

GREEN VIEW

QUEEN'S PARK & CHARMINSTER



Alasdair Keddie
Local campaigner



Simon Bull & Chris Rigby
Bournemouth's Green Councillors

LOCAL CAMPAIGN WIN: CCTV NOW INSTALLED AT PROBLEM CHARMINSTER ALLEYWAYS

- Local resident **Alasdair Keddie** successfully lobbies BCP Council for action at hotspot for crime and open drug use
- Camera now installed, looking into alleyways at bottom of Avon Road, Capstone Road and Shelbourne Road

CCTV is now in place at a hotspot for **crime and anti-social behaviour** on residential streets in Charminster. This follows an intervention by **hard-working local Green campaigner Alasdair Keddie**, teamed up with Nicole Riley.

Alasdair and fellow local campaigner Nicole met with **BCP Council's Head of CCTV** on 15th October to discuss the crime, **drug use, fly-tipping** and anti-social behaviour occurring by the **footbridge and the alleyways** at the bottom of Avon Road, Capstone Road and Shelbourne Road.



The much-needed new CCTV camera, sorted by Alasdair Keddie's campaign



Alasdair had arranged a walkaround with BCP's CCTV chief, calling for urgent action here

Alasdair was delighted to report after the meeting: "I'm really pleased to say that he has **agreed to install CCTV** opposite the bridge, with **line of sight in to the alleyways.**" The new camera has **recently arrived.**

Alasdair added: "This is good news for Charminster residents. We hope this will go a long way towards **discouraging a lot of the problems** we have been experiencing as residents and will help to **make our neighbourhood a cleaner and safer place.**"

MORE IMPROVEMENTS SOON AT WINTON REC

Additional bike racks are coming soon to **Winton Recreation Ground**, near the **café.** The **'spinning bowl'** in the **Sensory Garden** will be **replaced.**

The neighbouring Winton East area has **two Green councillors** who **approved the funds.** Previously Green Councillor **Simon Bull** has **sorted** for Winton Rec:

- funds for the **water fountain for people and dogs** installed last year
- **reopening of the toilets** [pictured, with adjacent fountain] after lengthy closure due to anti-social behaviour
- funds for a **new gate** where people had been repeatedly damaging the fence to gain access.



Alasdair Keddie with Cllrs Chris Rigby and Simon Bull at Winton Recreation Ground: Greens are improving the much-loved park just a short hop from Charminster

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY on LOCAL DRUG-RELATED CRIME, ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND JUSTICE
INVITATION TO PUBLIC ZOOM EVENT, Wednesday 27th January, 7pm–9pm • Register now at tinyurl.com/AssemblyJan21

Alasdair Keddie says: "Residents in our area are **ever more concerned** about **rising drug-related crime** and **anti-social behaviour.** Recent neighbourhood incidents have **made residents angry** – they've **made me angry.** The **human problems** are complex, while **our local police are under-resourced** and overstretched. **We need better** from them, yet **compassionate approaches are thinkable also.** I invite you to this People's Assembly, hosted by the local Green Party but open to all, for **open discussion.** We will listen respectfully to all local perspectives – please **join and share yours.**"

BOURNEMOUTH BEACH OIL RUSH NO LONGER LIKELY TO PROCEED

- **Signals new Dorset scheme won't pay as oil prices slump**
- **Local campaign championed by Alasdair Keddie nears its aims**

Photo: Mick Gisbourne



Early last year, despite vigorous community protests, a **test oil rig** was installed **off Bournemouth Beach**.

The test rig, **permitted by Conservative politicians** to **dump up to 6,700 tonnes of drilling chemicals** into Poole Bay, found an estimated **15 million barrels of oil** there. A **local 'oil rush'** was predicted.

But two of the scheme's four licence-holders have given clear indications that the project is now **unlikely to go ahead**. UK Oil & Gas are divesting in favour of more lucrative projects in Egypt. Baron Oil said the **slump in oil prices in March**, failure to find a new partner, and the need for another appraisal operation mean they are **unlikely to meet their licence deadline**. Meanwhile, **renewable energy costs keep falling**.

Alasdair Keddie, local father of two young children, helped **lead the local 'Save Our Shores' community campaign**. Alasdair now says: "Our protest efforts resulted in the Government being taken to court by The Seahorse Trust and losing their case. I'm happy to say it will be **much harder for future oil projects to get the go-ahead.**"



Alasdair Keddie on BBC South Today in 2019, saying 'no' to dangerous new local oil drilling

GREEN TAKES TO THE AIRWAVES CALLING FOR LOCAL WINDFARM SCHEME TO BE REVISITED

Green BCP Councillor Simon Bull appeared on news bulletins of **radio station Wave 105**, **suggesting a revival of shelved windfarm plans** for Poole Bay, in response to a Government announcement of an expansion of wind power.



Simon said: "It was a **great shame** that the Navitus Bay [rejected windfarm scheme] wasn't given the opportunity. **We could be using the energy now**. I think there was a lot of misinformation at the time... I would welcome any opportunity to **revisit that and see what we could do.**"

POLITICS: BCP'S CONSERVATIVE COUNCILLORS COMPLETE MID-PANDEMIC POWER GRAB

BCP Council was taken over by the Conservatives on 1st October. This **ended 16 months of control** of our 'hung' council by the Unity Alliance led by Lib Dem Vikki Slade.

The **"kinder, gentler, broader" Unity Alliance (UA)** had won **praise** for BCP Council's **Covid-19 response**, including the **"Together We Can"** community support programme, and for its 153-point **Climate & Ecological Emergency action plan** for BCP.

The local Conservative power-grab has raised **democratic fairness questions**, since the seven diverse parties and groups in the **UA represent 60% of local votes** cast, compared to **only 28% for the Conservatives**.

Simon Bull said: **"I fear for what remaining youth provision** there is. I fear for the building of any more **social housing** in BCP. I fear for services such as **public toilets**. I fear for this council's contribution to **addressing the climate and ecological emergency.**"

BCP's new Conservative Cabinet **deleted the words "Climate Change"** from their list of job titles. Their new sustainability chief said BCP should **oppose any revival of windfarm plans** for the Dorset coast, in comments East Dorset Friends of the Earth called **"factually incorrect"** and showing **"outdated understanding"**.

LOWLIGHTS OF PAST LOCAL CONSERVATIVE RULE

2014: Spending **£63,302** of Council money **opposing windfarm** at Navitus Bay *(see above)*

2017: **Closing half of public toilets** in Poole, to save money. *(Many now reopened by UA.)* Health hazards made national news, as desperate visitors used bushes instead

2018: Introducing fines of **£100**, rising to **£1,000**, for **rough sleepers** in Poole

Installing **"anti-homeless bars"** on public benches in Bournemouth, to prevent rough sleepers using them



DON'T PANIC – ORGANISE! Alasdair Keddie was runner-up to the Conservatives in our area's Council election. join.greenparty.org.uk bcp.greenparty.org.uk/get-involved

CAN WE HELP?

If you have a **comment or query** about our area – or if you'd like to join one of our **neighbourhood litter-picks** – Alasdair would love to hear from you.



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ALASDAIR AND LOCAL GREENS: WORKING HARD FOR YOU, ALL YEAR ROUND