

College FOCUS

December 2017

News from your Lib Dem team

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New Residents' Parking Scheme



Consultation for a new residents' parking scheme in the Church Road area ended in September.

The lower part of Albert Road is included in this proposal.

The proposed parking restrictions are worrying for the plot holders on the Alexandra Road allotment site.

Where can they park, if all the roads

around the site have restrictions?

Surrey County Council takes years to deal with parking problems.

It is important to get any new issues onto the formal list for their future consideration as soon as possible.

Tell your College ward FOCUS team about any new parking hot spots as soon as you become aware of them.

Alexandra Rec.



Alexandra Rec's hard tennis courts are arguably now the best in the whole borough.

They have been resurfaced and lined and the council is hoping to mount a new tennis initiative next year.

Mill Road Railway Cutting



An appeal against a recent refusal to allow variation of the current planning consent for student accommodation on this site has been ruled "invalid".

Local residents would prefer the site retained for wildlife, which includes lizards, badgers, voles and foxes.

It is now 8 years since this land was sold for development and 2 schemes have been approved so far, one for 10 houses (permitted on appeal), the other for 77 units of student housing, but it seems that neither are viable.

So the developers sought consent to turn 49 of the approved 77 student units into HMO's (houses of multiple occupation), with additional parking.

The council refused, claiming that HMO's are not needed, HMO's would cause on-street parking problems and the proposed off-street parking would also have harmful effects.

However, the Appeal Inspector has now ruled that a fresh application is needed, not just a variation. So it's back to the drawing board, everyone.

Keeping in touch:

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See our **facebook** page at:

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Visit our local **website** at:

<http://www.epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk>

Register on our website for **news updates**.

Do you have a Grouse?

If you have a problem that we can help with, please contact your College ward FOCUS team by **email** at:

college-focus@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk

or by post at: 7 Bridge Rd, Epsom KT17 4AN



Working for you all year round

Liberal Democrats

Lidl approved — Aldi pending



Lidl's plans for a medium-sized food store on the former Allams and Iceland sites in Upper High Street have been approved.

This satisfies the council's official Development Brief, as first proposed by Lib Dem councillors, following a long series of unsatisfactory plans for a large supermarket.



Meanwhile Aldi have been trying to get approval for a similar store just up the road on the site of the former Dairy at the Church Road junction on a site scheduled for housing.

This wasn't considered suitable and was refused, but Aldi appealed and a public inquiry was held. The outcome was pending when we went to press.

Epsom Hospital



We care passionately about our local hospital and took an active part in the NHS Trust's consultation on how best to secure the long-term future of specialist care at Epsom Hospital.

Based on the evidence, we believe the best plan is to retain 85% of the current services at Epsom Hospital, supported by an acute unit located either in Epsom or else adjacent to the Royal Marsden in Sutton, with adequate transport links provided.

As a centre of excellence, the acute unit would offer a higher standard of care and better specialist cover than could be provided on two sites.

Tip opening times cut – Fly-tipping concerns



From January 2018, Surrey County Council's tip in Blenheim Road won't open on Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

The free daily allowance for rubble, plaster-board, soil etc was also abolished from December 2017.

The Tories' original plan to close some of the tips completely has been



dropped due to the public outcry.

But these changes, which make it harder for residents to dispose of their waste responsibly, may lead to a large increase in fly-tipping.

The Liberal Democrats will continue to campaign for increased opening hours and for counter-productive charges to be scrapped.

Epsom town centre

The promised break over Christmas will provide some relief during the long-delayed road works needed to make South Street two-way.

Once complete, this will speed travel from West Street to Dorking Road.

Will it help to solve Epsom's other traffic problems? We don't think so.

Vince Cable will lead the fight to change the direction of Britain

Concern grows about the impact of a botched Brexit on prices and jobs.

Vince has set out his priorities for a better future for Britain as the new Leader of the Liberal Democrats.

Vince Cable - widely respected for his economic expertise and experience - wants to lead on Brexit, education, the economy and the NHS.

"I am ambitious for Britain, and I want the Liberal Democrats to represent the many millions of people who share our values," Vince said.

"The Conservatives are in disarray - they are more focused on infighting than leading the country.

"And Labour are backing the Tories all the way on Brexit. They support leaving the single market.



"With the economy approaching the Brexit iceberg, only the Liberal Democrats will make the case for taking the country in a new direction.

"And we must make sure Brexit does not mean we lose sight of other vital issues like securing fairer funding for the NHS, especially mental health and social care.

"The Liberal Democrats would put 1p on income tax to raise an extra £6 billion a year for our NHS.

"And with our schools under severe financial pressure, we will lead the fight for extra teachers and for extra funding aimed at supporting those who need it the most.

"The Liberal Democrats offer a compassionate, positive vision for the future. Investment in public services, support for businesses to create jobs and a fairer deal for young people.

"To anyone who shares our values and our aims, I say come and join us and help to make them a reality.

"With your help, we can effect real, positive change for Britain."

Join Vince Cable's Lib Dems at: www.LibDems.org.uk/Join