



Liberal News.

Summer 2018.

The theme of this edition is devoted to the great work our Councillors are doing to put ideas into practice and to show that every level of Local Government can make a real difference. These are just some of the important issues being worked on by Liberal Councillors.

Community is at the heart of our Liberalism: By Cllrs Steve Radford & Billy Lake.

Many people on the far right or far left seek to define liberalism as individualism in isolation but our belief is that the individual needs a strong supportive society for their freedom, skills and opportunities to grow to the fullest.

We believe freedom is not an abstract political right that only is defined by objecting to the state imposing political economic or religious control but a positive society that provides adequate education, health care and a

government that encourages a business culture that creates full employment and ensures real competition.

Like the American Liberals we want government to stop monopolies buying out competition and we want a tax administration that encourages small businesses and community enterprises to grow.

It is no surprise that in the community Liberal Party Councillors are at the forefront demanding and leading community initiatives that create positive communities.

In Liverpool The Tuebrook Hope Group is a community charity not based on a building as so many community charities are but delivering a comprehensive array of services to a community. It is not restricted to a single political ward.

Whilst having a partnership with various local churches it is not religious, however it has enabled church buildings to be renovated and financed into



Lord Mayor Christine Banks & Cllr Radford with Hope Group Friends.

becoming thriving community hubs.

The Tuebrook Hope Centre based at Christ Church, Buckingham Road has been developed converting former derelict church hall and Sunday school classroom into a thriving centre with pensioners clubs, art clubs, craft clubs, youth drama and dance classes, toddlers and parents groups, debt and money advice, scouts, cubs, beavers, yoga classes and line dancing as well as three weekly councillors drop ins.

So very effectively we are able to help combat isolation amongst older neighbours, deliver educational youth services including outreach work

Our Line dancing and yoga help people with health, and our Craft and Art clubs have been a real benefit

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for people with mental health issues as well as enhancing Leisure for those who did not want to sit in formal adult education classes.

We have supported Stoneycroft URC who help deliver their own Art Club plus self help groups for people with drug or alcohol problems as well as training courses for people in social care.

In 2016 the Tuebrook Hope Group had an income of £34,848 by 2017 this had risen to £67,127. The additional income largely been driven by grants for investment into additional youth work and building improvements

As a consequence two local churches, Christ Church and Stoneycroft United Reformed Church have benefited from significant building improvements

This year Liverpool's Lord Mayor Christine Banks came to the Tuebrook hope Centre to celebrate the success of the centre and charity with centre users and partners.

If you want to know more about our charity constitution and success you may wish to adapt locally e mail us on tuebrookhope@hotmail.co.uk

Whilst the charity has to be non political former Liberal Party Councillors , Hazel Williams and Kevin



Cllr Billy Lake & Mayor Banks.

Morrison are key officers and our new Councillor Billy lake heads up our youth and Sports Committee. Our 14 Trustees include members of the Labour Party and a former Lib Dem Councillor.

Camborne Liberal Hall: Report from the Cornish Liberal Team.

We have been busy in the Hall making further improvements and getting the necessary certificates for this, that and the other! We have a few regular bookings. Local Liberals are meeting here also. The good news is that we now have the Camborne Day Centre on weekdays. The story here is that their old trustees closed them down after 40 years of operation, claiming that the Day Centre was losing £10 - £12 thousand pound a year, so they had nowhere to go. The Town is delighted that the Day Centre is in the Liberal Hall, operating with new Trustees.

We are still having a major battle with Total Gas and Power, who are claiming £7,600 from us for electricity even though they have never supplied us with electricity, nor the previous owners either! After we won the case and compensation from that company following our formal complaint to the Ombudsman they still seem to want the money.

On the second birthday of the Brexit Vote last June we held a Celebration Rally in the Hall with a Panel of Speakers united in the campaign to secure a good Brexit from the EU. The panel consisted of speakers from The



Cornish Fishing Industry, a Conservative MP, Cllr. Paul Holmes for the Liberal Party, UKIP, and a speaker from the Labour Party Leave Campaign. The meeting was well attended.

At the moment we are very busy fighting a Town Council Bye-Election in Redruth using the Hall as the Committee Room.

On Nov.11th. for the 100th anniversary of the ending of WW1 we are having a Grand Concert in the Hall featuring Hayle Male Voice Choir and Paul will be Guest Soloist.

Best wishes, Paul & Jean

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN SILVERTON

The Summer can be a time for rest and relaxation with elected representatives heading off for warmer climates and the pace of civic life slowing down to almost nothing. This is not the way for Cllr Jenny Roach of Mid Devon District Council who has been engaged in some serious campaigning and has seen an important development in her Ward over the last few weeks.

Jenny has always been a keen campaigner for the rights of older people and those with disabilities. These matters should be fundamental for Liberals since they are about individual dignity and far too often can be marginal when decisions are made by Councils.

Cllr Jenny Roach models new recycling trolleys. Having seen other Local Authorities providing recycling trolleys she questioned why her own authority has not also made such provision. "This is not an alternative to be forced on people who have or who want to have an assisted collection. It is a halfway house for those who have problems lifting recycling boxes but do not wish to be dependent on an assisted collection. I think it is the duty of all of us to consider how many ways we can make life easier for people as they age and how we can assist people in retaining their independence. All I am asking for is a trial period in Silverton. There is no cost to the District Council apart from the collection of the waste as the Parish Council is willing to fund the purchase of the trolleys. I can think of no logical reason for anyone to vote against this motion."

The proposal has so far been turned down but the campaign continues.

Jenny has seen a major success as in early July the Silverton Room4U opened its Health & Well-being centre. The centre has been an ambition of many in the community and Jenny has been right at the heart of the efforts to get this former toilet block turned into a



major community resource. The centre brings together charitable work, community groups and commercial activity in a space open to everyone all with the aim of assisting in the better health and well-being of those in the Silverton area. It has come about thanks to the support of many local people, the hard work of the trustees and support from various grant giving bodies. Cllr Roach at the opening of the new Health & Well-being Centre This new facility just like the other community centres described in these pages are a practical expression of 'Community Politics' in which elected Liberals work alongside people of any and all persuasions to develop common resources to

enhance the lives of individuals. It is about community



being engaged to help those around us and doing things for ourselves and using all levels of government as a resource rather than a master or as some abstract point of authority. Any new facility or campaign is the work of many hands but despite our small numbers, Liberals are still making a difference. The work of Jenny Roach is a good example of what can be achieved and what we can still aspire to do as are the other reports from Liverpool and Cornwall. These are just some of the real world impacts our presence in Councils make.

EDITORIAL, LIBERALS ASSEMBLE:

Autumn brings the weeks that the media often call 'Conference Season', with most political parties having a significant gathering to consider policy and listen to leading members make speeches. Each of these conferences will have their own format and for the most part the coverage on television or in the press will leave most of the general public unmoved and uninterested.

Our small gathering is not a Conference since in the terminology of our Party it is the Assembly. According to our Party Constitution the "Assembly is the supreme decision making body of the Party" and "All members of the Liberal Party are entitled to attend the Assembly". We assemble because we are all equal members and have the same rights to propose policy and speak on the matters of business. The purpose of this approach is to indicate our commitment to democracy and participation, founded upon the primacy of the individual. Our members matter and can directly influence what is seen in our campaigns and manifestos. Liberal News would urge all Party members to come along to the Autumn Assembly. Send in a policy motion because your ideas matter and can help build up our Party.

133rd Annual Liberal Party Assembly: 20th October 2018.

The cause of liberty is never done, our place in the political world may be limited but we have something different to say. In a time when debate is becoming censorious, tribal and lacking in serious thought, the need for Liberals has never been greater or our lack of presence more unfortunate. Let's be part of the solution to our present discontents!

This year's Assembly is to be held at the Civil Service Club 13-15 Great Scotland Yard, Westminster, London SW1A 2HJ. As always it will feature a day of policy motions, discussion and reports on the Party. It is the opportunity for all Members to have their say in the way the Party is run and what our policy and campaigns should be in the year to come.

Please register your interest before the end of September using the details below and payment is £10 per member to be collected on the day. The Assembly will start at 9.30am on Saturday 20th October with the welcome speech and business from 10am. The agenda will conclude The Civil Service Club, a venue well known to many Liberals as it around 4.30pm and be followed by a NEC meeting. has often hosted NEC meetings.

Newcastle Special Assembly & NEC Meeting Summer 2018:

On the 2nd of June the National Executive had one of their regular meetings to keep the Party ticking over and as has become the practice in the last year or so an Assembly session was held so that members could consider policy motions. Four motions were



passed on the topics of, national water resource management, the recent violence in Gaza, criticism of Government policy on Grammar Schools and the promotion of small businesses.

The motion on the Apprenticeship Levy was referred back and is being worked on for possible inclusion at the next Assembly.

The policy motions from the Newcastle Assembly along with all others from previous Assemblies can be found online at www.liberal.org.uk/liberal-library/.

Call for Motions.

Before we can debate and craft new policy we need draft motions for consideration. If you want something to be considered for discussion at the Assembly please send your drafts by the 21st September on email to cjlenton@gmail.com or by Mail to Assembly Committee, 38 Horsfield Way, Dunnington York, YO19 5RH.

Any two members or any Liberal Association can propose motions for consideration.

The draft Agenda will be circulated on the Libmembers email loop and on the website by the end of September with the final date for amendments being the 5th of October using the same contact details.

We always want to hear from Liberals around the country so feel free to send us your articles, letters or news items.

Liberal News is your forum to reach every other member of the Party.

The next edition will be out before the end of the Year so please send any items by the end of October.

Liberal News can be contacted at: northwestliberalparty@hotmail.co.uk.

By mail at Liberal Party, 41 Sutton Street, Liverpool, L13 7EG.