

FOCUS

Your Local Newsletter



Working for you all year round

Adisham, Barham, Kingston, Womenswold, Woolage Green & Woolage Village

Who is listening?

Local residents deserve decent services. Liberal Democrats on Canterbury City Council wanted to keep as many of these services as possible, particularly those that people who responded to the council's budget consultation said they wanted to keep. We don't understand why the Conservatives are cutting things residents voted to save, and kept things they said could be cut. What was the point of consulting people and them ignoring them? The Conservatives voted against residents top two choices and just did what they wanted anyway.



Lib Dems proposed that ALL councillors take a cut in their allowances to save the services that are important to local people. But the Conservative councillors said no. They votes to hand on to their allowances (they paid themselves over a quarter of a million last year alone) and cut things like funding for voluntary organisations, money to provide public toilets, recycling sacks and the Out of Hours Nuisance Service.

The proposals that we put forward would not have cost council tax payers a penny more. They would keep Council Tax at current levels and most importantly they would reflect the views of local people. We also proposed scrapping the £40,000 that they are paying towards the Open Golf in Sandwich. **They wouldn't listen!**

Budget Consultation Ignored!

When local residents were asked how the Council should save money and earn extra money the overwhelming favourite options were:

- Introduce an extra Market day in Canterbury which would bring in an extra £40,000 a year
- Reduce the annual budget for the Lord Mayor and Lord Mayor's Office by 10%. This would save £19,000

Why did they bother to ask?

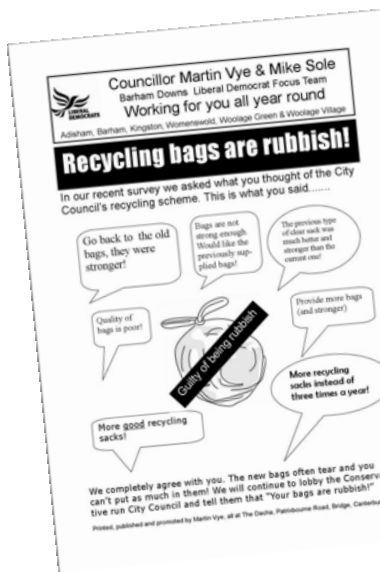
Conservative Councillors ignored the views of the people they are supposed to be representing and instead chose to cut the services that most wanted to see retained.

Forests Saved!



In last month's Focus, **Mike Sole** was campaigning to save our local woodlands from the Government sell-off to private ownership. **Good News!** The sell-off has now been cancelled.

Lib Dems force Recycling U-turn!



We first raised the issue in March 2010 and again in September 2010 following our residents survey

After months of pressure from residents and the Liberal Democrats the Conservatives running Canterbury City Council have bowed to pressure and agreed to increase the number of clear recycling sacks provided to households.

Mike Sole said, "Ever since the new recycling bags were introduced people have told us that they are not up to the job and that not enough are provided. In an amazing u-turn, just weeks before the city council elections the Conservatives have now found the money to provide more clear sacks."

Under the new scheme larger households that can show they are excellent recyclers could, following an assessment, receive a third roll per delivery.

This system gives a basic allocation of 51 sacks a year. People who register for a second roll get 102 sacks a year. Larger households that qualify for the third roll get 153 sacks a year.

You can register for extra rolls online at www.canterbury.gov.uk or by telephoning 01227 862138.

Whilst the increased bags are welcome local Liberal Democrats are still fighting for local facilities where residents can pick up additional sacks.

Got a problem locally? Tell us!

Name:
 Address:
 Postcode:
 Phone:
 Email:

I would like to receive regular email news from Canterbury Lib Dems
 (please add email address)

Could you help us?

I can help deliver a few FOCUSleaflets

I will display a poster at election time

I will vote for the Liberal Democrats at the next election

I would like to know more about joining the Liberal Democrats

Please return to:
 Canterbury Lib Dems,
 FREEPOST RRLJ-CX SC-CLRC,
 Canterbury CT1 2QU

My view: