

Your new Lib Dem Councillors report back

Now the elections are over, our work as your new councillors is already in full swing.

Making Spelthorne a Better Place

We have looked at the preliminary results of a recent survey by Spelthorne Council which was sent to 3000 randomly selected homes. Residents' three top priorities for making Spelthorne a better place were 1) dealing with traffic congestion, 2) improving the state of the roads, and 3) increasing facilities for young people. These findings agree our own surveys and will inform our review of council plans.

Cllrs Caroline Nichols, Lawrence Nichols and Elizabeth Bell are already scrutinising the past year's finances, fulfilling one of our election promises.

Waste collection and recycling

The topic of the moment is the Borough's proposed change to rubbish collection, due this autumn. Alternate weekly collection of recyclables and residual waste was mentioned by many of you during the election campaign, with particular concern about food waste. We want to ensure that revised collection plans are right for this area and can be introduced with the minimum of disruption. We will be happy to take questions on this at the Lower Sunbury Residents Association (LOSRA) Annual General Meeting on 27th June where Spelthorne's Environment Officer Sandy Muirhead will be the guest speaker on this topic.

At the same time, Surrey County Council's Waste Plan is being finalised. This plan will dictate which sites around Surrey can be developed for incinerators and/or household, building and green waste recycling facilities. Surrey's plan is now going through the final review stage by a

Government-appointed Inspector. Charlton is still very much in the frame for an incinerator; Cllr Caroline Nichols has spoken at the review against its inclusion on traffic congestion grounds. The Surrey Waste Plan can be seen on Surrey County Council's website.

Affordable Housing

Provision of affordable and high-needs housing are priorities for the Council and we are reviewing the latest Housing Needs Survey for Spelthorne.

Councillors Sandra Dunn and Caroline Nichols recently attended the official opening of Beechwood Court, built by A2 housing. This is the first of five extra-care housing schemes planned for the Borough.

Planning and LDF

Lib Dem Councillors Tony Crabb and Lawrence Nichols have been appointed to the Planning Committee for the year 2007/08.

Spelthorne Council is due to publish its Local Development Framework (LDF). This replaces the Spelthorne Borough Plan and will influence the type and quantity of homes and commercial development built here for the next twenty years. Our colleague Cllr Ian Beardsmore has been seeking extra controls to safeguard areas of high air and noise pollution from over-development but has been overruled by the Conservatives.

Local Lib Dems believe the LDF needs strengthening to protect our environment. A six week statutory consultation period will kick in when Spelthorne BC submits its final plan for review by a Government Inspector and this will be your final opportunity to comment. Details on how to do this will be available on our website and via our FREEPOST address.

Have YOUR Say - Tell Us What Concerns YOU

Your Liberal Democrat Councillors would like to know if there are local issues that concern you. Can we help solve a local problem? Would you like to know more about Spelthorne Lib Dems? Write to Spelthorne Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST SEA14146, Shepperton TW17 9BR. (No stamp required) or email us at: info@spelthornelibdems.org.uk

Name:.....
Address:.....
Phone:..... Email:.....

- I can help to deliver FOCUS
- I'd like to join the Lib Dems
- I would like to help the Lib Dems somehow, please could someone phone me to discuss it.

Lower Sunbury & Halliford

FOCUS

June 2007



www.spelthornelibdems.org.uk

Thank You for electing us

The Local Elections on May 3rd saw the Liberal Democrats gain five seats in Lower Sunbury and Halliford.

Turnout in the Sunbury East ward soared to 48.5% with the voters ousting the Leader of the Council and his Deputy. New Councillors Elizabeth Bell, Caroline Nichols and Tony Crabb received the highest number of votes anywhere in the Borough.

In Halliford and Sunbury West ward Lib Dems secured two out of the three seats in a very close result. Sandra Dunn topped the poll with Lawrence Nichols close behind.

Cllr Caroline Nichols said: "Thank you for electing us. We are delighted to know we have so much support within the community.

Regardless of whether you voted, or for whom, we remain committed to our election priority that we will be highly accessible, visible and hardworking Councillors for everybody."



Your new Councillors for Lower Sunbury & Halliford wards are (back row) Lawrence Nichols, Tony Crabb (front row) Elizabeth Bell, Caroline Nichols, Sandra Dunn

Cllr Sandra Dunn said: "As your new Councillors we will be holding regular advice surgeries where you can meet us and raise local issues. There is no need to book, just come along."

Come and meet us

Your Liberal Democrat Councillors will be holding advice surgeries at St. Mary's Parish Hall, Green Street on the following dates:

Sat 14th July 10am to Noon

Sat 8th September 10am to Noon

Liberal Democrats working all year round