OUR POSITION ON THE REFERENDUM AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL STRUCTURES

In our municipality, there is currently a lot of discussion about the development of school structures. In our election manifesto, we clearly supported the creation of a new primary school for all children in the municipality. Such a project would eliminate unnecessary bus trips during school hours, as all facilities (such as the Maison Relais, the sports hall, and the swimming pool) would be easily accessible on foot.

At the same time, we also emphasised that children should continue to have the option of attending kindergarten in Steinfort or Kleinbettingen.

However, the discussion about our school structures is about a decision that will shape the development of our municipality for decades to come.

For such an important issue, we need an objective, open, and broad discussion in which citizens are actively involved.

In this context, the CSV has proposed holding a referendum. The LSAP opposes this, arguing that a referendum would divide the population.

For us as déi gréng, it is clear: citizen participation does not divide but strengthens our democracy!

In our election manifesto, we also clearly advocated for strong citizen participation. For us, a referendum on this issue is not a sign of conflict or criticism, nor is it intended to pit citizens against one another. Rather, it is a sign of respect for every citizen's opinion.

It is important to consider the views of all stakeholders: parents whose children are directly affected, as well as those who care for children in schools and during leisure time.

In today's context, such an important decision must also take into account the question of costs and benefits. The level of debt per capita in our municipality is already so high that we must ensure any further spending remains within what is financially viable. We need to carefully distinguish between what is essential and what is simply desirable.

The argument that schools automatically lead to more vibrant villages is no longer necessarily valid. Nowadays, many parents work and have little time to meet and connect through the school. If we want to revitalise our villages, we need to think of other approaches.

As Greens, we would welcome safe paths between all the villages within our municipality. We need routes where people enjoy walking and where children can safely cycle on their own to visit friends in neighbouring villages. A village (mini)bus running throughout the day and connecting all our villages could be another way to link communities and allow both young and old to reach shops, restaurants, and sports facilities without needing a car.

We are also firmly committed to creating affordable housing so that young people from the municipality can continue to live here. At the same time, it is important to develop facilities for older residents who no longer wish (or are no longer able) to live independently, allowing them to stay within their community, close to their familiar routines and social circles.

When it comes the development of school structures in our school structures, we believe that a referendum means pulling together in the same direction.

We need to make decisions without politicking, or with the desire put up a monument to ourselves, but with a forward-looking perspective and for the benefit of all citizens, young and old alike.