

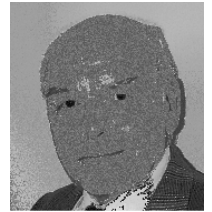
Bulmershe & Whitegates ward

FOCUS

January 2009



TORIES SAY 'NO' TO FREE SWIMMING



Report by Cllr Malcolm Storry

Wokingham Tories have turned down Government money for free swimming for the over-60s.

Lib Dem Cllr Malcolm Storry is angry that the Tories scuppered the deal because the money would run out after 3 years. He said, "*The Tories have deprived our pensioners of free swimming for 3 years – what a wasted opportunity!*"

"*Even worse, it means that we can't now apply for Government money to improve the borough's swimming pools. This is a terrible blow for all users of the Bulmershe Centre. Improvement to the pool would have been a wonderful boost to the community.*"



Councillors Malcolm Storry and Jenny Lissaman say, "What a wasted opportunity!"

"GO GREEN TO GET OUT OF RECESSION"

A message from Cllr Gareth Epps, Parliamentary campaigner

Cllr Gareth Epps has backed Liberal Democrat plans for green investment to make homes



Gareth Epps (right) with Lib Dem Vince Cable MP (left), one of the most respected commentators on the current recession

warmer, cut energy bills, and improve public transport. The "**Green Road Out of Recession**" plans were launched by Lib Dem Leader, **Nick Clegg MP**, and include a host of efficient and cost-effective measures to cut energy bills and put money back into people's pockets.

Gareth Epps said that the plans would be paid for by scrapping Gordon Brown's ineffective proposals for VAT cuts. He said, "*This money could be spent right away, helping people right now to insulate their homes and help thousands of people whose heating bills are going through the roof. Our plans help to protect the environment, too.*"

CAN WE HELP?

If you have a problem or concern, come to the LIB DEM SURGERY at the Oakwood Centre, Headley Rd, Woodley, between 10 a.m and 12 noon, on the 21st February – your Lib Dem FOCUS team are there to help.



Community news from your Woodley & Whitegates Liberal Democrats

Visit our website on: www.WWLibDems.org.uk

TORY DEBT SHOCK –

Earley Town Council in the red for third year running!



Councillor Jenny Lissaman at the Culver Lane underpass

HIGHWAYS UPDATE

Following pressure from residents and your councillors, Wokingham Borough Council:

- has handweeded the gutters in **Beechwood Avenue** and **Howth Drive**. Let us know if there are other roads or pavements that need clearing.
- has put in bollards outside the vet's surgery in **Beechwood Avenue** and **Douglas Bader Court** in **Howth Drive** to improve safety at nearby road junctions.
- has installed new lighting at the **Culver Lane underpass**. We have asked for this to be checked as it doesn't seem brighter than before!
- is still pursuing a pedestrian crossing for **Lytham Rd** (next to the shopping precinct) which was a condition of the planning permission for the new houses.

For more information, please contact Jenny or Malcolm (details on the right).

Earley Liberal Democrats are furious that the Tories have recklessly overspent at Earley Town Council, resulting in a loss for the third year running.

Councillor **Tahir Maher** said, "When the Tories took control of the Council there was a healthy sum of money in the coffers thanks to the good financial management of the Liberal Democrats. Since then the Tories have been squandering it - but have little to show for it."



Tahir Maher

"Tory spending is out of control in Earley – they must learn to be sensible with your money!"

PLANNING FILE

Permission has been granted to build one house at **3 Whitegates Lane**, 3 houses at **53 The Drive** and 9 flats at **132 Church Road**.

These applications were originally refused by Wokingham Borough Council, but a government planning inspector over-ruled the council at an appeal hearing.

Permission was refused by WBC for 10 houses to be built on land behind **36 and 38 Chiltern Crescent** and **34, 40 & 42, 53 The Drive**. There will be an appeal.

Permission has been granted to build 10 flats to replace the **BP garage in Headley Road**, and for a development to include a Lidl store, 14 flats and new public toilets at the **shopping centre**.

Contact your Liberal Democrat Councillors

Borough Councillors

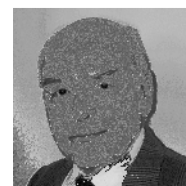


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Sam Rahmouni	926 9922
Celia Storry	926 2019
Malcolm Storry	926 2019

Whitegates (Earley):

Bill Gothard	986 8995
Jenny Lissaman	966 1271
Tahir Maher	986 8995

Vote Liberal Democrat for a cleaner, greener and safer community