

**FOCUS**

**Church End**

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# Change is in the air - but it should be for the better !



**Richard & Nicola on the A406 bridge**

In a Focus 4 years ago we used a photo from this spot to show the towering ugly concrete towers of the old Halls of Residence.

This area has been zoned for housing for many years. Legally there was no way of stopping some housing redevelopment there. As the developer buying the site from QMC knew well.

## **Planning law is loaded in favour of developers not neighbours.**

This is true for the person selling off part of their garden & the big developer.

Over the years we have made ourselves unpopular with some local developers. The ones who just want to build more and more regardless

Three developers have recently asked Cllr Richard Hoskins why we refuse to just nod their applications through. Two of the calls were professional and polite, the third was a threat. We don't give in to threats.

Developers sell up and move on. The community that remains has to cope with increased pressures on schools, transport, medical services etc.

**We will continue to say 'No' to plans when the law allows it , and when we don't think they are in the best interest of the community.**

## **Wells Garage site decision deferred**

Cllr Maureen Hoskins is a member of the Council's Regulatory (Planning) Committee. This is the 17 Councillor committee which will decide on the latest flats/shops/offices plan for the site.

Maureen called for a site visit by all the committee members, so that they could see the local impact of the application themselves.

This means the application will now be decided at the next meeting of the Regulatory Committee on April 26th

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# 150th Edition

**“ We don't just turn up before an election!”**



## Watch out there is a warden about !

Disabled blue badge holders do not have exemption to park in residents parking bays.

This was news to a friend who had innocently, and very carefully, parked up in our South Woodford Residents parking area.

The regulations say badge holders must either get a visitors parking permit or they can park on a yellow line for up to three hours.

Cllr Cleaver has been trying to persuade the Council not to issue tickets to genuinely disabled people who technically breach the rules like this.

## New Neighbourhood Watches springing up locally !

Another result of having our own local police team is the starting up of a series of Neighbourhood Watches.

Starting in the Triangle they will gradually be spread across the whole ward.

The first watch up and running covers Derby and Chelmsford Roads. The Coordinator is Frank Cruder of 54 Chelmsford Rd. Contact 8506 0103, email frankcruder@tiscali.co.uk

**Thank you to Frank, and all the others who get involved in this valuable project**

## And darkness fell - eventually !

Unless we have missed one, it looks as though the new street lights in the southern part of the ward have at last been sorted out.

You may remember those odd lights around the area annoyingly staying on 24 hours a day.

Council officers insisted that the manufacturers sorted things out before they got paid. In the meantime we didn't have to pay for the wasted electricity.

It was a waste of time for all of us who kept reporting the faults. But we hope lessons have been learned so the the next streets to get new street lights don't have the same problems .

## Kenneth More Theatre - will it, won't it go ?

The Tory Council wants to redevelop Ilford Town Centre. But it hasn't got enough empty land available. So now the Council wants to knock down the KMT and use that site.

They want to move the KMT into the main hall of the Town Hall. Estimated cost of that is £12 million. With no guarantee that it will be as good as the existing theatre. Or that it will be open before the present theatre is knocked down.

Mind you the Tory Council doesn't have the needed £12m anyway. Just like the £35m they plan to spend on their grandiose swimming pool complex in Seven Kings.

**Meanwhile Church End gets yet more flats and Churchfields Schools wait for vital rebuilding money until 2007 !**



**Still ring 999 for Emergencies. You can contact our team on : 0208 345 3628**

## Good turnout for police consultative meeting

There was a full hall last month, in Churchfields Junior School, for the residents' consultation meeting with our dedicated Church End Police team.

It was explained that the 6 strong team we have in our ward work towards a crime reduction agenda set by local people.

Following initial meeting last year the police team has targeted graffiti, problems at the

empty Derby Rd car-park, meeting young people, parking along the High road and Woodford New Rd.

The Church End team is led by Sgt George Roughly, who lives in the ward. In addition there are 2 constables and 3 Community Liaison Officers.

**So, after many years campaigning, we have our team of bobbies back on the local beat**

# The FOCUS Team works all year round

## Why Liberal Democrat on May 4th ?

Our first principle is to serve the residents of the ward who elect us.

We put the environment at the heart of everything we do. Fighting for better public services even where the Council does not control them.

Opening up the Council by encouraging greater participation from residents and working to promote partnerships with others. Continued support for schools ensuring Redbridge keeps its position as one of the best performing Local Education Authorities in Britain.

We will demand nothing but the best from our contractors, cleaner streets with graffiti and abandoned objects cleared away amongst our highest priority.

Protecting and enhancing our environment will guide all our policies and thinking and every council contractor and officer will be expected to put environmental considerations first.

The sustainability of every decision we make, both regarding our built and natural environment, will always be considered.

The Liberal Democrats ask for your support so that we can work with you to reverse our declining borough and make it a place of which we can all be proud

## Improving the outlook in Cleveland Road

*The Council's Leigh Court has been in need of refurbishment for some time.*

*Now after we contacted the Housing Department the whole place is getting refurbished.*

## Decision on the Napier hours ?

The decision on the Napier Arms will be taken at a Licensing Committee on April 10th

The result will be in the next edition

Local residents disturbed by customers of this pub are opposing an extension to the opening hours

Cllr Richard Hoskins will speak up for residents at the hearing.

## Hogs Head extra hours decision delayed !

The planning application to extend the hours the Hogs Head can remain open will not be dealt with until the end of April.

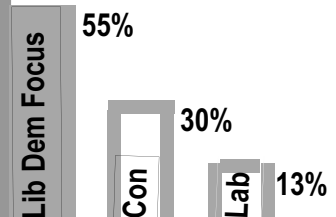
This is due to an administrative error in the Town Hall.

We have contacted residents in the immediate area to let them know.

Cllr Hugh Cleaver and Nicola Sinclair have also collected signatures on a petition calling on the planning committee to stick to its guns and keep the present hours in force

**It's the Lib  
Dems who get  
things done  
locally !**

**The result here last time**



**On Thursday May 4th ELECT**

**Hugh CLEAVER**

**Richard HOSKINS**

**Nicola SINCLAIR**



## Safer for all our children

'Walking buses' are a good way to get children safely to and from school. A number already operate for Churchfields schools.

Following a recent meeting we had with the police, parking wardens and St Aubyns the idea may be extended locally.

The police are fearful there will be an accident as a result of the St Aubyns parents parking along Woodford New Rd and in Bunces Lane.

They are therefore going to enforce parking restrictions in those areas. This will mean the parents will have to make other arrangements

At the same time the council will be asked to allow parents of Churchfields and St Aubyns to use the empty Derby Road car park as an assembly point. for walking buses to both schools.

Bunces Lane will also have a safer footpath and parking limited to one side

## A Greener cleaner borough

Recycling in Redbridge must be increased. We can neither fund nor find more holes to bury waste in the ground . Waste reduction saves money.

Promoting 20 mph speed limits in residential areas, and around all schools reduces CO2 and is safer.

Supporting local shopping centres, making them more attractive and secure as we did with the Alert security system in George Lane, makes social sense.

Better street sweeping and speedy graffiti cleaning improves the feel of our area.

Protecting our allotments, from being sold off by the Tory administration to pay for white elephant schemes in Ilford., safeguards present and future communities

Developing the Roding Valley and Ray Lodge Parks will benefit young and old alike. It will help develop a whole new green agenda

**Future generations will thank or blame us for the inheritance we pass on to them. Let us not fail.**

# FOCUS - like an old friend dropping in regularly

## Can we help ?

Please let us know your ideas to improve our area



Dear Focus Team

I/we think . . . .

I/we would like a lift to vote on May 4th

I/we can help deliver some Focus newsletters

I/we would like to join the Liberal Democrats

Your Name/s ..... Address.....

..... Tel/Email .....

The Lib Dems may contact you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish the information above to be used for this purpose.