

## 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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## Collecting waste from flats, terraces or businesses - DBC could do better!

"Dacorum needs to re-think recycling for residents in flats," claims Lib Dem Dacorum councillor, Adrian England, who gives an example in Hemel Hempstead where 18 flats have to share just 6 recycling containers that should be emptied weekly. Adrian claims that this is insufficient capacity and DBC is failing to collect all of the recyclable waste.

Nick Hollinghurst, Lib Dem county councillor for Tring & the Villages agrees. "The county council is responsible for disposing of the county's waste but borough councils like Dacorum are responsible for collecting it. After a long run of ever improving recycling rates we're noticing that these are now levelling off. Councils such as Dacorum now need to pay greater attention to the more difficult premises such as flats, terraces and businesses. Here in Tring I've had complaints of missed collections at flats and businesses - and in hot weather that's most unpleasant!"



## 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](mailto: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](http://www.libdems.org.uk/privacy)

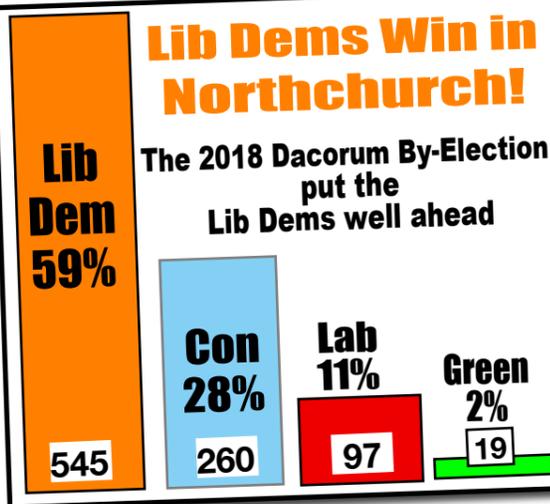
# Tring & Villages DEMOCRAT



Website: <http://www.BerkhamstedAndTringLibDems.org.uk> Edited by Nick Hollinghurst Summer 2018



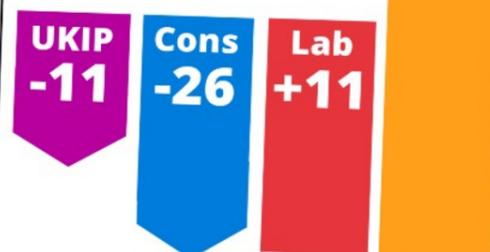
Councillor Lara Pringle - now elected to DBC and to Northchurch Parish Council



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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 on councils. She sits 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,

## Tring is Neglected Under Latest Policing Cuts.

"Policing levels for Tring have now reached such low levels that some nights there's only 1 PCSO on duty in Tring - and one in Berkhamsted," claims local Lib Dem Town Councillor John Bowden. "So if our PCSO is called away to assist in Berkhamsted that would leave the town without any police of any sort at all!"

John points out that our local Police & Crime Commissioner has increased the money we have to pay for policing. Every household in Dacorum is now having to pay £1.50 a week extra - but crime is now rising nationally after years of cuts and Tring and Berkhamsted in particular are being left without cover.

"A lot of the time all we have left is a telephone in the street - outside a Police Station we can't access. We're paying more money for policing, but getting less. You could say it's criminal!"

**How long can this go on before the public totally lose confidence?**



## Are the new arrangements at Tring Sports Centre right for the town?



Last February, Dacorum Borough Council concluded a bizarre re-tendering operation for the management of our Sports and Leisure Centres. Many people felt this was "flawed", because it appeared biased against one of the bidders. Despite massive protest and several challenges which were led by the Lib Dems, the Tory administration eventually won a vote to proceed. However because of absences, abstentions and a minor Tory revolt that vote ended up being **supported by fewer than half of Dacorum's councillors**.

Following that vote - which was hardly a mandate for radical change - the management for most of the sports facilities was taken away from locally based *SportSpace* and a new contract was awarded to *Everyone Active*, aka *Sports & Leisure Ltd*, based in Leicestershire but a subsidiary of *Castle View Ventures Ltd* in Stirlingshire. *Everyone Active* already runs 150 sports and leisure centres, so we will now be dealing with a large impersonal organisation without any democratic accountability, instead of a local not-for-profit company with a number of Dacorum councillors as nominated directors.

Now, after 10 years of pressure by Liberal Democrat councillors, our Tory-run Borough Council has finally decided to do something about sports facilities in Tring. They will invest £1.5 million in the swimming pool, renewing the old, inefficient heating system and refurbishing the interior. This is why the pool was shut on the 5th August and will not re-open again until the end of January 2019.

*Everyone Active* will be responsible for the swimming pool and the management of the Sports Centre until 1st April 2019 and from then on Tring School - now an Academy and part of the *Ridgeway Learning Partnership* - will be responsible for running the centre.

However, **Roxanne Ransley**, a Lib Dem Borough Councillor in Tring has several concerns. She asks, "What kind of the contract is there between DBC and *Ridgeway*? Will the school retain the charges but pay DBC for the right to run the centre - as *Everyone Active* does in Berkhamsted? *Ridgeway* is said to be renewing the Sports Hall and the external sports areas. What will be the financing deal there? There were design flaws when the swimming pool was originally built - will these be put right?"

She also worries about access and charges. She points out, "The school promised there will be all-year-round access - but the new arrangements aren't in place yet. Will access be part of their contract with DBC? More to the point, will a busy mixed-ability school have the resources and expertise to run and promote a sports centre as well? If they have to sub-contract management back to *Everyone Active*, this will be an extra cost for them. I wouldn't want to see any increase in charges to the public - compared to Luton or elsewhere charges at Tring are significantly more expensive already!"