



FOCUS

July
2014

Baughurst & Tadley North – Edited by Chris Curtis

Thank You

A big thank you to all 639 electors who voted for me at the Borough Council election in May. The turnout of 42% was one of the highest in the borough (the lowest was 26%). This vote was similar to that achieved by Mike Bound in 2012, however, this time the Conservative held the seat. 'As this election was called at short notice I am not disappointed with a result that maintained the Liberal Democrat vote. The result is one I can now build on for the future. I will continue working with our Liberal Democrat Borough and County Councillors – Mike Bound and Warwick Lovegrove – to resolve local concerns.'

The political composition of the Council's total 60 seats is: Conservatives 29 (lost one seat), Liberal Democrats 8 (held 3, lost 3), Labour 17 (held 5, gained 3), Independent 4 (held 2), UKIP 2 (gained 1). The Council is in 'no overall control'. Two Liberal Democrats now hold committee chairmanships – Cllr Paula Baker chairs the *Manydown Overview Committee* and Cllr Keith Watts is chair of the *Scrutiny Committee*.

Thank you – Chris Curtis

Action: Following up on issues raised



Your Liberal Democrat Focus Team is following up on a number of the issues raised during the campaign:

Footways in Sarum Close and Mornington Close need attention – they are badly in need of sweeping and the uneven paths pose a serious danger to the pedestrians using them;

Road Markings at the junction of Burnham Road and the A340 need re-instating – a clear guide to help people turning left and right could aid motorists getting out on to the A340;

The **Green Waste Campaign** will continue, with the suggestion of a free green-waste collection a strong proposal – the Borough Council has a £1,000,000 fund set aside for green investment which hasn't been used yet;

Fly-tipping continues to be an issue – we will report any instances when we hear about them.

Picture left shows the footway in Mornington Close which needs action



Borough Council Election Result May 22nd 2014

Baughurst & Tadley North Ward

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Robert Tate (Con): | 728 | 39.6% |
| Chris Curtis (LibDem): | 639 | 34.8% |
| Angela Watson (UKIP): | 315 | 17.1% |
| Mary Brian (Labour): | 156 | 8.5% |
| Total Vote – 1,838; | Turnout – 42% | |

Contact Chris Curtis:

☎ 0118 9816070, or

✉ chriscurtis@outlook.com

A Thank You message from Catherine Bearder MEP

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who voted to re-elect me to the European Parliament. I am delighted, and you have my word that I will continue to work tirelessly to represent your views and interests.

Of course, the results overall were disappointing for my party, but I am immensely proud of the campaign the Liberal Democrats fought. We stood up for what we truly believe in and made our argument unashamedly pro-European where others faltered and floundered.

However, the real losers of these elections are the British public because Britain's voice is now weakened in the EU.

Twenty-four UKIP MEPs were elected but will they decide to turn up? They do not have a track record of doing so, and if, as they say they will, they only vote 'no' on legislation, this will be regardless of whether it's in Britain's interests or not.

Those seats should have gone to hard-working MEPs who would have put forward the British argument.

The UK has the third largest number of MEPs and before we have had huge sway in EU policy. Our new weakened status saddens me, as it will the businesses, trades, charities and those that recognise the benefits our EU membership brings.

Thankfully, the South East has six other hard-working MEPs, who will do the work they have been elected to

do, and I look forward to getting stuck in with them in our next term.



Catherine Bearder and team celebrate at the count in Southampton

Catherine Bearder is keen to keep in contact with the people she represents. Details of her work are reported on her website – www.bearder.eu, and if you have any questions Catherine's contact details are –

27 Park End Street, Oxford OX1 1HU

Tel: 01865 249838; Email: catherine@bearder.eu

There is also a short monthly email newsletter which you can sign up to by sending an email entitled "subscribe newsletter" to admin@bearder.eu.

What can we do for YOU?



If you have comments on local issues, or if there is a problem you want to bring to our attention, or have an idea for our area please get in touch with our team.

Email the Baughurst and Tadley North Liberal Democrat Team at 'tandblibdems@outlook.com' or write to Chris and the Team at Malthouse Farm, Pound Green, Baughurst, Tadley, RG26 5SP

My comment is:

Name _____ **Address** _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

You can also return this form to Mike Bound at 7 Sheridan Crescent or Warwick Lovegrove at 27 Huntsmoor Road.

The Lib Dems may contact you from time to time to keep you informed about subjects we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish the information you have provided to be used to help with this. If you give us your phone number, we may call you in future – even if you are TPS registered – unless you let us know otherwise