



Recycling gets better but behind top performers

Latest figures from Defra show improvement everywhere with some councils now recycling 50% or more of their household waste.

Havant Council's result puts them 9th in the Hampshire league of 14 councils, topped by Fareham, and less than the average for South East authorities. 90% of councils now meet their target.

At present Havant recycles cans, plastic bottles and paper products

but not TetraPaks, plastic packaging, polystyrene and gift wrapping. A new garden waste collection starts in April with reusable bags costing £25 annually.

Lib Dems want a wider range of plastics recycled, more large item collections and a food waste scheme with a strong message to local supermarkets to reduce packaging.

Lib Dems have written to Passenger Focus asking why the recently announced list of station improvements again did not include disabled access on the eastbound platform at Emsworth Station.



**Lib Dem Leader
Nick Clegg MP**

Fairer taxes call

Liberal Democrat plans would reduce basic rate income tax by 4p in the pound, giving nearly £1,000 back to a worker on £30,000 a year. This would be funded by closing tax loopholes enjoyed by the very wealthy and by increasing some green taxes.

"We must re-balance our tax system so the wealthy pay a fairer share and loopholes are closed." said Nick Clegg.

Lib Dems say that the Chancellor has missed an opportunity to deliver real benefits to the middle and low-paid in his Pre-Budget Statement.

| Council | % Recycled* |
|---------------|-------------|
| Basingstoke | 23 |
| Portsmouth | 24 |
| Rushmore | 25 |
| Gosport | 26 |
| Soton | 27 |
| Havant | 32 |
| New Forest | 33 |
| Test Valley | 35 |
| Winchester | 36 |
| East Hants | 38 |
| Eastleigh | 39 |
| Hart | 39 |
| Fareham | 42 |
| HCC | 40 |

* Source Defra (includes composting)



Literary Festival praise

Havant hit the headlines by holding the Borough's first Literary Festival in September. The 3-day festival featured events all over the town with interests for all ages involving writers famous now or the way to fame.

Havant is much more than just shopping and events like the Festival deserve wide support.

Over to You

Havant's Liberal Democrats are the only active opposition in the Borough where the Conservatives dominate at every level of political representation. The Focus Team is made up of councillors and Lib Dem members. It campaigns hard for residents who want an alternative to the ruling Conservatives - that's over 40% of people who vote. There are many ways of supporting us so please give us a call, send an email or a postcard and we'll get back.

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Name | Address |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Phone/email | <input type="text"/> |

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FOCUS

www.havant-libdems.org
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Your link with Emsworth & St Faiths Lib Dems

New Cultural Centre for arts and local heritage

The Council's report into Havant Museum's future has identified options including the creation of a new South East Arts and Cultural Centre managed by the existing art centre. Work to refurbish gallery space and displays will start next year.



A much larger re-modelling project has been discussed that would depend on lottery funding. Havant Lib Dems stood firmly with residents and arts lovers everywhere in petitioning for the Museum's survival after its funding was terminated by Havant Council.

What is happening at Tesco ?

Press reports suggest that Tesco will not now be providing a temporary store for their customers while a new one is built. There is speculation, too, over exactly when a new store will be built. Tesco, both old and new, has become a key player in the council's retail strategy for the area. Havant Council must take a firm line with the store over the future of the project and put the town's interests first.

HOSPITAL ON TRACK

Plans are moving ahead with the new £28m Oak Park Hospital off Old Copse Road. A planning application has been made by the PCT and, if approved, work should start for completion in December 2010. The community hospital, on the former site of Oak Park secondary school, will treat 25,000 outpatients a year, offering X-rays, MRI scans and other treatments.

St Faiths resident and Health Committee member, Cllr Ann Buckley, questioned the lack of beds for dementia patients and these have been restored to the scheme. Ann who sits on the West Sussex Joint Committee backed the decision to refer the downgrading of St Richards to Ministers.

Also in this Issue:

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- ◆ Lib Dem for fairer taxes
- ◆ Schools for the future
- ◆ Local plan latest
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Parking Permits for some roads

Havant's narrow streets, piecemeal expansion and disposal of public car parks to developers has resulted in a chronic shortage of space for parking. After consultations and surveys the council has decided to bring in parking permits for specific roads to the east of the town. Some roads will permit visitors to stay for 3 hours while others will allow only residents to park. But for residents in west Havant there is no relief with the prospect of more parking as commuters move westwards to avoid having to pay. In less than 2 years the cost of parking is up 50% while congestion in the town centre has got worse.

After a suggestion from Cllr Faith Ponsonby the Meridian Centre is offering free parking on Dec 6/7 and Dec 13/14.



THANK YOU

Thank you to 1600 voters in Emsworth and Havant who supported Lib Dem candidates in the May Council elections. 56% of the votes cast went to Tory candidates making the Lib Dems with 26% the only active opposition locally and across the borough. The Tories have 84 % of council seats with just under 60% share of the vote. In a Waterloo ward by-election in September Lib Dems came within 24 votes **OF GAINING THE SEAT FROM THE TORIES.**