



From your local **Liberal Democrat** team

What else does Heatherton need?

The Heatherton, Highfields and Haven Baulk area now add up to a small suburb of Derby. It's got a few shops and a supermarket, a church, pub, community centre and children's nursery. What else does it need?

At the moment there is still land to expand the centre to provide other services that people might want to use. What about a coffee shop, gym or car repairs?

The land behind the church, near Aldi, could be used for things like this. The developers would prefer to build more houses.

If you think that more businesses would help make this a better place to live, come along to a meeting at Haven Church on Friday 14th July at 7:30pm. All are welcome.



Cllrs **Lucy Care** and **Emily Lonsdale** chatting to Andy from **Callowhill Way** about what new services would be good for Heatherton if it expanded on land behind the medical centre.

The Council, 2023/24

Derby City Council again has no one party with a majority of councillors. At the AGM the largest party - now Labour - was allowed by other councillors to elect one of their own as leader. He then chose other Labour councillors to form the 'Cabinet' which makes most of the decisions.

To balance the Labour Cabinet, chairs and vice chairs of committees are from other parties. This means there is a little bit more oversight over what Labour do.

The mayor is a non-political role in Derby. The **Lib Dem** councillors were unhappy with both the proposed candidates and didn't attend that part of the meeting.

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City Centre development

Do you go to the city centre less than you used to?

Many people are now doing more shopping on line or at retail parks, like Kingsway, which are easy to drive to.

Together this means that the city centre needs less space for shops and is needing to reinvent itself. Owners of city-centre land are starting to think about 'what next?' for empty buildings and land.

The Council has been asked if the warehouse shops on Bradshaw Way could be replaced. The request is for a small group of tall buildings including homes and offices as well as a few shops.

The proposed height - taller than the cathedral - has been a talking point. At present only 'outline', or 'in principle', approval has been given.

Cllr **Lucy Care** who is on the Council's Planning Committee said "Most important are the quality of the design and the build. What goes there needs to do Derby justice, both from close up and from further away. I don't want a cluster of boring blocks like the grey box on Derbion. I also want to know how tall buildings can also be 'low carbon'."

Partygate Report says Boris Johnson misled Parliament

Boris Johnson does not deserve life payments!

Lib Dem leader Ed Davy MP says Johnson should not get £115,000 a year to run an office after this report.

Unadopted...

After new estates are built someone has to look after the public assets. It used to be the Council. Now it can also be in other ways.



The **Sedgemoor Way** play area is still looked after by Miller Homes. After much chasing, Cllrs **Ajit Atwal** and **Lucy Care** are delighted Milers have emptied the bin. They will leave the notice added by Cllr **Emily Lonsdale** to discourage people leaving waste by a full bin. Just in case...

This handover can be slow. In Heatherton there are lots of areas still owned by Miller Homes.

If you would like to join a group to work on getting areas transferred, please get in touch with one of the Focus Team.

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 _____

Address _____

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 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.protection@libdems.org.uk

- 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 www.libdems.org.uk/join-local
- Please send me more details about advertising in Focus and 2024 calendar.

Grass cutting - or not?!

The rain fell. The sun shone. The grass grew. And grew...

In May, lots of people starting contacting their councillors concerned that roadside grass needed cutting.



Cllr **Lucy Care** said "We've had problems in previous years, but not this bad. When we complained, we were told that the extra Bank Holidays didn't help, and there had been budget cuts.

"Budget cuts and Bank Holidays could be planned for. We are

The long grass made it so hard to know it was safe crossing into **Eastwood Drive** from the **Manor Road** gap that Cllr **Lucy Care** ended up walking up the pavement to **Burton Road**.

asking for better planning and publicity next year."

Tennis Courts

The tennis courts at King George V Playing Fields have



Councillors **Lucy Care** and **Emily Lonsdale** think tennis courts should be used, not just for show, they have asked for charges to be reviewed.

been resurfaced and smartened. This was done with support of the Lawn Tennis Association and hour-long slots can now be booked on their website at www.lta.org.uk/p/lay

However the Council has chosen to start charging for playing on the courts - as it does for courts in other parks. Local councillors think that the prices may be a barrier to use. They have asked the Council to review the charges.

If you are keen to play regularly, there are other options, like joining a club. See below.

COMMUNITY CORNER:

Littleover Tennis Club welcomes new members of all abilities to their club house and three outdoor courts on Eastwood Drive. Annual membership is £25 - £125 depending on age with discounts for the first year. See www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/LittleoverTennisClub

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

Also...

Middleton Avenue shops

Councillors have been told that the planning application for shops and flats on the corner of **Middleton Avenue** will be refused. However this is not yet showing on the Council's website.

Uttoxeter New Road repairs

The uneven road surface from the Hospital roundabout to the ring road is going to be renewed. Work will be done during the middle of the day (9:30 - 3:30) from 19th June to 7th July. Diversion routes using the trunk roads will be signed.

Adverts and leaflets

If you, or friends or family, would be interested in having a advert in Focus or to have a leaflet delivered with Focus, please email adverts@derbylibdems.org.uk Prices from £20 per advert and £15 per thousand for delivery of leaflets. Other areas available.

£2 bus fares extended, again

The Government has agreed to allow people to travel on local buses for no more than £2 for longer. This offer will now run to the end of October this year. For the following year the cap will be £2:50. Local councillors still think that the Council should be doing more to tell people about this.

Litter

Litter seems to get worse during the summer when more people are out and about. Please help keep our area smart by not dropping or leaving litter. Please use bins, report bins when they are full (try using the app '[Fix My Street](#)') or take waste home with you. Many thanks to the many volunteer litter-pickers too.

As always...

Do get in touch if you'd like to help the local Focus team or find out more about the **Liberal Democrats**.

Highways priorities

The Council is changing the way that Highways works with local areas. They are moving away from councillors being able to suggest a couple of priorities for their wards each year. Instead wards will be helped to think longer term to solve highways and transport problems.

Littleover has already identified the area from **Hillsway** to the ring road as needing work to reduce problems like speed and cut through traffic at many points. Councillors are still waiting to hear when and how work on this area will start.



Cllr Ajit Atwal and Lucy Care at the bottom of Pastures Hill where another drunk driver failed to slow for the Callow Hill Way roundabout in mid-June.

Meanwhile they are pushing to get previous priorities solved. This includes over-running on **North Street** pavements and reducing crashes at **Callow Hill Way** roundabout.

YOUR FOCUS TEAM:

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Also...

St Peter's Fair

On 1st July **Church Street** will be closed for a Fair being organised by St Peter's Church and School together. The event will run from 12noon to 3pm. All are welcome. If the weather is awful stalls will be in the school and church hall instead.

Forum for All

There are changes being planned in the way the Council supports local areas. It may mean that Neighbourhood Forums end. Do come to the next at Grange Hall, **Park Lane** on 10th July from 7pm. Hear from local councillors and the police. And ask your questions too.

Rykneld Road speed

Please remember that the speed limit from **Hollybrook Way** to the city boundary is now 30mph. The police are adding this to their speed check areas. Councillors have asked (again) for reminder signs to be added for a while.

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('Zaiqaa' means 'taste' in Urdu.)

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