

FOCUS

on Bathavon South

Edited by Neil Butters and the Bathavon South Liberal Democrats - Call us on 01225 832 256

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The Two Tunnels Project needs your vote - TODAY!

This is the week when you can **do something** to help our area win £1million for the Two Tunnels Project. **You can vote!**

The Lottery is giving away **£50m** this week to one of four short-listed projects, to be screened on ITV this week. One of the four is **Sustrans Connect2** - a series of exciting walking and cycling projects all over the country. Included is **our own Two Tunnels Project**. **Connect2** is on at 11pm on Tuesday 4th Dec.

Visit www.thepeoplesmillions.org.uk to vote **now**. You need to register on the website first, await a confirmation email, and then go in to cast your vote for Connect2. Do so today - it will only take a minute!

Telephone voting only starts on **Friday 7th December**, and the magic phone number won't be released until then. Call Sustrans on **Tel 0845 0581373** or text them the word "**Connect2**" on **80010** to make sure you get a reminder as soon as the telephone number is known.



North entrance to Combe Down Tunnel

Look at the northern entrance to the Combe Down Tunnel, currently wildly graffiti'd. Imagine a wide, light opening, a tunnel with a smooth surface inside, and exciting Aardman-produced sensor-operated lighting! Even if you don't care that much about cycling and walking, this will be a popular and exciting place to come.

At the Midford end, the route is to cross the Tucking Mill Viaduct which should be spectacular, and on from there using the footpath to Midford. This last stretch requires the goodwill of the new owner of Midford Castle, Nicolas Cage. He is known to favour good causes, so we are optimistic!



Midford Viaduct - will Nicolas Cage allow access via his path?

The Two Tunnels route will, of course, link to the Colliers Way to Radstock and Frome in the south and to the Bath-Bristol Greenway in the north, and to many schools, green spaces and Oldfield Park Station on the way. Plenty of opportunities for leisure activities as well as commuting.

But do remember: the overall project you need to vote for is the **Sustrans Connect2** scheme which is up against three other £50m projects. Cllr Neil Butters says:



With the help of Aardman's of Wallace and Gromit fame, the tunnels could be dramatically lit - with minimal energy

"Only **Connect2** will really make a difference to the daily lives of people all over the country. Encouraging healthier, more physically active lives is a key objective of the "People's £50m Lottery Award".

Please tell your friends, too! You can really make a difference this week.

It is OK to vote both via the web and by telephone - it's official!

October visit to Parliament

Cllr Neil Butters and fellow South Stoke resident Tania Fielden organised a trip to Parliament at the end of October. It proved very popular, with all 40 available places either sold or sponsored.

There were guided visits to both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, plus an exciting further tour by Bath

Liberal Democrat MP Don Foster around other areas not normally seen by the public.

The party also met Government peer Richard Faulkner, Lord Faulkner of Worcester. Both Don Foster and Richard Faulkner answered questions about life in Parliament, many coming from the young people present.

During the afternoon, people were free to organise their own entertainment. As the weather was glorious, many chose to have a trip on the London Eye.

Cllr Neil Butters said: 'It was a fantastic day all round, not least because we also raised £375 towards the cost of renovating South Stoke Village Hall.'



Visit to Parliament: Lord Faulkner and Don Foster MP in the centre, Cllr Neil Butters far right

News in brief

- The first **PACT** (Police and Communities Together) meeting for our villages will be held at Freshford Memorial Hall at 7 pm on Friday 14th December. All welcome.
- Cllr Neil Butters met members of the Parliamentary Group for Underground Space, including Earl Attlee and Nick Raynsford, on a visit to the **Combe Down Stone Mines project**.
- Neil has followed up a number of complaints about

cardboard collections. Service changes are being considered.

- Congratulations to **Ralph Allen School**, who have just passed an Ofsted inspection with flying colours.
- **Council News**, the Council's newspaper to all households, is to be cut from four times a year to just two. Do let us know if you disapprove.
- The new **Bath Spa** is having a very positive effect on tourism. Visitor numbers (130,000 in first

year) are exceeding expectations, and 70% of users from outside the city state the spa as their main reason for coming.

- **Avon Fire** provide free fitting of smoke alarms for any resident who asks. For needy families they will also replace chip pans with new safe fat fryers. Call this number for details 0800 1693 999 or see www.avonfire.gov.uk
- Freshford Shop Project have submitted an outline planning application for a new **community shop** by the Village Hall.

Please tell us what you think!

Your comment / problem:

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NameTel.....

Address

.....Email



Return to
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