



Wendy Rider



Charles Royden

Brickhill FOCUS



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More Car Park Good News

1 Free Sunday Parking

2 Shoppers Parking Charges Frozen

5th year running

Mayor Dave Hodgson has made the parking deal in Bedford even better. Now all town centre council run car parks will be free all day on Sundays. This follows on from the two hours free on Saturdays in town centre car parks which has already been a great success. On top of that, all council town centre car park charges will be frozen. This is the fifth year in a row that shoppers charges haven't gone up.

Cllr Charles Royden said "This is great news for local residents and for our town centre shops. It is stark contrast to when the Tories had their say when parking charges more than doubled in six years."



Wendy Rider welcomes the improved parking deal for Bedford

Pupil Premium - How it has helped Brickhill

Brickhill Lower, Scott Lower and Beauchamp Middle Schools received a total of £182,300 in Pupil Premium in 2013/14. The Pupil Premium was introduced by the Lib Dems in government to give every child a fair start in life.

Cllr Wendy Rider says "The Pupil premium is targeted at those children that need help the most. Liberal Democrats in government, nationally and locally, put Education at the top of their agenda so that opportunity is available for all."

Avon Drive shops - carpark resurfacing



Cllr Wendy Rider at Avon Drive shops carpark

Western Bypass - Final stage work starts



Dave Hodgson has launched the work on the missing bypass link that will join the A6 at the roundabout near Clapham.

This link will ensure that north-south A6 traffic no longer has to go through Bedford and make other routes easier too.

1,000 New Solar Panels



Dave Hodgson with some of the 1,000 new solar panels installed on council and community buildings



Thanks to **Mayor Dave Hodgson** over the last 5 years over 1,000 new solar panels have been installed across Bedford Borough. Some of these have been through the Mayor's Climate Change Fund, supporting the installation on community buildings. Others have been installed on the council's own buildings.

Cllr Charles Royden said "As well as tackling climate change, this has meant a saving for local taxpayers through reducing the council's energy costs. It's a win-win solution."

Local Road Resurfacing Continues ...



Cllr Wendy Rider welcomes the resurfacing in Curlew Crescent

Cllrs Wendy Rider and Charles Royden are pleased to see more road resurfacing in Brickhill: **Curlew Crescent** and **Troon Close** have been resurfaced; **Kestrel Road** will be done shortly.

Cllr Wendy Rider said "We are catching up on the backlog of roads that were left in such a poor state by the Tory-run county council. We know there are still more to do. Please tell us which local roads you think should be the priority for the next few years." Use the slip below or send an email to nominate the local road you think should be the priority for resurfacing.

Unlawful encampment In Woodlands Park

An unlawful encampment was particularly unwelcome recently when six caravans pulled onto land off **Ashmead Road** at the entrance to the **Woodlands Park estate**. Mayor Dave Hodgson met with the Chief Constable of Bedfordshire Police recently to discuss these encampments and we are pleased that prompt action by the Council's Gypsy and Traveller officer led to the caravans vacating the site. Council staff have also cleared the area of any rubbish left by the travellers.

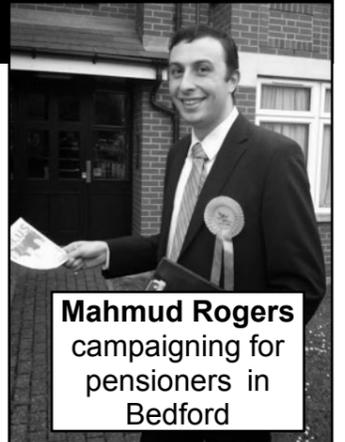
We have been working with Police and residents concerning an increase in **burglaries** which have taken place in Brickhill, particularly around **Falcon Avenue area**. Burglaries have often taken place at night whilst people are in bed. Arrest have been made but the police have asked for continued vigilance. Any information should be sent to Inspector Masters email nicholas.masters@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Lib Dems Ensure Above Inflation State Pension Rise

The basic state pensions will rise by at least £2.85 a week thanks to the Liberal Democrats triple lock. It means over 24,000 pensioners in Bedford Borough will benefit from an increase in their pension.

Bedford & Kempston Campaigner **Mahmud Henry Rogers** said "This rise will bring the level of the state pension to at least £115.95 and will benefit millions of pensioners across the UK. This is £18.30 more, each week, than in 2010 when the Liberal Democrats entered coalition. This means pensioners on the full basic state pension are £950 a year better off than they were under Labour."

The triple lock delivers a pension rise of whichever is the greater of average earnings, inflation or 2.5%. The Liberal Democrats campaigned for it in opposition, have delivered it in Government and have pledged to write it into law in the next Parliament.



Mahmud Rogers campaigning for pensioners in Bedford

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FOCUS Team Advice Surgeries Liberal Democrat Councillors Surgeries

Local Brickhill surgeries

Avon Drive shops: 10am, Saturday 6th Dec & 3rd Jan
Brickhill Drive shops: 10am, Saturday 20th December



LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Bedford Central Library

Every Saturday, 2pm-3pm.

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:
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