

Kate SalmonLocal campaigner



Simon Bull & Chris Rigby Bournemouth's Green Councillors

LOCAL RESIDENTS COMPLAIN: VITAL COUNCIL SERVICES NO LONGER CONTACTABLE IF YOU'RE NOT ONLINE

- · Moordown residents say key BCP services no longer reachable by phone
- Kate Salmon calls for action on serious barrier for hundreds of local older people

Moordown residents without access to the internet are reporting they are **no longer able to contact BCP Council services** they depend on.

The Council has moved to **web-based contact systems**. Yet **Moordown has more than 1,500 residents aged over 65**. Of these an estimated **400+ do not use the internet** [based on Age UK research].

Hard-working local campaigner Kate Salmon says: "I've been **getting phone calls from Moordown residents who aren't online.** They've found that **Council services they need no longer take telephone requests**. I've helped one local older resident **unable to request an extra bin needed for her medical waste** — I had to email the Council for her.

"BCP want everyone to contact them online because it saves them money. They're so short of funds after 11 years of Conservative council cuts. Yet they don't seem to have allowed for the local age profile.

"I've written to the Council, expressing concern and asking what they're doing to make contacting them accessible again for all residents."

• Are you affected? Contact Kate Salmon – details overleaf



Online contact only? Kate Salmon is raising with BCP Council problems contacting services for local residents who don't use the Internet

STRONG SUPPORT FROM RESIDENTS FOR NEW CHARMINSTER ROAD CROSSING

Nearly 100 signatures • Further concerns raised over 'racetrack' West Way junction



Charminster Road/West Way junction: Kate Salmon is taking up resident concerns over 'racetrack' corners

99 residents have already **signed Kate Salmon's petition** in support of **a new pedestrian crossing on Charminster Road.** Kate's proposal would make **many daily journeys from Moordown to local schools safer.**

Find out more and sign: tinyurl.com/CRcrossing or call Kate [details overleaf]

Local residents and businesses have been contacting Kate with **further traffic concerns at the junction of Charminster Road and West Way.** This has **extremely loose corners** which **encourage traffic to turn left at speed.** This has led to a **number of minor collisions.** Kate will be taking up with BCP Council whether **squaring off the corners** would be a **positive calming step.**

GREEN COUNCILLOR GETS WESSEX WATER GRILLED OVER BEACH SEWAGE

- Local water company slated for calling mounting public concern "sensationalised"
- Disbelief as they say: Just don't open your mouth while swimming in local sea

Wessex Water managers were grilled by a panel of BCP councillors, over frequent raw sewage overflow discharges into the sea across most of our local coastline. The Town Hall hearing had been secured by Green Councillor Chris Rigby.

Wessex Water's area is now England's third worst for sewage discharges into waterways. Storm overflows are supposed to be used only in extreme weather, to relieve sewer pressure. Numerous local sea users (swimmers, surfers etc) have reported illness after one of the too-frequent local sewage discharges.

Wessex Water claimed media coverage has been 'sensationalised'. Councillor Rigby responded: "I don't think that's correct at all. It's becoming more and more reported, yes, because it's important." There was disbelief when Wessex Water reps said swimming in the local sea is okay if you don't open your mouth.

The cross-party councillor panel agreed to recommend that BCP Council lobby local MPs and the regulator, for better water quality.







Bournemouth Green Councillor Chris Rigby obtained this Town Hall panel hearing, to challenge Wessex Water over raw sewage discharges

BCP COUNCIL RUNNING UP EXTRA DEBT OF £1,315 PER HOUSEHOLD

- ...yet ruling local Conservatives try to pass off new funds as 'magic money tree'
- Risky 'casino' budget piles debt onto young spend now, pay off in 50 years



Don't mention the debt: BCP is living beyond its means, but Conservative councillors want you to think they're spending from a magic money tree

Conservative-run BCP Council is racking up an extra £220 million of local taxpayer debt over just two years. This equals £1,315 more to be borrowed for every household – a direct result of Government cuts.

Local Conservative messages to the public avoid acknowledging that new spending is with borrowed money. Instead they have tried to pass off new funds as some kind of consequence-free dividend.

The Green councillors abstained in the budget vote. Cllr Chris Rigby said: "There is good in this budget. I particularly welcome the extra £20m for 'green futures'. Is it enough? Probably not. But it's what we've got now.

"What I'm concerned about is who's paying for it all. Because this is built on 50-year borrowing. It'll be the younger generation dealing with the effects of climate change - and now with the effects of this budget too. This is a risky budget, full of issues. Unfortunately the new money isn't even cutting to the heart of solving any problems."

CAN WE HELP?

Kate Salmon says: "I'm getting a great response as I reach out to talk to local people directly. If I haven't reached you yet, I'm really keen to hear from residents about local issues of concern to you, so please do get in touch."

