



From your local **Liberal Democrat** team

Even more housing being planned

Thousands of new homes may be built between Burnaston and the edge of Derby. This area has been identified in South Derbyshire's 'Local Plan' as suitable for housing.



Cllrs **Lucy Care** and **Ajit Atwal** at Staker Lane. The fields beyond are being allocated for housing by South Derbyshire Council.

The main company keen to build here has set up a website and is going to ask people for comments on their proposals. The date/place for public meetings have not yet been announced. Sign up to here more at www.mickleoversouth.co.uk



Cllr **Lucy Care** said "As this is outside the city, local councillors have no say in what happens. But we know that more homes will mean more traffic. I have already said to the developers that building a new road to relieve Staker Lane and **Haven Baulk Lane** into **The Hollow** is important.

"There need to be more employment in this area, walking/cycling routes and a road layout that is good for buses. These will give people more choice about how to travel. Do give your views too."

Book Sale Saturday 21st February

10am to 4pm at Baptist
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Inside is news on:

- Parklet success
- Councils changes
- Callow Hill Way bus stop
- Heatherton Pond
- KGV Pavilion

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M J Whatling, DC, MSc

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CHIROPRACTIC
... so often the answer

LGR - look out for consultation

The Government is consulting on creating large unitary councils for Derbyshire. The consultation mainly targets organisations (including existing councils), but the public can also respond at www.tinyurl.com/LGR-DD26.



A key **Liberal Democrat** concern is the sharp cut in councillor numbers. The new structure could mean at most 100 councillors — possibly fewer — for each of one or two authorities, around half the current representation.

Fewer councillors would mean heavier workloads, from residents' queries to complex council business. The **Lib Dems** believe the role should remain possible for people alongside jobs, caring responsibilities, or other activities.

Some neighbouring councils are looking to create Parish and Town Councils where none exist. These bodies can support neighbourhood-level services that might otherwise be overlooked in a large unitary authority.

Derby has no parish councils, so it could lose out compared with other areas. Although parish councillors are unpaid, they provide an important local voice, share workloads, and can be a stepping stone into wider local government.

When responding to the consultation, please consider these points and help keep Derbyshire's local democracy strong and accessible.



Going for a drink and having a meal will get Business Rate relief. But going for a meal and having a drink does not! Bizarre Government logic.

Lib Dems have been campaigning for support for hospitality for years. They are pleased that the Government has listened, a bit. The government now needs to address the rest of the issue.

Beware! Promises broken by Reform in Derbyshire...

Less than a year ago Reform were elected to run Derbyshire County Council on a promise to cut Council Tax.

Now six of their councillors have left Reform. The Council leader (who is also a councillor on

Derby City Council) has admitted that the Council Tax has to go up as they can't cut staff and still provide all the required services.

Similar stories are coming from other Reform-led councils across the country.

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.

Your Name _____

Postcode, House number _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

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 to 8 Kings Drive, Littleover, Derby, DE23 6EU.

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 www.libdems.org.uk/privacy. To exercise your legal data rights, email: data.protection@libdems.org.uk

I can help with Focus delivery near where I live (about half an hour a month).

I have made a donation to help pay for Focus at www.derbylibdems.org.uk/donate



I would like to join the **Lib Dems** or go to www.libdems.org.uk/join-local



Please send me more details about advertising in Focus and 2027 calendar.

White arms

Some people have asked why the new black benches have such bright arm rests. This is to make the seats more easily useable by people with limited vision.

Cllr **Ajit Atwal** said "We were surprised when the benches arrived with no arms - and surprised again when the armrests were so white! This is the first time this supplier has provided contrasting arms, and we have suggested that the design could be improved."



Cllr **Ajit Atwal** by one of the new seats with white armrests.

Bus stop on Callow Hill Way

The bus shelter near **Woodcote Way** has been removed to allow the bushes behind to be cut more easily. It will be replaced by a new shelter. Trees here are protected by a 'Tree Preservation Order'. Work to the trees/bushes needs to be formally approved.



Cllr **Lucy Care** with a regular bus user keen to have a shelter back.

When the shelter was removed, so was the bus stop 'flag'. Local Councillors have asked for a temporary 'flag' to mark the stop.

Not a new entrance...

A fenced gap into the Hospital has appeared on the corner of **Manor Avenue** and **Queens Drive**. This is only a short term change. This is to allow equipment in for major electrical work happening in this corner of the Hospital.



Cllr **Ajit Atwal** at the temporary access point on **Constable Lane**.

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 **Lucy Care** know if you have an item you'd like considering for this section. Phone 01332 721291.

Also...

Neighbourhood Drop-in

Councillors and a range of Council staff will be available to answer questions on March 12th at Littleover Methodist Church from 5:30 to 7:30. All welcome to drop in to find out what is happening locally.

Civic Award

Who does outstanding work for our community? Each year Derby City Council celebrates people who help make Derby better for everyone. To find out more and propose someone see: tinyurl.com/CivicA26

Postal Voter?

Postal votes now need renewing every 3 years. If you did not renew yours by 31st January, and have now had it for more than 3 years see tinyurl.com/DCCpostal

Parklet Repair - Success!

The seating and planting feature by **North View** in Littleover was damaged last year. After some reminders from the local **Lib Dem** councillors this has now been repaired.

Dog waste

Sadly this is the time of year when councillors often receive more complaints about dog fouling. If you are walking a dog, please pick up after it - and dispose of the waste properly. Thank you to those who have an extra bag with them or pick up after those who aren't able.

Book Sale

The Book Sale, on 21st February, will have the usual mix of adults' and children's, and fiction and non-fiction books. This time it includes a large donation of non-fiction books including history, politics, religion, philosophy, and sociology. Do call in to browse or buy from 10:00 - 4:00 on Saturday 21st February at the Baptist Community Hall on Thornhill Road, Littleover.

Cutting hedges...

All through the year councillors get complaints about hedges blocking paths and pavements. Now is a good time to act.

In a few weeks birds will be nesting again, and then must not be disturbed. So please take a look at any bushes or hedges to check they won't be getting in the way once they start growing again.

Remember that bushes should be cut back to the rear of the pavement, so maybe allow a bit of growing room too.



Cllrs **Lucy Care** and **Ajit Atwal** cutting back an overgrown bush on **Callow Hill Way**.

Also...

Keep safe...

The Earl of Harrington Angling Club (who care for Heatherton Pond) have reported that a swan has recently died of bird flu. This can spread to humans and other pets. They advise keeping dogs on leads and not touching any dead birds in the area.

Youth Club?

The Council is launching a short survey about the need for youth club in the area. Look out for info on posters or online.

Recycling

The new food waste recycling is starting at the beginning of April. All of Littleover should now have had their new food waste caddies delivered, so please say if you've not received a set. There is more information about the new service at:

URL:
www.tinyurl.com/DCC-waste26



Cllr **Lucy Care** passing the barriers between Aldi and the hospital.

Awaiting better weather...

The Council has decided to re-lay part of the paving for the crossing outside the Royal Derby Hospital. This is after several previous attempted repairs to stop the pavers tipping.

They are currently waiting for a period of better weather to do the work.

YOUR FOCUS TEAM:

Cllr Lucy Care 01332 721291 lucycare@hotmail.com
Cllr Ajit Atwal 07867 465963 ajitatwal@hotmail.co.uk
 Tom Bull tom@thomas-bull.co.uk
 Glenda Howcroft 01332 773287
 Marion Hall 01332 218450

Or by post to 8 Kings Drive, Littleover, Derby, DE23 6EU
www.derbylibdems.org **Littleover Lib Dems**

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