

BRAISWICK

FOCUS

Editor:
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www.bobrussell.org.uk

Labour can't win in Colchester!

The result from the last general election shows that Labour cannot possibly win here next

**LIB
DEM
47%**

**CON
33%**

time.

At this year's County Council elections, people voting Labour or Green helped the Conservatives to hold onto one of their seats.

**Lab
19%**

A12 Junction Delivered

After being talked about for years, Scott Greenhill and the Mile End team are pleased to announce that work started in December 09 on the new A12 junction. The junction will open in March 2011 with the extension to the Northern Approach Road opening later in 2012. When finished it will reduce congestion in our area.

Cllr. Anne Turrell and Lib Dem led Colchester Borough Council are pushing the County Council to accelerate construction of the new 1,000 space Park and Ride which will be based nearby to really help get Colchester's traffic moving.

Scott said "The delivery of the A12 junction and Northern Approach Road extension is excellent news for North Colchester. This is another example of the Liberal Democrats doing the things others only talked about."

Hospital Parking Update

A public meeting was arranged by Scott, Martin and Anne in November which was attended by 100 residents. Essex County Council (ECC), Essex Police, Primary Care Trust (PCT) and Colchester Hospital were all represented. Essex County Council announced that they didn't consider there to be a parking problem in any of the side roads off Turner Road which understandably didn't go down well with the audience or local residents.

Scott said "The police, PCT and Colchester Hospital all agree there is a parking issue and fully support the introduction of Yellow Lines. I am surprised that ECC do not appear to be listening to the very taxpayers who fund it!"

A petition has been started and Anne will present this to Essex County Council in January calling for action.

Bob Russell calls for inquiry into snow chaos

Colchester MP Bob Russell has called on the Local Government Minister to hold an Inquiry into the chaos which has been caused by the recent snow – particularly so far as it relates to the salting of roads and pavements.

In his letter to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, the Rt Hon John Denham MP, Mr Russell said: "There has been considerable criticism throughout the country about the lack of gritting and snow clearance by the local authorities responsible."

"In Colchester there has been, at best, minimal gritting on main roads only. Other than the Town Centre, the pavements have been particularly treacherous."

Mr Russell said that he made no criticism of those who had been out in all hours doing gritting, but rather with **Essex County Council who are responsible for highways**. "Many people think, wrongly, that Colchester Borough Council is at fault. They are not. All criticisms should be directed at Essex County Council."



Anne Turrell celebrating at the site where Northern Approaches Road Three will meet the A12

New homes consultation - have your say!

Colchester Borough Council are holding two open days in Mile End and Braiswick to allow local residents to see high level proposals for potential housing on the land between Mile End Road and Bergholt Road.

The dates and locations are:

Braiswick Golf Club - Braiswick **Thursday**

11th Feb 15.00 - 20.00

St Michaels Church Hall - Mile End Road

Saturday 13th Feb 10.00 - 15.00

Please ensure you come along to have your say. Your views will make a difference and help shape the future potential shape of North Colchester over the next couple of decades.

The new housing development has been given the go ahead in principle but your attendance is absolutely vital to influence the details and stop future mistakes.

Scouting in Mile End

Since April 2009, 1st Myland St. Michael's Troop has been going through something of a revival.

The Troop is currently meeting in conjunction with 1st Great Horkesley until numbers increase, and meetings are every Thursday during school term time.

The Scout organisation is open to girls and boys from the age of 10½ to 14 and offers the chance to participate in a variety of activities including cooking, camping and sports which are not only great fun but also teaches useful life skills.

The Troops have quickly grown to a cumulative 19 strong since inception and they are going from strength to strength. If you would like to get your children involved in the Scouting experience, further information about enrolment or events can be obtained from Bill Miller (Group Scout Leader on 844313) or John Moulding (1st Myland Scout Leader on 07791 949324).

Happy New Year from Braiswick Liberal Democrats

Mill Road Update

Action is being taken on Mill Road following a nasty accident where a speeding car ended up through the front of two houses on Mill Road.

Scott requested that a regular speed check is carried out by Essex Police to help catch speeding motorists. Essex County Council are also monitoring the average speed of traffic in the area following his request to them for traffic calming to be investigated.

Flooding issues are also being dealt with on Mill Road and two new drainage gullies are being added to help drain off surface water.

"Keep Clear" has also been painted on Mill road outside Bedford Road and Romulus Close to help residents exit their streets during peak periods.

We promised action and have delivered for local residents.

Listed building burns down

You may have read that "Tubswick" the house made famous by Daniel Defoe, sadly burnt down recently. Arson is suspected and a police investigation is underway.

The house was shortly due to undergo renovations.

Martin said "I had asked Colchester Borough Council to investigate what could be done to restore this house to its former glory. The Planning Department had been working positively with the owners many months before this sad event. I hope that the remaining shell can still be restored."

Thanks for the new bin!

Dentist Stephen Pitt of the Bergholt Road Dental Studio and Marie of Beauty by the Bay on Bergholt Road both gave donations so a new litter bin could be installed towards the top end of Bergholt Road by the request stop.

Scott said "It is great to see local businesses investing in helping to keep their area clean. Local residents really appreciate it."

New Speed Sign for Mile End Road

A speed check has been carried out on Mile End Road and the average speed near the bottom end of Mile End Road is found to be above average. A new Vehicle Activated speed sign will be installed during 2010.

Local campaigner Scott Greenhill commented: "Sadly a resident was killed at the bottom end of Mile End Road several years ago. We hope this action will help prevent anything like this ever occurring again."

Mile End ward surgery



Bob Russell MP, Scott Greenhill, Anne Turrell and Martin Goss are holding a ward surgery in the Methodist Church Hall on Nayland Road (opposite the Defoe Crescent junction) on Saturday 30th January between 10.00am - Middy.

Please come along for coffee and chat about issues which are concerning you.

Free trees initiative!

The Trees for Years Initiative 2010 will be taking place on Saturday 23rd January 2010. The free trees will be given out between 10am – 3pm from Rowan House car park off Sheepen Road. The trees are available to all residents, although there is a maximum allocation of three trees per resident.

BRAISWICK UPDATES FROM SCOTT GREENHILL



ROADS RESURFACING

Scott, Martin and Anne have asked that Bakers Lane, Bergholt Road and the Fernlea

Development are all added as part of the Top 6 list of roads and pavements in Mile End which need resurfacing.

We will keep up the pressure on Essex County Council.

FLOODING ISSUES

Work has begun to finally resolve the flooding problem at the bottom end of Braiswick. A drain has been repaired and work continues between Colchester Borough Council, Moody Homes, Braiswick

Golf Club and local residents to finish remedial works to ensure flooding is eliminated as far as possible.

NEW COMMUNITY FACILITIES AT NEW BRAISWICK PARK

Persimmon Homes are currently marketing some proposed retail units, which providing they get interest, will build them as part of Phase 3 of New Braiswick Park. A new community centre is also planned as part of this phase.

Please contact us if you require further information.

CYMBELINE MEADOWS UNDERPASS

Following a long running battle we have finally managed to get all the lights repaired in the Cymbeline Meadows Underpass.

The graffiti will also be removed after we finally persuaded Essex County Council to purchase some paint!

Your Lib Dem team working for you

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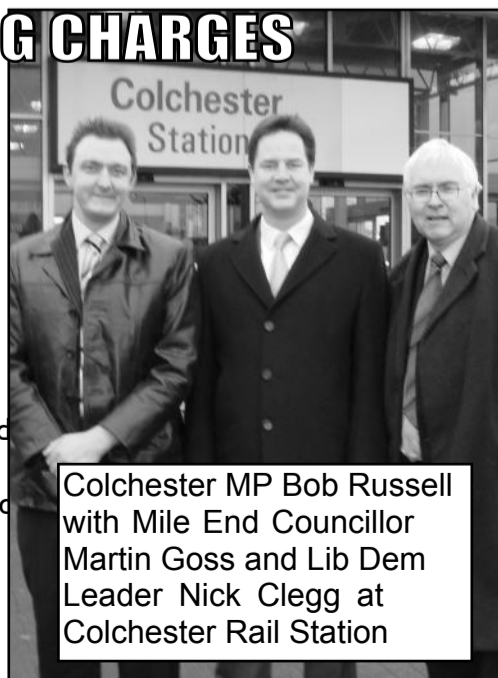


ALL YEAR ROUND!

BOB RUSSELL PUSHES FOR REDUCED STATION PARKING CHARGES

Working with the Mile End team, Bob Russell has written to the Chief Executive of National Express calling for them to drastically reduce their car-parking charges at North Station.

Bob said "The amount of commuters who now park on Mile End Road, Bergholt Road and Braiswick is absolutely ridiculous. Mile End is not a free car-park and I have asked National Express to charge sensible parking charges. Their car-park is now half empty due to their high charges. Surely they want it full?"



Colchester MP Bob Russell with Mile End Councillor Martin Goss and Lib Dem Leader Nick Clegg at Colchester Rail Station

3 things to remember about Bob's expenses when attending to MP's duties in London

1. – his claims are amongst the lowest 10% in Britain
2. – they are lower than every Tory and Labour MP in Essex and Suffolk
3. – Bob has the highest attendance record of any MP in East Anglia, and of any opposition MP in the whole of the UK