

THROOP & MUSCLIFF NEWSLETTER UPDATE

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SUMMER EDITION ON LOCAL WARD ISSUES FROM COUNCILLOR RON WHITTAKER

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Our next Newsletter was planned for the Autumn but I felt that residents should have an update before then on some of the ongoing issues in Throop/Muscliff.

Please visit our website on www.peoplebeforepolitics.info for all updates in the Ward.

Throop United Reform Church, Muscliff Lane and The Manse

As residents in Throop village are aware, this lovely 1826 Grade 2 listed church was closed last year. In April this year I undertook to write to the Executive Officer of the United Reform Church [Wessex] Trust Ltd., including our Conservation Officer, requesting possible future plans in respect of the two properties. Great interest has been expressed in a letter to me regarding the Church and The Manse by a local church in Bournemouth. This letter has been forwarded to the Wessex Trust.

I have subsequently been informed that a local agent has been appointed to discuss the future of the church and associated grounds with the Council's Conservation Officer. My Ward colleagues and I will be watching any proposals that could affect this listed building and sincerely hope the church remains within religious worship. *[Please see our website for pictures of both the Church & The Manse]*



4b, Bus Service, via Shillingstone and Chesildene Drive

[Changes to Transdev Yellow Buses - Route 4b, from 6th June 2010]

Over the past months, my Ward colleagues and I have been making representations regarding the withdrawal of the Sunday service, so I am now pleased to confirm that the Authority has listened to our requests and advise there will be an hourly Sunday service in the day time to Bournemouth from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and an hourly service to Castlepoint and Bournemouth Hospital from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In addition, although we were unable to achieve the return of an evening bus service we have managed to secure a 'one off' late evening bus back from Bournemouth at 11.30 p.m. Monday to Saturday for those people visiting late night shows, etc. The only other change is the daytime frequency of the route which will change from the current 20 minute intervals to every 30 minutes [two buses per hour]. We are not happy with this arrangement but at least we have secured the Sunday service. Naturally we hope that residents will use the Sunday service so that we can say it is a viable service and we will not lose it next year.

Velocity Patcher

Due to the amount of potholes within the Throop Road and Muscliff Lane area, and with the severity of the winter weather causing serious damage to the highway infrastructure, at short notice and through representations, we were able to secure for two days from Dorset County Council their unique patching machine. This equipment patch-filled the vast majority of broken/damaged road surfaces which manually would have taken weeks to complete.

Muscliff Primary School

A report is due before Cabinet at the end of July to consider seeking to approve making provision in the capital programme for the expansion of Muscliff Primary School. This year saw some 70 children turned away and within that figure, and most disturbing for parents, is that 29 children were resident within the catchment area, like Epiphany. Both schools are highly successful but sadly it is not reflected in the formal funding arrangements as it affects Epiphany C.E. Primary school which is the worst funded school in the Borough. Again, Ward Members have had numerous contacts with the Education Officers who push the issue on to the Schools forum.

Parley Sports Club - Complaints

Many residents this year have again endured late night/early hours' noise levels coming over the river from the Bournemouth University Students' Union party which has resulted in many complaints. I have spoken at length with the Environmental Health Officer, Gary Smith, at Christchurch Council who admitted the noise levels were extremely excessive.

A review of a licence is to be considered and a meeting is being planned with the organisers.