

Some of the Liberal Democrat Priorities for Britain



Rt Hon Vince Cable MP, Leader of Liberal Democrats NHS

- Saving the NHS by putting a penny in the pound on Income Tax to give the NHS and social care services the cash injection they need
- Transforming mental health care with waiting time standards to match those in physical health care
- Home not hospital: better integration of health and social care and limiting the amount elderly people have to pay for social care

Education

- Investing nearly £7 billion extra in our children's education – increasing school budgets and the Pupil Premium to protect against rising costs and pupil numbers, and introducing a fairer national funding formula
- Investing in high-quality early years education, tripling the Early Years Pupil Premium to £1,000
- Opposing any new selective schools and giving local authorities proper democratic control over admissions and new schools

Economy

- A major programme of capital investment aimed at stimulating growth across all areas of the UK
- Eliminating the deficit on day-to-day spending by 2020 to control the national debt - then borrowing only to invest
- A programme of installing hyperfast, fibre-optic broadband across the UK
- Capital investment in schools and hospitals to support capacity increases and modernisation
- Significant investment in road and rail infrastructure

CONSERVATIVES HAVE RUN DACORUM SINCE 2003 AND HERTFORDSHIRE SINCE 2001
They now run UK as a Minority Government too. Look at the mess we're in.
The Conservatives are the Problem - not the Solution!

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Commuter Parking on a Key Berkhamsted Route



Liberal Democrat members have supported the long-running campaign by local residents to end commuter parking on Bridgewater Road. It is a well-used road. Cars left there all day are both a nuisance and a hazard, dangerously obscuring sight-lines from driveways, requiring bus passengers to stand out in the road and sometimes blocking the road completely. On one occasion, an ambulance taking an elderly person to hospital in an emergency was held up for 15 minutes.

Herts County Council has finally recognised the problem and is now proposing to ban parking between 11.00 am and 12.00 noon, Monday to Friday along the part of Bridgewater Road not already covered by restrictions. The County Council consulted local residents recently in a "public engagement exercise". There will be a full public consultation in September/October.

The Liberal Democrats, the Party for Britain!

To join the Liberal Democrats, as so many are now doing, visit the national website <http://www.libdems.org.uk> or go to <http://www.libdems.org.uk/join>.

To talk to someone locally phone Nick Hollinghurst on 01442 866650 or e-mail nickholl1945@btinternet.com

If you *send us an e-mail*, the Liberal Democrats, locally and nationally, may use information provided, including your political views, to further our objectives, share it with our elected representatives and/or contact you in future using any of the means provided. Some contacts may be automated. You may opt out of some or all contacts or exercise your other legal rights by contacting us. For further details see our Privacy Policy at www.libdems.org.uk/privacy

Berkhamsted DEMOCRAT

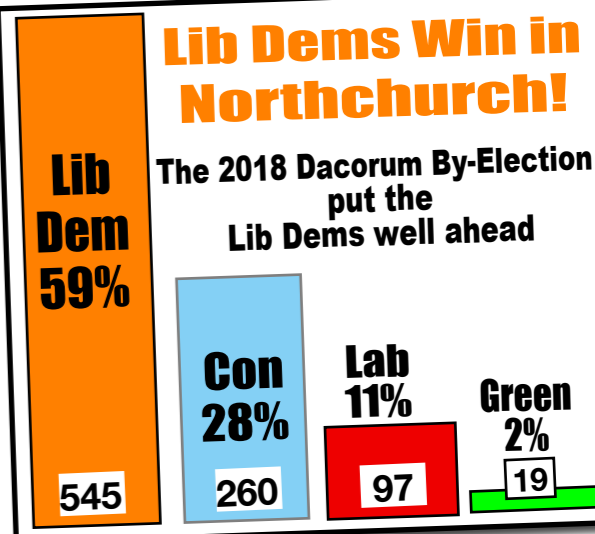


Website: <http://www.BerkhamstedAndTringLibDems.org.uk>

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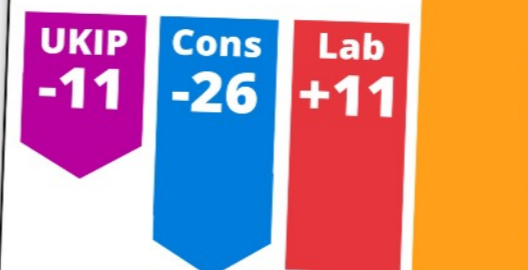
Councillor Lara Pringle - now elected to DBC and to Northchurch Parish Council



In March, in next door Northchurch, the Liberal Democrats won a seat on Dacorum Council and on Northchurch Parish Council in a By-Election.
 Lara's election now gives the Liberal Democrats 5 councillors on DBC

The Liberal Democrats are WINNING across the country

Since the General Election, the Lib Dems have gained seats in local by-elections right across Britain.



Principal by-elections in Britain, June 2017 to 4th July 2018

Across Britain, across Hertfordshire, across Dacorum the Liberal Democrats are winning more and more council by-elections, with Labour lagging behind and UKIP and the Tories losing seats.

The Liberal Democrats, the Party for Britain!

Last year, they increased the number of MPs to 12 in the General Election and recently did very well in the Lewisham East Parliamentary By-Election. And now they're on the rise again in the opinion polls.



The Liberal Democrats have more members nationally than the Conservatives.
 This makes them UK's second largest political party.



The New Liberal Democrat Team on Dacorum Borough Council

Introducing, from left to right...

Ron Tindall is the **Liberal Democrat Group Leader**, a councillor for **Adeyfield West** and is also Herts County Councillor for **Hemel Hempstead St Pauls**.

Ron has had lengthy experience in public affairs and politics in the trades union movement. He is interested in adult care, policing, public health and the Family Centres and campaigns for improvements to mental health services. He serves on three committees: Development Management; Finance & Resources Scrutiny; Audit.

Lara Pringle, recently elected as the councillor for **Northchurch**, is also a member of **Northchurch Parish Council**.

Lara has worked as a barrister in the public sector for 25 years and is interested in planning, road safety and good governance in local councils. She serves on the Housing & Community Scrutiny Committee.

Brenda Link is a councillor for **Highfield**.

Brenda is interested in reducing Anti-Social behaviour and works hard on the important Licensing and Appeals Committees.

Adrian England is a councillor for **Adeyfield West**.

Adrian has worked for a housing association and is interested in social housing and in recycling. He is a member of the Housing & Community Scrutiny and the Health in Dacorum Committees.

Roxanne Ransley is a councillor for **Tring Central** and is also a member of **Tring Town Council**

Roxanne is interested in sports provision, better services for Tring, Northchurch and Berkhamsted and is a member of the Strategic Planning & Environment Scrutiny Committee.

Herts Fire & Rescue Service is Still at Risk of Takeover by Police & Crime Commissioner

The Liberal Democrats right across the County are leading the opposition against attempts by the local Police & Crime Commissioner to take over Hertfordshire's Fire & Rescue Service.



On 11th July Dacorum Councillors unanimously voted for a Lib Dem Motion instructing the Chief Executive to write to the Home Office to insist that "the Fire & Rescue Service should remain under the control and democratic accountability of Hertfordshire County Council." Lib Dem County Councillor for Hemel Hempstead St. Paul's, Ron Tindall, proposed the Motion arguing that: "the service is highly effective and the evidence does not support the need for such a move" and stating

that, "The Commissioner's revised bid to the Home Office showed a lack of understanding of the service, and his calculations are not based in reality."

All 78 Herts County Councillors agreed to oppose the Police & Crime Commissioner's bid to take over the Fire & Rescue Service when he made it last summer. They repeated their opposition on 18th June.

Cllr Tindall concluded, "Our Fire & Rescue Service should not be a political prize. It should be overseen by the 78 County Councillors, who are far more able to listen to the people and whose scrutiny is far more robust."

Similar motions are proposed or have been passed already by Watford, Three Rivers, St Albans,

Berkhamsted Multi Storey Car Park



Dacorum Borough Council has now contracted for this expensive monstrosity in Lower Kings Road with space for 327 cars. Work will start this September with a planned completion date of June/July 2019. While the work goes on we will lose a net 36 parking spaces in the centre of Berkhamsted. The disruption will be considerable and will carry on right through the important Christmas trading period.

The Borough has decided The Moor, which is owned by the Borough will be the "best" location for alternative parking during construction. A temporary surface will be laid over the grass and will provide 85 parking spaces at a cost of £100,000. It could take the Moor over two years to recover afterwards. A planning application for this change of use is expected to be rushed through in September.

Residents of Castle Street and Mill Street can look forward to a prolonged period of traffic chaos, since access to and from The Moor will pose challenges, especially for visitors to the Town who may be unfamiliar with the roads and narrow junctions. Moreover those roads are crossed several times a day by students moving between school buildings - an obvious increase in risk.

Berkhamsted has an acute traffic problem already. Air quality is deteriorating and the Borough has not answered warnings of worsening traffic congestion and air pollution.

People with long memories will recall the angry debates on the Controlled Parking Schemes, which also divided the Town Council Tories, leading later to a resignation.

It is now far too late to stop this project. First announced by Dacorum's Tory Council Leader 6 years ago during a budget debate without consultation, information or explanation. Just like the recent deplorable Leisure Service decision, he and the other Tory Borough councillors have turned a deaf ear to objections and constructive suggestions.

Even at the original estimate of £3 million the project failed to meet DBC's usual investment criteria. It's worse now as the cost has soared to over £5.1 million. Each of the 206 additional parking spaces will cost around £25,000. Proposed parking charges have not yet been made public - but keep a look-out for any announcement. With capital costs like these, it's obvious that those charges could be very high indeed.

After 10 years of austerity following the banking crash, money is tight in the public sector. Yet, like the minority Tory government which squandered a billion pounds buying support from the DUP, in Dacorum the Tories are squandering taxpayers' money on a contentious scheme that they're foisting on Berkhamsted. The Tories are reckless spendthrifts - with other people's money.

Why support them any longer? When the Tories come calling, **just say "No, thanks!"**

"Mind the Gap" and Keep the Playground Clean," says Liberal Democrat Town Councillor Freda Earl

Like the rest of us, Cllr Earl is worried about the use of the Moor as a temporary car park - but she's also been trying to get two problems fixed by Dacorum Borough Council, which owns it. One problem is the damage to the railings beside the road bridge over the stream. As she points out, "The ground below the railings is loose and on a steep slope. A toddler could slip down and under the gap at the bottom. And where a bar is missing from the railings an older child could slip through and fall into the water below." (pictures on left)



The other problem is that the playground is not demarcated from the rest of the Moor in any way - so there is nothing to keep dogs out.

This exposes young children to the possibility of getting a worm infection from dog dirt.

