

Bus stops on the move?

The success of the Wimborne Flyer has created a number of problems at the bus stops outside the First School in Broadstone. When buses arrive at the same time, Dunyeats Road becomes completely blocked and traffic chaos results.

"This is clearly unacceptable," said Councillor Mike Brooke, who supports the relocation of the bus stop. "Moving the bus stop to its new spot outside the Post Office will make it easier for elderly residents as well as reducing congestion." Both Mike and Cllr Graham Mason will campaign for a proper shelter.

Your Lib Dem Councillors have received several requests for changes to "the Flyer's" route. Unfortunately, despite numerous discussions Wilts and Dorset are not prepared to make the change: apparently journey time is more important than numbers of passengers. The possibility of additional bus stops on Broadstone Way to cater for residents of West Way, Lytchett Drive and Pine Springs is being considered. Dan Martin has pledged to campaign for these additional bus stops.



Mike Brooke at the site of the new bus stop on Dunyeats Road.

If you have any comments on the current bus services please do let us know. Graham, Mike and Dan are always prepared to fight for improvements on your behalf.

YOUR LIB DEM FOCUS TEAM

Annette Brooke MP
14 York Road,
Broadstone,
BH18 8ET
01202 693555



Councillors:
Mike Brooke
138 Lower
Blandford Road,
Broadstone, BH18 8NZ.
01202 696549



Graham Mason
248 West Way,
Broadstone, BH18 9LL.
01202 695507



Local activist
Dan Martin
51 Kingcup Close,
Broadstone,
BH18 9GS.
01202 603926



HAVE YOUR SAY JOIN THE WINNING TEAM

Please contact us with any local problems and/or concerns

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

Can you help? We rely on the support of local volunteers

- I could give an hour a month delivering Focus
- I could help with office work like addressing envelopes
- I enclose a donation of _____ to help pay for printing
- I would like to display a poster/stakeboard at the next election

Thank you for your support

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POST OFFICES - LIB DEMS CAMPAIGN AGAINST CLOSURES



The Government recently announced shocking plans to cut 2,500 Post Offices. This news came on top of the 7,500 post offices closed under successive Labour and Conservative Governments.

"Our Post Offices are very important to the community, particularly when combined with other facilities such as the local shop," said Annette Brooke MP.



Annette with Councillors Mike Brooke, Graham Mason and local activist Dan Martin with the overwhelming response from Broadstone post office users.

STOP PRESS... Over 1000 signatures have already been collected from Broadstone

DECADES OF TORY AND LABOUR CUTS

POST OFFICES CLOSED UNDER CONSERVATIVES

3,500

POST OFFICES CLOSED UNDER NEW LABOUR:

4,000

The Lib Dem Action Plan

- £2 billion to invest in our Post Office branches
- Open new branches where there is need.
- Retain the Post Office card accounts for benefit payments (in danger of being lost)
- Free the Post Office from restrictions to let it develop new business
- New legal requirement for the Government to maintain the local post office network.

SIGN OUR PETITION - STOP THE GOVERNMENT CUTS

"We call on the Government to support our Post Offices and not to close them. We rely on the important services provided by our local post office."

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

Return to: FREEPOST Liberal Democrats, 14 York Road, Broadstone, BH18 8BR

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Conservatives snub Broadstone in Bloom

Conservative Councillors targeted the highly successful and popular Broadstone in Bloom, voting in favour of not providing any more hanging baskets. They believe Broadstone had an unfair share of the Poole in Bloom money.

"It is totally untrue that Broadstone has an unfair share of the Poole in Bloom money", said Cllr Mike Brooke. The hanging baskets in Broadstone cost less than £1000. Broadstone in Bloom gives far more back to the Council through our dedicated volunteers and local traders, who regularly maintain the planters, weed all the flower beds, provide new plants, water, and carry out frequent litter picks. Cllr Graham Mason commented: "this is utterly mean and shows the Council does not care about district centres like Broadstone. Where is the Council's pride in the community?"

The Conservatives have also cut the School colouring competition and the Front Garden competition, which has been won on several occasions by Broadstone residents.

Broadstone in Bloom was started over 12 years ago through the work of Annette Brooke. Annette said: "I cannot believe how mean this Council is. This is a real kick in the teeth for all the volunteers and the community."



Will the hanging baskets return?



Footpath 5 Latest

We are delighted to learn that the final planning hurdle appears to have been overcome. After over 40 years of wrangling it looks as though the link to Ashington Cutting will now go ahead.

"This will open up a footpath with outstanding views across the heath," said Dan Martin. "We should all be grateful for the efforts of Annette, Mike and Graham over the years to make this happen." Work could start as early as February.



Annette Brooke and Dan Martin at the end of the current footpath to nowhere.

BROADSTONE LIB DEMS - WORKING ALL YEAR ROUND

Council Tax: what is in store?

February is the time when Poole's Council Tax will be announced. Will this be yet another year of above inflation increase? In 2003 the conservatives said "Council Tax was too high" and four years later it has increased by over £300 (Band D) with more to come.

Do you remember this headline: **"A NICE LITTLE EARNER"**

(Front Page, Daily Echo Sept 19th 2003) Increasing councillor allowances by 29% was the Conservatives' first major decision after gaining control of Poole Council in 2003. Cllr Mike Brooke refused the increase calling it an example of "hypocrisy and greed."

Like the Sheriff of Nottingham the Leader of the Council voted himself a massive **£120 per week** increase and has continued to take more and more in taxes.

He has built up reserves of more than £13 million in less than 4 years and you will not get any of this back. The Council Tax you pay will not be any less this year. It will increase again and the only question is "by how much?"

HOW THE RISES STACKED UP

2.6%	3.4%	13.9%	29%	40% Leader's Allowance Increase
State Pension	Avg. Wage Increase	Poole Council Tax	Poole Council Allowance	

Christmas Parade a great success

Once again the Christmas Parade organised by Broadstone's Chamber of Trade proved a great success despite the occasional shower. Congratulations go to all those who organised and participated in the Parade and helped Christmas in Broadstone get off to a great start.



Crime: An ID card in your pocket or police on the street?

Despite the hard work of both Broadstone's Neighbourhood Watch and local police, Cllrs Mike Brooke and Graham Mason still receive complaints about vandalism and anti-social behaviour. They have supported the creation of a section 30 dispersal order which will give the police greater powers to disperse any group causing a nuisance.

"If we had more police on the streets such a situation would not arise" said Mike, who is coordinating a Lib Dem campaign to reduce crime. "More funding is needed and this could be found quite easily by diverting money from ID Cards into the police service."

"More funding is needed to get more police on the streets. With the cost of ID cards soaring it would be better to divert this money into the police service." Added Mike.



Cllr Mike Brooke joins PC Stephen Hawke on his patrol around Broadstone

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