

Staying in touch with the communities of Penhill, Haydon View, Mendip Close, Fairford Crescent and Crossways

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Feb 10

GIVE US THE **BUS** MONEY! PENHILL DESERVES ITS FAIR SHARE

An overwhelming 500 residents said 'Penhill ward deserves its fair share' by rallying to support the FOCUS Team petition to restore a 30-minute No. 21 bus service.

A clear issue to come out of the Academy Safe Route meetings in late 2009 was that residents wanted a decent bus service to get pupils safely to and from the Academy, particularly after later finishing extra curricular classes.

After kick-starting action with the Safe Route meetings, local Lib Dem campaigner Andy Harrison saw our Labour Councillor fail to rally residents against Swindon's uncaring Tory Council.

Following complaints that the only school morning bus was so overcrowded it was unable to pick up local pupils and fed up of waiting for our local councillors to initiate further resident action, Andy Harrison and local Lib Dems hit the cold and wet winter streets to collect petition signatures supporting a half-hourly Penhill/Pinehurst bus service. The petition was presented to a full meeting of the Council on 22nd February. Only Andy has rallied the residents to ensure our overlooked area gets its fair share.

With the hard work traipsing the streets almost complete, the petition's success was the talk of the area and, not surprisingly, the other local politicians soon wanted to jump on the Lib Dem band wagon, proving that:

REAL action: 500 residents sign the Lib Dem FOCUS Bus petition!



Lib Dem Group Leader Cllr Stan Pajak and Andy Harrison on the petition trail.



Andy Harrison

We have been let down by both the Tory Council and our Labour Councillor over the 21 bus service. Only local campaigner Andy Harrison has rallied the residents to get overlooked Penhill its fair share.

**...When it comes to bringing action direct to your door,
the Lib Dems are leading streets ahead of the rest.**

Lib Dems: Getting Penhill its Fair Share

we're listening to you ...

Andy Harrison and the Lib Dem FOCUS Team have knocked on every accessible door in the area to find out your views.

Andy said, "We have had a great response from people on the doorstep. Lots of people have said they are pleased that finally someone wants to listen to their views, rather than councillors who assume they know best."

"Most of the people I have spoken to say that Penhill is a great place to live, with a real community spirit that other parts of Swindon would give their eye teeth for."

"However people have told me they have been let down by their Labour Councillors and Tory Council for years. They want to know why Penhill doesn't get its fair share of Tory Council and Labour Government time and money."

Survey returns have shown residents wanted to know why they don't get their fair share of youth facilities and visible Police on the street, street cleaning and available NHS dentists. And why parking and speeding problems are not being resolved.

Penhill ward residents have been saying that Labour and Tories have let the area down. The only way we will get our fair share is through a local community champion like Andy Harrison.

Andy added, "I just want to thank everyone who completed our survey. Your views really count and will help us to fight for Penhill ward's fair share."

Through the rain and the snow Andy Harrison and the Lib Dem FOCUS Team knocked on 90% of doors in Penhill ward so you could tell us what is important. This is what you told us:

YOUTH FACILITIES



You told us: Why doesn't Penhill get its fair share of youth provision, to give our young people more to do in the evening and places like playgrounds and a splash park for our younger children?

POLICE PRESENCE



You told us: We hardly ever see Police on the street of Penhill, apart from the occasional Police car speeding away. We should have our fair share so that we feel safer on our streets at night.

CLEANER STREETS



You told us: Other areas of the town are seen as more important than Penhill so get more litter and fly-tipping cleared up. Andy Harrison does not believe Penhill should be forgotten.

PARKING & SPEEDING



You told us: The Council needs to actually invest to make parking better here. We also need a real solution to speeding - rather than the cheap and ineffective 'humps' we were given.

NHS DENTISTS



Finding an NHS Dentist can be like pulling teeth, says Jane Lock

Prospective Lib Dem MP for North Swindon Jane Lock said, "Penhill residents have told us they have to travel miles and miles looking for a dentist that will take NHS patients. Nationally in the last 2 years 3 million people have failed to find an NHS dentist."

The last Tory government started the decline of NHS dentists, but Tony Blair said in 1999 that everyone should have access to an NHS dentist. We have been let down by Labour and the Tories.

Jane added, "The Lib Dems would guarantee access to an NHS dentist by ensuring that every dentist that is trained by the NHS has to work for the NHS for a minimum of five years."

ANDY HARRISON: LISTENING TO PENHILL WARD

A Fresh Start for North Swindon



Andy Harrison welcomes Jane Lock
Lib Dem PPC for North Swindon to
the Penhill Ward FOCUS team

Local campaigner Andy Harrison joins Swindon Liberal Democrats in welcoming the selection of Jane Lock as the Lib Dem candidate to fight North Swindon in the General Election this year.

As an experienced campaigner, the former Somerset County Council Deputy Leader and Chair of the Social Services Committee, Jane is well used to fighting central government for a better deal for local services.

Small business owner Jane understands the mess that successive

Labour and Conservatives governments have got our economy into, and the stresses and strains that it has caused on ordinary peoples' lives and budgets.

Vanishing Grit Bins

Many residents complained that they were left slipping and sliding on icy roads & paths due to the lack of salt grit bins throughout Penhill Ward.



Many of the older bins, which have miraculously vanished over the past few years, are now set to be replaced thanks to action by Lib Dem campaigner Andy Harrison.

Lib Dems: Fighting for your Fair Share

Let's work together to
improve our area

- I will vote Lib Dem ☐
- I want to apply for a postal vote ☐
- I will join the Lib Dem FOCUS Team ☐
- I will keep my area in touch by delivering a few leaflets in my area occasionally ☐
- I can make a donation to a campaign ☐
- I will display a poster at election time ☐

Your name:
Your address:

Phone:
Email:

Got issues? Tell us:

Please return this form to Andy Harrison, 35 Odstock Rd, Penhill, SN2 5JA

Beware of 'Desperate' Labour

The Labour Party is getting more desperate by the day.

It's clear that they will say and do anything to try to avoid defeat.

Sadly in many places this will mean turning to lies and smear campaigns.

Only last year, a top Brown advisor was forced to quit after plans for an election smear campaign leaked out.

That's why people should treat Labour claims with extreme caution.

It's a shame that after THIRTEEN YEARS in power, Gordon Brown and Labour can't think of anything better to say.



Gordon Brown's former advisor... was forced to resign for plotting a smear campaign **BBC News**