Littleover and Heatherton

July 2023

Issue 163

From your local Liberal Democrat team

Could you help someone save a life?

Most people know that if someone has a heart attack every



Church.

second matters. How quickly someone can get a 'defibulator' or defib - to start their heart pumping again really matters.

Defibs are becoming more common. For example, both the Littleover and Heatherton Co-op shops have one. There are websites showing where to find them, though 999 will give you more up-to-date info. Could you help add one more to our area?

A small team of people is exploring putting one near Church St/Shepherd Street.

Could you be part of the group to help make this happen? This total of 12 years ending in 2021. includes doing some fundraising and checking each month that the defib is in good repair and ready for use.

Eric Ashburner

Previous Littleover councillor, Eric Ashburner, sadly died on Friday 14th July.

Eric was a sociable person, interested in people as individuals and always seeking to improve



things. At work he'd been an active trade unionist.

Eric was generous, giving his time and energy to the community in many different ways. He was a councillor in Littleover ward for a

Eric had spent his last few months in residential care after getting MS.

Please get in touch with one of the Focus team (see back page.)



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The cost of Labour's wild promises...

For the election in May, Labour had a list of things they said they'd do. One of these was to 'save' Ashgate Nursery School where pupil numbers are falling. Nearby Central Nursery is also struggling.

What has this to do with Littleover?

The money to pay for nursery education is ringfenced. It is handed out across the city according to the type of school and number of nursery pupils. Schools like Griffe Field and Carlisle have nursery classes funded from the same pot of money.

Ashgate has been spending more money than they have been given for the last four years. The Council has already been helping them with extra advice. Really there just aren't enough children.

These two schools, Ashgate and Central, together owe more than £400,000. This is 'borrowed' from the money for educating <u>all</u> Derby's children. It's more than £100 for every nursery child in the city.

Labour have no specific idea what to do differently, but have just said they won't close Ashgate.

Cllr **Lucy Care** said "Nursery education is important. It also needs to be funded properly. Pouring more money into half empty schools takes money from the education of every nursery pupil in the city."

Your Name

Phone Number

Address

Email Address



NHS: the diabetes service

The NHS has just turned 75. The NHS is a vital body, but it needs vast improvements.

Recently, **Lib Dem** MP **Helen Morgan** highlighted the shocking A&E waiting times that patients are experiencing. In a speech to parliament, **Helen** also called for a debate on the current state of diabetes care, highlighting the reported 7,000 diabetes-related excess deaths in 2022. Former Littleover councillor, **Eric Ashburner**, who has sadly recently died had suffered from Type 1 diabetes.

A real mix-up!



Cllr Lucy Care has pointed out to the Council that the new, smart, cycle direction sign on Haven Baulk Lane is wrong. Mickleover is much nearer here than Mackworth!

Tell us what you think...

Your local **Focus Team** wants to know what you think needs doing in your area. Let them know by returning this slip to the address below.

- I can help with Focus delivery near where I live (about half an hour a month).
- I enclose a donation to help pay for Focus (Cheques to Derby Lib Dems)
- □ I would like to join the Lib Dems or go to <u>www.libdems.org.uk/</u> join-local
- Please send me more details about advertising in Focus and 2024 calendar.

Can we keep you updated about our activities including campaigns, events, fundraising and details about how to get involved? Yes please No thanks

Return this slip free to any member of the Focus Team (details on back) or to Freepost Derby Liberal Democrats (Littleover).

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 we gather will be used in accordance with our privacy policy at libdems.org.uk/privacy.. To exercise your legal data rights, email: data we gather will be used in accordance with our privacy policy at libdems.org.uk

Bridge to Bunkers Hill

Sadly the barriers on the bridge from the footpath by the

'bats' estate at the end of **Pritchett Drive** has been damaged. This has been reported to both the company who built the estate and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust who are due to take over management of the area.



Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

has also been told that there is the invasive plant Himalayan balsam' growing by the brook there.

Make space to pass...

At this time of year many plants are growing fast. It you have hedges or trees next to a path, please check that they are not blocking the way.



There may still be birds nesting and nests must not be disturbed. So look

carefully and just cut back the twigs or branches that are needed to let people pass safely.

A hard pruning, so that a hedge is not blocking any of the path or pavement, can wait till

September. Then the birds will have finished nesting, but plants will still grow back a little before winter.



Cllr Lucy Care by some over-bushy ivy, forcing people onto the road.

COMMUNITY CORNER:

The **Derby Food for Thought Alliance** has launched a school uniform drop, swap and pick up. Donate good quality, used or new school uniform items in the box outside Sainsbury's in Derbion. If you or someone else needs uniform contact 346266 or info@df4ta.onmicrosoft.com See www.derbyfood4thoughtalliance.org.uk

Let **Emily Lonsdale** know if you have an item you'd like considering for this section. Phone 07487 755385.

Also...

Sedgemore Way bin - again

Local councillors have again asked the Council's Environmental Health section to ask Miller Homes to empty the litter bin in the children's play area. This needs to be done regularly, particularly at this time of year. Councillors have suggested that Miller Homes should pay the Council to do this as they seem unable to do it themselves.

Road works

So many road works are needed in the Littleover area, that some are being delayed to the autumn. Councillors are currently aware of: 1. **Kingsway.** The non-working traffic lights are to be replaced by crossing lights for people walking and cycling. This work is starts on 24th July and will take 15 weeks. 2. **Pastures Hill.** Drains along here

are being improved a bit each year. This year's section is between the two ends of **Swanmore Road** to be done over the summer.

3. **Burton Road(1).** National Grid are putting a new cable along Burton Road to strengthen the electricity network for four weeks over the school holidays.

4. **Burton Road(2).** City Fibre have already started on the south pavement from Hillsway. They are working through to about Shepherd Street.

5. Shepherd Street. Is due to be closed for a few hours on 31 July/1 August for work on telegraph poles.
6. Old Hall Road. The Council will be putting micro-asphalt on here in late August, as South Avenue had done last year.

7. In October... the Council is due to be resurfacing and renewing the Ring Road/Burton Road junction.
8. Chain Lane / Corden Avenue pavements are waiting to be resurfaced after City Fibre have put their ducting in. This won't be till October or later.

Heatherton Shops



Cllr Lucy Care (right) with other people who met to talk about how to encourage more shops and businesses in Heatherton. Do get in touch if you'd like to join the group.

Thank you to everyone who came to the meeting earlier this month to talk about how to expand the area of shops and businesses for Heatherton. There was useful discussion.

House builders prefer building houses rather than shops or business units. It is therefore not certain that more shops will be built. To help make the case for more shops or small businesses, please fill out the



survey at www.derbylibdems.org.uk/HPbusiness to share your thoughts, or say if you'd like to start a business there. Thanks.

YOUR FOCUS TEAM:

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Also...

Another massive swing

The Lib Dems now have four extra MPs from by-elections since the last General Election. If you were pleased to see the latest win in Somerton and Frome, with a 29% swing from the Conservatives, do help the Lib Dems do even more! Go to www.libdems.org.uk/help

Neighbourhood Forum (note updated venue)

Thanks to everyone who came to the Forum earlier this month. The police are developing plans to help combat speeding cars. Next Forum will be at Heatherton House Care Home on Rykneld Road (next to Aldi) on 14th September from 7pm. All are welcome.

Scam Alert

As people struggle to renew mortgages, fraudsters are getting active in this area. Please be careful not to fall foul of offers that seem to good to be true. Report any thing that you think is wrong to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or email report@phishing.gov.uk