Burnham and Highbridge

# Focus



Summer 2025

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- Planning for more cycling and walking
- Flowering for success
- Funding accessibility at Highbridge Station
- Fundraising for local charity
- Providing better buses See back page!



Some of our Burnham & Highbridge Lib Dem team (from left to right; Ganesh Gudka, Sharon Perry, Lesley Millard, Laura Chalmers, Mike Murphy & Barbara Vickers

# Cycling and walking local plan



Councillor Sharon Perry at Marine Cove

garden site

**Councillor Ganesh Gudka welcomes** the publication of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastucture Plan (LCWIP) we have been working towards for some time. He will be continuing the effort as a member of Somerset's Active Travel **Group to get the planned measures** implemented.

The LCWIP represents a shared vision for cheaper, cleaner and healthier ways to get around our town — one where community voices will play a central role.

Measures for key commuter routes across our town will include:

- Redesign of road junctions to make crossing easier for pedestrians.
- Improvements to key commuter routes to lower traffic speeds.
- Look for opportunities to extend cycle tracks and widen footpaths.
- Signposting safer quieter alternative routes.
- Investigate programmes to reduce traffic around King Alfred's at times when students are travelling to or from school.

The Burnham and Highbridge growing group, which includes Sharon Perry and Lesley Millard (members of the town council), have managed in a short time to do amazing sustainable planting of the town's flower beds.

#### This involved:

- Taking the opportunity of devolution from Somerset to plant beds as we want in the town.
- Working with local volunteers, the town estates team and even local businesses.
- Focus on planting that is sustainable.
- Taking the initiative to ensure the beds look lovely for locals and visitors.

This is a group brought together by **Councillor Lesley Millard working** with local groups and disabled advisors such as Laura Chalmers.

So far the group has:

- Secured £7,300 from the Great Western Railway (GWR) community Fund which Somerset Council hope to match.
- Initial focus will be on wayfinding around the Station.
- GWR and Network Rail will be held to account to make the pathways and around the station more accessible.



## Local fundraiser hits milestone



Local fundraiser and activist Laura Chalmers, recently set a goal of £550 to fund the cost of making a wig through the little princess trust.

Laura had a sponsored head shave with a promise if the goal was reached, then she would keep the hair off till her friend's hair grew back.

This culminated in it all being shaved off at the end of March, on her Birthday.

The total has now hit over £1,000, and will make such a huge difference to the charity.

#### Laura says:

"Little acts can do so much good, and I am so thankful to all those who supported me so that kids who need a wig are able to easily access one suitable for them."

# S S CCE 3 S for Flowering

### **Bus improvements**

Working with the local bus user group, which incl'uded Liberal Democrats councillors.

Your local Burnham & Highbridge Lib Dem team have been working with the Local Bus User Group to campaign for bus improvements throughout Highbridge & Burnham.

With the funding in the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), we now welcome:

- An extended timetable; the 21 service now runs until 10:30PM
- Digitising the Slinky service bookings to make it more efficient and flexible
- A fleet of new electric buses which will improve reliability.
- Improved signage; improving way finding from train station

You can read more regarding the Lib Dems efforts for bus improvements via our website, at:

bwslibdems.org.uk

# Thursday, 10 July Burnham South town council election

We have a vacancy for our town council, voting will take place on Thursday 10 July. If you would like to apply for a postal vote please scan the QR code (below) or go to:

https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/postal-voting

For further information to check if you are registered to vote and what ID you need to take to the polling station please visit:

https://www.gov.uk/vote-uk-election



### Get in touch

If you would like to find out more about your local Lib Dem group please get in touch by using the QR code below or visiting our website.



www.bhblibdems.org.uk