

Welcome To Treetops And Thornberries Residents

Lib Dem councillors **Paul Cruise, Steve Flitter, David Hughes and Sue Burfoot** extend a warm welcome to the new residents of Treetops, Asker Lane and Thornberries, off Chesterfield Road. We trust you will thoroughly enjoy living there and hope to see you at the many community events taking place in Matlock throughout the year.



There are always teething problems with new developments so we have been keeping a close watch on progress to make sure that the homes and landscaping have been properly completed before residents take over responsibility for them. We have contacted the District Council about the new footpaths damaged by surface water run-off and have talked to residents about the flooding that some have experienced recently.

Cllr David Hughes (left), also Mayor of Matlock, says "We would like to hear from new residents about their experiences so that we can provide a coordinated response to the developers and the County and District Councils. One good bit of news is that William Davis have returned to the site to install new benches and restore the footpaths. Hopefully, some drainage channels will also be added to help withstand Matlock winters".

Coronavirus and You

It now seems clear that we have some very challenging times ahead. In particular, we need to do all we can as a community to care for those who need our help, whether for picking up shopping, posting mail, collecting prescriptions, or just for a friendly phone call. **Matlock Town Council** is to work closely with a new group of local volunteers to coordinate the provision of practical help for people in 'at risk' groups who may be struggling. The group is also looking for more volunteers.

Mutual Aid can be contacted for help via their Facebook page: - **COVID-19 Mutual Aid Matlock Area**. Otherwise, contact your local councillors for more information :-

Your Matlock St Giles & Tansley Ward Focus Team

- Cllr Sue Burfoot – tel 584301 (County, District & Town) Email sue.burfoot@derbyshire.gov.uk
- Cllr Paul Cruise – tel 07403 445672 (District & Town) paul.cruise@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
- Cllr Steve Flitter – tel 582065 (District & Town) steve.flitter@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
- Cllr David Hughes – tel 584375 (District and Town) david.hughes@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
- Cllr Helen Legood – tel 57358 (Town) hurstfarm2@matlock.gov.uk



Visit our website derbyshiredaleslibdems.org.uk

Let our next Focus story be about helping YOU

Want to tell us something? Something you'd like us to help you with? Let us know about it here.

My issue:

Name Email

Tel Address inc postcode

Can we keep you updated about our activities including campaigns, events, fundraising and details about how to get involved? Yes please No thanks

- I can help deliver Focus leaflets in my area (4 times a year)
- I would like to join the Lib Dems - let me know how or visit libdems.org.uk/join

Cut out and return to: Cllr Martin Burfoot, 12 Megdale, Matlock, DE4 3JW or email martin.burfoot@derbyshiredaleslibdems.org.uk

The Liberal Democrats will use your contact details to send you information on the topics you have requested. Any data we gather will be used in accordance with our privacy policy at libdems.org.uk/privacy. To exercise your legal data rights, email: data.protection@libdems.org.uk.

Printed by CLD, Unit 39, Clocktower Business Centre, Works Rd, Chesterfield, S43 2PE. Published and promoted by Martin Burfoot on behalf of Derbyshire Dales Liberal Democrats all at 12 Megdale, Matlock, DE4 3JW.

FOCUS

on Matlock St Giles & Tansley



Spring
2020
No 172

Liberal Democrats - caring for our environment



The Floods

Following one of the wettest winters for some time, we can only hope for a drier Spring. The floods on 8 November 2019, after the September 2018 flood, left us wondering when it will end.

Thanks are due to District Council staff for all their out of hours assistance to residents and businesses in danger of being affected by recent flooding.

Cllr Steve Wain has been appointed as Matlock's volunteer Flood Warden and is working closely with the Environment Agency, Matlock Town Council and Derbyshire CC Emergency Planning to help ensure that our community is safer and better prepared for any future flooding incidents.

Steve says "Our town has had to endure a great deal over recent months, but we will make sure we are better prepared and more resilient in the future. I urge residents and businesses in flood zone areas to sign up for **flood warnings** from the Environment Agency website. You will then receive text or phone alerts when flooding is anticipated".

Some Facts

In the November 2019 flood event, **Knowleston Place Pumping Station** was working at capacity, with no potential to increase its efficiency.

Levels in **Bentley Brook** have been rising over the previous 3 years, which is attributed to the development of green-field sites off Chesterfield Road. **(Source; Environment Agency)**.

In the 2000 flood, before **Morledge** was built, the A6, close to the Premier Inn, did **not** flood, compared to last November, when about a metre of water closed Bakewell Road.

In a number of places recently, including **Matlock Green**, combined **sewers have been overloaded** and **raw sewage** has poured out on to local roads and beyond.

What lessons should we learn?

The County Council Report following the **2018** event attributed town centre flooding **not** to the river level but to **surface water run-off from the developed part of Matlock Bank and the land above it**. The Environment Agency are now working with the County Council (as Lead Flood Authority), who have informed the District Council's planners of their concerns.

We believe the evidence suggests that over-development of our greenfield sites is leading to additional surface water run-off, especially into **Bentley Brook**, which our **inadequate infrastructure is unable to deal with**.

Housing developers claim they can mitigate the water run-off, but evidence for this is not clear, as river levels have been seen to rise.

Matlock Town Councillors have been actively working to ensure that the concerns of residents and businesses are being recognised by the planners and their consultees, such as the County Council.

We call on our District Council planners and Derbyshire County Council to consider all the available evidence and put the health and well-being of residents first, by protecting us from over-development of the green fields above Matlock.