

# Get in touch with your local Lib Dem team

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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](http://www.libdems.org.uk/join))

## About You

Name .....

Address .....

Email .....

Telephone .....

How do you prefer to be contacted:  Post  Email  Telephone

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](http://www.libdems.org.uk/privacy).

Twerton, Whiteway & Southdown

# FOCUS



Spring 2022

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

## Council Budget 2022/2023 agreed



Investment to deliver new council homes, improved transport, better recycling facilities and cleaner streets have been approved by Bath & North East Somerset Council as part of its budget-setting process.

The council's spending plans, drawn up following consultation with residents, were presented to full Council on Tuesday 15 February, where they were approved. The council has set a net revenue budget of £126.74m.

This budget also includes a new investment of £950k into neighbourhood services. This will enhance the council's ability to clean streets, gullies and road signs more frequently in more areas. It will also enable the council to carry out more litter picks, remove graffiti quickly and regularly maintain road markings and pavements to improve the environment across our communities. This is in addition to £455k revenue provision to further improve recycling.

Over the next five years the council has made provision for £340m in capital investment to meet its priorities, with new additions in the 2022/23 budget including:

- £11.7m to deliver new council homes alongside £5m for new affordable housing
- £2m on transport improvements (£1.2m on the Transport Improvement Programme and £800k match funding towards CRSTS projects)
- £7.8m to maintain roads
- £750k to replace the roof of the Carswood Day Centre in Twerton

We have a number of roads included for resurfacing in Twerton and Southdown within this budget as well as repairs to pavements, options for safer roads and enhancements to our High Streets across the area.

Significant investment is also planned to tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency and help the district reach net zero by 2030.

Full details of what has been agreed as part of the budget can be viewed on the BANES website.



# IN OUR AREA

## HMO & Student Accommodation changes



Many residents have commented on the spread of HMO's and purpose built student accommodation.

Recognising the need to regulate the market to ensure a better balance the Liberal Democrat administration has:

- Introduced updated planning rules around HMO density, altering the definition of 10% density (for both new applications and applications to increase) to be

measured from edge of property rather than the centre.

- New tighter rules to ensure Purpose Built Student Accommodation (PBSA) will be built only on campus unless university has signed up to say there is a need, This will stop most new PBSAs that haven't already been approved.
- Improved environmental standards to ensure that all homes are more eco friendly.
- Introduced funding to the Student Community Partnership to attempt to reduce disputes between students and non-students in residential areas.

As you will also have seen from our Budget, we have also committed to building the first new council houses in Bath and North East Somerset since before BANES Council began in 1996.

## More Trees for Southdown

Councillors Romero and Crossley have always been keen tree planters and it has been great to see Your Park Bath & Bristol planting trees with members of BANES parks team and the community helping in some of the green spaces around Southdown such as The Brickfields.

Councillor Paul Crossley said "we try to join in with these community tree planting days whenever possible. The recent storms which have toppled so many trees across the country has shown the need for constant planting so as to ensure that over time we increase our tree cover and improve the bio-diversity and health of the soil and environment. Trees provide so much for us all."



## Road Resurfacing & Safety



As part of the road maintenance and road improvement funding within this year's budget, we can confirm we have a number of roads included for resurfacing, including, Coronation Avenue, Woodhouse Road, Haycombe Drive and more.

We have also had confirmation that the road safety project outside Twerton Infants School will be carried out this year, making the road outside the school safer for parents and children. This as been wanted for a long time.

We are also looking at reducing speeds on Whiteway Road as a number of people use this road to get to Roundhill School.

## Roman Boxing Gym



Councillors Tim Ball and Sarah Moore were pleased to be invited along to the recent open day at Roman Boxing Gym. The Gym moved to it's new location in Randalls at Twerton Football Club approximately 6 months ago.

It is open to everyone over the age of 8, with sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings for those who aspire to box and sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings for those who want to learn to box to get fit.

During the meeting the coach offered a free taster session for 1 person on presentation of this Focus leaflet (original copies only). Costs for sessions are very reasonably priced at £2.50 for 8 - 14 year olds and £5 for 15 years and over, with an annual joining fee of £20.

For more information, please take a look at [www.romanboxing.co.uk](http://www.romanboxing.co.uk) or follow them on Facebook, Twitter or instagram - @RomanBoxingGym

## Down your street

**Woodhouse Road** - Good to see the diseased trees have finally been removed.

**Coronation Ave** - We have asked for all the drains and gullies to be cleaned.

**Newton Road** - More new trees have been planted along the roadside.

**Ivy Place** - We have asked for the yellow lines to be refreshed in this street and a number of others.

**Pennyquick Hill** - We are pleased to confirm that the speed on this road from the junction with Poolemead Road right through to the Globe has been reduced to 40mph.

**Blagdon Park** - We have asked Curo and BANES to review the safety of all the trees in and around this area.

## Royal Visit to Southdown



Staff and pupils were delighted recently when Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall visited Roundhill Primary school. Councillor Romero said "it is always a special memory for young children when they have special guests visit their school, especially when it is someone as important as the next Queen of England."