## GREEN VIEW **WINTON EAST** INCLUDING CHARMINSTER RORDERS







**Green Councillor Chris Rigby** 

### SPATE OF LOCAL POTHOLES: **GREEN COUNCILLORS SORT REPAIRS**

#### Benmore Rd, Hankinson Rd, Castle Rd now fixed

Hard-working local Councillors Simon Bull and Chris Rigby have sorted out repairs to potholes recently on Benmore Road, Hankinson Road and Castle Road.

Councillor Simon Bull says: "You can report potholes online at tiny.cc/bcpph. If there are any issues with getting a response from the Council, you can contact me or Councillor Rigby." [details overleaf]



Benmore Road: Potholes filled in here, and on two other roads, after Chris and Simon acted

### FLY-TIPPING IN WINTON: SIMON BULL SORTS CASE, CHRIS RIGBY SPEAKS OUT IN ECHO



Simon Bull recently sorted a case of fly-tipping in Fitzharris Avenue [pictured].

Meanwhile Chris Rigby was quoted in the Bournemouth Daily Echo regarding a rat-

**infested fly-tipping hotspot** just outside Winton East. Chris said: "Both Simon and I are aware of this issue and we report everything we see. It is not just on this road it is happening, but on other roads in Winton. In fact, it is a struggle across the whole borough. We are following up on this. It is an issue here and I'm not sure why."

• Report local fly-tipping online: tiny.cc/bcpfl

### WINTON REC IMPROVEMENTS: **NEW PICNIC BENCH, FLOWER BEDS, EDUCATIONAL SIGN FOR NEW POND**





Winton Rec: New picnic bench, and two new gabion flower beds

Simon Bull and Chris Rigby visited Winton Recreation **Ground** recently to check out **latest improvements**. These include a new picnic bench, and two new gabion flower beds raised with attractive long-lasting natural materials.

In the picture below at the **new pond** [see issue 18], you can see a large new educational map of the pond, provided to help young (or not so young) visitors understand and appreciate its rich range of natural life.

Councillor Chris Rigby commented: "it's great to see the new pond taking shape. We're looking forward to seeing it develop through spring into a thriving ecosystem that can also be **enjoyed by everyone** – with the Parks Foundation running pond dipping sessions, for example."



Winton Rec pond: Simon and Chris checked out progress including this new educational sign, with Cathi Farrer from the Parks Foundation

# COST OF LIVING CRISIS: HELP FOR WINTON RESIDENTS

"There are local and national schemes that can help" – Simon Bull

Food price hikes, soaring energy bills, mortgage turbulence – the cost of living crisis



is hitting household finances hard.

Ordinary families continue to face stark choices, with many people worried about how they'll afford the essentials in months to come.

Local Councillor **Simon Bull says:** "Here is a link to the BCP **Cost of Living webpage:** tiny.cc/bcpcol.

"As the cost of living increases it is important to be aware of the benefits, payments and support options available to you. There are local and national schemes that can help you with rent, food, energy and more."

# DELAYS IN S.E.N. SUPPORT: VULNERABLE LOCAL CHILDREN 'SHOULD NOT BE FAILED' — SIMON BULL IN ECHO

Almost 2 in 3 plans issued by BCP Council for more support for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities are not meeting the official deadline. In 2019, barely 1 in 10 deadlines were being missed locally.

Local **Green Councillor Simon Bull** [pictured] had his **response letter published** by the **Bournemouth Daily Echo.** Simon wrote: "Consistently



missing the deadlines on Education, Health & Care Plans (EHCPs) can have a huge impact on families. Parents rely on these to ensure their child/children get the appropriate support. It can mean a child is not found a place in a suitable educational setting. This can impact on the whole family and can affect the rest of a child's life.



"It is a challenge for the authority but a challenge that needs to be met. We should not fail these vulnerable children and their families. I hear regularly about families who are at their wits' end struggling without the necessary support."

Nationally, campaigners have taken legal action against cuts by the Conservative Government, stating that councils can no longer afford adequate SEN provision.

### COUNCIL BUDGET CRISIS: BCP IN FIRE SALE OF ASSETS TO PLUG £20M BLACK HOLE

Conservative-run BCP Council is rushing to complete by March an emergency sell-off of local taxpayer-owned assets. This includes land for new housing in Bournemouth. The council is still trying to fix a £20m black hole in next year's budget [see issue 19].

BCP's leadership no longer wants to take a £76m emergency Government bailout loan. This loan would come with extra Government scrutiny of the Council's finances — which ruling local Conservative councillors apparently don't want. BCP's decision-making and spending were repeatedly featured in 2022 in national satirical magazine *Private Eye*.



Green Councillor Chris Rigby [pictured] said: "We've seen poor financial management, and investment in vanity projects such as the attempts to buy Barclays House and a disastrous Freeport bid. This has left BCP's Conservative administration in a position where they're forced to sell profitable assets, rather than accept the increased scrutiny from accepting a Government loan."





#### **CAN WE HELP?**

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**Surgeries:** Second Saturday of each month, 10.00–11.30am, Winton Library

Could you help Simon and Chris, by delivering copies of this newsletter to your own street?

If so, email wintoneast@bcp.greenparty.org.uk

### SIMON BULL & CHRIS RIGBY: WORKING HARD AND SPEAKING UP FOR RESIDENTS