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**Studley Liberal Democrats Press Release – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**Major fire in Studley shows need to save fire station from closure**

A major fire in the village on Saturday demonstrates the case for saving Studley fire station from closure, according to County Councillor Martin Barry (Lib Dem Studley).

The fire, at the SIBCAS site in Brickyard Lane, was brought under control after appliances from Studley, Alcester, Stratford and Redditch attended. The first appliance at the scene, minutes after the alarm was raised, was from the local fire station at Studley – the very station now under threat of closure. Whilst the four stations' appliances fought the blaze, cover for the surrounding areas became the task of the fire stations at Bidford and Henley.

'Yet both Bidford and Studley stations have been listed for closure', said Martin. 'Time is absolutely vital when fire is involved and the damage sustained and loss to a local business and employer could have been far worse if had not been for the prompt action of the Studley fire crew.'

An incident such as Saturday's, when every minute counts, shows everyone just how important it is to have local fire-fighters. This was a major fire and it's not coincidence that the first fire engine on the scene was the local one – from Studley. The fire was spreading rapidly and if had not been brought under control so promptly how many extra fire appliances would have been needed? If these stations are lost where would this resource come from in future? Let's hope that this demonstration of what Studley's firemen can do will have some influence on the decisions that are finally taken'.

**More information:**

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