

Mile End FOCUS



Edited by Cllr. Martin Goss

June 2012

Getting in touch with your local Lib Dem team

Cllr. Martin Goss

E-mail: martin@mileendlibdems.org
Phone: 07912 396335

Cllr. Anne Turrell

160 Mile End Road, CO4 5DY
E-mail: anneturrell@msn.com
Phone: 752418

Cllr. Scott Greenhill

E-mail: scott@mileendlibdems.org
Phone: 07973 370114

Sir Bob Russell MP

Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Road, CO1 2DE
E-mail: info@bobrussell.org.uk
Phone: 506600

www.bobrussell.org.uk

Martin Goss says, "Thank You Mile End!"



Martin Goss re-elected to Borough Council

Martin Goss wants to sincerely thank everyone who voted for him at the recent Colchester Council elections. Martin said "The weather didn't help us on the day, but I am really pleased that 64% of those who voted put their support behind me and I have been very humbled by the many emails and messages I have received from the wonderful residents of Mile End and Braiswick. You can rest assured I will continue to work hard for the area all year round with Scott and Anne."

The election results from Mile End on Thursday May 3rd 2012

Lib Dem Martin Goss 64%

Martin Goss and the Lib Dem team would like to thank everyone who supported him during this election. They will continue to work for all Mile End residents so please let them know if you need their help!

Con 24%

Lab 8%

Green 4%

GRAFFITI WATCH: CATCHING THE CULPRITS

There have been various issues with graffiti at the Turner Rise/Peto Avenue Tunnel, Allotments building on Bergholt Road, Cymbeline Meadows underpass, and the North station area. All graffiti has been removed quickly by Colchester Council but we are working with the police to carry out covert operations to catch those responsible once and for all. All graffiti is photographed and logged centrally so evidence is always building against the culprits. Please report any graffiti to us so we can take action for you.

MERSEA HOMES TO SUBMIT PLANNING APPLICATION FOR 1,600 HOMES IN THE BERGHOLT ROAD AREA

As you will be aware, Mersea Homes own zoned land in Mile End which is set for future housing development. The land is between Mile End Road and Bergholt Road and extends up to Nayland Road where the old Cants Rose fields are. Originally up to 2,200 homes were planned for this area and building could start from 2016.

We have been looking at ways, along with Sir Bob Russell, to either reduce or rid ourselves of this housing. The history is long and complicated and we have explored many avenues and options. A review of the Local Development Framework (LDF) which Governs all development policies and future housing sites in Colchester will commence from December 2012 as promised. This review will cost around £100k and will take several years. The review will be heard in public by a Government Inspector once completed.

In the meantime, to help further complicate matters, Mersea Homes have decided to move an outline Planning Application for 1,600 homes. They will be submitting the planning application in the week commencing on the 25th June. The Planning Committee will hear this around November 2012. Unfortunately, Mersea Homes are within their legal rights to move this application. Residents can object to Planning Applications, but this has to be done on relevant Planning

grounds which are governed by UK Planning Law and Council Planning Policy.

Mersea Homes plan to display their Planning Application at the Sports Pavilion, Mile End Playing Fields, Fords Lane, Mile End on 18th July 16.00 – 20.00 where residents can visit and ask questions. The stand will then be on display for around 4 weeks at the Myland Community Halls, Mile End Road and will be found in the main foyer during core opening hours.

If the plans do get approved, no houses can be built before 2016 and an application of this size will take several years to get through the entire planning system due to the fundamental impact it would have on our area and the infrastructure changes involved.

We will of course keep you informed on this fundamentally important issue and continue to fight against it, along with local residents.

Redrow Homes

We have asked the Planning Department once again to take action against Redrow Homes for their slow completion of the roads at Mortimer Gardens off Mill Road. We will keep the pressure on so this area is finally completed.

Pedestrian Safety - A Top Priority!

There have been a number of issues raised with us again by some very passionate local residents about the safety of our school children and parents whilst crossing to both Myland School and Queen Boudica School. There are various requirements for improvements across Mile End, but the Tory controlled Essex County Council who are accountable and responsible for these improvements don't seem to have pedestrian safety as one of their main priorities across Essex.

The following is in progress:

A new zebra crossing is being installed during the Whitsun holidays outside Myland School on Mill Road. This happened after we insisted it was included as part of a Planning condition of the Tubswick development (which of course we did object to initially at the Planning committee).

A meeting took place on May 14th between Essex County Council, the Lib Dem Team and parents to discuss the dangerous crossing at the Mill Road/Northern Approach Road where many parents and their children are forced to huddle together on small traffic islands whilst traffic zooms past them at over 40 MPH. We await their response to all the points we raised.

A petition is doing the rounds in Mile End via both Myland School, Queen Boudica School and at the Co-op calling for a safer crossing to the Gilbert School. We are working with the Highwoods Independent

Group on putting pressure on Essex County Council to improve the pedestrian route for our children

Signage has been improved along the Northern Approach Road by the Wallace Road junction for those attempting to get to Queen B school. However, we don't believe these improvements are good enough and will continue to push for better crossing facilities or a speed reduction in that area

The pathway via the Primary Care Trust building to Queen B school is moving forwards. The land is zoned, the planning permission is approved and now positive conversations are moving forwards with Linden Homes building the pathway. This will allow for safer crossing and dedicated access to the school

A crossing will be provided at the Boxted Road/Northern Approach Road area as part of the future development of Severalls. Funding will come from the developer of Severalls Phase 2 and we will push to bring this forwards as quickly as possible

The zebra crossing at the bottom of Bergholt Road has been repainted following our request to improve visibility in the area

Please do get in touch if you would like to help us with our campaign to improve pedestrian safety in our area.



POTHOLE REPORT

We have escalated our concern for the disgusting state of our roads locally to Joanna Killian the Chief Executive of Essex County Council and Paul Bird the Director of Highways. We have highlighted Bergholt Road, Bakers Lane, Defoe Crescent, Braiswick pavements, Turner Road, Kingswood Road, Northern Approach Road and parts of Mill Road amongst others.

We are told most of these areas are down to be fixed, but frustratingly they just won't tell us when! The service has deteriorated in the last 12 months but you can rest assured these highly paid civil servants are being held to account by us locally.

We will now email each and every pot hole to these people personally as it seems the standard process does not work!

Printed, published and promoted by Owen Howell on behalf of Colchester Liberal Democrats, all at Magdalene Hall, Wimpole Rd, Colchester, CO1 2BR

Travel and Traffic

Traffic Safety: Anne Turrell has raised concerns with Essex County Council about drivers who are heading for the NAR are still turning left at the traffic lights after the railway bridge trying to get to Mile End Road. Essex County Council are investigating this issue and have been asked to look at safety improvements.

Tackling speeding: We asked the police to carry out speed checks on both Bergholt Road and Boxted Road with some success. A number of drivers were stopped and spoken to. These initiatives will continue. The police have also asked if anyone is interested in working to set up a resident-led speed watch initiative where residents carry out speed checks with radar guns and report any speeding cars. Please let us know.

Peto Avenue

Good news! The new owners of the Turner Rise Retail park have agreed the budget for new lighting for the pathway from Peto Avenue to Asda and also to renew all of their pathways as they are in a poor condition. The new owners who took the reins at Christmas have been proactive in working with us to deliver this and we want to thank them for their efforts. We will publish the date as soon as we know it.

Bergholt Rail Gateway

Network Rail and Greater Anglia have now asked for a delivery plan for the Bergholt Road gateway. This is being pulled together and sent for approval. We are getting closer on this project being delivered!

New Braiswick park Playground

The developer Persimmon homes is still responsible for some remedial work on the playground at New Braiswick Park. We have written to the Managing Director or Persimmon asking for urgent action. We believe this playground will be open by the summer.

We want to hear from YOU!

Name _____
 Address _____
 Email _____ Tel _____

I think something should be done about...

Dog Wardens on patrol

Undercover patrols continue in Mile End with the dog wardens. If you see anyone letting their dog foul, please write down the date, time, location, description of the person and description of the dog. We will pass any details on so the offenders can be caught and prosecuted.

CO-OP parking & Nayland Road

Essex County Council have been asked to look at how parking can be improved around the Co-op area. There are normally real congestion issues at peak time, where cars are double parked and buses are unable to pass. The Co-op is also in contact with Greene King at a senior level about customers being able to use the Dog and Pheasant car park, as currently customers have been banned from parking there when nipping to the Co-op.

Boxted Road

There have been various issues in Boxted Road with blocked drains, mud on the pavement, blocked drains in Walnut Drive and the road not being swept properly. An onsite meeting was held by the Mile End team with Colchester Council and some improvements to these issues have been agreed. Some of the work has already been completed and some further work is planned. We will keep the pressure on until this area is up to the standard we all expect.

Return to: Colchester Lib Dems, Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Rd, Colchester. FREEPOST NAT6287. CO1 2DE

The Lib Dems and their elected representatives may use the information you provide to contact you about issues you may find of interest. Some of these contacts may be automated. You can opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.