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Can we help you?

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

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Twerton, Whiteway & Southdown

FOCUS



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

Community Planting sessions



In November, Councillors Sarah Moore and Tim Ball were joined by BANES staff and planted over 860 bulbs in an area of and on Twerton High Street and the roundabout at the end of Wedgwood Road. A further 1,000 bulbs were planted by BANES in the Cul-de-sacs off Innox Road as well.

They also helped with tree planting session in Pennyquick Park that was organised by Bathscape with over 800 trees planted. They were also joined at the event by the Right Honourable Mayor, June Player, as well as members of the BANES Parks team and local residents.

Across our parks and open spaces we will continue to see tree planting events being held. During December there were 3 community days held at The Brickfields which saw a number of trees being planted. Keep your eyes open on the park railings around the area for more opportunities to get involved in tree planting. Councillor Paul Crossley said "the trees we planted in the last exercise at Hillcrest field are doing well".

We are also looking at improvements to Pennyquick Park, as this remains the only one in Twerton and Whiteway that we have not recently made changes to. These include the installation of a footpath around the outer edge of the park as well as looking at disabled friendly play equipment, we will update you further throughout 2022.

BCA/Culverhay School Site - Latest update

We are pleased to confirm that all Councillors in the South West of Bath continue to push for education to remain on the site.

We have confirmation that the alternative provision education provided in BANES will be merging all year groups onto the site from next year. The site is already used to accommodate the secondary age groups. They will only be taking up part of the site. More information will be provided on this as soon as more details are available.

Discussions are still on-going with a number of partners to introduce vocational training onto the site aimed at ages 14-18, these courses would be located in the main block.

The Council is still looking at the options around the swimming pool and we are hoping that monies can be found to bring this back into use soon.

IN OUR AREA

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods

Over the last few months the Council has been seeking views from residents about implementing Low Traffic Neighbourhoods.

A very large number of applications from across the City have been submitted and to meet the budget allocated a shortlist has been selected for further work. In Southdown requests were submitted for Dartmouth Ave, Coronation Ave and Mount Road.



The selected scheme from Southdown is Mount Road. However we think there will be more opportunities again in the future and we will, at that point ask for the other two schemes to be considered again.

Recycling issues

As you will all be aware, there have been a number of issues with collection of Rubbish, Recycling and green waste. This is due to a number of factors including staff sickness and HGV driver leaving for other jobs.



We would like to ask residents to help by ensuring all their waste and recycling is presented correctly. Recycling should ideally be split with cans and plastic in one box, glass and paper in another box, cardboard in your blue bag and food waste in the black bin (properly wrapped). Please do not put nappies or sanitary products into the boxes as these bins will not be collected.

Twerton Infant School



Works are due to take place at Twerton infant School to replace windows and carry out extensive works on the roof.

Twerton Infant School has remained as a state school and is fully supported by Bath & North East Somerset Council who are paying for the upgrades to the windows and roof.

Cllr Tim Ball: said "it was a pleasure to find out the good news from the School during a visit with fellow Cllr Sarah Moore and Bath MP Wera Hobhouse who were welcomed by acting deputy head Hala Langan."

Wera Hobhouse (MP) said: "The good work by the Liberal Democrat administration on Bath and North East Somerset Council with regards to looking after educational buildings in Twerton is a great step forward, it was also good to visit a forward looking School in Twerton that is at the centre of the community".

We look forward to seeing the new look windows when they are completed and hope they will make a difference in the classrooms.

Big response to Southdown Ward Survey



Over the summer, and as lockdown eased, Dine and Paul have been knocking on doors around the ward. They also delivered a survey to every house and have had a big response back from that. The big issues you have fed back to us on the doorstep and via the survey form are parking problems, continued loss of family homes to Houses of Multiple Occupation, traffic and lorries, litter and concerns about the knock on impact of the Clean Air Zone in the City Centre.

Cllr Romero said "When the Government insisted on implementing a Clean Air Zone in Bath we asked for it to

cover the the South West of the City because we were worried about displacement travel. This is exactly what has happened and which is impacting on our area. We are now working with Government to get the zone extended to include our area."

Cllr Crossley added "We are also concerned about the impact on the lower part of the ward with the resident parking zone (RPZ) extension into neighbouring Westmorland ward. Again the Government insists that these initiatives are rolled out area by area. This means displacement parking and inconvenience for the next community and so a further round of work to extend the RPZ again."

As regards HMO proliferation the Council has been reviewing its policy for the last couple of years now and will soon be implementing a further restriction on HMO conversions. Unfortunately Planning Policy change is not something that can be rushed as the Government lays down a strict timetable that must be followed and this whole process takes a considerable length of time.

Down your street

Woodhouse Road - We have asked for the disabled bays to be repainted.

Mount View - We have chased up the new trees due to be planted by the hall.

Sheridan Road - We are pleased to see the lane to Long Valley Road has finally been resurfaced.

Brickfields - Your Park charity holds activity sessions every Thursday 1-3pm and first Sunday of the month from 11-1pm.

Ward surgery - Southdown ward surgery at the Methodist Church in The Hollow on the first Saturday of the month from 09.30am to midday. Twerton & Whiteway ward surgery at Rose Cottage junction safer. We consider this to be a first step in on the first Saturday of the month from 09.30am to 11.30am

No appointment needed - just turn up.

New crossing



Work has now been completed on the new zebra crossing outside Oldfield Junior School as well as new footpath resurfacing around the area.

This has been needed for a long time and will ensure easier crossing for the school children.

Cllr Crossley said "we are pleased with the new school crossing and work done to make this busy making the streets in this area of the ward safer."

Safer crossings are also being looked at for both Twerton Infants and St Michael's Junior Schools.