

Linda Stepney to stand in County Council election

Local Liberal Democrats have chosen Linda Stepney to stand for election to Hampshire County Council in May.

Linda and her husband, Roy, have lived at Bere Hill Farm in Whitchurch for forty years. Their two children attended the local schools. They now have five grandchildren.

Linda has always volunteered for work in the community, including as a helper at the "Rising Fives" and as Secretary of All Hallows Parochial Church Council. Linda is now Secretary and a volunteer driver in Whitchurch Neighbourcare.

Linda campaigned for a "Remain" vote in the European Referendum but that is not an issue in the Hampshire County Council election.

Linda Stepney's priorities for Hampshire are:

1. Effective and compassionate care for elderly and vulnerable adults
2. Traffic calming and more off-road parking
3. Good schools for all the children growing up here.



Whitchurch and The Cleres?
One County Councillor represents Whitchurch and all the parishes north to the Newbury boundary. This year, Kingsclere is added.

Tell Linda what is important to you. Send the form or email linda.stepney1@outlook.com

Linda, please look into this issue:

Name(s)

Address

Telephone Email

If you return this slip the Liberal Democrats and their elected representatives may use the information you have provided to contact you from time to time about issues we think you may find of interest. Some of the contacts may be automated. You can opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.

Return this form to Linda Stepney, 1 Bere Hill Farm, Newbury Road, Whitchurch, RG28 7ED or to Liberal Democrats, Freepost RSLJ-TEXH-HCEZ, Andover, SP10 3TT

New social care funds leave £1 billion gap for next year

Following the Government's budget announcement of extra money for adult social care, England's leading Liberal Democrat Councillor, Gerald Vernon-Jackson of Portsmouth commented:

"There is still a funding gap of £1 billion next year for adult social care. It shows that Liberal Democrats in Hampshire and across the country are right to keep campaigning on the issue.

"But this U-turn by the government shows how wrong they were not to announce any extra funding last month as part of the local government finance settlement. We must remember that the extra money is spread over 3 years – and still leaves a funding gap by 2020."

A school is not just a building

The Education authority can't plan for school expansion until they know where the people are going to live, which is why Lib Dems have been pressing for planning to be speeded up.

There is a Plan for an additional form entry throughout Whitchurch Primary School and 150 additional pupils at Testbourne. Developers of new homes will contribute to the costs; for example, the people now building 83 homes off Blosswood Lane will contribute £410,000 to each school.



But **Linda Stepney** says "a school is more than a building. The County Council must be ready to take on enough teachers and other staff to make every school a good school."

"HCC MUST SPEND WHITCHURCH MONEY ON LOCAL ROADS AND PARKING" SAYS LINDA STEPNEY

Hampshire County Council stands to get a lot of money from developers granted permission for building in Whitchurch. This is supposed to mitigate the effect of new homes and workplaces on traffic and parking. Lib Dem candidate **Linda Stepney** says that it is important for this money to be spent locally, not on new junctions in Basingstoke.

"We desperately need more car parks in order to ease the difficulty drivers experience due to cars parked on roadsides sometimes with little opportunity to pass safely against oncoming traffic." Says Linda "Also, it is often a problem for people living outside the town to be able to park to go shopping etc. as the car parks are taken up with those at work or even living in the vicinity. We are keen for people to shop locally so this needs to be addressed.

"Speed is another issue especially in Micheldever Road outside Testbourne School. The safety of our youngsters is of great importance and it is good to see that the pupils of the school have launched a campaign for action to slow traffic down."

Welcome for new homes

Planning permission has been granted for 100 new homes to be built on land east of Winchester Road and south of Testbourne School.

Supporting the application, Borough Councillor **Keith Watts** said that the plan includes forty "affordable" homes, adding that "the last new affordable home built in Whitchurch was let to tenants in 2008.

"The average (median) time that people registered as in need of affordable homes have to wait is 55 months, which is too long."

Contact: cllr.keith.watts@basingstoke.gov.uk or telephone (01256) 896969

ON THURSDAY 4TH MAY VOTE FOR LINDA STEPNEY



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