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Editors

Cllr Mike Cherrett 783491

Cllr John Fletcher 786456

Cllr Maureen Rigg 782009

Eaglescliffe Ward

Focus

No 127

YOUR TEAM FOR YOUR NEW WARD

Local campaigners Mike Cherrett, Maureen Rigg and John Fletcher have been chosen by the Liberal Democrats to stand as candidates in the Stockton Borough Council election on 5th May 2005 for the new Eaglescliffe Ward.

As previously reported in Focus 125 you will become part of the new ward of Eaglescliffe comprising the Parishes of Aislaby, Egglecliffe, Preston-on-Tees and Newsham.

Good things come in threes! You will have **three borough councillors** so you will have **three votes**.

We hope that you will vote to keep **three Liberal Democrat councillors**. At present Mike is the Borough Councillor for Preston, Aislaby and Newsham; John and Maureen cover Egglecliffe. As Borough Councillors for the new ward they would continue to work together as a team along with our Liberal Democrat MEP Fiona Hall and the prospective parliamentary candidate Mike Barker.



GOOD NEWS FOR LEASEHOLDERS ON ORCHARD ESTATE

Since 28 February residential leaseholders have been free to choose their own fire insurance, despite the clause in their leases giving the ground landlord the right. There is a procedure set out in the statute – more details from John.

This law was passed in 2002 but the Deputy Prime Minister has only just brought it into force. John has been complaining (with help from the Liberal Democrat spokesman in the Commons, Ed Davey MP) to him for some time about the delay.

Residents are already telling us that they will be saving on premiums.

GRAND CENTRAL TRAINS

Mike Barker, Parliamentary Candidate for Stockton South, has welcomed proposals by Grand Central Trains for a new passenger service to run from Sunderland via Eaglescliffe to London. Mike said "This is an exciting new venture. I give it my wholehearted support."



UPDATE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The good news is that Maureen has got an agreement from the head of Stockton's Youth Service to bring the Youth Bus to Eaglescliffe so that young people can meet their councillors and some Youth Workers. We can talk about what we need in Eaglescliffe and how we can go about trying to get it. The Youth Bus has comfy seats, Playstation and other games, soft drinks and it's warm. If you want to be part of shaping the future of Eaglescliffe get in touch: e-mail maureen.rigg@stockton.gov.uk or phone 782009. The date is **Monday April 4th**, time 7pm, place to be confirmed when the driver has had chance to check access. The bad news is that when Lib Dems on Stockton Council tried to get more money in the budget moved into Youth work we were voted down!

Liberal Democrats - The REAL Alternative

COUNCIL TAX

This year's 4.13% rise includes money for the Fire and Police, but not for the parishes which is extra. Liberal Democrat Councillors wanted more money put into youth workers in the community. However Labour said the money needed to be spent on surveying Council reception points, and that £50,000 wouldn't make much difference to youth work.

We think that it would have made a much needed difference and regret that the other Parties did not support it. The Government injected £1 billion into local authorities this year to keep the council tax increases below 5%. They only did that because this could be a General election year. The Local Government Association have warned the Chancellor that he would have to earmark an extra £1.5 billion for councils in the Budget to avoid a "massive hike" in the council tax this time next year. Your Lib Dem councillors will be watching closely what the Chancellor does!

PLANNING

Success! The Planning Inspector has upheld refusal of retrospective permission for the wall & fence of *Burlington House*, corner of **Station & Yarm Roads**.

Fresh planning applications since the last *Focus* include:

- 3 town houses & conversion to 2 flats (outline) – *Prospect House, Aislaby Road*
- 2 bungalows in the grounds of *Sunnymount, South View* (revised)
- Extension of flats at corner of **Station & Swinburne Roads**
- Motocross circuit on S side of **A67** between Eliff's Mill Allotments & railway bridge (retrospective) – thanks to all who responded to a mini-*Focus* delivered to the nearest estates.

The new owners of *The Grange, Urlay Nook Road* wish to demolish it & build flats accessed from **Valley Gardens**. Further details from our councillors.



Among the many issues taken up

by our Liberal

Democrat councillors, Mike, Maureen &

John, on your behalf:

Bollards the wrong way round in **Sunningdale Drive** & outside the **Cleveland Bay**.... Misuse of disabled parking at **Egglecliffe Branch Library**.... Broken gate in **Abbeyfield Drive**.... Road subsidence in **West View Terrace**.... Refuges in **Yarm Road** (again!).... Street name signs in **Wentworth Way, Hazel Slade & Dinsdale & Monmouth Drives**.... Flooding of **St Margaret's Play Area** footpath, **Aislaby Road** & under **Carnoustie Drive** subway and also **The Avenue** (caused by tree roots lifting road).... Dumping under **Yarm Viaduct** also **Urlay Nook** near **Elementis**.... Fence of the **Vinegar Brewery site, Yarm Road**.... Verges of **Seymour Crescent & Beaumaris Drive**.... Potholes in **Seymour Avenue & Grove, Millfield Close, Dunbar Drive, Brookwood Way**.... Litter near **Allen's West Crossing**.... Traffic signs on **A67**

SKIPS

The next community skips will be:
Tues 12th Apr, Carnoustie Dr. Garage site
Tues 3rd May, Croft Rd Garage site



CONTACT US- WE LISTEN!

Maureen, Mike and John would like to hear from you **if you can help deliver Focus in a couple of streets near you**, or if you have any comments on anything in the ward.

We are at: Trinity Methodist Church, Witham Avenue, Friday April 1st from 6.30 - 7.30 pm

Egglecliffe Parish Hall, Butts Lane, Tuesday April 19th from 6 - 7 pm

OR **Mike Cherrett**, 12 Holywell Green, Eaglescliffe, Phone 783491

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