

Happy New Year from Anne, Martin and Bob!



Martin Goss (right) and Stephen Pitt with the sign

Skullduggery at the Bergholt Road Dental Studio!

For the third year on successive Christmas Days, the Dental Studio on Bergholt Road has been affected by strange vandalism where the sign has been changed!

This year a skull with a Christmas hat was added with the words "A very mental dental studio Christmas".

Anne said: "Stephen Pitt who runs the surgery is an absolute pillar of the local community. He gets involved locally and has donated money to the Mill Road playground redevelopment. I am extremely surprised he is being targeted in this very strange way"

The police are investigating this event and should anyone have any information please contact Anne, Martin or Bob so it can be passed on in confidence.

A12 junction - latest status

You may have seen the front page of the "Gazette" on 30th December 2008 where Bob Russell MP has confirmed that the Minister for Roads has intimated very strongly during written Parliamentary Questions from Bob that the new A12 junction will start in 2009.

Anne said: "As Colchester Council Leader I have been involved along with Bob, Cllr Lyn Barton, Essex County Council representatives and other third parties in getting ready to finalise the deal as early in 2009 as possible. If all goes well and the deal is signed, the road would be opened in 2011."

A12 by Weston Homes Stadium



Bergholt Road redevelopment project - Get involved!

As part of a community initiative for 2009 a project will be kicked off by Myland Parish Council to look at working with Colchester Borough Council to completely redevelop and upgrade the recreation space at Bergholt Road. Success would be down to funding being gained from external sources and also the local community getting fully involved.

A similar project attracted around £100,000 of grant funding for the Mile End Mill Road play-area which opened officially in September 2008. The area now also includes a new youth shelter and basketball hoop which has full lighting and CCTV as well as under 12's play area.

Martin said: "If any local residents, children or young adults want to get involved, please contact Anne or myself for information so we can pass your details onto the project group. It is vital local residents come forwards and get fully involved."

Secondary Schools - Support Option 4!

You may have attended one of the open consultation workshops which have been going on around Colchester to discuss the options for our secondary schools being put forwards by Tory Lord Hanningfield, Leader of Essex County Council. After much public consultation it appears the residents of Colchester clearly do not want the three options put forwards by his Lordship!

Option 4 This would see Stanway, Alderman Blaxill and Thomas Lord Audley Schools joined together as a federation school under the leadership of Mr Tippet, who is the head of Stanway.

It would also see a new school being built on the existing Sir Charles Lucas site at Greenstead and potentially money also released to improve or rebuild St Helena. The existing options which are not supported include shutting Alderman Blaxill and TLA.

The Head of Stanway School, Mr Tippet has put forward this much vaunted and publicly supported option 4.

If Alderman Blaxill and TLA shut then other schools would get bigger. Philip Morant would need to be expanded, meaning greenbelt land would be built on and the school roll would increase to over 2,000 pupils. Gilbert School would also need to expand to take in extra pupils, as well as all the new pupils which will be generated by the extra 3,700 homes which will be built in North Colchester from 2012.

Anne said: "When this was debated at the full Colchester Borough Council meeting in December the Tory opposition were against option 4 and suddenly came up with option 5 without any discussion or consultation with residents. Colchester Borough Council's Lib Dem led administration is fully supportive of option 4." Lord Hanningfield is set to publish his personal decision in January 2009.



Vehicle activated sign in Braiswick

The vehicle activated sign has now been installed at Braiswick and is fully functioning.

Anne said: "I am thrilled that we have finally got the sign installed and working! We are campaigning to get a second sign for drivers travelling towards Bergholt Road but this will be dependent on funds. Traffic has definitely slowed since the sign was installed."



Parking review update!

In the first quarter of 2009, Colchester Borough Council are due to publish their proposed changes to the residents parking arrangements for the Prior Way area, Bergholt Road and Mile End Road.

Any proposed changes will be driven from all the feedback from the 100 participants who responded to the CBC letter from the summer of 2008.

Martin said: "I want to thank all those residents who took part and responded. All feedback will be used to make any parking scheme changes."

**Your Lib Dem team
working for you**



ALL YEAR ROUND!

County and Borough Councillor Anne Turrell

Tel: 752418 Email: cllr.anne.turrell@colchester.gov.uk

Councillor Martin Goss

Tel: 844734

Email: cllr.martin.goss@colchester.gov.uk



Bob Russell MP

www.bobrussell.org.uk

Tel: 506600

Email: info@bobrussell.org.uk

Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Rd, Colchester CO1 2DE

Andrew Duff MEP

Lib Dem Leader in the European Parliament

Tel: 01223 566700 Email: mep@andrewduffmep.org

Please tell us what you think!

We need to know your problems/comments on local issues. Please write them down in the space provided below.

Please return to:

Mile End & Braiswick
Focus Team,
FREEPOST
NAT6287, Magdalen
Hall, Wimpole Road,
Colchester CO1 2BR

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Help us to help you:

- I will display a poster for the Lib Dems at election time
- I can deliver a few leaflets from time to time in my area.
- I'd like to join the Lib Dems. Please provide me with more information.
- I enclose a donation for Focus, payable to "Liberal Democrats" for £.....
- A donation of £10 or more entitles you to membership of the Liberal Democrats. Please tick if you don't wish to be enrolled

We may write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose. Published, printed and promoted by Anne Turrell on behalf of Colchester Liberal Democrats, Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Road, Colchester CO1 2DE.