

focus



www.epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk

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A GOVERNMENT GRANT CUT OF 16.5% (and that's just for 2011-12) to deal with Labour's legacy

Council officials expected up to 10%, but the awful reality is a cut in government grant of 16.5% for this financial year and a further 10% next year. Councillor Anna Jones who lives in Beech Road said "small district and borough councils have fared really badly out of the Coalition's strategy to deal with the huge debt left by Labour. Those in Surrey have definitely been hit. Our community must work together on this, protect vital services and if we have to make cuts they must be on the non-essentials. We've also got to look at ways our council can increase its income so that it can carry on providing services which are important to local residents." **There are numerous good things to come out of the Coalition's new governance : the council tax freeze in 2011-12, the tax break being rolled out on the first £10,000 earned, State Pensions increasing in line with the highest earnings link to wages, prices or 2.5% and the potential for voting reform.** "Space limits the amount of detail we can give here, but I'm more than happy to talk to local residents who want more information" said Anna.

JULIE AND CHRISTINE HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT YOUR SURVEY RETURNS ...

Very important to you are Low Council Tax, Keeping Epsom Hospital, Protecting the Green Belt and Recycling.

You also think local shops are important and inevitably residents' parking and parking enforcement were very important. Lots of you think returning South Street to two-way traffic is not important. *You gave us some great ideas about protecting our open spaces and council buildings and reducing costs at the Town Hall. More results in due course.*

**COME OUT
AND MEET
US—WE
HAVE
STREET
SURGERIES
TWICE A
MONTH.**



**CONTACT DETAILS FOR CHRISTINE, JULIE
AND ANNA CAN BE FOUND OVERLEAF.**

**OR FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR
BOROUGH BY SIGNING UP TO OUR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE AT
WWW.EPSOM-EWELL-LIBDEMS.ORG.UK**

Local residents working for local residents

Ward News ...

The county council will introduce charges for short-term parking by the **Old Cottage Hospital** and in **Upper High Street** from November. Our website has further details of all proposed location and charges. Let us have your views.

The seasonal leaf collection service in the **Downs Road and Ashley Road area** will be weekly (rather than fortnightly) during periods of heavy leaf fall this autumn.



Christine, Anna (pictured) and Julie were collecting signatures for a petition during January which wants Britaniacrest waste lorries re-routed away from **Alexandra Road**, Hook Road and other residential roads. These huge vehicles process waste which is **BROUGHT IN** to our depot in Blenheim Road. If this practice ceased, the Britaniacrest lorry journeys would reduce by more than 50%. Our borough council earns nothing from this practice which was started by the Tory-controlled county council as part of the waste contract with SITA

*We are still trying to protect the green space by the **Alexandra allotments** which is gradually getting more and more churned up by vehicles. Bollards were supposed to be erected before Christmas . The waiting list for allotments on the Alexandra site is now 80 and growing. Plans for further demolition in **Pitt Road** in order to rebuild at greater density have been refused by the Planning Department.*

Following our enquiries at the Local Committee after resurfacing work in **Burgh Heath Road**, the speed cushions should have been corrected by the time you read this newsletter. Our campaign to reinstate the mini-roundabout at **Treadwell Road** has reached stalemate after the county council agreed only to keep the situation under review.

**I can deliver Focus in my road
I'd like to help at election time
I'd like to become a member
I'd like my councillor to visit**

**WITH COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MAY YOUR
HELP IS NEVER MORE IMPORTANT
THAN THIS YEAR.
CAN YOU HELP US AT ELECTION TIME?**

Contact details.....

CONTACT YOUR FOCUS TEAM :

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