

# Paston Labour News

## Winter 2009

EdMurphy4Peterborough



**Ed Murphy**  
It's in the name.

Labour

## Labour Benefits Paston



- ✓ Introduced Sure Start centres providing childcare, healthcare, early education and family support
- ✓ A 612 bed super hospital fit for the 21st century
- ✓ A state-of-the-art Integrated Care Centre
- ✓ The National Minimum Wage - opposed by the Tories!!
- ✓ Free swimming for the over 60s - part of Labour's long term plan to promote active lifestyles
- ✓ Delivered the shortest waiting time for treatment since we created the NHS

- ✓ Introduced FREE bus passes for the over 60s
- ✓ Increased holiday entitlement for workers - benefiting up to 3.5 million women and 2.5 million men
- ✓ Taken difficult decisions to pull Britain through the world wide financial crisis
- ✓ Labour has introduced new measures to cut out anti-social behaviour
- ✓ Have increased pensions by more than inflation and will do the same next year
- ✓ Guaranteed every four year old a place in school at the start of the school year following their fourth birthday

## Introducing Vince Moon

Vince Moon was recently selected to be the Labour candidate for the Paston and South Gunthorpe Ward in the elections to Peterborough City Council that are due to take place in May 2010.



Vince worked as a primary school teacher for 30 years before taking early retirement so he could take on a more active role in local community work. He is currently Vice Chair of Werrington Neighbourhood Council, a body that acts like a parish council representing the people of Werrington and North Gunthorpe. He has been a member of this Council's Planning Committee and chaired its Environment Committee. As well as this he has represented this Council on various groups and projects concerned with improving facilities for young people.

Vince is also a Street Leader as well as leading a Cuckoo's Hollow RiverCare Group and has organised regular litter picks in this area over the last few years. He has served as a governor of both a primary and a secondary school.

Vince is convinced that people can achieve more by working together than they can by working alone. He has been an active co-operator and the secretary of Anglia Co-op Party for over 20 years. He has taken part in many campaigns aimed at making fairness and justice the reality in a progressive society.

Vince lives with his wife Liz in the Werrington South and North Gunthorpe Ward that is next door to the Paston and South Gunthorpe Ward. He is well placed to work hard on behalf of local residents and represent their interests. He believes that more Labour representation is urgently needed on the City Council if local services are to be safeguarded for everyone in the future.

## Neighbourhood Councils - what can they do for us?



A Neighbourhood Council has been created by Peterborough City Council for people living in Paston, Walton and Werrington Wards. The suggested key responsibilities include promoting the City Council role as a community leader and being the main focus for public involvement and consultation in the area.

While these may be worthy objectives, its first meeting held at Ken Stimpson School in Werrington in October, did little to inspire those present with confidence. Only a handful of members of the public attended as the City Council had made very little effort to publicise the meeting. All the elected City Councillors for the wards in the area attended apart from Lee Gilbert, the Tory Councillor for Paston. No explanation or apologies for his absence were given to the meeting.

We were told the City Council has appointed Pat Nash, Tory Councillor for Bretton, as the Chair of the Committee. She will receive over £7000 in expenses for chairing the Neighbourhood Councils in the North and West of the City. These Councils will meet four times a year and the only members allowed to vote will be the City Councillors - 6 Tories, 3 Independents and 2 Liberal Democrats on our local Council.

It is unclear what funds will be available for this Neighbourhood Council to use. When asked, a Council finance officer responded that the City Councillors could use their Community Leadership Fund money. The Chair pointed out that this might not be popular with individual City Councillors. It is also not certain that these funds will be available in future years. Perhaps more importantly, even if the all the money was made available and pooled, it would only be £40,000. This is only a tiny fraction of a City Council budget that is well over £100 million a year. Further not much could be done with this amount of money for such a large area that has a population of nearly 30,000. It doesn't suggest that the City Council are really serious about devolving power and decision making to a more local level.

Members of the public can attend these meetings and I went to this meeting along with local Labour Party members and supporters and we will all be present at future meetings.

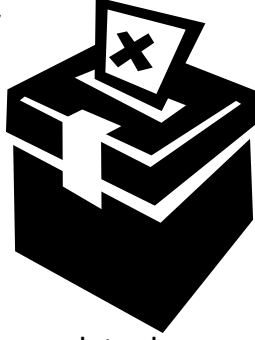
The idea of more control of Council spending at a neighbourhood level is to be supported. It may at least be a chance for residents to have their say. Hopefully greater public participation might put pressure on the City Council to make it more effective.

# Don't lose your right to vote

Don't just assume you will be on the list – check by calling the Council on 01733 452249.

You can register to vote if you are:

- 16 years old or over and
- a British citizen or
- an Irish, Commonwealth or European Union citizen who is resident in the UK



You can register at any time throughout the year as the register is updated every month. This is useful if you move house and need to register at your new address. You can still register to vote even if you don't have a fixed address.

Commonwealth citizens must be resident in the UK and either have leave to remain in the UK or not require such leave.

**Remember you must be registered to vote**

## Dear Elector

I am seeking the position as parliamentary representative for Peterborough. All voters will have a say as to whether or not you decide to employ me at the next general election. Being the MP is a full time job and you should expect candidates to be answerable to all voters irrespective of party politics. I have lived and worked in Peterborough, my home town, most of my life. I do not claim any second home allowance to do the job of representing Peterborough constituents. Unlike Stuart Jackson who has so far claimed over £66,000 for his second home.

I am attending events in your neighbourhood to answer your questions. If you would like me to visit your street or you have anything you wish to discuss with me or inform me what you expect to see from the person you employ as your MP then please get in touch. Telephone 315565, email [ed.murphy@talktalk.net](mailto:ed.murphy@talktalk.net) or write to me at 12 Kent Road Peterborough PE3 6DG.

Yours sincerely

*Ed Murphy*



## What is the Co-op Party?

The Co-operative Party believes that people will achieve more by working together than they can by working alone. We support the efforts of individuals who seek success through co-operative endeavour. By giving power to all our citizens we can help build a just and fair society. Power should be spread evenly throughout society and not be arbitrarily based on wealth, class, gender or race.

We work to promote co-operatives and all forms of mutual organisations. We think that through increased co-operation, we will achieve a sustainable future for our economy and society. By encouraging co-operatives we are developing organisations where people can work together. Ethical values and a deep sense of social and environmental responsibility are reflected in the way they conduct their business. Whilst these organisations need to strive to be successful they are not solely driven by the pursuit of profit with everyone competing against one another.

The Co-operative Party wants to help build a financial system that puts people before profit. We want the banks that failed us in the credit crunch, like Northern Rock, to become mutuals again.

### Want a safe place for your money?

Mutuals are owned and controlled by their customers. They have been more responsible and better for savers and society than shareholder-owned banks.



### Want an economy that puts people before profit?

We need a stable financial system to lead us out of the credit crunch - the mutual model is ideal.

For more information go to:

[www.thefeelingsmutual.org.uk](http://www.thefeelingsmutual.org.uk)

The Co-operative Party works in alliance with the Labour Party and other like-minded organisations to achieve these ends. You can obtain more information on the Co-operative Party, its campaigns and how to join at [www.party.coop](http://www.party.coop) or by emailing [mail@party.coop](mailto:mail@party.coop).

To find out about local activities contact Vince Moon who is Secretary of Anglia Co-op Party.

## SINCE 1997:-

- ❖ Overall crime is down by 39%
- ❖ Police numbers are up by more than 14,000
- ❖ 16,000 Community Support Officers have been appointed
- ❖ Spending on offender learning has almost trebled
- ❖ 3,600 Neighbourhood Policing Teams have been set up
- ❖ You are less likely to be a victim of crime than anytime in the last 25 years

## USEFUL CONTACTS

City Council: 747474

Parking Control: 747474

Overcrowded Houses: 742552

Abandoned Vehicles: 425338

NHS Direct: 0845 46 47

Age Concern: 564185

Senior Stop: 560769

Pensioners Association: 701572

TAXI - Kings Cars: 563333

Co-operative Bank: 890856

Peterborough Labour Party Website

[www.peterboroughlabourparty.com](http://www.peterboroughlabourparty.com)

What are the policing team doing to tackle crime in our area?

Go to:

[www.cambs.police.uk/signup/ecops](http://www.cambs.police.uk/signup/ecops)



### Honeypot Café Opening Times

Tuesday & Friday 9am to 2 pm  
Thursday 10 am to 2 pm

## LABOUR CONTACTS



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To join the Labour Party  
Ring 08705 900 200

or join online at  
[www.labour.org.uk](http://www.labour.org.uk)

Your Local Labour  
Team join us and  
change things