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Billingham North Ward

FOCUS

Number 107

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YOUR BILLINGHAM NORTH LIBERAL DEMOCRAT COUNCILLORS

LYNNE APEDAILE

&

COLIN LECKONBY

WISH ALL OUR READERS A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR



BILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

The Billingham Town Council Steering Committee have been working hard to have the elections with the Stockton Council elections in May 2005. This turned out not to be achievable and so the steering committee were hoping for May 2006, but this is now dependent on the Electoral Commission approving the Stockton Borough Council warding proposals which will be put to the council meeting on 14th Dec for approval.

DARZI REPORT ON REVIEW OF LOCAL HOSPITAL SERVICES

Lynne is working hard as a member of the Health & Social Care Select Committee because of the implications it has for the residents of Stockton Borough. Professor Darzi's main remit was to consider how the fullest possible range of services could be maintained at Hartlepool Hospital. He was asked by the Secretary of State for Health to do this after the Labour majority in Hartlepool fell drastically when Peter Mandelson resigned and they were facing possible defeat in the 2005 general election. If you want more information you can get a copy of the report by visiting: www.countydurhamandteesvalley.nhs.uk or by contacting Lynne or Colin.

DEMOCRACY

Obviously the Labour and Conservative Councillors on Stockton Council do not believe in democracy. The number of councillors for the proposed Billingham Town Council supported by the Liberal Democrats was 3 councillors for the Billingham Central, East, South and West wards and 5 for the Billingham North ward to take into account the larger number of residents in this ward. This would allow each councillor to represent approximately the same number of residents. The Labour and Conservative Councillors voted against the Liberal Democrat amendment.

BILLINGHAM TOWN CENTRE

Lynne and Colin expected to see some proposals from Hallidales about the redevelopment of the Town Centre. These have been delayed and at this time we have no further news. The Billingham Labour Councillors tried to force the Gateway Project onto the residents of Billingham saying this is what they wanted. Lynne and Colin talked to the residents and opposed the project on their behalf. We support the redevelopment of the town centre to make an attractive and shopper friendly atmosphere. The Billingham Labour Councillors now support the redevelopment, but the saying running with the fox and hunting with the hounds comes to mind. The latest Labour newsletter shows that they read our FOCUS newsletters as most of their articles were covered in previous FOCUS newsletters.

WOLVISTON BACK LANE/HURWORTH ROAD

The Stockton Council Officers Traffic Group at their meeting on 17th November were to outline proposals of a 7.5 tonne weight restriction in the area. Lynne and Colin are waiting to see what these proposals are and will keep you informed.

MARSH HOUSE AVENUE PETROL STATION DEVELOPMENT

The developers for this site did reduce the density of the housing on the site to a more acceptable level before submitting a planning application again.

Both Lynne and Colin opposed the planning application again as the exit from the site was still onto Wallington Road. We explained that all the roads leading onto Wallington Road were cul-de-sacs and so all traffic had to use the one road. Even with our objection the planning committee passed the application and so the petrol station, car wash and shop will be replaced by housing in the future.

CAMPUS LEARNING CENTRE

Lynne Apedaile is still working with Stockton Council officers to solve the problem of the glare from the outside lights of the Campus Learning Centre.

CLEADON AVENUE

The street light at the cut has been moved to illuminate the whole of the cut and is a great improvement.

METHODIST CHURCH RUBBISH BIN

A new bin has been placed near the bus stop in front of the Billingham North Methodist Church.

COUNCILLOR KEITH DEWISON

Cllr Dewison is no longer a member of the Liberal Democrat Group on Stockton Council or of this FOCUS editorial team.

WARD SURGERIES

The next 2 dates for our ward surgeries are:-

High Grange Community Centre
Monday 6th February 2006, 6:30 to 7:30pm
and
North Billingham Methodist Church
Monday 6th March 2006, 6:30 to 7:30pm

You can contact Lynne and Colin at other times with their details shown below.

You can contact Lynne and Colin by:-

Telephone **Lynne** on **01740 645216** or **Colin** on **01642 872896**

e-mail lynne.apedaile@stockton.gov.uk or colin.leckonby@stockton.gov.uk

You can also write to **Lynne Apedaile** at **1 West Hartlepool Road, Wolviston TS22 5LA,**
Colin Leckonby at **73 Tunstall Avenue, Billingham TS23 3OD.**

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