

FOCUS on Maybury & Sheerwater from your Lib Dem team

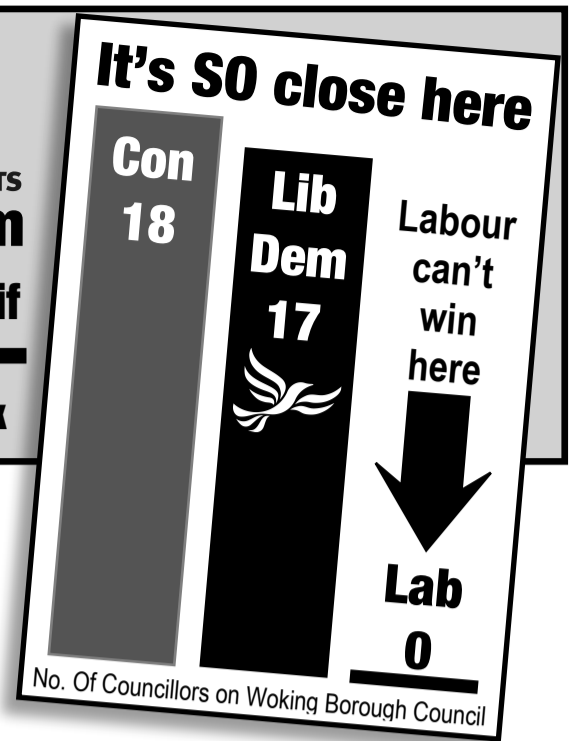


Councillors Mohammed Bashir, Mohammed Amin and Local Campaigner Ajmal Latif

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TORY WAR ON MOTORIST CONTINUES

Local Tories ignore guidance from the coalition government and keep the war on motorists going.

Despite a Liberal Democrat led rejection at Woking Council of on-street parking charges increasing 40% to £1.40 per hour, the Tory led County Council has approved the increase.

Then to add insult to injury the County Council are now looking to axe free on-street parking in a number of villages across Surrey to raise another £2.5 million a year. All of this in addition to the widely opposed increase for CPZ parking permits (up to 7.5 times the current cost) and the loss of 30 minute parking in the Town Centre.

Leader of the Liberal Democrats on Woking Council, Councillor **Richard Sharp** said "Local Conservatives just seem to ignore the needs of

residents, caring only about raising revenue. We called for more Parent & Child spaces in the town centre and they rejected it.

"Supermarkets provide lots of Parent & Child spaces as it encourages more shoppers, something we surely need in the Town Centre. The Conservatives were more worried about losing revenue, (as Parent and Child takes up more space than a normal bay), than helping residents and our town centre."

"We are told that there is plenty of space in the car parks, (so no need to worry if Brewery Road is closed while WWF is built), but we now regularly see a dangerous queue from Lockfield Drive along Victoria Way on a Saturday. The new car park layout and barriers slows traffic and this can only put residents off shopping in Woking. When will the Conservatives take action?"



• Local campaigner **Ajmal Latif** is concerned about the impact of the Tories' increased parking charges.

More money for Woking schools



• Lib Dem campaigner **Ajmal Latif** welcomes the Lib Dems' extra support for poorer pupils in Woking schools.

Lib Dems in Government have secured a new £2.5 billion package to give every child a fairer start in life.

It comes in the form of a 'pupil premium', putting an extra £430 into the school budget for every child getting free school meals. This is on top of the Direct Schools Grant and schools are free to decide how to use it.

Local campaigner **Ajmal Latif** said, "The Labour government put money into deprived areas but failed children from less well off families living alongside richer people in Surrey.

The new money changes this for Woking schools and makes things better for everyone in the classroom.

The Lib Dems have also announced extra funding for childcare and extra support to help less well off students go to university.

Youth services - reformed or harmed?



• Local campaigner **Ajmal Latif** at Alpha Playing Fields. Ajmal is concerned by the Conservative County Council's plans for youth services.

How can you cut the budget for Youth Services from £16 million to £11 million over four years and still hope to give an adequate service?

This is what the County Council is trying to do in a series of reforms that will concentrate its Youth Work on the 1 in 10 young people who have been identified as needing targeted help. The project will also involve relying far more heavily on services bought from voluntary-sector organisations.

Details aren't yet clear, and the changes are spread widely through Surrey's services for young people,

including the hard-hit Connexions service, Youth Justice, and Surrey's Outdoor Learning Centres.

'Surrey's been fairly ineffective when it comes to giving young people "things to do and places to go" in Maybury and Sheerwater, said local campaigner **Ajmal Latif**.

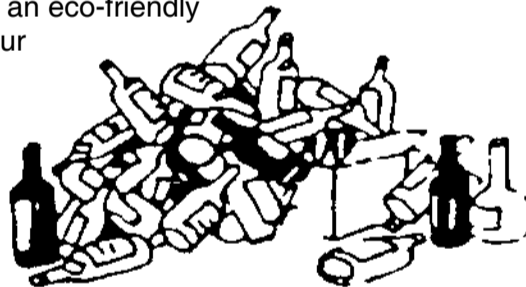
"I'm not against a shake-up. But if they can take away nearly a third of the money and potentially produce a better deal for young people, doesn't that show how badly the Tories have run things in the past?"

Martyr's Lane site open at last

After a year long wait for land negotiations and a closure of five months, the Surrey County Council recycling site at Martyr's Lane finally reopened on 18 December and local residents are now spared the long drive to Guildford or Lyne.

A new split-level design enables easy access by car to the containers eliminating the need for steps. Electrical and used car items, wood, glass, hazardous waste, metals, paper, plastics, textiles and clothing can all be recycled.

Separate entrances for the public and heavy goods vehicles help alleviate queuing. In line with Lib Dem policies, your local campaigners welcome this positive step of an eco-friendly facility in our area and encourage residents to use it as much as possible.



Ajmal calls for more transparency



• Lib Dem campaigner **Ajmal Latif** (2nd right) and local residents call for more local transparency of decision-making.

Local Lib Dem campaigner **Ajmal Latif** is calling for more transparency and openness on Woking Council.

Ajmal believes transparency is key to any council that truly wants to work for local people.

"It's about openness of communication. i.e. talking to people on the doorstep, social media websites and writing to people. But the biggest part of transparency is that you have to know your council and councillors are listening to you in the first place or it doesn't work!

"I want to work with local people to increase transparency and openness on the Council. I want the council to open up more channels of communication and give you more opportunities to put your views forward. Whether that's having events in the village centre or street events, it's all about giving you the chance to have your say.

"I am planning a 'Have your say' event in the area in the very near future. It's all about giving you a voice. Do come along and let us know about any local issues affecting you."

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I could deliver *Focus* leaflets in my area

I could display a poster at election time

I can make a donation of...

£50 £25 £10 Other £___

Please make cheques payable to the 'Liberal Democrats'.



Please let us know if there's anything we can do to help. . .

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