Blagreaves and Sunnyhill
# Focus
Autumn 2026
No. 199
From your local **Liberal Democrat** team

# "Cars speed down my street!"

This is one of the most common complaints from local residents, aware of the danger to their children, pets and property.



**Joe Naitta & Rameez Khan** on **Coleridge St** where there have been multiple crashes.

People often feel that it is 'their' street which has the problem, but sadly this is not the case. Just a few drivers speed down lots of roads. They disturb many people with their noise and leave behind anger and frustration. It is not just the main roads like **Blagreaves Lane**, **Stenson Road**, **Coleridge Street**, **Littleover Lane**, **Warwick Avenue**, and **Goodsmoor Road.** Even dead-end roads are not safe.

Campaigner **Joe Naitta** said "It is usually young men at the wheel, and often vehicles are borrowed or rented. All areas of Derby are suffering. This is not just a Derby issue. National law changes could help. We have asked the police to continue to have this as a local priority here."

Working together to identify vehicles and drivers can help the police get to the culprits sooner - saving lives and damage. Do report particular vehicles to the Police or Crimestoppers.

## Sinfin incinerator

Derby and Derbyshire councils have decided to scrap the Sinfin waste project at a cost of around £147 million. The plant never worked properly, and has been moth-balled for years.

**Derby Liberal Democrats** want the new use for the site to be an asset for local people, not a constant problem. What would you like here?

## Inside:


- **More housing**
- **Planning to be decided behind closed doors**
- **Council changes?**
- **Market Hall**


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# A change to Planning rules that no one is talking about...

Most people have never been to a Planning Committee meeting - and probably never will. More houses are being infilled and built on the few fields and grassland around the City.

What if decisions the community cared passionately about had to be made behind closed doors? This is what the Government wants - and will happen from 31st October this year, unless they are made to change their mind.

Sign the petition at
www.derbylibdems.org.uk/planningrulechange

Read more at tinyurl.com/G-Planning26




www.tinyurl.com/BBC-EDV26
Simple 'X' voting doesn't work well with lots of candidates. Voters deserve a better way.

# Local Council Changes - or not!

The Labour Government is flip flopping on its reorganisation of local government. In mid-July it confirmed that Derbyshire will become just two councils - one in the north, one in the south. In September this was 'paused'.

The current plan is now for next year's elections to be for the existing Councils - in this area for Derby City Council.

Labour still want major changes, but accept that many of their proposals were unpopular and potentially unworkable. The BBC says the aborted plans cost 'millions'.

**Joe Naitta** said "People need to see decisions being made at a local level, not in some far off office.

"Councils need to be set up to work for the local area, not designed for the convenience of central government, whether run from London or Manchester!"

## CAN YOU HELP US WIN A FAIR DEAL FOR BLAGREAVES?

- ☐ I would like to join the party please send me details.
- ☐ I would like to become a supporter of the Lib Dems, for free!
- ☐ I am happy to help deliver Focus leaflets.
- ☐ I can do something else... (tell us what here)

**Name:** .....

**Address:** .....

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The Liberal Democrats will use your contact details to send you information on the topics you have requested. Any data we gather will be used in accordance with our privacy policy at libdems.org.uk/privacy. To exercise your legal data rights, email: data.protection@libdems.org.uk.

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# Yet more housing!

Last year South Derbyshire District Council approved 600 houses off **Primula Way**. There should be further changes to the lights at **Blagreaves Lane** and **Goodsmoor Road**.

Now the South Derbyshire Council is suggesting about 70 more houses on the open space on the other side of the railway from **Nicola Gardens**.



**Joe Naitta** and **Leigh Alcock** by the field on **Moorway Lane** where a developer wants to build.

Meanwhile the City Council has given outline approval for 350 homes on the green space off **Moorway Lane**. Most details are still to be approved as 'reserve matters'.

**Joe Naitta** said "The Government is forcing more and more houses onto Derby without requiring services like shops, GPs, schools, jobs, open space and more.

"If you'd like the **Lib Dems** to email you when the **Moorway Lane** reserve matters come in, you can sign up at derbylibdems.org.uk/news/article/moorway-lane-plan"

# Market Hall

The expensively restored market hall does not feel like it used to. Maybe the vibe is different because Labour have the Council's 'Derby Live' team in 'Culture and Leisure' looking after it.

The Labour-run Council has virtually admitted that it doesn't know what it is doing here. It is now looking to get consultants in to help make it a success.

Local campaigner **Joe Naitta** said "We hope that this makes a difference as everyone wants the iconic Market Hall to be a success. It is a pity that Labour didn't realise they couldn't manage this alone sooner."

# COMMUNITY CORNER:

**KGV Community Centre** has been refurbished and is reopening for community use. There are halls, meeting rooms and sports changing rooms available. It is now being run by NTC Derby on a long lease from the Council. For more information or to book see www.kgvderby.org.uk

Let **Joe Naitta** know if you have an item you'd like considering for this section. Phone Joe on 07581 531640

# Also...

## Local Plan

The final consultation stage has closed for Derby's Local Plan. See: https://www.derby.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/local-plan/emerging/#page-1 The Local Plan says what land should be used for and guides how things should be built over the next few years. The council intends to file this with the government this year. It is shows the intended use of land in different parts of the city.

## Stenson Road Wall

The old wall at the top of **Stenson Road** near **Village Street** is owned by the Council as part of Derby Homes. Local **Liberal Democrats** have asked when it will be repaired so the fencing can be removed.

## Emma's Emporium reopens

This charity shop has moved from **Browning Circle** to Littleover village. It is near the chemist's. Emma's Emporium is a Community Interest Company helping to keep items moving on to those who need them. They have very limited storage, so prices are good. If you have space nearby that could help them (dry garage, etc.) do offer it.

## Voting Register

The Council is renewing of the electoral register for next year. Do reply to their email or letter to make sure you can vote. If you used to have a postal vote, that application may need renewing too.

**Focus is delivered by volunteers.**
**Could you help deliver Focus to your street?**

**Call or WhatsApp Joe on 07581 531 640**

# Now is the time to trim back hedges

By September most birds have stopped nesting. It is therefore a good time to cut back hedges. This is particularly true if they are a bit overgrown and need a hard cut back. There is still enough time for most to grow new leaves so that they aren't bare all winter.

Please cut back to the back of the highway. This may be the pavement, back of the verge or edge of a path, to give space for pedestrians and people in wheelchairs, walking two abreast or passing others.



**Joe Naitta** showing a well cut hedge away from the street furniture

## Respect road verges

Please don't park or drive on the grass verges. Look after them to keep our area looking good, particular as wet weather comes.

# Also...

## Thank you

Many thanks to everyone who gave books or other items for the recent **Book Sale** - and to all those who came to buy. The next sale will be on Saturday **7th November** at the Baptist Community Hall, Thornhill Road in Littleover from 10am to 4pm. It will include DVDs, CDs, jigsaws, family games and Christmas items. Phone 721291 to donate things.

## Hedgehogs

You may have been lucky enough to have seen a hedgehog this year. Be careful when clearing up in the garden as they like to hide in leaves and piles of stick. Help them by making holes in the bottom of fences so they can easily travel between gardens. Holes should be at ground level and at least 13cm high and wide.

## YOUR FOCUS TEAM:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
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| Ian Care | 01332 721291 | |

Come and join the team and help us grow

Or contact us by post at: 33 Nicola Gardens DE23 1NQ or 8 Kings Drive, Littleover, DE23 6EU or 49 Fenton Road DE3 0EP

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