

# FOCUS

**Your Local Newsletter**



**No. 260**

## Council Continues to Spend Your Money

Recent Freedom of Information figures have highlighted that Waltham Forest Labour-run Council spent a massive **£279,000** on the Olympic Torch relay. Wandsworth spent only £710.14. This was the second highest in the country and seven times more than the average across Britain. This is after spending **£650,000** of rate payer's money on a new entrance to the Town Hall in Walthamstow and over **£18,700** on new tables for the committee rooms.

Was **YOUR** money well spent by the Council? Or could it be spent on better services? **Of course it could!!**

Our number one priority would be the reopening of **Harrow Green Library**. Let's not forget it was our Labour council that closed it down, supported by our two Labour councillors. They totally ignored the views of the residents they represent, thousands of whom signed petitions to keep the library open. **You can't rely on your Labour councillors.**



Cllr Liz Phillips and Focus Team member Clyde Kitson outside Harrow Green Library collecting signatures for the petition to save this valued local service

## Planning News High Road Police Station



The Old Leytonstone Police Station

Recently the council's planning committee refused planning permission to turn the old police station in the **High Road** into a school for Muslim girls.

This was due to lack of outside playing space and no disability access for the upper floors.

Cllr Liz Phillips said, *"It's back to the drawing board."*

**By the way - it wasn't the Council that froze the Council tax, it was central Government**

## Lib Dems Oppose Fire Service Cuts



The Focus Team - Rupert, Liz and Adrian - at Leytonstone Fire Station when the Lib Dem petition was launched

The grass fires in Leytonstone emphasised why we need our local fire engines to stay and not to be cut back. Recently **Lib Dems** along with other elected members of the London Fire Authority voted once again to reject the widespread closure of fire stations being pushed forward by the Mayor Boris Johnson. The plans included removing one engine from each station in Leytonstone, Leyton and Chingford.

**Focus team member Rupert Alexander says:** *"Lib Dems*

*continue to oppose these cuts to our local fire service. We are still running our online petition which you can sign at: <http://eepurl.com/uzftb>".*

## 8 Winchelsea Road

During 2012 the council's planning department turned down a planning application to convert **8 Winchelsea Road** into 5 self-contained flats (2 x 1 bed and 3 x studios).

The developers 'Exterior Plas' appealed the decision.

Cllr Liz Phillips wrote to the Planning Inspectorate asking them to uphold the council's decision and refuse the appeal. Unfortunately the inspector allowed the appeal.



**Lib Dem Focus Team for All Year Round Service & Action**

# What does the Council have to hide?



A scrutiny panel, set up to investigate what happened to the £8 or £9 million that was allocated to put unemployed people in Waltham Forest into a job, has been closed down by the Labour Party. **Liberal Democrats** and Tory councillors were astounded as the panel needed only a few more weeks to finish its investigations.

**Focus says:** *This is a scandal! What has the Council got to hide? Millions of pounds look like they have been wasted. This follows a previous council failure of not properly managing millions of pounds earmarked for poor areas like Leyton and Leytonstone over a number of years. Our unemployed and young people have lost out again!*

**Lib Dem Focus Team  
Service & Action All Year Round  
Not just at election time**

## Trumpington Road One Way System

Trumpington Road residents have complained to the Focus Team of vehicles, including the council's own refuse vehicles, travelling the wrong way in this one way street. This is very dangerous.

**Focus Team member, Adrian Trett**, met with local residents recently who will be carrying out a petition shortly, before **Cllr Liz Phillips** contacts the council about this problem. The local police are also being alerted on this matter.

If you live in a one way street do you suffer from this problem. If so, please let Adrian know.



## We Want to Hear From YOU

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

*I think something should be done about ...*

**Please return to THE FOCUS TEAM, 53 SANSOM ROAD E11 3HD**

The Liberal Democrats may contact 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 the information above to be used for this purpose.

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## Liberal Democrat Councillors Surgery

**2nd & 4th Saturday every month**  
(except bank holidays)  
between 10.00am and 12.00 noon at:  
**Buxton Primary Phase School,**  
(formerly Cann Hall School)  
corner Woodhouse Road/Cann Hall Road  
No appointments necessary

## Jenny Hammond Primary School

**Focus Team member Rupert Alexander**, who is a governor at Jenny Hammond School, recently observed a literacy lesson.

Rupert says, *I was most impressed. The school is classed as 'good' by Ofsted, in addition to an 'outstanding' rating given to 'exceptional' behaviour and safety of pupils'.*

The Focus Team wishes the pupils and staff a good summer holiday.

### Cann Hall Focus Team



Adrian, Liz, Clyde & Rupert

### Contacting your local Lib Dem Focus Team

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**Lib Dems - a proud record of Service in Cann Hall**