

# focus

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LIBERAL  
DEMOCRATS

Autumn 2010

Local Lib Dems Reporting Back

## It's a Question of Priorities!

At the borough council elections in 2007, the Liberal Democrats based their Manifesto on your priorities, after conducting surveys across Epsom and Ewell. With borough elections due in 2011, we need to know what importance you place on these issues now. There is a "tick box" survey inside this issue of **focus**. There is also space to add your own priorities.

The ruling RA Residents' Party has consistently refused to consult local residents on the council budget, claiming they know what is important to residents already.

After a year of targeting vulnerable groups of people, such as charging disabled residents for parking, closing public toilets, closing a lunchtime club for older people, they have recently stated "there will be no cuts next year".

No-one wants cuts in services, but your Lib Dem councillors believe that in the present economic climate it's really important that the council conducts its affairs in line with what residents say is important to them.

*Please spend a few minutes completing the survey and send it back via Freepost.*

Because  
Liberal  
Democrats  
are in  
government:



Pensions will rise in future years at the same rate as earnings, prices or 2.5%, whichever is the greatest.



The Lib Dems have made sure that the potential oversupply of disabled parking bays in the Town Hall car park is closely monitored. This car park is intended for short-stay shoppers and the balance of parking bays needs to be right for everyone.

**Freedom – Fairness – Responsibility**



When you have completed this survey, please return it to:

**Epsom & Ewell Lib Dems, FREEPOST KT3525, Epsom KT19 9BR.**

You don't need to use a stamp, but it saves us money if you do use one !

Thank you for your response.



## OUR ENVIRONMENT

The council has signed up to the 10:10 campaign and the government has given councils the power to stop back garden development, although quite recently the Conservatives running one Surrey borough voted against stopping garden grabbing! **What is your view about :**

- ◆ Support planning policies on back garden development.
- ◆ Making our town festive at Christmas time.
- ◆ Preventing development of Green Belt land.
- ◆ Keeping all council-owned venues, e.g. *Ewell Court House*.
- ◆
- ◆



	Very Important	Important	Not Important
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## YOUNG PEOPLE AND OLDER PEOPLE

We eventually secured a teenage play area in Court Recreation Ground but we still don't have wardens in our parks. We are now campaigning to stop late night noise and anti-social behaviour in our town centre. **How important are the following to you :**

- ◆ Creating a team of park wardens to reduce problems.
- ◆ Investing in late night / early morning patrols around pubs and clubs.
- ◆ Having a night bus system to get young people home safely.
- ◆ Extending transport and day centre facilities for older people.
- ◆
- ◆



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## OUR TOWN HALL AND ITS DECISION MAKING

Residents Association councillors continue their expensive robe-wearing habit, but we have persuaded the council to cut back on paper and produce more information electronically. **Please rank the following :**

- ◆ Abolishing the wearing of special robes at council meetings.
- ◆ Permitting residents to ask questions at meetings of the Council.
- ◆ Transmitting video of council meetings "live" over the internet.
- ◆ Charging the big developers for advice before they submit plans.
- ◆
- ◆



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## YOUR OWN IDEAS FOR MAKING AND SAVING MONEY

The Government's Spending Review is likely to make things even more difficult for local authorities. **Please tell us about your own ideas as to how the council can increase its income or make savings.**



	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## New teenage play area



After years of campaigning by Lib Dem councillors, play equipment for teenagers has been installed in Court Rec. For years Cllr Alison Kelly had to remind the council about the funds for this, which came from the insurance on the burnt out Dojo.

Cllr Kelly said "I'm really pleased we have finally seen something happen. Whilst small, this equipment provides something for teenagers in one of our parks. Combined with a great new children's playground, the council is finally meeting some of our residents' priorities. It's a shame we had to spend so long arguing with Residents' Association councillors, who wanted to divert this money into the council's general funds!"

## Town ward news round-up:

**Resurfacing:** County Councillor Colin Taylor reports that Adelphi Road and Clayton Road have been resurfaced, along with parts of Church Street and High Street. This follows the resurfacing of Temple Road and part of Middle Lane last year.

**Residents Parking Scheme:** The possibility of having Residents Parking Schemes has moved one step closer with the publication for comment of Surrey County Council's draft Parking Strategy.

**Epsom Station:** Problems with parking, the taxi rank and private cars dropping off and picking up passengers during the rebuilding of Epsom Station are expected to worsen when one lane of Station Approach is closed to traffic. The bus stop will be removed and cars won't be able to load or unload. No decision has been taken yet on the application to allow work on the station to be done at night.

**Stones Road bridge:** The footpath from Stones Road to Blenheim Road will now remain closed until the underpass opens next summer.

**East Street:** The railway bridge will be closed for 3 weeks from 23<sup>rd</sup> April until 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

## The Town Ward **focus** Team

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### Help us to help you

Town ward **focus** is a local community newsletter that is produced, financed and delivered entirely by volunteers. It keeps you in touch with what's going on, tells you what the **focus** team have been doing for our area and asks for your views. Would you be willing to help deliver **focus** in your road?

- I can deliver Town ward **focus** in my road.
- I'd like to get involved with the Lib Dems locally.
- I'm interested in joining the Liberal Democrats.
- I'd like one of my Councillors to visit me.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

**Send to: Epsom & Ewell Lib Dems, (Town ward), FREEPOST, Epsom, Surrey KT19 9BR.**

