

From your local **Liberal Democrat** team

## Eastwood Drive: what's your view?

Residents of **Eastwood Drive** have been concerned about the speed of traffic for years. Traffic got worse when queuing space in the centre of Manor Road was extended.

Local residents were offered road humps to make the route less attractive, but they didn't want these. The Council is therefore asking residents from a wider area about possibly closing part of the route.



Cllrs **Lucy Care** and **Mike Carr** encourage you to give your views.

This is not a vote. The Council really wants to hear your views on the options they have suggested, and any other thoughts you wish to share. If you have not yet commented, please do.

Go to [letstalk.derby.gov.uk](https://letstalk.derby.gov.uk) where you can also join in other consultations.

## Trees planted

Community group, Trees for Derby, worked with the Royal Derby Hospital to plant about 200 young trees on land by **North Mead Drive**.

Cllr **Lucy Care** joined the team at short notice as the expected volunteer team had to cry off due to Covid infection. More on Trees For Derby inside...



Cllr **Lucy Care** helped plant young trees near **Manor Park Court**.

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## Haven Baulk Lane parking

The dentists at the end of **Haven Baulk Lane** has now opened. Several people have told councillors that parking has become a problem near the junction.

In the short term parking and neighbourhood teams will pay more attention to this area. However parking for the dentists does not meet what was agreed with the Planning department. Also the kerbs have not been lowered for cars to drive over them. Councillors have raised all this with the Council.

Some people are also concerned about the brightness of the lights. Please let one of the team know if you are also troubled by these.



Have you been disturbed by the brightly lit building?

## Hoarding to come down...

Now that the Council has a Planning Enforcement Officer in post, Councillor Lucy Care has asked to get the old Michael Goodall hoarding down. This has been marking the entrance of **New Crest Close** at the top of **Pastures Hill** for years. The developer has been asked to remove it as soon as possible, and also to cut back over-hanging bushes.



Cllr **Emily Lonsdale** reports that developers, Michael Goodalls, have been told to remove the old hoarding.

## COMMUNITY CORNER:

**Trees for Derby** are a local volunteer group dedicated to planting more trees and hedges in Derby. If you'd like to get involved in any way, please get in touch via [www.treesforderby.org.uk](http://www.treesforderby.org.uk)

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

## Also...

### Phone mast

Agents for a telecoms company have asked to install a G5 phone mast between Elgin Avenue and Pastures Hill. Trees with preservation orders would need to be pruned. The planning application is at [www.tinyurl.com/elginmast](http://www.tinyurl.com/elginmast) and comments need to be in by 26<sup>th</sup> Feb.

### Challenging walk?

If you visit the Kingsway Retail Park, are there ways that you think walking routes could be improved? This area is privately owned, and doesn't meet current standards. If you would like to help identify changes that are needed, and then campaign to get the private owners to make them, please get in touch.

### Briarfield Way pelican?

The Council has been assessing if the road is busy enough to justify a pelican crossing on **Briarfield Way** near **The Hollow**. This would help children going to school and people walking up to Mickleover Village.

### Gentle exercise class

**Cllr Lucy Care** is pleased that after asking several times exercise classes for over 60s are restarting at Littleover Methodist Church. The one hour sessions are designed to help people keep strong and supple in older age. Turn up at 1pm on Wednesdays from 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Classes cost £5. To find out more call Dale on 078322 956093.

### Walking to town?

Do you, or would you, walk to town? Neither **Pastures Hill/Burton Road** or **Uttoxeter (New) Road** is a very nice route. While not much can be done about the traffic and noise, what could be done to improve the surface and junctions? There is some money from house builders that could be used for this. Please get in touch with **Cllr Lucy Care** if you'd like to join her on a survey walk.

# Road Closures:

## Jackson Avenue to be resurfaced

New lining had to be put down on **Jackson Avenue** last year so that parking rules could be enforced. But under this fresh paint unfortunately the tarmac is potholed and worn. The road is now due to be closed from 21<sup>st</sup> February from 8am to about 3pm, for about six working days, while it is resurfaced, weather permitting.

Unfortunately the worn plateau on **Kings Drive** is not being included.

Should the centre white line be repainted? Let one of the team know.



## Bushes on The Hollow, Littleover to be cut back

Bushes and trees are growing over the road from the junction with Old Hall Road and Hillsway. To cut these back safely the road will be closed during the day (9:30 to 3:00) on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of March.

Work to other nearby trees may be done at the same time.

The number of Covid cases is now falling and hopefully the

## Neighbourhood Forum

will go ahead in person at

### Littleover Social Club

Blagreaves Lane

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

7pm to 8:30pm

Do come to raise questions with local councillors and the police.

There may be an option to join the meeting virtually. If you would be interested, please contact one of your councillors (see below).

## YOUR FOCUS TEAM:

**Cllr Lucy Care, 721291**

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**Cllr Mike Carr, 833550**

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Or by post at 24A Great Northern Road, Derby, DE1 1LR

[www.derbylibdems.org.uk](http://www.derbylibdems.org.uk)  @derbylibdems  Littleover Lib Dems

## Also...

### Hell Brook bridges

Many thanks to everyone who has signed the petition. If you haven't yet, go to

[www.derbylibdems.org.uk/bridges](http://www.derbylibdems.org.uk/bridges)

### Litter bin sensors

The Council is testing sensors to measure the height of litter in bins. This should mean that fewer bins are left over-flowing and journeys aren't made to bins with lots of space. There are only a few sensors in place so far, but if the trials go well more will be installed.

### Children's Homes

The Council likes to find foster carers for children in its care. Sadly there aren't enough at the moment, although the Council provides training, support and a decent allowance. As a result private companies are setting up small children's homes. These can take children from anywhere. These shouldn't open without a change in Planning approval, though some have. Local councillors are seeking to get this situation corrected.

### Uttoxeter Road speed limit

The Council has been looking to see if the speed limit on **Uttoxeter Road** might be reduced to 30mph. A decision is likely to be made in the next few months.

**Lib Dems - Working hard all year round**



## Cost of energy...

The big increase in the cost of energy is hitting many people hard. It is also hurting businesses and services, like schools and the NHS. Where possible businesses will pass these costs on - pushing up their prices.

As a result, inflation is increasing. People are therefore asking for pay rises to help make ends meet.

It is a challenge. And it's one that won't go away unless we can break the cycle of increasing energy prices.

We know that we need to wean ourselves off fossil fuels, like petrol, diesel and gas. It is changing our climate.

Most of the oil and gas that the UK still uses comes from overseas. So it will be a win-win to use less, lowering household bills and the country's borrowing.

So how do we do this.

1. Use less. Insulate our homes, don't heat rooms we're not using, turn down the thermostat, walk when we can.
2. Generate more renewable electricity in the UK. Some people can put solar panels on their roofs. If you can't, encourage others to!
3. Buying from a company that puts its profits back into renewables will help.

## How will you spend £150 (if you get it)?

Details about the £150 discount on Council Tax that the Government is giving are still unclear. It's being given to help people pay their fuel bills, but being given to those in smaller houses (Tax bands A to D) not people on low incomes or with high bills.

Fuel prices are not likely to fall in future years, so this cash would be best spent to reduce energy demand or generate more renewable energy.

£150 could buy some loft insulation, or draft proofing but isn't enough to make major energy saving changes or put solar panels on roofs.

Realistically few people who don't need the money for immediate bills will invest it for the future anyway.

However, if such an energy-saving/making project was available might you join it? If you could easily switch that £150 from returning to you, to putting solar panels on a school, NHS hospital or other community building, would you do that?

Councillor **Lucy Care** said "Every unit of renewable power helps reduce the gas used in power stations, and hence the demand for gas. As the demand for gas falls, so does the pressure on gas prices. Do let me know if you'd welcome a scheme like this."

The money should come in April, just before the election in May. So some people are saying this is just a pre-election bribe from the Government.

Remember that it is our - taxpayers' money - they are giving away. Is this a wise way to spend it?

## 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](http://libdems.org.uk/privacy). To exercise your legal data rights, email: [data.protection@libdems.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.libdems.org.uk/join-local)
- Please send me more details about advertising in Focus and 2023 calendar.