

Town ward, Epsom

April 2019

FOCUS



Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Election – 2nd May 2019

FOCUS campaigners selected as election candidates



Alison Kelly



Martin Kimber



Julian Freeman

Martin, Julian and Alison have been selected to stand as candidates in Town Ward for the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council elections, to be held on Thursday May 2nd.

Borough council elections are held every four years. You have three votes, so you can vote for all three of the FOCUS team.

Town ward is closely contested, which means YOUR vote can make the difference on who is elected to represent your area.

If you want open-minded councillors who will serve the interests of the local residents, not the local council, your choice is clear - vote for:

Julian Freeman, Alison Kelly, Martin Kimber.

INSIDE

Meet the candidates.

Your top priorities for this area.

FOCUS team promise.

On May 2nd, Vote Local – Vote Lib Dem

Your Priorities are Our Priorities

In the last 12 months, FOCUS teams contacted thousands of local residents. You told us what was most important to you. We listened – and we will act on your priorities.



DEAL WITH TRAFFIC CHAOS OUTSIDE SCHOOLS

You asked “*What can be done about the chaos in Rosebank?*” We will:

- Continue to support parents concerned about their children’s safety.
- Shame Epsom’s county councillors into taking effective action.
- Progress parking restriction changes at Local Committee meetings.

REDUCE THE USE OF PLASTICS AND INCREASE RECYCLING

You asked “*What’s the council doing with its own rubbish?*” We will:

- Make Epsom & Ewell have the best recycling record in Surrey.
- Ask the council to lead the way with reducing plastics.
- Encourage people who don’t recycle to understand why it’s so important.



REINVIGORATE EPSOM TOWN CENTRE

You said “*Epsom is so far behind other towns, there is no thought, no creativity*”. We will work to:

- Create the role of an Events Manager to make better use of our historic borough’s potential.
- Create incentives for shoppers, reassess parking charges and create more on-street parking.
- Make better use of the market place.

FULFIL THE LOCAL HOUSING NEED WHILE DEFENDING OUR IMPORTANT GREEN BELT

You said we do “*need more affordable housing*”, but “*extremely excessive [government] target*”. We will work to:

- Help identify new sites for housing while preserving Epsom’s character.
- Support government targets that are realistic for Epsom.
- Campaign for the right combination of housing types, not just executive mansions – and not just blocks of flats.



HELP WHERE THIS IS NEEDED

You said “*local people need a local hospital*”. We will:

- Continue the cross-party campaign to keep Epsom Hospital.
- Actively work with the police, residents and other groups to identify and promptly address local safety issues.
- Engage and promote volunteer groups to help vulnerable people in our area.

Meet the FOCUS team candidates



Alison Kelly has lived in Epsom since 1986 and her daughter attended Rosebery. Starting work teaching maths, she moved to computing and is now an IT Manager. Alison is well known in Town ward, which she represented on the council from 2007 to 2015, when she was the opposition spokesperson on budgets and finance. She became involved in local politics due to her dismay at the number of planning decisions that had depleted open areas and back garden spaces. So she welcomed the opportunity to be directly involved in deciding local planning issues. Alison's particular interests are in the areas of energy efficiency and recycling. In her spare time she enjoys going to the gym, cycling, gardening and baking cakes.

Julian Freeman has lived in and around Epsom & Ewell for 25 years, where he has served as a parent governor at Epsom & Ewell High School.

His experience of voluntary work with the homeless in Central London, led Julian to pursue a long and varied career in social housing, where he has worked with a number of local authorities and well-known housing associations.

He is now a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Housing.

Julian also served for 12 years as a Councillor on nearby Sutton Borough Council, where he has chaired committees dealing with complex planning applications.



Martin Kimber has lived since his childhood in Epsom & Ewell where he was educated at Glyn high school. Following on from his success at Bangor University, he is currently completing a post graduate law degree, studying at BPP Law.

His experience studying away from home made him aware of the mental health issues many people face, especially young people living away from home. He is keen to work with organizations seeking to make the most of diminishing budgets to bring innovative solutions to the support of vulnerable people living in the area.

The FOCUS team's promise to YOU

Once safely elected, so many councillors just disappear into the Town Hall - that is until they want your vote again at the next election.

This is why, if elected as your local councillors, **Alison, Julian and Martin** promise:

- to attend the council meetings where decisions affecting you are made and vote on your behalf,
- to keep in touch, tell you what they've done and ask your opinion via the regular **FOCUS** newsletter,
- to hold regular councillors' advice surgeries,
- to be visible and available and active on social media
- and – most importantly – to work hard for all the people of Town ward !

Don't vote for anyone else unless they will make you the same promise!

On May 2nd, Vote Local – Vote Lib Dem

Local Action - Global Values

Working Together as a Local Community

The FOCUS team has worked with local residents on many local campaigns over the years. We want to make sure that local people are involved in making the decisions that affect them.

Plans had already been agreed for a medium sized Lidl store on a nearby site in Upper High Street. This former dairy site in Church Road is scheduled for housing and was not appropriate for an Aldi supermarket.



Graffiti & Litter – Twin Blights on the Environment



Local residents contacted the Lib Dem FOCUS team complaining about the amount of graffiti not getting cleaned off and the litter blowing down alleyways in Town Ward.

From a freedom of information request, Alison Kelly discovered that over the last 4 years there has been an ever decreasing amount spent on clearing Graffiti.

She said: “This reduction is extremely disappointing, especially as the environment is supposed to be a core priority”. We need a proactive task force that specializes in removing graffiti as soon as it appears, currently only abusive tags receive prompt treatment. The delay encourages others to add their own “tags”.




At the time of removal we would make sure “tags” (the unique graffiti signatures you see everywhere) were recorded, so that when someone was caught they were held responsible for all their tags.

We would not only encourage volunteers to report graffiti, but also supply them with removing kits, so that where possible they could do this themselves.

Meanwhile some paths, although litter hot-spots, are only checked every couple of weeks. This is not enough, especially near schools, where litter bins are often full the day after being emptied.

If elected, your local Lib Dem FOCUS team will keep on pressing the Council to do more.

On May 2nd, Vote Local – Vote Lib Dem

Freeman, Julian		X
Kelly, Alison		X
Kimber, Martin		X

Note: On your ballot paper, be sure to check for the 3 “Bird of Liberty” symbols.

Published and promoted by Derek Harwood on behalf of Julian Freeman, Alison Kelly and Martin Kimber (Liberal Democrats) all at 38 West Farm Close, Ashtead, Surrey KT21 2LJ.

Printed by Summit Press, Unit 21d Holmethorpe Avenue, Redhill, Surrey RH1 2NB.

MAKE SURE YOU CAN VOTE

You need to be on the electoral roll by April 12th. If you’re not yet on it, you can register online at: [gov-uk/register-to-vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) – or call the council on 01372 732000.

If you will be away on May 2nd but would still like to vote for the **FOCUS** team, we can arrange a postal or proxy vote for you if you contact us before April 15th. Ring us on 01372 726504 or email: town-focus@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk