FOCUS April 2024 Liberal Democrats



On Weymouth Town Council For Southill, Radipole and Lodmoor

As the largest party on Weymouth Town Council we have worked hard and achieved a lot since 2019. Here are some of the projects we are most proud of:

TUMBLEDOWN FARM

The Town Council, with David Harris as its

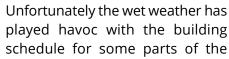
leader and managed mainly by Lib Dems with help from the Greens, has made great strides since Covid. One of its proud developments has been the work started on Tumbledown Farm, at

the heart of our ward. We have just gained grants totalling £250,000 so that we can build a new block in place of one of the ruins. This will have a classroom, a better kitchen and proper toilets so more people can take advantage of its open spaces with positive activities. We are hoping to reopen the Forest School facility with Dorset Council in



the summer and the dry stone wall is making grand progress up the hill. This fabulous open space, if sometimes a little wet, is also going to save the town council £26,000/year in a couple of years time when we bring our nursery on site, saving us this sum in rent.

RADIPOLE PARK



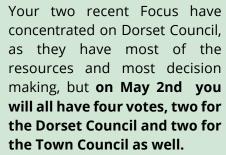
park development. The tennis courts should soon be available but the café and play area were underwater for a while. Clearly this also hindered getting someone to want to run the

café which was a requirement for the grant from the National Lottery. It is hoped everything will be operational by Whitsun except, possibly the cafe, but we are sure you understand why some parts have been delayed. The Friends of Radipole

Park Gardens are kept in touch and now that the development work is nearing completion, if anyone would like to help look after it, please join the Friends as they would welcome new members.

As you may be aware, **Matt Bell** created a petition to raise the issue of the lake needing to be de-silted with Dorset Council who have responsibility for the lake. The lake was

transferred from the old W&P Council and Dorset Council had put it on the back burner despite flooding issues in the area. As a result of **Matt** highlighting the issue; meetings with the Environment Agency, Natural England and the RSPB as the tenant have now started, but local councillors are currently not invited. If we gain control of Dorset Council we will expect more openness with all councillors able to contribute to the decision making, especially on local projects!



The Dorset Council ward is split into two halves: with each half having two town candidates.

- One covers what is called Lodmoor, and runs along the Dorchester Road from the Manor Roundabout to the Rembrant, with all roads off, and has Matt Bell and David **Civil** as candidates.
- The Southill and Radipole ward is made up of an old part of Westham North and part of the Wey Valley Ward and this has David Harris and Louise Bown as their Town candidates. Matt and Louise are also standing for **Dorset Council** and this will communications between Town and Dorset Councils.







One item of activity which is not yet completed is getting the Southill Kids"R"us site given back to Weymouth Town Council so we can add

a new bit of play equipment to it. Dorset Council grabbed this site in case they wanted to develop it or sell it. It took us 2 years to persuade them that, as is was a community site, this was not worth it, so please attach it to the play park and let the Town Council manage it. They finally agreed to draw up a contract to lease it to us which was started almost two



years ago and has still not been completed!!!!! It is no wonder the DC Council Tax has been rising so quickly.

INCOME GENERATION FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL - NOT FROM THE PRECEPT

Our Town Council. led by the Lib Dems is on the point of agreeing a contract to improve our advertising revenue by upgrading the old advertising drums on the seafront. This will bring in a large amount of money for either upgrading other facilities or lowering the council tax you pay. We have also completed strategies for improving the Sea Front, developing Arts, Heritage and cultural activities, improving Access for all people, whatever their disability may be, helping sports to network and support each other and continuing to focus on the Climate Emergency. The new council will have the preparation work done for them but a new Lib Dem administration will be able to move forward more quickly as it knows how to work with officers for the benefit of our communities.

BUS FOR SOUTHILL

Lib Dem Town Councillors never give up but continue to fight for what residents are saying to us. Our new Southill Bus Service, although not perfect, is a good example of our perseverance and we have not given up trying to improve it.



Your local Southill, Radipole and Lodmoor candidates for Weymouth Town Council:

Southill and Radipole Ward

Lodmoor Ward



David Harris:

Matt Bell

davidharris989@gmail.com mattbellsouthdorset@gmail.com

Louise Bown:

louisebown@outlook.com

David Civil: davidcivil.libdem@gmail.com



LOUISE BOWN and DAVID
CIVIL are your Town
Council candidates along
with DAVID HARRIS and
MATT BELL



Louise Bown grew up in Southill and presently lives close to the edge of the Estate. She is standing for both councils and is looking forward to working with David on the town council. David is hoping to continue working hard and hopes to renew his links with the area off Spa road now the boundaries have changed.



David Civil was born and brought up in Weymouth and now lives off Dorchester Road. He is a governor at a local secondary school, keen to serve and empower our diverse local community. David is eager to remind Dorset Council that Weymouth and Portland are still here!

For general Lib Dem queries please email us at info@sdlibdems.org.uk