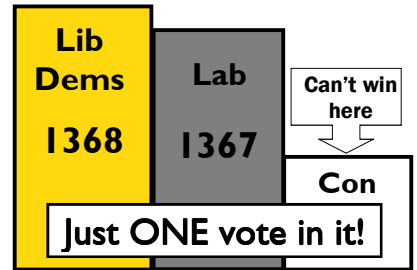


FOCUS

on Middle Park & Sutcliffe ward

www.greenwich.libdems.org.uk

January/
February
2008



Real votes in the ballot box May 2006

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

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

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

Local residents must decide on hospitals

Local Liberal Democrats want to ensure that decisions on changes to local health care services are made by local residents and not used by managers to simply bail out the Labour government's financial mismanagement of the NHS.

Commenting on the 'A Picture of Health' consultation document issued by the NHS in South East London, local Lib Dem Councillor **Brian Woodcraft**, says:



Cllr Brian Woodcraft campaigning against cuts to local health services

"The proposals will mean that some services are provided at specialist units rather than at all four local hospitals as at present. If the local NHS does move in this direction it is essential that the location of services is determined on the basis of patient need and accessibility not on the financial needs of unelected bosses.

"It would be unacceptable if services are cut at hospitals like Queen Mary's Sidcup and Queen Elizabeth's Woolwich because of the failure of the Government's Private Finance Initiative (PFI) which has led to local hospitals being in millions of pounds of debt.

"Residents should make sure that their views are heard during the current consultation exercise."

The consultation period runs until April. Information can be found at www.apictureofhealth.nhs.uk

Leegate Centre developments



Local Lib Dem London Assembly spokesperson, and Lee Green councillor, **Brian Robson** (pictured above) has been working with St Modwen - owners of the centre - to try and bring improvements to the Leegate Centre.

St Modwen have now committed to producing a draft land use plan for the site by April 2008.

Brian says, "This is good news. It marks the first step towards Leegate being redeveloped so that it reflects the vitality of our community. We will keep you updated when we hear more."

Brian adds, "Following the setback of the closure of Kwiksave last summer we also hear that a national non-food retail chain is interested in taking over the shop unit - however nothing has been signed yet so we are keeping our fingers crossed."

More local news inside

Liberal Democrats - working hard for our local communities

Your local Liberal Democrat Councillors reporting back

Horn Park Bus Update

Your local Lib Dem Councillors have welcomed proposals from Transport for London (TfL) to extend the B15 bus service to Horn Park, including an evening service running until midnight.

Cllr Paul Webbewood (pictured right in *Alnwick Road*) comments, "It is good that TfL has finally listened to local residents who have been asking for a bus route to connect them directly to Eltham."

"Let's hope that following the public consultation on the route change that this service can be introduced as soon as possible."



Mobile masts in Middle Park

Cllr Paul Webbewood has advised local residents who object to the erection of a mobile phone mast in the grounds of St Saviour's Church in Middle Park Avenue.

Last year residents, with Cllr Webbewood's support, successfully opposed a proposed phone mast near the junction of Joan Crescent and Middle Park Avenue.

Thumbs down for Big Yellow



Local residents have contacted Cllr Paul Webbewood to express concern about plans by the Big Yellow storage company to build on the site of Maplins and Topps Tiles at Cliftons Roundabout.

Paul says, "Big Yellow have turned to this site after their plans for building in Baring Road were rejected seven times by Lewisham Council.

"Residents fear that Big Yellow want to put a large intrusive building on the site and that their plans will lead to even more traffic using this dangerous roundabout at all hours."

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)*

A number of issues have been raised by Cllr **Brian Woodcraft** following an estate walkabout with council officers. These included:

- lack of lighting on the paths across the grassed areas between Casterbridge Road and the pond
- broken paving slabs on the footpaths and damage to the grassed areas due to unauthorised parking

Your Lib Dem councillors have called on Greenwich Council to install light columns along the footpaths to make it safer at night, and also for damage to the paths and grass to be repaired. They have also asked for measures to be introduced to try to stop vehicles driving over the footpaths.

FOCUS will let you know the outcome of these requests in due course.

Casterbridge Road Estate



Cllr Brian Woodcraft tackles problems on the Casterbridge Road Estate

Cllrs Woodcraft and Webbewood keep up the pressure on Transport for London over pedestrian safety



Eltham Road

Transport for London (TfL) have confirmed further delays to the reinstatement of the pedestrian refuges along Eltham Road between Cambridge Drive and Weigall Road due to the need to move underground cables.

Although the utility companies concerned are due to complete this diversionary work by the end of March, TfL are unable to confirm that the road widening to allow the refuges to be brought back will take place before the end of 2008.

Cllr Brian Woodcraft says, "Residents have been waiting over a year for these safer crossing places to be brought back after they were removed to install the bus lane. Now it seems that it could be another year before this happens."

BE A FRIEND

Local people have formed Friends Groups for Horn Park and Sutcliffe Park. This enables them to work with the Council in deciding on their park's future. There is as yet no similar group for Queenscroft Park. If anyone is interested in starting one please contact Brian or Paul.

Contact the FOCUS team

Cllr Paul Webbewood
Tel. 020 8318 3295
paul.webbewood@greenwich.gov.uk

Cllr Brian Woodcraft
Tel. 020 8850 2456
brian.woodcraft@greenwich.gov.uk

Cllr Brian Robson
Tel. 020 8297 4283
Brian@brianrobson.org.uk

Westhorne Avenue

Following concerns expressed by local residents about the lack of pedestrian lights at the crossing over Westhorne Avenue at the junction with Burnt Ash Hill, **Cllr Brian Robson** approached Transport for London (TfL) and asked for improvements to be made.

TfL have now confirmed that they are looking at introducing a controlled crossing at the junction, which is part of the busy South Circular.

Brian Robson says, "This is great news for local residents, especially those who walk to and from Lee Station."



Brian Robson at the site of the proposed controlled crossing

CLEGG: in touch with Britain

Your local councillors **Paul Webbewood** and **Brian Woodcraft** have welcomed the election of **Nick Clegg MP** as the new Leader of the Liberal Democrats.

Brian comments, "Nick Clegg is going to be a great leader. Labour and the Conservatives share so many policies. The time has come for a politician who will speak up for real people and local communities - like ours in Greenwich - and offer real change."

"The Labour Government is no longer trusted to protect vital services like our NHS, or to take the real action needed to cut crime - and the Tories don't stand for anything anymore."

"Nick is in touch with modern Britain. The Lib Dems will be putting people first and fighting to protect vital local services."

Nick's Top 3 Priorities

- ✓ Nick will support families so everyone gets a fair deal in life
- ✓ Nick will take real action to tackle crime
- ✓ Nick will fight to protect our NHS

DID YOU KNOW?

Labour-run Greenwich Council spent nearly £3.2 million in the last financial year on publicity - more than Bexley, Bromley and Croydon councils combined!

At the same time the Council is proposing cuts to the grants made to many local community organisations.



Lib Dem Leader Nick Clegg is in touch with Britain. He will be leading the fight to protect vital services across the country.

Brian Paddick FOR OUR NEW MAYOR

For the latest news about Brian Paddick's campaign, please visit Brian's website:



www.brianpaddick.org

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 will vote for the Lib Dems on election day
- I will display a poster
- I will deliver leaflets in my road

Return this slip to: **MPS FOCUS, Greenwich Borough Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST RRLH-HACR-EZLG, London SE9 3XD**