [school closures](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/schoolclosures) can also be found at [www.bedford.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/schoolclosures)

**If you have a comment or query please get in touch.**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Published & Promoted by M Fitzpatrick on behalf of The Liberal Democrats all at 20 Nursery Gdns, Bedford MK41 8DU. Printed by Focal Print, 37 Kathie Rd, Bedford MK42 0QJ

The Liberal Democrats and their elected representatives may use the information you have provided to contact you from time to time about issues we think you may find of interest. Some of the contacts may be automated. You can opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.

# Sunday Bus Services

Mayor Dave Hodgson has launched a greatly improved new Sunday bus network. The new services will run on the same routes as the Monday to Saturday services, across the urban and suburban area. They will run, as a minimum, at least hourly.

**Dave Hodgson** said "This will be a major boost for bus users, who've told me that they found the previous infrequent Sunday bus services to be confusing. This was mainly because the routes are different from the usual weekday services. Our new programme of Sunday buses will resolve that and provide a service local residents want".

Information and timetables for the new Sunday services are available from <http://tinyurl.com/3ycqwje>.



## Welcome to PC Andre Tringham

PC Andre Tringham has joined the Brickhill Safer Neighbourhood Team. Police Surgeries take place every Thursday at St Mark's from 2pm-4pm and one Saturday evening a month from 5pm-7pm (next date is 8th January), also at Places for People, 6 Leven Walk from 10am-12noon on the last Friday monthly.

**Cllr Wendy Rider, PC Andre Tringham and Cllr Charles Royden** at St Mark's Church Community Centre - where the Police Post is situated

## Liberal Democrat Councillors Surgeries

**Brickhill Drive shops**  
Sat 8th January, 10am

**Avon Drive shops**  
Sat 22nd January, 10am

**Bedford Central Library**  
Every Saturday  
2pm - 3:30pm

**Putnoe Library**  
3rd Saturday each month,  
10am - 11am

## Mayor Dave Hodgson's Regular Surgeries

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

1st Saturday of the month, 10am-12noon, "Out & About" surgeries. See [www.mayordave.org.uk](http://www.mayordave.org.uk) for details.

**Other ways to contact or follow Mayor Dave Hodgson**

[www.mayordave.org.uk](http://www.mayordave.org.uk) [dave.hodgson@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:dave.hodgson@bedford.gov.uk)

[www.twitter.com/davethemayor](http://www.twitter.com/davethemayor)  
[www.facebook.com/DaveTheMayor](http://www.facebook.com/DaveTheMayor)

[www.BedfordLibDems.org.uk](http://www.BedfordLibDems.org.uk)

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## Can you help us?

Yes I would like to help by:

- ☐ Delivering FOCUS locally
- ☐ Displaying a poster at election time
- ☐ Making a donation (to North-West Bedford Liberal Democrats)
- ☐ Joining the Liberal Democrats