Home

The way we live at the moment is unsustainable. It’s inconvenient but it’s true. The scientific consensus is not wrong.

What is also true is that it’s not too late, we don’t have to change very much and the changes we have to make may well make us happier, healthier and more content.

There are things we have to do globally and nationally but locally we can make a big difference too. These are a few of the things that I want to campaign for on your behalf.

**A local station to provide clean, congestion-free travel to Gloucester, Cardiff and beyond.**

The Forest of Dean's single network train station is in Lydney right in the south of the constituency. The 20 miles between Gloucester and Lydney is too far and has caused severe congestion at peak periods on the A48. Over the coming decades a good sustainable public transport infrastructure is critical in providing fast, sustainable access in and out of the forest.

We propose a forest gateway station between Newnham and Westbury that would have huge benefits those villages and also Littledean and Cinderford where 25% of residents have no access to vehicle. With A population of 9000 within a 3 mile radius it’s high time we took this on. Nationally there are numerous stations being built with considerable less justification. This is a failure on the part of our elected representatives.

Phillip Inskip of Railfuture is full supportive of the plan and has included the station in the groups strategic planning document.

**A pedestrian crossing in Westbury to reunite the village.**

It seems this request has been made of the Highways agency a number of times. Their refusal up to now is extraordinary. It is an entirely reasonable request that has been granted for every other significant village between Gloucester and Chepstow. We have as much right to get around our village safely as cars to drive through it. This is a priority for us and we will not be fobbed-off as unfortunately seems to have happened in the past.

**A dedicated enterprise hub for the forest to provide local jobs and wealth.**

We want to bring back jobs to the Forest with an Enterprise Hub to encourage local entrepreneurship. especially in renewable technologies, and make use of the considerable talents of the local population."

**Support for local food production and sales in farm shops and markets.**

Wherever possible we will support moves to grow and sell food locally. This reduces costs, food miles and the dominance of supermarkets whilst improving our health and income for local producers.

**Encouragement and support for local renewable energy projects.**

14000 people commute out of the forest every day. This is too high a proportion and has a very negative impact on people’s daily lives, congestion and the environment. It also erodes communities and drains money. We want to bring back jobs to the Forest with an Enterprise Hub to encourage local entrepreneurship, especially in renewable technologies, and make use of the considerable talents of the local population.