



www.greenwich.libdems.org.uk

Winter 2006/2007

FOCUS

on Middle Park & Sutcliffe ward



From Councillors Paul Webbewood and Brian Woodcraft - working for residents in SE3, SE9 and SE12

Delivered free by volunteers to Horn Park, Middle Park, Lee, Sutcliffe and the Brooklands Park & Cator Estates

Local Lib Dems back green tax switch

Your Liberal Democrat councillors have backed plans by the Party to give the average family a £1,000 income tax cut to save the planet. By switching to green taxes instead, everyone can help switch off climate chaos.

Local Lib Dem councillor Paul Webbewood says, "The Liberal Democrats will radically change the way Britain pays tax. Taxing good things - like income - less, and switching to taxing bad things - like pollution - instead.

"So the more you choose to switch to greener living, the more of your Lib Dem income tax cut you will keep. It's your choice!

"While other politicians just talk about the environment the Liberal Democrats plan to actually do something to tackle growing climate chaos."

Fair tax, not more tax

For example, drivers of greener cars will pay less. The Lib Dems will also scrap the Tories' airport tax on passengers and tax each plane that takes off on its emissions instead.

Overall, the costed Lib Dem green tax switch plan has been designed to make taxes fairer and greener, but not to increase tax.

"We want fair tax, not more tax," says Cllr Webbewood.

LIB DEM GREEN ACTION PLAN:

- £1,000 income tax cut for the average family.
- Switch Britain to green taxes on pollution.
- The more you switch to greener living, the more of your tax cut you keep.

More details can be found at www.greentaxswitch.com

What others are saying...

"The Lib Dems are spot on. The range of measures proposed on green taxation are welcome."
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

[Lib Dem tax plans] will penalise behaviour that is bad for the environment while benefiting families with incomes of up to £70,000.
- Financial Times.

Many Labour voters may be attracted by Lib Dem plans to take more lower-paid people out of tax altogether. Under Gordon Brown, an extra 1.2 million have been dragged into the higher rate of tax.
- The Independent.

THE Liberal Democrats have outflanked David Cameron with a promise to cut the income tax bills of millions of families by up to £1,000 a year.
- The Times.

Movement on Eltham Road crossings

Local residents will be pleased to hear that, after many months of lobbying Transport for London (TfL), action is finally being taken to reinstate two pedestrian refuges along Eltham Road.

TfL recently sent out consultation letters to residents in the area to announce work that will involve introducing 2 pedestrian islands between Cambridge Drive and Weigall Road.



Cllr Brian Woodcraft (pictured above at the site of one of the new crossings) comments, "We welcome the action that TfL are taking to improve pedestrian safety along Eltham Road by putting back these refuges."

"The fact is, however, that if TfL had listened to local residents and the local council prior to the bus lane being introduced along Eltham Road then this additional costly work could have been avoided."

YES, we're backing the green tax switch

I/We back Liberal Democrat plans to cut income tax by £1,000 for the average family, and switch to green taxes instead, so the more people switch to greener living, the more of the tax cut they keep.

Name/s _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____ Phone _____
 Email _____

Make a donation today...

I enclose a donation cheque to the "Liberal Democrats" for:

£100 £50 £25 £10 Other: £ _____

Every pound you give helps us fight harder for our environment.

A donation of £9 or more entitles you to membership of the Lib Dems. Please tick here if you are already a member or do not wish to join:

Return to:
Greenwich Borough Liberal Democrats,
Freeport LON15707,
London SE9 5BR

The Lib Dems may use the information you provide to contact you about issues you may find of interest. Some of these contacts may be automated. If you wish to opt out of some or all contacts please tick here



Printed by T&B Printing, 8a Chelsfield Road, Orpington. Published & promoted by Brian Woodcraft on behalf of Middle Park & Sutcliffe Liberal Democrats, all at 167 Dumbreck Road Rd, SE9 1RH

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Liberal Democrats - working hard for our local communities

Labour's challenged over cancelled meetings

Local Liberal Democrats have attacked the Labour Council for cancelling meetings and avoiding public questioning.

Since the last elections in May, a full meeting for all Greenwich councillors has been held just three times. In addition the local 'Time to Listen' meetings, which gave local residents the chance to meet and question councillors face to face have also been scrapped.

"The Labour Council is failing to provide decent basic services like education, can't keep the streets clean and is failing to collect council tax and rents," says local Lib Dem councillor **Paul Webbewood**.

Labour must answer questions

"But Councillors have met just once since July. By cancelling so many meetings Labour is trying to hide its failures from the public."

The Liberal Democrats want to see more local meetings held - especially here in Eltham rather than in Woolwich - so that the Council can be held to account by local people for their actions or more often their inaction.

UPDATE

The November meeting of Greenwich Council ended in farce when the Mayor called a halt to the meeting before councillors had been given a chance to ask any questions of the Council leader and his cabinet.

Paul Webbewood reports, "Due to the lack of recent meetings a backlog of over 50 questions from opposition councillors had built up but the Mayor ruled that there was no time for them to be put to the Cabinet."

"This comes at a time when there are key questions to be asked about the Council's poor performance and on the millions of pounds of cuts to services that they have just announced."

News in brief

Your local Liberal Democrat councillors have recently dealt with the following issues:

■ **Cator Estate**— Following calls by Cllr **Brian Woodcraft** the management board have agreed to install dropped kerbs on the Estate to make access easier for disabled residents. Four locations in Blackheath Park have already been identified and other possible locations are being investigated.

■ **Estate inspections** – Following a request by Cllr **Paul Webbewood** the Council has agreed to include the Eltham Road estate (the Horn Park Lane area) on its schedule of officer and councillor inspections.

■ **Lee Green junction** – Your Lib Dem councillors have taken up complaints over recent months from local residents about the phasing of traffic lights at the new Lee Green junction.

Transport for London (TfL) took action to correct the phasing of the lights after complaints about the lack of time given for pedestrians to cross safely.

However, complaints followed from local motorists that there were long periods when both pedestrians and vehicles received red signals.

TfL has looked again at the problem and adjusted the signal timings so that traffic movement should be improved.

Around the ward



Cliftons roundabout

Cllr **Paul Webbewood** (pictured right) reports "The junction of Sidcup Road and Westhorpe Avenue at Cliftons Roundabout has been recognised as the most dangerous in the Borough with 30 personal injury accidents over 3 years up to November 2005. Following representations from councillors, Transport for London has put forward plans to improve safety."



New Tigers Head

Cllr **Brian Woodcraft** (pictured left) reports that Greenwich Council has received a planning application to convert the first and second floors of the New Tigers Head Public House at Lee Green into six 1-bedroom self-contained flats. There is no news on the plans for the ground floor of the former pub.

DID YOU KNOW?

Labour-run Greenwich Council had the highest rate of truancy for both primary and secondary schools in London during 2005-06 - your Lib Dem councillors are demanding answers on how this situation has arisen and how it is going to be improved.

Your local Lib Dem councillors hold regular advice surgeries:

*1st Thursday of each month;
6 - 7:30 pm;
St. Peter's Church, Weigall Rd
(corner of Eltham Rd)*

*2nd Saturday of each month;
11am - 12noon;
Middle Park Community Centre
(wooden hut at front)*

*Last Saturday of each month;
11am - 12noon;
Horn Park Community Centre
(main office building)*

It matters what YOU think...

If you know of a local problem which needs attention, contact your local Liberal Democrat Focus Team today. Use this space to have your own say...



Name/s _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Phone _____

Email _____

I would like to help the local Liberal Democrats.

Return this slip to the address over the page today

Tell us your views

Which political party, if any, do you usually support?

- Liberal Democrats
- Conservative
- Conservative or Lib Dem
- Labour
- Labour or Lib Dem
- None / Other