

FOCUS

on MILE END

Liberal Democrats



EXCLUSIVE NEWS from your local Lib Dem team Cllr Martin Goss, Anne Turrell (your County Councillor) and your Borough Councillors David King and Phil Coleman.

IMPROVING OUR ROADS



YOUR LIB-DEM TEAM IN MILE END CAMPAIGNING FOR IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MILE END

Many of you may have already seen or used the improvements to the Northern Approach Road where filter lanes have been added heading towards the A134 towards Chesterwell/Kingswood Heath and also heading into Mill Road coming from Chesterwell and Kingswood Heath.

These improvements were funded as part of the infrastructure delivery required by Mersea Homes as part of their house building programme.

In future there will be a further £4,100,000 invested in infrastructure improvements in the North Station area to further accommodate remediation

against traffic increases from the Chesterwell development. This will be some years away as it is based on house number builds and occupancy before the funding is triggered. We will keep you updated on progress.

We are also pushing Essex County Council to look at alternatives for the remaining budget for the Mill Road traffic calming. Essex County Council were unable to deliver the planned measures for the Mill Road entrance by Squirrels Field and Thomas Wakley Close due to technical issues with kerb alignment. We will see what other alternatives ECC suggest and put them to residents for comment.

CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU - Your Lib-Dem Team Supporting residents

Access to Chesterwell off Mile End Road

As you might be aware a planning application was submitted by Mersea Homes to allow temporary access to build 160 houses at the bottom end of the Chesterwell site. This is via the existing cul-de-sac Bartholomew Court.

The original design of Chesterwell was only to ever have access via the Northern Approach Road with no other vehicle accesses allowed apart from the bus gate onto Mile End Road. The reason Mersea Homes submitted this application was due to ongoing commercial discussions for the release of the remaining land.

The land off Bartholomew Court is owned so they can proceed with development but of course this land was always due to

be developed at the end of the 1600 houses being completed. Due to the land ownership release, Mersea Homes would be unable to complete the spine road, hence why they requested temporary access off Mile End Road.

We all strongly objected to the application and ensured it was heard at the Planning Committee where your Councillors Martin Goss and David King spoke leading strong objections to the request. Residents also attended to speak and we thank them for their support.

In the end the committee agreed to up to 5 years access for this land whilst it gets developed and then it must be returned to a bus gate as per the original plans where no access will be allowed to these houses other than via the main spine road as per the original plans.

Better Colchester

The Liberal Democrats lead your award-winning local Borough Council, and are rightly proud of the range and quality of our customer services.

Through our help and your support Colchester has a vibrant local scene, with a great Arts and Culture, and award-winning parks and museums. We keep these up to the standard resident's demand, aware of community needs and looking to do better yet. Your local Councillors play a big part in this.

Martin Goss leads on Environmental issues, from much welcomed town centre improvements, a new focus on the River Colne, to one of the best waste and plastics recycling services in the country.

David King ensures the finances are in good shape, delivering a balanced budget as well as the resources needed for initiatives that range from new Council housing and community

grants and support, to lighting up our Roman walls and our castle and a new 200,000 tree planting 'Woodland Project' to 2024.

Phil Coleman ensures new ideas and the views of the public are heard, leading on the fight for new investment in high quality next generation youth and sports facilities such as the Northern Gateway. Together we work for a Better Colchester, in which to live work and play.

Contact your local Lib Dem team

Cllr Martin Goss

07912 396335 Twitter @MartinGossPPC

Gossmartin@hotmail.com

Cty Cllr Anne Turrell

01206 752418

anneturrell@msn.com

Cllr David King

07738 522641

davidking1868@gmail.com

Cllr Phil Coleman

07808 530587

teachercoleman@hotmail.com

f Mileendcolchester @mileendnews



Local Lib Dems - working hard all year round

NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR MILE END

• LATEST news on Gilbert School expansion

Some of the groundwork's have now been started by Mersea Homes but there is still some ongoing design work regarding the acoustic fence along the A12.

The Gilbert have drafted the admissions policy for the new Trinity School and this will be out for consultation shortly. It should be a simplified version of the Gilbert admissions policy i.e without the music scholarship.

The other point to note is that Essex County Council will no longer be delivering the school. It will be delivered directly by the Department for Education (DFE). Funding was being provided for the school by the DFE anyway, but to Essex County Council. DFE will now appoint contractors and manage the delivery directly before handing the building across in 2021 to the Gilbert management team.



There is no change in opening date for the new school – this is still set for September 2021.

Potholes, drains, kerbs, streetlights

These issues fall under the responsibility of Essex County Council and we report everyone that we find and those that residents report to us. Unfortunately, many are either deemed not for repair or scheduled for repair too far into the future causing issues for longer periods than necessary. Many, such as the blocked drain in Mill Road next to the park have been reported many times by councillors over a long period. According to Essex Highways this particular drain is now scheduled for repair in mid-February!

We have also raised the blocked drain issues in Boxted Road which also cause flooding.

Anyone can report an issue on www.essexhighways.org.



Gymnastics Club

Mile End Ward councillors Goss, King and Coleman agreed to sign off some Section 106 developer funding to allow Colchester School of Gymnastics to complete the resurfacing of their car park. This was followed up by a visit to see the Christmas Gymnastics Show.

Cllr Coleman said: "It was an amazing show with performances from age 2 to adults with breath-taking pieces of work. The club does so much for young people in the borough, gymnastics provides wide ranging benefits including strength, balance, control, discipline and opportunities to perform, and also to coach and volunteer. With 2,000 gymnasts currently at the club (and a waiting list of 2,000) it really is a fantastic club for young people".

Park and Ride

The Park and Ride at the stadium junction on the A12 is now open from 5.30am to 9pm weekdays and 7am to 7pm on Saturdays.

Buses run every 15 minutes and stop at the General Hospital, Station, Maidenburgh and town centre.

Fares

- Adult daily: £3 (Monday to Saturday)
- Adult weekly season ticket: £12
- Adult monthly season ticket: £48 (per calendar month)
- Group daily: £5 (Monday to Saturday all day)
- Children (aged between 5 and 15 years inclusive) - daily £1

Children under 5 years' old travel for free at all time.

GIVING TO GOOD CAUSES

Your Councillors using their Locality Budget to help charities

Every Colchester Borough Councillor is allocated a Locality Budget that can be spent to support a charity, project, good cause or other worthwhile issues within the borough.

Cllr Phil Coleman has used his Locality Budget to support Colchester Foodbank and Colchester Night Shelter. He also donated to cover the cost of running the St Helena Hospice SinglePoint office over the Christmas period. SinglePoint is a 24-hour advice line that doesn't close for Christmas and is available 24 hours a day, their number is 01206 890360. His final contribution was to fund Dance with Parkinsons, a programme to support and stimulate movement for those with Parkinsons.

Further awards of funding for local projects are being made from the remaining budget.



Manager of Colchester Foodbank, Michael Beckett thanking Cllr Phil Coleman for his donation.

Published and promoted by Mile End Liberal Democrats, Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Road, Colchester CO1 2DE. Printed by Solopress 9 Stock Road, Southend-On-Sea SS2 5QF

LOCAL NEWS ROUNDUP

Northern Gateway

Both the sports centre and the rugby club buildings are now fully built out and watertight. The two all-weather pitches are laid and the grass pitches look fantastic. Floodlights for all the pitches have been installed as has the lighting for the now fully surfaced cycle track.

Work has continued despite the recent poor weather and the development is still on schedule for completion in early Summer 2020.

Once complete the facility will be the new home of Colchester Rugby Club, Eastern Rhinos Rugby League Club and Colchester Archery Club and also include a 1.6km cycle track, two all-weather floodlit pitches for rugby and football, four floodlit grass pitches, a sports hall for badminton and cricket along with a coffee shop.

Chesterwell

We have been dealing with a number of issues raised by residents of Chesterwell. On the country park we have raised woodland and drainage pond issues, securing safety fencing and signage, to help keep our children safer. We have done all we can to secure better estate amenity services and information, and made progress. We have also raised the issues concerning the management companies.

We understand your concerns, working as a team and as David King lives on the development. We help with your challenges.

Kingswood Heath

Welcome to the new residents on Kingswood Heath. We have been dealing with a number of issues being raised including parking matters, dog fouling, completion of the play park, management company issues and some house defect concerns.

If you have any issues you wish us to raise on your behalf, please get in touch.

Rosewood

We attended the meeting held with residents to discuss the issues which the developer Crest Nicholson needs to address to ensure all planning matters are legal and compliant.

There are some issues with missing community landscaping and also some of the planning drawings are incorrect regarding building heights. Planning applications are being submitted in conjunction with agreement from affected residents to ensure these matters are made compliant.

Northfields

An enforcement notice has been issued against the developer Linden Homes for non-compliance of the landscaping delivery across the site. Firstly, they are failing to maintain it and secondly it isn't compliant with approved plans. A revised landscaping scheme has been submitted for approval and then once this is agreed with Colchester Council the developer must deliver the scheme to the agreed plan and standard. Failure to comply will mean they will end up in court.

Essex County Council are putting pressure on for the final delivery of all road infrastructure and lighting. We continue to keep the pressure on all stakeholders.

WARNING: Dog fouling

Following a spike in reports of dog fouling please be reminded that the whole borough is covered by a Public Space Protection Order making it an offence to not pick up your dog's mess, THE FINE IS £100, enforceable by the courts.