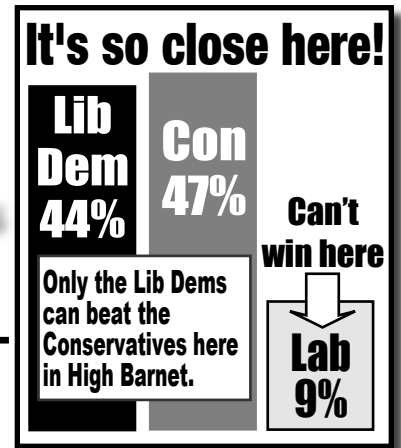


FOCUS

On High Barnet Ward



www.highbarnet.org - contact@highbarnet.org
News from Cllr Duncan Macdonald - Sean Hooker - Jonty Stern



Lib Dems pledge to restore sheltered warden service

VULNERABLE older residents living in sheltered housing have been forced to take Barnet Council to court to fight the scrapping of their on-site warden service.

Says **Cllr Duncan Macdonald**:

“Whatever ultimately happens in court, the Liberal Democrats in Barnet will continue to campaign for this heartless policy to be reversed.”

There are wardens in High Barnet and throughout the borough who are there for emergencies, to manage social activities, and to provide residents with information about the benefits they are entitled to.

Adds **Duncan**: “Last April the Liberal Democrat group on Barnet Council proposed an alternative budget that protected the site-based warden service. Sadly, the Tories threw it out. A Lib Dem-controlled Barnet Council will restore this service.”

highbarnet.org

To find out what the Lib Dems are doing in High Barnet please go to highbarnet.org where you can read our blog and find further information about our campaigns.



Parking charges are killing our High Streets

Barnet High Street has too many empty shops. Local jobs and businesses have been forced out. Meanwhile, income from parking charges in Tory-run Barnet rose by a staggering £1.3 million pounds - a 30% rise and the highest rise of any council in the country.

Focus team member Sean Hooker called on council chiefs to urgently review parking charges and help hard-pressed shoppers and businesses. Says **Sean**: “Our High Streets are dying because of extortionate charges

and over-zealous traffic wardens. We need to stimulate our local economy by allowing people to park for free for up to one hour. You can park for free at Brent Cross all day, but you have to pay to park to get a pint of milk in Barnet High Street.”

Freeing up parking restrictions as part of a package of help for local traders and small businesses could make a real difference to our High Streets. Shopping locally is good for the environment too.

LDF fails to protect High Barnet

The LDF (Local Development Framework) is Barnet's new planning document that sets out what developers are allowed to do in the borough.

Focus team member Jonty Stern said, “The draft of the first part of this document is vague and full of platitudes but offers scant protection for High Barnet. We need a much stronger document that will allow the council to restrict developers to appropriate development and safeguard the greenbelt.”

You can read the draft LDF by going to highbarnet.org and following the links.

Danger! - Dog mess

Dog fouling is on the increase - according to a recent survey carried out by Barnet Lib Dems.

Says **Cllr Duncan Macdonald**:

'Dog mess on our streets and in our open spaces looks bad, smells bad and is dangerous. As a dog owner myself, I know that most dog owners in High Barnet are responsible people who clear up after their pets.

Unfortunately there are a number of so-called professional dog walkers and a minority of owners who are irresponsible.'

Adds **Duncan**: 'We have reported the results of our survey to the

council but clearing up the mess *after* it's been left is only part of the solution. Up and down the country local councils have led *hard hitting* campaigns to reduce the amount of dog mess on their streets.

At the next council meeting the Lib Dems will be calling on Barnet to investigate the most successful of these schemes and to copy the best ideas.'

Do you know a dog mess 'blackspot'?

If you want to report dog fouling, contact us using the contact details in this edition of Focus.

A new play area for Tudor Park

Duncan at the site of the new children's playground in Tudor Park.



Proposals for a new play area in Tudor Park aimed at 8 to 13 year olds are currently being developed.

The Lib Dems have welcomed the proposals. Back in November 2008 Cllr Duncan Macdonald asked the council when we would see new play areas in High Barnet as a result of central government funding through the play builder scheme.

Duncan comments; "It's taken more than a year since I raised this issue for the council to come back with definite plans for new

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Surgery:

2nd Saturday every month at
Chipping Barnet Library
3.30pm - 4.30pm

highbarnet.org

play areas, but I am pleased that we will be getting new play equipment in Tudor Park.

It is vital to have local councillors that will press for funds to be spent in our area."

Printed by Harrow Focus Print, 40a Pinner Road, Harrow HA1 4HZ. Promoted by E Eatwell on behalf of Duncan Macdonald, Sean Hooker & Jonty Stern Liberal Democrats, all at 108 Daneland, East Barnet EN4 8QA

Would you like to know more about the Liberal Democrats?

Please return to Barnet Liberal Democrats,
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- I would like to help deliver Focus Newsletter
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If you return this slip, the Liberal Democrats and their elected representatives may use the information you have provided to contact you from time to time about issues we think you may find of interest. Some of the contacts may be automated. You can opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.

Working for you all year round

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