



A CALL TO ARMS



Construction has now started on the now £43million Chiltern Vale Health Hub in the centre of Dunstable.

Whatever your view on the Hub and its 98 apartments for the over 55s, it will undoubtedly have both a positive and negative impact on the town. Many will be supporting the build and exhaustively mentioning the improvements to the health care system in the area, but whether it's due to the increased traffic, increase in air pollution, loss of green space in the town, loss of free use of an artificial turf pitch, the impact on local residents, poor accessibility, alleged financial interests of conservative councillors, the £16million bump in cost or the loss of Dunstable's free Fireworks display, the project is not without its critics.

This is not to be the last development this council is looking to build within the centre of Dunstable. The former Ambulance site situated behind ASDA is earmarked for the creation of 65 more housing units and the council is still pursuing a residential project at the former Library site (Vernon Place) for 44 housing units. We need everyone who has an interest in the town and the development of these areas to raise awareness as much as possible.

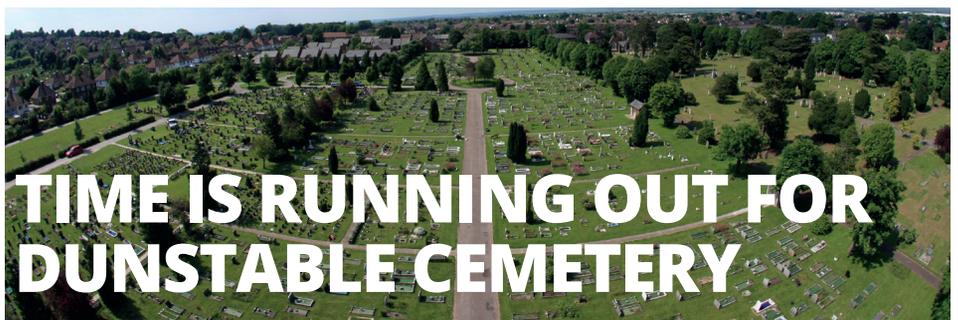
LABOUR HELPS MOVE DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL INTO THE 21ST CENTURY



Very soon you will be able to view live online Dunstable Town Council meetings in a massive move towards transparency and community engagement for the Town Council despite objections by one conservative councillor.

As early as 2019, Labour Councillor Matthew Brennan called for the council to address a perceived issue he saw with minutes of meetings and transparency in the council despite assurances that there was no issue. In March of 2021 the council formerly took steps to commence filming and live streaming of meetings in a move that we hope will increase transparency, encourage public engagement, and reduce conflicts of interpretation in the future.

This year, you will be able to view Town Council meetings which will be kept for up to six months. Shockingly, Northfields Ward Conservative Town and Central Bedfordshire Councillor, Johnson Tamara, objected to the move. So much so, that he specifically requested his vote against transparency to be recorded.



Dunstable Cemetery will be reaching capacity soon. It was estimated by Dunstable town Council officers that we possibly have as little as 5 or 6 years until the award-winning Green-Flag cemetery ground is at capacity. The DTC officers are liaising with Central Bedfordshire Officers to locate a suitable area for extra cemetery space in the town which we are told will likely be CBC land.



Labour putting Special Education Needs first

It has been over 18 months since the Liberal Democrats and Conservatives voted against Antonia Ryan's proposal for an independent investigation into the Children Services department at Central Bedfordshire Council, to look at why children with special needs have been let down, many spending thousands of pounds to fight for a school place, or simply being left at home without one.

A year on, the department is still in disarray, whilst the Conservative Councillor in charge of Education pockets in excess of £30k in taxpayer funded allowances each year, whilst putting holidays ahead of important meetings.

Meanwhile, Antonia Ryan has been working with affected families to help them access services, and to ensure children have access to the education they deserve.

Time to kill Glyphosate

At a recent Grounds and Environmental Services meeting, Labour Councillor Mark Cant called upon the Council to end its use of harmful weed killers on the town.

In an effort to be a forward-thinking council and in the best interest of the town's wildlife and insect population the councillor questioned officers on the town's usage of glyphosate.

We were informed that the council primarily uses hot water treatments in town but does use the weed killer approximately once a year. It was suggested that within the next few years the country itself will likely ban the use of potentially hazardous chemical. The Labour party will be calling upon the town council to be proactive in respect of this and end the use of these chemicals for the sake of the local area.



Your local Labour Team in Dunstable



Wendy Bater

Manshead Ward
Town Councillor



Matthew Brennan

Northfields Ward
Town Councillor



Mark Cant

Manshead Ward
Town Councillor

INTERESTED IN JOINING YOUR LOCAL LABOUR TEAM?

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