

Library Closure Plan 'Seriously Flawed'

Annette Brooke MP speaks up for village Library in Parliament

Service to rural Communities vital

Annette Brooke MP and local Councillors Fred Drane and Michael Peacock are continuing their campaign against the proposed closure of Lytchett Matravers Library.

It is now over one year into the 2-year consultation period. So far there has been no word from the County Council as to whether they will choose to save this important local resource.

Annette Brooke questioned the Minister responsible at an adjournment debate, calling the efficiency review "seriously flawed." She also pointed out that the County Council is threatening cuts to this vital service in what is supposed to be a national year of reading.

"Although I have received assurances from the Minister that he will monitor the situation at Dorset County Council and that he was 'disturbed by the scale of the closures', it is down to the Conservative cabinet in making these final decisions on this matter. We will continue to put pressure on them to find a constructive solution to the funding problems," said Annette.

"Myself and Michael Peacock have joined Annette in putting as much pressure as possible on the Council to make sure our Library stands the best chance of being saved," said County Councillor Fred Drane.



Annette Brooke MP and County Cllr Fred Drane (above) continue to work with Cllr Michael Peacock to fight the proposed closure of Lytchett Matravers Library

Lytchett Minster cycle path proposal

County Councillor Fred Drane has been investigating whether local people would use a cycle path between Lytchett Matravers and Lytchett Minster.

Any cycle path would allow people to get between the villages easily by bike and could be useful for children from the village who attend Lytchett Minster school.

"Lytchett Matravers Parish Council and myself would welcome any comments and suggestions on this matter. Please use the reply slip on the back of this Focus to let us know if you would use such a cycle path," said Cllr Fred Drane



Wareham Road Traffic problems

Several residents have contacted District Councillor Michael Peacock about traffic problems caused by a new housing development on Wareham Road

Barretts, the developers, is building 41 new houses on the site and works traffic has created delays. The bad weather has also caused quite a mess with mud flowing onto the road and pavement.

Michael and Fred have been in contact with Dorset County Council and have been given assurances that they will try to keep disruption to a minimum.



School Rebuild Continues

The work at Lytchett Minster school continues, offering an end at last to the temporary classrooms. Some children have been using the terrapins for the whole of their school life since the fire burnt part of the school down seven years ago.

Annette Brooke and Michael Peacock visited the school and were pleased to see the rebuild progressing after long and detailed negotiations with the County Council.

Lib Dem Cllrs Michael Peacock and Fred Drane are both Governors at the school. Fred Drane was instrumental in securing an extra £1 million for the school. The other school Governors and the Headteacher have worked tirelessly negotiating with the County Council to get to the new build started.

"Although there are some concerns that the new building may not be in keeping with the original buildings, I am sure the children will be looking forward to using the new arts and humanities building with modern classrooms and facilities," commented Annette Brooke MP.



Annette Brooke and Cllr Michael Peacock survey the temporary classrooms at Lytchett Minster School

Advice Surgeries

Annette Brooke holds regular advice surgeries in Lytchett Matravers.

County Councillor Fred Drane also holds a surgery on the first Friday of every month at Lytchett Matravers Library.

If you need advice and think we can help you, please contact the office on 01202 693555



Post Office update

Thank you to all the Lytchett Matravers residents who signed Annette Brooke MP's petition against Dorset Post Office closures.

The Post Office in Lytchett Matravers is not likely to be threatened, but other rural communities may be hit hard by the planned cuts of 2500 Post Offices. Annette is committed to retaining rural services such as our Post Office and Library networks, which are part of the fabric of local communities.

Thank you Mike Randall

Mike Randall, the long serving head of Lytchett Matravers primary school is retiring after 25 years excellent service.

He has been a very popular headteacher at the school, not only improving the quality of teaching at the school, but getting involved in the local community as well.

"We wish Mike all the best and would like to congratulate him on helping make the school such a good place to send our children," said School Governor and District Councillor Michael Peacock.

Council Tax - Relentless Rises

Figures released this year show that since Conservatives took control of Purbeck District Council your Council Tax has doubled – up 102%. It is no better under the Tory run County Council - they put up your tax by 4.9% this year and cut services.

The only way to stop these unaffordable increases is to scrap the Council Tax. "Only the Liberal Democrats are committed to introducing a fair and affordable local tax linked to the ability to pay" says Fred Drane

Under the Lib Dems tax proposals a typical household would need to be earning over twice the average household income before they would start to pay more than they currently pay in Council Tax.

Michael Peacock added: "Those on low and middle incomes and pensions would pay less, only high earners would have to pay a little more."

The Lib Dem 'Axe the Tax' campaign continues, you can support it by signing our petition at:

www.campaigns.libdems.org.uk/axethetax

Council tax has doubled since Conservatives took control of Purbeck District Council



Source: Council Budget Books

Working for you!



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



If we can help you with a problem in our area, please contact us today using the details below.

Annette Brooke MP: (01202 693555)

14 York Road, Broadstone, BH18 8ET

County Cllr Fred Drane (01202 384115)

4 Martingale Close, Upton, BH16 5ST

District Cllr Michael Peacock (01202 632093)

62 Charborough Close, Lytchett Matravers, BH16 6DH

Have Your Say

Name/s _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Help the local team in Lytchett Matravers

I will be voting for the Lib Dems at the next election

I will display a poster in my window at election time

I will deliver my road once a month

I would like to join the Lib Dems

The Lib Dems and their elected representatives may use the information you provide to contact you about issues you may find of interest. Some of these contacts may be automated. You can opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.