



www.stocktonlibdems.org.uk

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Preston Ward
inc.
LONG NEWTON, ELTON, AISLABY & NEWSHAM

FOCUS
No 98

EAGLESCLIFFE POST OFFICE

Post Office Ltd propose to close Eaglescliffe Sub Post Office in Station Rd. We know that the existing premises are too big for today's needs, now that sorting is no longer carried out there, but we say that not enough has been done to find an alternative. A Post Office counter in another shop or business or community centre is common elsewhere, so why not here? Lib Dems in Parliament campaigned to keep small Post Offices viable. Mike and his Lib Dem colleagues in Egglecliffe Ward have already written to object to the removal of this vital part of our community. If you want to keep a post office in this part of Eaglescliffe write to Mr David Mellows-Facer Head of Area Post Office Ltd c/o National Consultation Team PO Box 2060



Watford WD18 8ZW

POST OFFICE CLOSURES & THE COUNCIL

On 10th May members of the Council whose wards are affected by the proposed Post Office closures met to discuss the implications and any actions that could be taken to mitigate the effects of such closures.

A further meeting, to which the whole Council has been invited, is to be held on the 20th May at which it is hoped Post Office Ltd will explain their proposals and also their plans for the future of post offices in the Borough.

SANDY LEAS LANE

At its recent meeting, Stockton Borough Council Planning Committee refused the Retrospective Application for the Change of Use of Agricultural Land to Private Gypsy Site, on the grounds that it was unacceptably intrusive and would have a detrimental impact on the amenity of the neighbours.

SURGERIES

Mike will see anyone who calls between 6.30 and 7.30 pm on

**Fridays,
4th June &
2nd July at
the Vestry,**



Trinity Methodist Church, Preston (Joint surgery with Egglecliffe Cllrs Mrs. Maureen Rigg and John Fletcher) and 21st May & 18th June at the Wilson Institute, Long Newton. You can also write or ring him at :-

**12, Holywell Green, Egglecliffe,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES TS16 9HH 01642 -
783491 or e-mail him at
michael.cherrett@stockton.gov.uk**

**Also you can write to
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

**FREEPOST NEA 765
STOCKTON-ON-TEES TS16 9BR**

SKIPS

**The next skips are
due at Oak Rd,
Thursday 27th May
and at Cedar
Crescent, Thursday
July 8th.**



**Phone Stockton 391959 for free collection
of bulky household waste.**

**Contact the SITA recycling centre for
disposal of all household waste including
oil and garden chemicals. Phone 202300**

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European Election Special

To many people it may come as surprise that we are in the middle of an election, but we are and a very important election it is too! Towards the end of this month we shall all be receiving our postal ballot forms to elect three Members of the European Parliament for the North East Region. The completed forms have to be returned in the prepaid envelope by June 10th.

It is very common, and even "fashionable", to deride Europe and the European Union as an irrelevance, but this is because of propaganda put out by an "unholy alliance" between many Members of Parliament (government and opposition) and the majority of the popular press. The issues that the European Parliament are best able to deal with are such subjects as the environment, immigration, crime and drugs and the increasing problem of international security and terrorism.

The common element of all these subjects is their international dimension and that is where a strong well supported European Parliament can play a greater, more authoritative role than our national Parliament. To get the best from the European Parliament we need to elect enthusiastic committed Europeans - Liberal Democrats. Fiona Hall and her team are such candidates.

The European Union is a fact and Britain is a part of that Union. The election is all about who we want to represent us in the European Parliament. Do we want some less than enthusiastic politicians from the Eurosceptic political parties, or should we elect well qualified men and women who are keen to promote the best interests of the North East, Britain and Europe - and in that order? The current Liberal Democrat members are just such people and have made and are making a great contribution to the progress of the EU as well as defending the interests of their constituents. They recognise that the EU is far from perfect, but committed enthusiasts are much better able to improve matters than the pessimists from the other parties.

Fiona Hall is another enthusiast cast in that mould and has already had significant successes at the European level in her representations in looking after the interests of the people of the North East. She has been involved in such issues as the rights of the coble fishermen of the North East and the environmental implications of the dismantling of the "Ghost Ships" at Hartlepool.

This is NOT a referendum on whether to join the European Monetary Union (the Euro), nor whether to accept the new European Constitution nor even whether to leave the EU. This is simply an election to choose the Members of the European Parliament who will best serve the North East at Brussels and Strasbourg.

For a strong committed voice in Europe please support the Liberal Democrats in the European Parliamentary Elections.



Lib Dems X - for a Strong Voice in Europe