

FOCUS on Mile End

Edited by Cllr. Anne Turrell

September 2010



A12 Junction and Northern Approaches Part 3 on their way!



Cllr. Anne Turrell celebrating the arrival of the new A12 junction!

The new A12 Junction (secured thanks to your Liberal Democrat led Council) is ahead of schedule and heading for a November 2010 opening date.

The planning application for the Park and Ride is almost complete and should be ready for planning at Essex County Council in the Autumn this year, with an opening date scheduled for 2012.

Northern Approaches Road 3 is still on schedule to open in 2012.

Once all these road infrastructure projects are complete we in Mile End can look forward to less traffic through our area.

Mile End housing update

Many of you will be aware of possible plans to build 2,200 homes on land between Nayland Road, Bergholt Road and Mile End Road from 2016. **Anne, Martin and Scott are against this housing and have been trying to fight plans to reduce or remove this site allocation.**

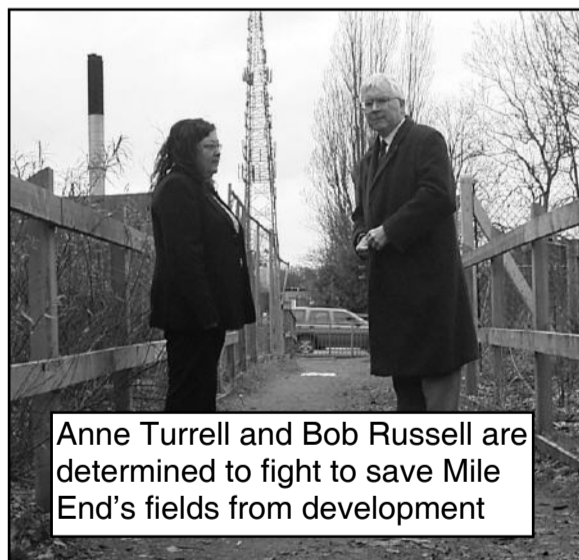
We are pleased that the **Coalition Government have scrapped housing targets as the Liberal Democrats pledged.** However this is still a rapidly changing situation so Colchester Council are having to tread carefully.

Currently the 1500 homes planned for Severalls are being slowed as the land is owned by two parties – the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and NHS Mental Health Trust. The HCA is currently progressing with plans for 230 homes near the Brinkley Grove end of the site, but the NHS trust have gone on record as saying they will only sell the land for development when the “land price is right.”

In the meantime, work will continue to see what changes need to be made around North Station as at peak time the area is equivalent to being in a car park!

We will keep you updated on progress.

Work will also commence on upgrading North Station train station shortly which will be a welcome addition.



Anne Turrell and Bob Russell are determined to fight to save Mile End's fields from development

Travellers Site Application

A new planning application has been submitted to renew the Travellers' site off Severalls Lane. The original application was made in 2007 by Essex County Council who are the authority responsible for delivery of Travellers' sites. The planning application has now lapsed and therefore Essex County Council need to renew the application.

If you wish to express your objection or

support for this application please email Planning.Services@colchester.gov.uk. All comments must be made by 24th September 2010. Objections also need to be made on Planning grounds.

Technically the site is in Highwoods ward, but it borders Mile End.

If you need any advice, please contact Anne, Martin or Scott.

If you have any questions please e mail the Mile End Focus Team.

9am bus pass start under threat

Essex County Council are currently undertaking a consultation about the bus pass scheme, including looking at returning to a 9.30am start.

Responsibility for the bus pass scheme has just returned to the County Council. When the **Liberal Democrat led coalition took over Colchester Borough Council** one of the first things they did was restore the 9am bus pass start.

County Councillor **Anne Turrell** commented: 'When Colchester Borough Council was responsible for the scheme we made sure that residents could use their bus pass from 9am.'

The County Council has rejected Liberal Democrat calls for the consultation to be sent to all registered bus pass holders in the County. **We urge residents to request a consultation** from the County Council by phoning 0845 7430430. Alternatively, the consultation is available from your local library or online at www.essex.gov.uk/buspass/.



Graffiti Removal

Following intervention by Cllrs. Anne Turrell, Martin Goss, and Scott Greenhill, graffiti has been removed from the Cymbeline Meadows Railway Underpass with New Braiswick Park, the allotments building on Bergholt Road and the Turner Rise Peto Avenue railway underpass.



Turner Rise Lights

Following two years of solid campaigning, Cardales(part of DB bank) the owners of Turner Rise Retail have successfully gained planning permission for extra lighting along the Asda to Peto Avenue footpath.

Planning permission was granted in August, so we hope to see work start this year, particularly before the winter weather sets in.

Braiswick Update

The illegally built building behind 6 Braiswick was finally called in and heard in front of the Planning committee on two occasions in August 2010. The building was given retrospective approval but the illegal building had the addition of numerous planning conditions to ensure it complied with the law and also the impact on local residents was reduced.

A new bench has been installed at Cymbeline meadows following reports it had been vandalised.

The overgrown footpaths on New Braiswick Park from the electricity substation to the Cymbeline Meadows underpass have been cut back.

Northern Approach Road Vegetation Consultation

Anne Turrell, Martin Goss and Scott Greenhill need your input!

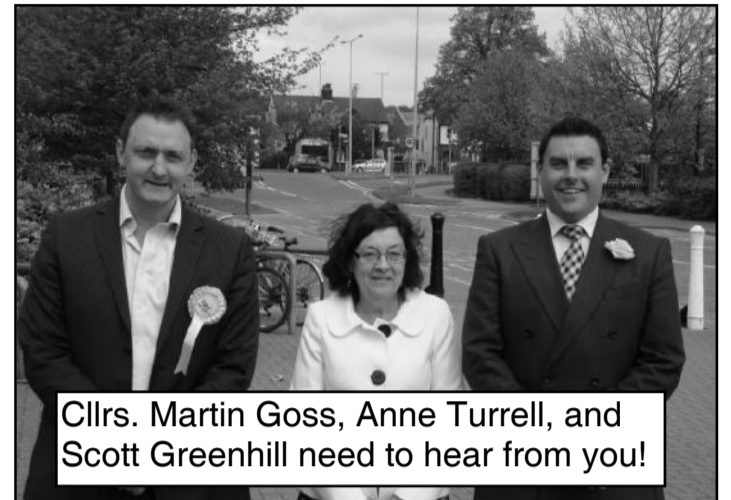
Work needs to be carried out to improve the Northern Approach Road vegetation. There are a number of choices so we would like your vital input, as after all, this is your community!

Currently the front half of the vegetation is a mixture of ivy, weeds and grass. The proposals are as follows:

1. Leave as is and cut periodically but leave the "wild" look
2. Improve the ivy on parts of the NAR where this has grown well. Change the rest of the NAR to grass and include some spring bulb plantation to bring some Spring colour.

Please email U2US@mileendlibdems.org or share with us your thoughts via the Freepost address detailed below.

We need your feedback by the end of September 2010.



Cllrs. Martin Goss, Anne Turrell, and Scott Greenhill need to hear from you!

Working for you in government

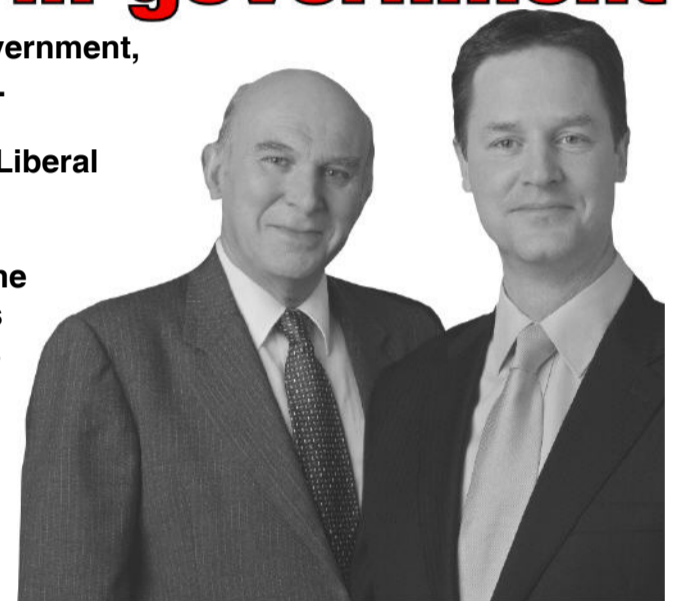
In the first few months of the new coalition government, many Lib Dem policies have been put into action.

These would not have been possible without Liberal Democrat influence in the government.

All this has been achieved despite inheriting the worst budget deficit ever - The interest payments alone were set to rise to £70 billion a year - that's more than we spend on schools!

A fairer tax system

- ✓ Taking 880,000 low earners out of income tax altogether
- ✓ Restoring the earnings link to pensions
- ✓ Pensions to rise every year in line with earnings, inflation, or by 2.5%, whichever is the highest
- ✓ A new tax on banks so that they contribute to clearing up the mess left by the financial crisis
- ✓ 10% raise in Capital Gains Tax for high earners



A fairer politics

- ✓ A referendum on a fairer voting system
- ✓ ID cards abolished
- ✓ Giving communities more power over housing targets
- ✓ The right to recall poor MPs

A fairer society

- ✓ An end to the detention of children
- ✓ £2 billion into child tax credits to help ensure children of all backgrounds get a fair start in life
- ✓ Giving teachers greater freedoms over the curriculum

YOUR LIB DEM TEAM WORKING FOR YOU

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ALL YEAR ROUND!

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YOU SAY WHERE WE PAY

Following the Labour government building up a record national debt, Colchester Borough Council has been warned by the government that we might be facing up to 40% cuts in our grants, which will affect how we run services in Colchester.

The cuts being forced on us by Labour's legacy will affect services in Colchester, but we want residents to help guide us through them. We are asking **YOU** to help us decide how to prioritise the Council's spending. If you have any ideas for how the Council could save money, or if there is one service you do not want to see cut, please let us know below and send this back to us.

Name:
Email/ Phone:
Address:

Please return to:
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Magdalen Hall,
Wimpole Road, Colchester,
CO1 2BR**

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.