

# Brickhill FOCUS



FOCUS Editors



Wendy Rider

Charles Royden

## Dave Says: Save Our Police Force



Dave Hodgson wants to see local people put first by our police

Mayor **Dave Hodgson** has launched a high profile campaign to stop our local police force being subsumed within a larger merged force. He fears that residents of Bedford Borough won't get a police service that puts our local needs first.

Plans are being drawn up to merge Bedfordshire police with Hertfordshire. It is thought that a second stage could even be a further merger with Cambridgeshire.

**Dave Hodgson** said "I want us to have a Bedfordshire Police Force that puts tackling crime and antisocial behaviour in Bedfordshire first. Decisions about what policing we need should be made here, not in Hertfordshire. We don't want to lose police officers to deal with problems in Hertfordshire."

If your support our campaign please sign the petition below or online. You can sign online at [www.savebedspolice.org.uk](http://www.savebedspolice.org.uk)

### Save Bedfordshire Police

I/we call for the proposed merger of Bedfordshire Police with Hertfordshire Police to be dropped.

Name Address email

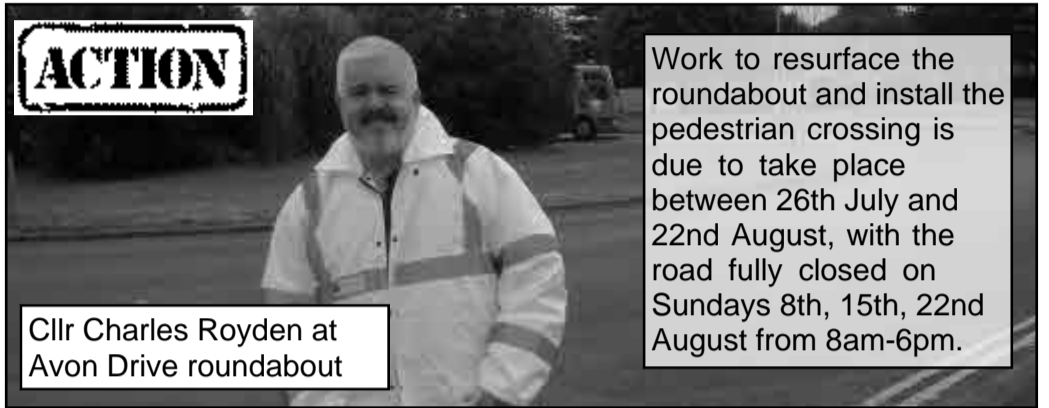
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Return to: **Dave Hodgson**, Bedford Lib Dems, Freepost ANG7856, Bedford MK42 0BR

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.

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## Avon Drive roundabout



**ACTION**

Cllr Charles Royden at Avon Drive roundabout

Work to resurface the roundabout and install the pedestrian crossing is due to take place between 26th July and 22nd August, with the road fully closed on Sundays 8th, 15th, 22nd August from 8am-6pm.

## Already £3m more on Road Resurfacing than by the Tories

Liberal Democrats have put around £3m more in total into road and path resurfacing over the last two year's budgets than the Tory run County Council used to spend in the Borough.

**Dave Hodgson** said "Last year we put around £2m more than the County was spending in the Borough. The Tories at the time initially opposed this amount. This year we again have put about £1m more in than the Tory run County used to. I am determined that we give a priority to sorting out the roads and paths after years of Tory underfunding,"

### Local Lib Dem action



Cllr Mark Fitzpatrick by fixed manhole cover in Brickhill Drive. Its rattling had been badly disturbing nearby residents

**Woodlands Park** - We've been promised that the long-awaited improvements to road junctions will start in the middle of August.

**New bus route** - the No. 10 service will run from Woodlands Park via Larkway, Robinson Pool, bus station to the railway station. Date for new service to start still to be fixed.

Cllr Charles Royden on repaired bridge to kick-about area by Browney Path



**Broken street signs** A damaged sign has been replaced in Nursery Gdns. We are still chasing for repairs to signs in Avon Drive and Lambourne Way.

For more details on all these stories and more see [www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com](http://www.PuttingBrickhillFirst.com) or contact Cllrs Wendy Rider, Charles Royden or Mark Fitzpatrick



Dave Hodgson & Cllr Royden ensuring we have a good supply of grit

## Getting Ready for Winter!

It may be hot now but **Dave Hodgson** and the Lib Dems are planning ahead, by successfully securing more gritting salt for Bedford despite the international shortage.

**Dave Hodgson** said "Helping people stay safe on our roads through the winter is a top priority for me, that's why we have worked hard to secure supplies of gritting salt now even though it's only July! You have to plan ahead"

## Building Schools for the Future

The recent announcement concerning the loss of BSF Funding will have caused much concern. The decision to move to a 2 tier system had been taken by a free vote of all Borough Councillors, based upon receiving a huge grant from the government to fund the changes. With this money gone the change will not now take place.

Mayor Dave Hodgson is to cancel the closure notices placed on Middle Schools. While discussions continue to take place about funding, it remains a priority to support staff and work to improve standards.

**Avon Drive shops car park** - A two hour limit for parking is to be introduced, to enable people park at the shops more easily.

**Bird in the Hand pub** - We were sad to read the news casting doubts over the long term future of the pub. Having met with staff at the pub we can report that there are successful initiatives which are increasing patronage. If you have not visited recently then this is might be a good time to drop by and see a community haven where friends can gather to socialise and safely enjoy a drink.

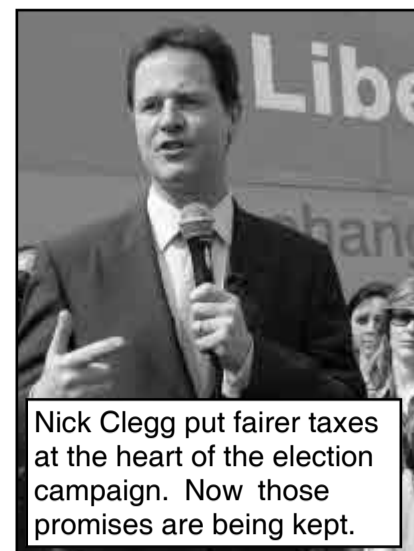
# Fairer taxes action

**Nearly a million low paid workers will no longer pay income tax thanks to the Lib Dems in Government.**

Raising personal allowances by £1,000 to £7,475 a year will also cut £170 off the average tax bill.

**Charles Royden** said "Labour's huge debt means this is the toughest budget in years."

"This budget takes vital steps to putting our nation's finances back in order and delivering on our promise for fairer taxes made in the election."



Nick Clegg put fairer taxes at the heart of the election campaign. Now those promises are being kept.

**A fair deal for pensioners** For thirteen years under Labour, older people saw the value of their pensions plummet. Now, thanks to the Lib Dems in Government, the pensions' earnings link will be restored. Pensioners will now get a minimum 2.5% rise each year - more if earnings rise quickly.

## Dave's Decisions

Some recent actions under Dave Hodgson's leadership

- Doubled the recycling capacity for households. Now, you can have an extra roll of bags for free or an extra recycling bin for a small fee.
- Investigating the use of environmentally-friendly methane-powered Council vehicles
- Work to stop dangerous parking outside schools with new powers to prosecute people by post
- Protecting 300 green spaces (including many key sites in Brickhill) in the Council's draft official Plan
- Launched the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign in local Schools.

## Playschemes & Sports courses

Some of funding had been at risk for the **Summer Playschemes**, but thanks to Mayor Hodgson's budget these will again be run this year. They run Mon-Fri from 2nd to 27th August at a cost of £1 per session. Local schemes are:

- **Putnoe Heights:** 5-8 & 9-13 year olds - 10am-12noon & 2pm-4pm
- **Brickhill Lower School:** 5-8 year olds - 10am-12noon only

For more details see <http://tinyurl.com/2vbyeqd> or call Bedford Borough on 221700.

An exciting range of **Summer Sports Courses** for 6 to 15 year olds is also being run. From 22nd July to 1st September there are courses in sailing, golf, climbing, rowing and much more. The BikeAbility courses will be at **Beauchamp**, to help young cyclists learn how to ride safely on the road. Golf courses will be at **Mowsbury Golf & Squash Complex**, while Tennis courses will be in **Mowsbury Park**. See <http://tinyurl.com/2uzhcmr> for more details including costs or call the Borough on 227276.

## If you have a comment or query please get in touch

Name:  
Address:  
Phone:  
Email:

Return to **Cllr Wendy Rider**, 23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, Bedford MK41 7BQ

### 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

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.

## Brickhill Liberal Democrat FOCUS Team



**Mayor of Bedford Borough**

**Dave Hodgson**, 37 Kathie Road, Bedford MK42 0QJ ☎ 01234 330346  
✉ [dave.hodgson@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:dave.hodgson@bedford.gov.uk)

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

### Borough Councillors

**Cllr Wendy Rider**, 23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, Bedford MK41 7BQ ☎ 303254 ✉ [wendyrider41@gmail.com](mailto:wendyrider41@gmail.com)

**Cllr Rev Charles Royden**, St Mark's Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill, Bedford MK41 7UY ☎ 309175  
✉ [charlesroyden@gmail.com](mailto:charlesroyden@gmail.com)

### Liberal Democrat Parish Councillors

**North Ward Patricia Marriott**, 18 Leven Walk ☎ 07818 052363 ✉ [patc@bpha.org.uk](mailto:patc@bpha.org.uk); **Charles Royden** - see above; **Ray Seymour**, 11 Calder Rise ☎ 305695 ✉ [rays@tgis.co.uk](mailto:rays@tgis.co.uk); **Andrew Wilkins**, 33 Douglas Road ☎ 308957 ✉ [pharaoh@ntlworld.com](mailto:pharaoh@ntlworld.com)

**South & West Ward Stuart Buchanan**, 19 Starling Way ☎ 08714 235044 ✉ [stuart\\_buchanan1@sky.com](mailto:stuart_buchanan1@sky.com); **Stuart Green**, 39 Larkway ☎ 354339 ✉ [stuart.green5938@ntlworld.com](mailto:stuart.green5938@ntlworld.com); **Patricia Ovenell**, 12 Nightingale Avenue ☎ 341422; **Wendy Rider** - see above; **Ray Waterhouse**, 64 Curlew Crescent ☎ 355801 ✉ [raymond.waterhouse@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:raymond.waterhouse@yahoo.co.uk)

**East Ward Peter Blakeman**, 15 Dove Rd ☎ 355952 ✉ [pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com](mailto:pj.blakeman@btopenworld.com); **Gurmel Chambers**, 16 Trent Road ☎ 212536; **Mark Fitzpatrick**, 20 Nursery Gardens ☎ 357259 ✉ [markfitzp@cix.co.uk](mailto:markfitzp@cix.co.uk); **Joanne Laybourn**, 32 Curlew Crescent.

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



### Lib Dem Councillors Surgeries

**Brickhill Drive shops**  
Sat 7th August, 10am

**Avon Drive shops**  
Sat 21st August, 10am

### Bedford Central Library

Every Saturday  
2pm-3:30pm

### Putnoe Library

3rd Saturday each month,  
10am-11am

### Mayor Dave Hodgson's Surgeries

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

Saturday 7 Aug, **Sainsbury's, Kempston** 10am-12 noon;  
Saturday 2 Oct, **Sainsbury's, Clapham Rd** 10am - 12 noon  
No appointment needed on Saturdays

**Working for Brickhill - working for you**