

FOCUS

www.stocktonlibdems.org.uk

Edited by:
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Number: 173



Proposed boundary changes to the ward in May mean that FOCUS will now cover the new areas of the ward as well. So this Focus is the next edition of Focus 172, Bishopsgarth edition number 2, and Beckindale Park, Cypress Gate & Eastfields edition number 4.



POST BOX VICTORY

Julia Roberts is delighted that Royal Mail have agreed to put a post box, that so many people locally have been asking for, on Darlington Back Lane. They are suggesting that it goes at the junction with Celandine Way.

Look out for it coming in a few months time!

SAFETY FIRST

Some people on the **Eastfields Estate (Gentian Way etc)** have told us in Focus surveys that it is difficult to walk to Whitehouse Farm School because there is no pavement at the entrance of **The Vale**.

Julia and Suzanne have visited the spot, and think it is dangerous for people with children to have to go on the road at



this point. Suzanne has asked the Council to put a pavement on this short stretch to make it safer.

ELECTION DAY IS COMING!

On Thursday May 5th there are elections for Stockton Borough Council, and maybe the General Election too.

This election will not be all postal, so if you want a postal vote for any reason please let us know or ring 526196 at Stockton Council. The closing date for applications is 5 p.m. on Tues 26th April. If you have moved house in the last few months and you are not sure if you are on the voting register Suzanne will be happy to check for you. The deadline is March 11th.

ELM TREE CENTRE

Following on from a meeting Suzanne organised with the businesses there and other agencies, the following were agreed upon :

- Setting up “Business Watch” and taking extra security measures.
- They asked for the street lighting at the front to be brighter, and the Council has agreed to do this, and look into the possibility of extra lights too.
- We all want to do our best to make this area safer and more secure for those who work, live and visit here.

DARLINGTON LANE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT NEWS

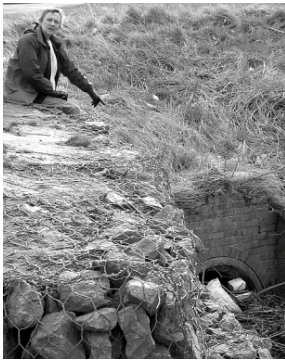
The area called “site 3” between the cycleway and Celandine Way, has now had a Development brief done by the Council stating the rules for any future developer. Suzanne is pleased that the following things that she has pushed for are there :

- Protection of the area of ecological importance and existing wildlife.
- No access for builders during the construction time from Celandine Way or the Cycleway
- “considerate contractors” scheme for whoever is the builder, so they can only work certain hours etc.
- High environmental performance and energy saving standards for the houses as well.



BECK'S DISGRACE

Julia was told of the state of the beck at **Bothal Walk / Mowbray Grove** by Mike Barker. She was shocked to see the amount of uncleared rubbish and filthy water there. She contacted the Environment Agency who have agreed with her and they are arranging for it to be cleared. Julia will be keeping her eye on this to make sure that it is cleared.



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TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT SAINSBURY'S

After the last proposals were turned down by people, there are now new ones to go out to consultation. These include widening the road at the junction for safer turning movements. Suzanne is pleased that they are extending the "pedestrian" phase that she had asked for at the lights to make it safer for people crossing.

GRAFFITI GONE!

Julia has taken up the issue of graffiti on NTL boxes on **Bothal Walk** and **Dunelm Road**, with NTL, and this nice clean box is the result!

If you know of further NTL boxes in need of a clean up, then let her know.



SKIPS

The next skip will be :
 Wednesday 16th March.
 Elm Tree Centre car park
You can ring 391959 to check before taking rubbish there.



Problems, Queries, Ideas & Views.

Suzanne will be holding her ward surgery at **Elm Tree Community Centre** Tuesday 15th March 6pm to 7pm
 Young people, same date 4.30 to 5.30 pm

Contact us by:

Letter - Julia Roberts, 22, Zetland Road, Stockton, TS19 0EQ

or Suzanne Fletcher, 3, Hoylake Way, Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees, TS16 9EU

or - Julia Roberts and Suzanne Fletcher, FREEPOST, NEA 765, STOCKTON-ON-TEES TS16 9BR(no need for a stamp)

Phone - 01642 882889 (Julia) or 786456 (Suzanne)

e-mail - bluebirdydc@hotmail.com (Julia) or sfletcher@cix.co.uk (Suzanne)



ID CARDS

Mike Barker, Parliamentary Candidate for Stockton South, agrees with local residents, who said overwhelmingly in our Focus survey, that ID Cards will do nothing to tackle crime. "The Government's obsession with interfering with everything we do means we will have to carry plastic cards with us. The danger that cards will be stolen, and therefore peoples' identities will be stolen, is obvious. This system will cost over £3 billion. Yet there is no evidence this will tackle crime or terrorism. ID Cards did not prevent the horrors of New York or Madrid. This money would be better spent employing 10,000 more police. That would be a far more effective way to tackle crime.



Police, not Plastic!"

SNIPPETS.

The Council are going to replace the Neighbourhood Watch signs that mysteriously disappeared after the street lamp columns were replaced there cannot be a salt bin on **Celandine Way** as the road is not yet adopted Julia has reported litter in the hedge on the cycleway the smashed lamp on **Mowbray Grove** has been repaired after Julia reported it, and ones on **Leam Lane** and **Widdrington Court** are awaiting repair Potholes on **Elm Tree Avenue**; the junction of **Leam Lane / Harrowgate Lane**; **Lauder Close** are going to be mended missing street name signs for **Elm Tree Avenue**, **Brundall Close**, and **Tanwell Close** are all being replaced.



WORKING FOR YOU ALL THE YEAR ROUND