

Summer 2021

FOCUS



FROM YOUR LOCAL LIB DEM TEAM: Julie Morris, David Gulland, Andre Kubicek



Julie Morris says "THANK YOU"

for your support and votes in the recent County Council elections.

"In a close contest, I was just 132 votes behind the winner in this county division (Epsom Town & Downs)," says Julie. "The winning candidate won with 29% of the vote. This means that nearly three quarters of those who voted here did not vote for the winning candidate.

"The turnout in Town & Downs was 43%, so, in fact, only 1 in 8 of those eligible to vote supported the winning candidate!"

"A fair voting system can't come soon enough, can it?"

The good news is that the **Liberal Democrats gained five seats** on Surrey County Council and remain the largest opposition party. The Conservatives are still the majority party, but the Lib Dem team promises to hold them to account.

Together with **David Gulland**, Julie still represents and supports College Ward residents as a councillor on Epsom & Ewell Borough Council.

"HISTORIC" LIB DEM BY-ELECTION VICTORY

Congratulations to **Sarah Green MP**, who won the Chesham & Amersham by-election on 17th June. Since its creation in 1974, the constituency had been a Conservative seat and considered a stronghold. Sarah won with a majority of 8028 which takes the number of Lib Dem MPs to 12, two thirds of whom are women.

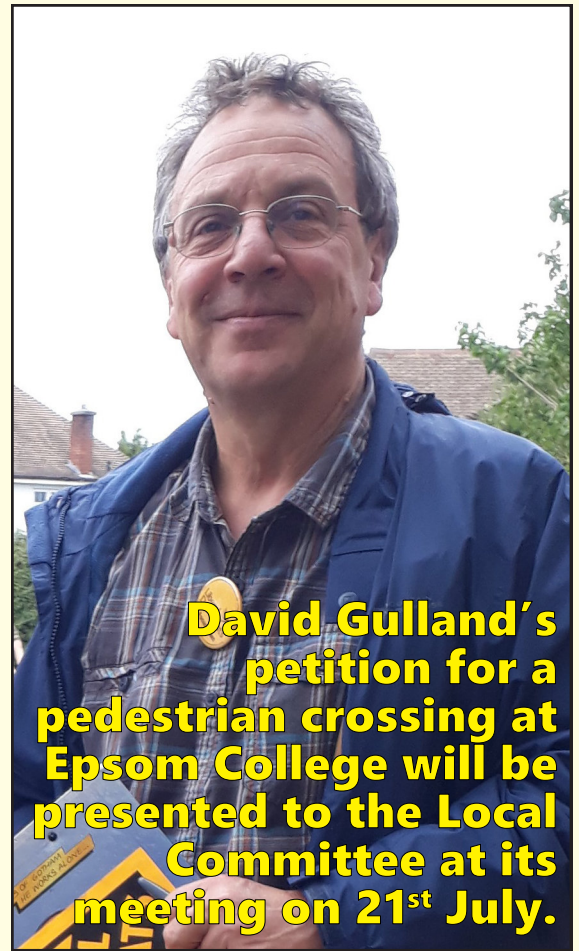
The local newspaper, Bucks Free Press, described the Liberal Democrat win as **"a humiliating defeat for the Tories"** who, the Evening Standard argued, have **"taken [their] southern vote for granted"**, while **Labour suffered its worst ever by-election defeat.**



Local Action - Global Values

COLLEGE WARD and EPSOM NEWS IN BRIEF

- ✳ Following Julie's and David's successful campaign, CCTV is now fully operational in **Alexandra Recreation Ground**.
- ✳ Planning permission has been refused for a multi-storey car park at **Epsom Hospital**.
- ✳ Your councillors continue to demand a budget to implement the council's **Climate Change Action Plan**.
- ✳ The new Cafe in the main pavilion at **Alexandra Rec** opened at the beginning of July. Please do pop along for a cup of coffee and a cake!
- ✳ Rumour has it that the new Lidl in **Upper High Street** will open in late August.
- ✳ Epsom & Ewell will have 35 councillors (currently 38) from 2023. A public consultation for initial thoughts on ward boundaries closes on 19th July. The **Boundary Commission's** recommendations will be published in October, followed by a further round of public consultation.
- ✳ Official monitoring is underway at the **College Road Chalk Pit** and (unrelated) EEBC Planning Officers will all have "enforcement" within their remit in the future.
- ✳ **Horton Cemetery**, off Hook Road, has become a Locally Listed Heritage Asset which should make it easier to source funds to restore the site.



As we go to print, it is likely that covid restrictions will be lifted on 19th July. However, this doesn't mean that covid no longer exists and everyone should continue to take care. Surge testing is currently taking place at **Banstead Leisure Centre** and asymptomatic Covid 19 testing now takes place every Tuesday in **Epsom Market Place**. If you haven't yet been vaccinated, please book a jab as this is the best way we have of beating the virus.

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Can we keep you updated with our news? Yes

Please leave your details so we can contact you about issues you raise:

Name: _____ House No: ____ Post Code: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

The Liberal Democrats will use your contact details to send you information on the topics you have requested. Any data we gather will be used in accordance with our privacy policy at libdems.org.uk/privacy. To exercise your legal data rights, email: data.protection@libdems.org.uk

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