

Get in touch with your local Lib Dem team

Councillor Tim Ball

☎ 01225 400834
✉ timball1@virginmedia.com
@timothyball
@timballtwerton



Sarah Moore

☎ 07807 013635
✉ sssomoore@gmail.com
@Sarahm_twerton
@sarahmooretwerton



Councillor Paul Crossley

☎ 07718 632959
✉ paul_crossley@bathnes.gov.uk
@PaulnCrossley
@CllrPaulCrossley



Councillor Dine Romero

☎ 07900 276613
✉ dine_romero@bathnes.gov.uk
@CllrDineRomero
@CllrDineRomero



Wera Hobhouse MP

☎ 01225 307024
✉ office@werahobhouse.co.uk
@Wera_Hobhouse
@Wera_hobhouse



Get involved with the Bath Liberal Democrats

Office: 31 James Street West, Bath, BA1 2BT
Telephone: 01225 316316
Email: theoffice@bathneslibdems.org.uk

Printed by the Bath and North East Somerset Liberal Democrats, 31 James Street West, Bath, BA1 2BT. Published and promoted by the Bath and North East Somerset Liberal Democrats, all at 31 James Street West, Bath, BA1 2BT

Have your say!

Can we help you? Your comments:

Can you help us?

- I can help by delivering a round of Focus in my area
- I can help by displaying a poster in my window or garden at election time
- I would like to become a member of the Liberal Democrats (www.libdems.org.uk/join)

About You

Name

If you return this form, the Liberal Democrats, locally and nationally, may use information provided, 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.

Twerton, Whiteway & Southdown

FOCUS



October 2018

Community newsletter from your local Liberal Democrat team
Cllr Tim Ball • Sarah Moore • Cllr Paul Crossley • Cllr Dine Romero

Lib Dems say Culverhay site is for education

Your local Lib Dems are very concerned that the Conservatives - having finally achieved their wish to get the school closed - are now preparing a master plan that will see the site sold for housing to enable them to make a quick buck to cover the financial mess they have created over the last three years.

We are clear - this site is for education and we believe that definition could be expanded to include training and apprenticeships. With a growing population we still think that in the future we will need more secondary school places. The Conservative Free school/Studio school/Academy process has simply introduced chaos into education. Bath and NE Somerset used to be one of the best performing education authorities in the land. Now under Tory chaos we are letting our children down.

Councillor Dine Romero said "There is a growing need for a range of schools, including a specialist school for children with complex needs, as well as a local school in the SW of Bath for secondary age pupils. Tory decisions



have forced families on low incomes to take the most expensive and complicated routes to get their children to school. This is simply unacceptable."

Local Campaigner Sarah Moore added "As a parent of two children who attended this school I am disgusted at the way the Conservatives have treated families from our area. This is not new. They did exactly the same when they ran B&NES Council between 2007 and 2011. We need to kick them out of the council lock, stock and barrel."



IN OUR AREA

Speeding traffic - a threat to us all

When we knock on doors and talk about local issues with residents around this SW corner of Bath one issue that is raised time and time again is speeding traffic. In fact we have asked the local police to keep a watchful-eye on The Hollow where we are concerned about what can only be described as racing up the hill on Friday and Saturday evenings. Sarah Moore has now got full agreement from the police and is in the process of getting local resident volunteers fully trained to carry out local speedwatch sessions and so you will see us around the area from now on doing our own checks on traffic speeds.

Sarah said "if any local resident wants to join us on any of these speedwatch sessions please contact me. Around town there is simply no need to exceed speed limits which are there for all our safety. We will be working closely with the police on this campaign and hope to get speeds down and even some prosecutions for the racers!"



Recreating family friendly streets

Following numerous complaints from local residents, we are pleased to confirm we have managed to get agreement from both Bath & North East Somerset Council and the Police to make Twerton High Street a family friendly environment, with the implementation of a Public Spaces Protection Order.

This means that it is an offence to drink alcohol publicly and if caught may be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. Councillor Tim Ball and local campaigner Sarah Moore have erected the signs in Twerton High Street, which means this order is now legally enforceable and anyone caught in contravention of this order can now be dealt with accordingly.

Councillor Tim Ball said "I was pleased to be able to arrange for these signs and another step towards the Liberal Democrats helping to return Twerton to a family friendly community."



Down your street

King George's Road – Councillor Paul Crossley reports that Curo have agreed to trim back several areas of overgrowing trees that were blocking the light from the streetlamps on the pathways.

Sladebrook Court – Councillor Paul Crossley reports that Curo have agreed to remove the flower bed from the front of the flats and replace it with grass to extend the lawn.

Landseer Road – Thanks to the hard work of local residents, it is great to see the communal area that should be maintained by Curo, changed into a relaxing area for all to enjoy.

Freeview Road – Now that the funding and agreements have been sorted, we are chasing dates for the additional parking to be in place.

Bridge at Lansdown View/Jews Lane – this is regularly hit by large vans. Councillor Romero is talking to Highways about better danger signs.

Litter chaos continues

Ever since the Conservatives introduced fortnightly collection of waste with no thought for the increase in fly-tipping, we have had endless problems with waste in our area. This includes people driving in from elsewhere to dump black sacks. Residents are fighting back and all credit to the Whiteway Residents association who have added their own litter bins around their area, however the problem around the country of budget cuts fills us with concern. A Labour Council in Wales (Conwy CBC) has just moved to MONTHLY collection of waste and several Labour and Conservative Councils around the country are moving to 3-weekly collection.

Councillor Tim Ball said "in our manifesto next year we will make a promise to you that we will not reduce waste collection services any further. In fact we will look to provide more litter bins around the area especially at litter hotspots. We believe that enabling easy deposit and collection of waste will be cheaper than the costs of removing fly-tipping all

the time. A problem that in our area is worsened by the fact that so much of what appears to be public land is in fact owned by Curo and so is private. We are concerned that Council Tax payers are not getting an equal deal across the area as Curo pass on fly-tipping collection costs through their service charge."



Enough is enough!

Our area has taken more than its fair share of purpose built student accommodation with several blocks on the Lower Bristol Road taking over former industrial space. It used to be that Local Councils got a Council Tax support payment to cover the Council Tax for students. This is reducing year on year and will be gone completely by 2020/21. We are all using the same services and we should all pay for them fairly.



We also need employment space, and yet at the recent planning committee Conservative councillors voted *en bloc* to permit the change of use at The Old Bakery in Jews Lane to be converted into student accommodation and offices. The Liberal Democrats opposed this application. Another lost employment space and we feel that it won't be long before the developer seeks to change the offices to further student flats.

Councillor Paul Crossley said "Cities like Bath must be compensated by central government for the lost Council Tax revenue that students are not paying. We don't want this additional cost to be put on the students who are already making a sacrifice to get their degrees.

"However, the Conservative Government must restore this element of the support grant instead of forever just cutting away at our revenue streams. Bath and NES is now losing over £4m per year because of this."