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Billingham North Ward
FOCUS
Election Special 113

Editors: **Councillor Lynne Apedaile** **01740 645216**
Councillor Colin Leckonby **01642 872896**
Hilary Aggio **01642 564358**



THE TEAM THAT GETS THINGS DONE






Colin Leckonby, Lynne Apedaile and Hilary Aggio are the **Liberal Democrat Candidates** for the **Billingham North Ward** in the Stockton Borough Council Elections on Thursday 3rd May 2007. They will all work hard to see the re-development of the Town centre and John Whitehead park after the fiasco of the Gateway Project. **Colin and Lynne** have represented the Billingham North Ward since the ward boundary changes in 2005 and before that in the Marsh House Ward.

Colin has served on several committees during his eight years as a Stockton Councillor. As secretary and treasurer of Low Grange Community Centre he works with the Management Committee to improve the centre and its facilities. As a leader Colin helps with St. Luke's Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade working with children and young people aged 5 to 21. He also finds time to be a racing cyclist and helps with training young cyclists in bike handling and safety. He is president of the Stockton Wheelers Cycling Club.

Lynne has been a committee member of several committees as a Stockton Councillor for four years and has a great interest in drug education and the provision of aids to elderly and disabled residents. Lynne is also chair of Wolviston Parish Council and in her spare time she enjoys seeing her grandchildren.

Hilary has lived in Billingham for many years and has seen the gradual decay of the Town Centre and facilities after years of neglect by the Labour controlled Stockton Council. Hilary worked for many years in Support Services within the IT field and has a good knowledge of computers. She was a member of the Billingham Town Council Steering Committee and feels that a Town Council could be another voice to move things forward in the regeneration of Billingham.

Remember – This is Stockton Borough Council Election and you have 3 votes

Aggio, Hilary		X
Apedaile, Lynne, J		X
Leckonby, Colin		X

Liberal Democrats – the Real alternative

BILLINGHAM ANHYDRITE MINE

When Lynne, Colin, Hilary and Billingham residents heard about the proposal to re-open the old ICI Anhydrite mine for the dumping of industrial waste the fears about dumping nuclear waste again came to mind.

Colin spoke to the Liberal Democrat MEP Fiona Hall to see if she could help and find out more about the proposals. Fiona visited Billingham in January this year to meet Lynne, Colin and Hilary and some Billingham residents to hear their views on the proposed dumping.

She then wrote to the government minister, David Milliband, expressing the fears of the Billingham residents about the proposal for the Anhydrite mine. A copy of the letter received by Fiona from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs can be supplied to any resident if requested.

Part of the letter says:-

“NPL Estates are ICI’s preferred bidder to purchase the former mine, and will seek permission to use the mine for the disposal of hazardous waste.

The UK is required to take the necessary measures to ensure that waste is disposed of without endangering human health or harming the environment. The Environment Agency is unable to issue a landfill permit in any case where planning permission is required unless planning permission is in force. Following public consultations the application will likely be determined in late 2008. Should permission be granted, then operations would not commence until late 2010 at the earliest.

ICI have indicated that they will not permit the mine to be used for the storage of Nuclear waste and there has been no suggestions of doing so. The Government have made it clear that there is no intention to impose a geological disposal facility for radioactive wastes on any community”

LABOUR’S £700,000 CALL CENTRE

The Labour councillors used a majority to push through a call centre costing £700,000 of council tax payers money over the next 3 years. Call centres, generally, have a bad reputation and the Liberal Democrats say the money should be better spent on services dealing with homelessness and domestic violence. We also supported money for an out-of-hours noise nuisance prevention service due to the high number of complaints received by Councillors, especially at weekends. Initial reaction from the Stockton Council part time employees in Billingham is that they are against moving to a call centre if it is based outside of the town and other employees are not happy about having to re-apply for their jobs. Lynne, Colin and Hilary are fearful of the morale of dedicated employees will drop very low as this call centre is pushed through.

POLICING IN BILLINGHAM

A new policy of neighbourhood policing has been announced by the Chief Constable Sean Price after a successful pilot scheme in Hartlepool. Lynne, Colin, Hilary and the residents of Billingham North have been pressing for a more visible presence of Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers on the streets. We gave contact details in FOCUS 112 for our local ward police officer Mike Burns. Stockton Borough Council has to put in £250,000 to pay for the extra PCSO’s.

You can contact Lynne, Colin and Hilary by:-

Telephone **Lynne** on **01740 645216**, **Colin** on **01642 872896** and **Hilary** on **01642 564358**

e-mail lynne.apedaile@stockton.gov.uk

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You can also write to **Lynne Apedaile** at **1 West Hartlepool Road, Wolviston TS22 5LA**,

Colin Leckonby at **73 Tunstall Avenue, Billingham TS23 5LA**.

Hilary Aggio at **27 Allington Drive, Billingham TS23**

Focus – The Original and Still the Best