



Delivered to residents in Avery Hill, Crown Woods, Eltham Town Centre & New Eltham

# Cautious welcome for High Street plans

Local Liberal Democrat Councillor **Mark Pattenden** has given a cautious welcome to the council's plans to spend over £1 million on improving Eltham High Street.

"I am glad that the council has finally noticed that Eltham High Street has been neglected over the last few years in comparison to Woolwich and Greenwich," said Cllr Pattenden.

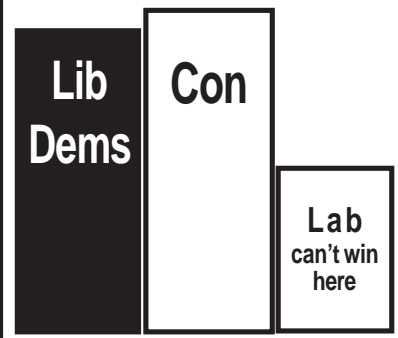
"The large sums involved show how much needs to be done to bring Eltham up to scratch, however the improvements promised depend on obtaining a grant from the London Development Agency."

"Eltham has a strong case for winning this money. But council planners need to be careful not to make too many promises before we know if the money will be there," warned Cllr Pattenden. "If the bid is a success, we must ensure that local residents are fully involved in deciding how the money should be spent."

## Missed opportunity for local parades

Although the plans to spend money improving the High Street are welcome, the council still lacks any policy for the smaller shopping parades around the area.

"The shops along Avery Hill Road, Bexley Road and Footscray Road play an important a role in the local community, yet their condition has been allowed to deteriorate," added Cllr Mark Pattenden.



**In the last local elections in Eltham South, just 18 votes separated the Lib Dems and the Conservatives.**

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**Cllr Mark Pattenden (right) shows fellow Lib Dem campaigners Michael Lewis and Elliot Shubert some of the many letters he has received from local residents opposing developments on the GAA site.**

## Opposition grows to GAA development

The campaign against the plans to build 261 properties on the former GAA sports ground in Avery Hill Road has stepped up a gear as it looks like the planning committee is ready to make a decision. The plans were lodged three years ago and residents have been left waiting this long as the council has failed to determine the application.

**Cllr Mark Pattenden** chaired a residents meeting in New Eltham library last month where over 100 people attended. "The meeting showed the strength of feeling against the proposals in the local community," said Cllr Mark Pattenden. "I will continue to work with the local residents to get these plans blocked and the sports ground brought back into use as a facility for the whole community."

**Liberal Democrats - working for the local area**

# Your Local Liberal Democrats Working All Year Round

## Elliot joins the team



The Lib Dem FOCUS team is pleased to welcome local resident **Dr Elliot Shubert** (left) as its newest member. Elliot is a botanist based at The Natural History Museum. He has lived in the Borough for over 11 years and currently lives near Eltham High Street with his wife, Eileen.

Local Lib Dem Councillor Mark Pattenden said, "Elliot will be a key player in the Eltham South team and will be active in taking up the concerns of local residents."

Elliot added, "I am looking forward to working with Mark Pattenden and Michael Lewis as a team to give the residents an effective voice on local matters and to provide a strong and unified voice on the Council."

## Lib Dems want to see more railway police

Eltham South Liberal Democrat campaigner **Michael Lewis** has welcomed proposals by the London Liberal Democrats to spend an extra £20 million on policing London's trains and stations.



*Michael Lewis wants local stations like New Eltham made safer*

There were 3,025 recorded crimes on lines operated by South Eastern Trains on the most recent available figures.

Michael says, "Liberal Democrats want to see 67 officers put on our local lines, patrolling stations and trains."

"This would provide real security for rail passengers in Eltham and New Eltham."

"In contrast Labour Mayor Ken Livingstone is actually proposing to cut funding for railway policing in his latest budget. For all their tough talk on crime, Labour aren't prepared to pay for the extra police officers we need."

## PLANNING UPDATE

**Eastnor Road** - The proposals to build 38 new properties behind Eastnor Road were deferred by the planning committee last month. Cllr Mark Pattenden, who spoke at the meeting, welcomed this decision, but has criticised the developers for their rush to bring forward new plans. "The new proposals have now been published but they fall far short of the changes both the residents and I think the committee were looking for."

### Contact details and surgeries

Your local Lib Dem Councillor Mark Pattenden holds regular surgeries as follows:

**Anstridge Community Centre, Anstridge Rd**  
*First Saturday of each month, 11am - 12noon*

**New Eltham Library**

*Last Saturday of each month, 11am - 12 noon*

If you'd like to bring something to the Lib Dem FOCUS team's attention, we can be contacted as follows:

**101 Churchbury Road, Eltham SE9 5HX**  
**Tel. 8265 7200**

or email: [mark.pattenden@greenwich.gov.uk](mailto:mark.pattenden@greenwich.gov.uk)

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