



FOCUS

On WAREHAM

No 171

TRIGON PIT EXTENSION Call for new access

County Planners visited the Trigon Ball Clay Pit in mid January prior to determining the planning application to extend the existing pit northwards at the February Planning Committee meeting.

There have been objections from the Town Council and local residents to continued use of the existing access route via Carey Road, so the Committee have visited two alternative access routes reports Local County Councillor David Budd, who, would you believe it, as the Local Councillor was not allowed to attend the site visit.

"The former BP oil exploration well site access on to Bere Road would have the least impact on local residents" says David Budd, "although it would require a 400 metre haul road to link it to Trigon Pit".



Cllr David Budd demonstrates the narrowness of Carey Road, currently used by 38 lorries a day.

TRIPLE WHAMMY?

Town, District and County Council's all provide services to Wareham residents. Whilst the Town and District Council's are to maintain their levels of service, the County Council looks likely to unleash a 'triple whammy' of a 4.94% increase in Council Tax, coupled with increased charges and cuts in services.

The Conservatives, who run the County Council, are blaming the Government for a £8 million shortfall in funding; despite the fact that the Government Grant has increased by over half (53%) since they won control of the Council.

The Dorset County Council is expected to increase its part of the Council Tax on average by over £47 per year, whereas Wareham Town Council's increase has already been set at a mere £1.80 per year.

Only the Liberal Democrats are committed to abolishing the unfair Council Tax and replacing it with a fair tax which takes account of your ability to pay.

GRAVEL PIT TO CLOSE

Fewer lorries will be using Sandford Lane, Northport and Bere Road. When the gravel extraction from the Swineham Farm gravel pits to the east of Wareham comes to an end in June, reports Cllr David Budd. David, who is Chairman of the Liaison Group says; "the group will maintain their monitoring roll until restoration of the site for nature conservation is completed in September 2006."



RECYCLING ON TARGET

The Recycle for Purbeck Scheme has been far more successful than expected, doubling the amount the district recycles according to official figures.

In the first month of the scheme's operation 32%, that's around 300 tonnes of all household waste in Purbeck was recycled, compared to just 16% prior to the new scheme being introduced. The Government has set Purbeck a target of 30%.

"The scheme's success so far means that the amount of waste sent to landfill has already significantly decreased, this will save the council tax payers money and helps protect the environment in the future" reports local councillor David Budd. "Well done to everyone who has participated and keep recycling" says David's Lib Dem colleague Cllr Eric Osmond.



**WORKING ALL
YEAR ROUND**

*Your Liberal
Democrat Team
for Wareham*

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Wareham Town Council is to give the public a say at its Planning and General Purposes Committees. Time will be made available at each committee meeting for residents to ask questions or make statements to the committees, initially on a six months trial bases, following acceptance of a proposal made by Cllr David Budd.

Public question time was introduced at Council meetings by the Liberal Democrats back in 1988. "I am sure the ability to address the Town Council Planning Committee will be particularly welcomed and useful" says David Budd.

Your Councillors

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SHORTAGE OF PUPILS

Nearly a quarter (22%) of all places in Purbeck's First and Primary schools are currently surplus to the needs of the schools. In Middle and Secondary schools the figure is 8%.

Following last years Great Education Debate in Dorset, all schools in the Purbeck area will be the County Council's second highest priority for review this year, reports Local County Councillor David Budd. What will this mean for our local schools?

Town Councillors

David Budd	552017
Doreen Cleaton	553149
Keith Critchley	552651
Sue Elmes	552603
Keith Green	556010
Eric Osmond	551000
Mary Wainwright	555288
Judith Webb	553178

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