


LYTCHETT MINSTER



SCHOOL BUILD SUCCESS

The Build of the Science, Maths & Humanities Building started in 2006 after a long wait of 7 years due to a fire destroying the old building. The project should be complete in October 2008, costing in the region of £12m.

The reason for the delay would need a book to explain except to say councillor Fred Drane after a lengthy number of meetings with both the school and Dorset County Council, felt it wasn't getting anywhere so requested a call to account of all parties. This was held at Lytchett Minster School in 2005 and resulted in the Overview & Scrutiny Committee proposing the outcome as we see today.

At the final meeting of Dorset County Council Cabinet, it was suggested that the school rebuild could go ahead on a budget of £10.9m. This the Director of Education was reluctant to accept as it would not provide adequate facilities.

The leader of Dorset County Council sought advice from Councillor Fred Drane as a local resident and driving force of this project. Cllr Drane stated that the project would need an extra £1m

for the rebuild to accommodate all the schools requirements. The leader of the Council followed Cllr Drane's advice and confirmed a figure of £11.9m to the Chief Accountant of the Cabinet.

It was then agreed that a sub committee would be set up to ensure the build continued on the right path, including the Chairman of Governors and Cllr Fred Drane who worked together during the difficult meetings, and 3 other Governors.

Along with the rebuild of the Science, Maths & Humanities building, there is a new kitchen, dining area, cycle rack and car park, and cycle way leading to the highway cycle way.

Recently, the rebuild was visited by the Governors and Dorset County Cabinet, who were all very pleased with the project. They stated that the project had not been one of their troublesome projects in building terms and should complete in October without any need for management investigation on cost problems. Cllr Drane concludes "all of those involved cannot wait to see the finished product in all its glory".



(Far Left) Cllr Fred Drane at the recent visit to the Lytchett Minster School site.

DON'T FORGET

The deadline for the Regional Spatial Strategy consultation period is Friday 24th October. Don't forget to get your letters and opinions in before this date if you would like to speak out about the decision to build 2,750 houses in our area. You can do this by writing to: Regional Planning Team, Government Office for South West, 2 Rivergate, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6ED. Or email: rssconsult@gosw.gsi.gov.uk.



CAN YOU HELP?

The Lib Dems are currently looking for volunteers to help deliver leaflets like this Focus.

If you can spare any time to help us once a month then please fill out the form below.

THE AMALGAMATION MYSTERY By Fred Drane



Three years ago, consultation took place to make assess the proposed amalgamation of Upton County Infants and Upton County Junior School.

The Town Council viewed the plans and informed Dorset County Council they did not have access to the land proposed for the amalgamation. Dorset County Council then found another site and are negotiating with the owners to buy the land.

I had continually raised the poor condition of class rooms with Dorset County Council, which needed immediate attention. Dorset County Council have since put into action the refurbishment of the Junior school, including replacing old class rooms and installing a new boiler. The total cost of the work was in the region of hundreds of thousands of pounds and the amalgamation has since been forgotten.

In both the Infant and Junior Schools the head teachers have now retired and been replaced. The schools are working hard to be as successful as possible and the amalgamation to them is a distant plan.

As for the Dorset County Council the amalgamation is still only a dream. Will it or will it not take place? I recently raised the question in Council as to whether the money is still available for this project. Dorset County Council have since stated that they did not ever have the money for the amalgamation. This raises further questions of why the consultation period was ever held in 2005. What was the point of the consultation? Did they think they had the money and then realised they did not? Questions need to be asked.”

WORKING FOR YOU Your Lib Dem Team



Member of Parliament

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



District Councillor

Andrew Starr
29 Heights Road,
Upton, BH16 5QS
Tel: 01202 631161



County & District Councillor

Fred Drane
4 Martingale Close,
Upton, BH16 5ST
01202 385114



District Councillor

Wendy Starr
29 Heights Road,
Upton, BH16 5QS
Tel: 01202 631161

Have Your Say :

Do you have any thoughts or concerns that you'd like to share with Fred and the Lib Dem team? If so please return this cut out slip to us and we'll do what we can.

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

Name.....
.....
Address.....
.....
Phone.....
Email.....

Help the Local Lib Dem Team

- I will display a poster in my window at election time
- I will display a stakeboard in my window at election time
- I would like to join the Liberal Democrats
- I will deliver leaflets in my road once a month
- I am able to deliver in my road but less frequently than once a month
- I will be voting for the Liberal Democrats at the next election