

Focus

on

Pelaw, Heworth, Wardley & Bill Quay

From: Ian Patterson & Paul Diston

Delivered free to 4,000 homes in Bill Quay, Heworth, Pelaw and Wardley

Issue 86 - Autumn 2018



Fighting graffiti



Above, examples of graffiti at Pelaw Library, telecomms boxes, bus shelter and a local shop. Paul Diston and Ian Patterson say it is time the council took a lead on dealing with this

£700,000 for an empty car park!

Quarryfield Road Car Park was built at a cost of £700,000 earlier this year. The Evening Chronicle has reported the site has stood almost empty since it opened. The Council even forgot to get planning permission before they began to build it!

Paul Diston said "At a time when we know money is tight and some difficult decisions have to be made, it is ridiculous that the Council is spending so much taxpayers' money on a car park that isn't even getting used".



Ian Patterson and Paul Diston are calling on Gateshead Council to tackle the problem of graffiti in our area.

In response to residents contacting Ian and Paul about the amount of graffiti that is not getting removed by Gateshead's Labour run Council, Ian and Paul are launching a campaign to clean up Pelaw, Heworth, Wardley, and Bill Quay.

Local campaigner Paul said "It's time for zero tolerance towards graffiti. I love this area – it's my home – and it makes me really angry seeing graffiti here. The Council needs to get a grip of this problem now. That's why we are launching a petition calling on the Council to introduce a dedicated graffiti taskforce to work businesses and the local community to clean up graffiti in our area.

"Part of this should involve getting offenders to help with the clean up as part of a 'community payback' scheme".

Ian said "Instead of wasting money, like spending £700,000 on a car park at the Quayside that no one uses, Gateshead Council needs to focus on the needs of our area and make cleaning up graffiti a priority.

"Please support our campaign to clamp down on graffiti by signing our petition below".

Petition

I/we call on Gateshead Council to introduce a graffiti taskforce and work with the police and other agencies to make sure offenders help with cleaning up graffiti

Name(s)

Address

Email

Name(s)

Address

Email

Name(s)

Address

Email

Return to: Paul Diston, 98 Wealcroft, Leam Lane Estate, Gateshead NE10 8QR

If you return this form, the Liberal Democrats, locally and nationally, may use information provided, including your political views, to further our objectives, share it with our elected representatives and/or contact you in future using any of the means provided. Some contacts may be automated. You may opt out of some or all contacts or exercise your other legal rights by contacting us. Further details are in our Privacy Policy at www.libdems.org.uk/privacy. We will include your name and address when submitting the petition to Gateshead Council

Local News and action



Call for Secondary School Review

The news that a majority of Gateshead's secondary schools have been rated poorly by Ofsted has been met with dismay by parents, pupils and staff.

Yet at the same time GCSE results across the borough are improving.

Ian Patterson said "Something clearly doesn't add up here. Although the Council no longer runs secondary schools it should take a lead in oversight. Last year, Liberal Democrat councillors called for the Council to launch an inquiry. This wasn't taken up, but it is time the Council took time to scrutinise how well our schools are really doing, and how they are rated."

Paul Diston added "Liberal Democrats have called for Ofsted and school league tables to be abolished and that schools be rated on a broader set of values. We will be continuing to press the Council to support our schools".



New doors have been installed at **Heworth Metro** after Ian Patterson and Paul Diston called for the broken ones to be replaced. Ian said "Residents were unable to access this entrance of the station as the doors were broken, and were concerned that, for a long time, nothing seem to be happening. After discussing this with the Metro, I am glad they have now provided new doors".

Ian was recently contacted by a resident of **Duke Street**, Pelaw about a new street plate had been installed there on the wrong side of the street and facing in the wrong direction!

Ian asked for the sign to be relocated to its proper positioning and can now report the street plate has been fixed in its proper place.



Ian Patterson also requested that a damaged name plate for **Grange Court** be restored, and that potholes on **Laburnum Road** be repaired. Both of these have since been done.

Following a traffic accident a lamp post in **Henderson Gardens** was tilting at an angle. Ian was pleased to report that temporary repairs were carried out that afternoon and a permanent repair soon after.

Labour rejects share of £30 million!

Labour-run Gateshead Council has rejected a share of £30 million from the government.

Next year Newcastle, Northumberland and North Tyneside residents will get a chance to vote for a North East Mayor but Gateshead residents won't. Labour Councillors in Gateshead have decided not to take advantage of the new powers and money given by the government. The Government had promised to allocate £30 million for the mayor to spend on the area, but now Gateshead won't see any of this.

Ian Patterson said "Labour councillors have chosen to deprive local residents of extra resources at a time when public services are being cut. I hope they will rethink this and realise that we need to be part of the devolution deal so Gateshead's voice is heard".

 For more local news, follow us at [facebook.com/pelawandheworthfocus](https://www.facebook.com/pelawandheworthfocus)

Have your say:

Please use this space to tell us what you think needs doing in Pelaw, Heworth, Wardley or Bill Quay, or to let us know of any local problem needing attention.

Name: Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms

Address.....

.....

Phone

email

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