



From your local **Liberal Democrat** team

Here to help

The new Lockdown may not be as harsh as the one last Spring, but people are more tired and the weather less kind. The last 12 months of uncertainty have taken their toll in many ways.

Help is still available, and there are still ways to volunteer if you wish to. The main number to call for both is the Covid Hub on 01332-640000.

Local Liberal Democrats took the decision not to deliver Focus during January, but there is still news we would like people to have.

Encourage local friends and family to sign up to get Focus to their inbox. Email: littleover@derbylibdems.org.uk

Will you paint an egg for Easter?



Local campaigner **Emily Lonsdale** is working with Littleover in Bloom to have

decorated eggs across Littleover for Easter. Fancy joining in? Do get in touch with Emily. Details on the back.

Contacts for help during Covid times...

- To ask for help - or offer to help - with shopping, getting medicines and financial help, call the Covid Hub at the Council on 640000 or go to tinyurl.com/dcc-me19
- You can offer or request help on Nextdoor.com
- If you need help as a Business, refer to the Council's Business pages at tinyurl.com/dcc-biz19
- Most faith groups now have online services.

Stop this mast!

Vodafone is looking to put up a mobile phone mast in Littleover Village near Village Grill. Councillors have suggested other places. If they still submit a planning application please send the Council your views. Look out for a notice nearby.

Like Focus to your inbox?

With Covid levels higher, particularly in the area of Derby near the Royal Derby Hospital, the Focus Team decided not to deliver across the ward this time. If you've not already asked and would like links for future Focus leaflets and other Lib Dem updates sent to you, email: littleover@derbylibdems.org.uk

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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Fighting to ensure children are fed

The Government/Council have a duty to ensure that children who qualify get a free lunch during school term time. When children are not in school, it doesn't mean that they don't need a healthy meal.

There are also children in some families who don't qualify for a free meal but when in school, the school will ensure they don't go hungry.

Despite furlough, many people have lost jobs during this Covid pandemic. In Derby there are more than twice as many people unemployed now than a year ago.

Lib Dem councillors have pressed the Council for all struggling families to be given vouchers to enable them to buy appropriate food while children are at home. Vouchers are more flexible than food parcels for most families.

Food bank help is also available. See overleaf if you need to ask for help, or could offer food.

Ward money: local improvements

Each ward in the city has a small amount of money to spend on local things. Some of this was used to help fund the Christmas tree shredding in King George V car park in early January.

Other changes being planned include hard standing for the bus stop at the top of **Hillsway**, widening the corners of the path by the Royal Derby and more local noticeboards. They are also hoping to



identify places for more seats on paths around Heatherton.

Local campaigner **Emily Lonsdale** said "With more people out and about because of Covid, both noticeboards and seats are becoming more important."



How to 'Support the NHS'?

The Government's advice to "Stay at Home - Support the NHS - Save Lives" might lead one to think that staying at home is the one thing everyone should do. This is even though Prime Minister Boris Johnson clearly isn't following his own advice as he travels to different photo opportunities every day!

Supporting the NHS also means keeping healthy. This includes having a flu jab, taking Vitamin D and keeping active. After all councillors supported a **Lib Dem** Motion at full Council to do more to promote good health, the Council provided more advice at tinyurl.com/dcc-biz19

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 or email littleover@derbylibdems.org.uk

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.

New litter bin for Uttoxeter Road

Pushing rubbish into hedges, or dropping it behind walls doesn't stop it being litter. This was the problem near the bus stop on **Uttoxeter Road** near the A38 bridge.

Local councillors asked for a bin to be provided, and at last it has been.



Emily Lonsdale by the new litter bin at the bus stop near the A38 bridge on **Uttoxeter Road**.

Send a photo for Rykneld Road hedge!

Thanks to everyone who has signed the petition to keep the hedge by what will be Aldi's car park (by the Hollybrook Pub). If you've not yet signed it, you can add your name at www.derbylibdems.org.uk/P43D



Local

campaigner, **Emily Lonsdale** said "We'd like to show the world more visually how much this matters to people. Please join our collection of selfies showing your support on the Littleover Lib Dems Facebook Page. When we have enough pictures we'll send them to the Derby Telegraph as well as to Aldi." Email them to littleover@derbylibdems.org.uk



Give the area, and neighbours, a helping hand!

People are walking more than usual, taking exercise locally, which is great. But lots of rain means that some areas are wet, and social distancing has meant grass has been churned to mud too. Clearing the leaves and mud off paths really helps - and could be good exercise too.

Just keeping your own pavement tidy can start to make a difference to the area.



Pastures Hill

If you choose to do this, just be sensible. Wear suitable clothing, and give space to people using the path. Thanks.



Hell Brook path



Constable Drive

Also...

A38 Junctions

The Government has given the go ahead to 'grade separate' the A38 roundabouts past Derby. This means that the A38 will be a continuous dual carriageway with separate roundabouts and sliproads on and off it at **Kingsway**, **Markeaton Park** and **Little Eaton**. Preparatory work will start in February/March, with main works starting this summer and lasting up to four years. Be prepared for extra queues in Derby during the works.

Old Hall, Burton Road

The old Fire HQ on **Burton Road** is being sold. A planning application to build 14 homes here has been submitted. See tinyurl.com/oldhall14 for details.

Sedgemoor Way litter bin

Thank you to everyone who has signed the petition to have the bin at the play area off **Sedgemoor Way** emptied more often - and preferably to have two bins. This is still a job for Miller Homes, though the council has emptied it at times too. For a last chance to sign, do go to: www.derbylibdems.org.uk/litterbin

How to help neighbours

If you have local friends or family who like reading Focus, please share your electronic copy.

If you'd like more news before the next Focus, follow Littleover **Lib Dems** on facebook - or send your email address to littleover@derbylibdems.org.uk If you'd like to send a donation, that'd be great too! Thank you. See box on page 2.



A damaged verge on Hillsway. A few people can spoil an area for everyone.

Help stop this damage!

Churned up verges are a problem every winter, and not just in Littleover. This year it's worse than usual with very wet weather and extra delivery vehicles.

Local councillors have asked for signs for the worst places, like **Hillsway**, to remind drivers. At the last full Council meeting **Cllr Eric Ashburner** asked for the Council to write to main delivery companies, including supermarkets, to remind their drivers not to cause damage.

Eric said "Do thank drivers for parking on the road, as well as reminding them not to park on pavements and verges, if they are. Send us pictures of the worst culprits and we'll put them on our Facebook Page."

Also...

LCS Hedge Update

Thanks to everyone who wrote to the Council about the hedge between Littleover Community School's playing field and the new development. The Council has said that this should be kept. The developer is cutting back some trees in the hedge and planting new ones so that it grows back thicker.

Highway Priorities

Update: Work on the best option for **Eastwood Drive** is continuing as part of this year's (20/21) priority. Councillors have therefore added putting a pelican crossing at the top of **Chain Lane** and reducing the speed limit on **Rykneld Road** as 21/22 requests.

Wall knocked down

The wall near the chip shop in Littleover Village has again been damaged by a car in the car park. Please share your thoughts on whether this area should be used in a different way, and if so how.

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