



CHILDS HILL NEWS

Autumn 2009

From **LIBERAL DEMOCRAT COUNCILLORS**

Jack COHEN Monroe PALMER Susette PALMER



Susette Palmer with Lib. Dem. MP Tom Brake and Caroline Pidgeon AM

LABOUR THREAT TO FREEDOM PASSES

The Government is considering reneging on the 3 year grant to fund the English national bus concession for older and disabled people by removing £50 million promised as a 3 year grant deal to London Councils in 2008.

This would affect every London Borough adding around £18 on the average Band D Council Tax bill or creating more cuts to Council Services. Joining in the demonstration by London delegates at Party Conference Cllr Susette Palmer said, **“there is no doubt that Freedom passes increase the quality of life for older people in London, and are particularly valuable to those on reduced income. The Government should think again.”**

LIB DEM’S CALL FOR MORE POLICE IN CHILDS HILL echoed by Party Conference

pledge of 10,000 extra beat police. Time and again you tell us of your concerns about rising crime. We continue to press the Police to increase their patrols. We also ask Barnet Council to make more use of their mobile CCTV camera. Your Councillors raise your concerns at the highest possible level. **Cllr Jack Cohen just attended a meeting with the Borough Commander where he conveyed your concerns and asked for more to be done.** Tackling crime depends, of course, on effective policing, ensuring criminals know that they will be caught. At Conference Lib Dem shadow Home Secretary Chris Huhne MP said “ In Tory areas, crime has fallen under the national average, - 16 % since the peak. Over the same period, crime in Liberal Democrat councils has fallen by more than the national average at 20 %. Similarly violent crime: down 6 per cent in Tory areas but down more than twice as much - by 14 per cent - in Lib Dem councils. Be proud of our record, because it shows we are ready for national power. **Tories talk. Liberal Democrats deliver.”**

TORY PLAN for EASYJET BARNET ‘MISGUIDED’.

Nick Clegg, leader of the Liberal Democrats has slated Barnet Council's plans to use a budget airline system as “misguided”.

During an interview with a national newspaper, Nick Clegg condemned the scheme being put forward by the Barnet Tory administration. It comes after Barnet Council made the analogy about slimlining Council services along the lines of budget airlines.

A council spokesman then put forward the term “easyCouncil” to describe the scheme.

The idea is that residents will be able to pay more for improved services, just as easyJet has controlled its own costs by placing surcharges on certain items.

Council leader, Mike Freer, has said that the plans will help deliver better services but it has attracted anger from Liberal Democrat councillors who query the potential fairness of the system.

Your ward Councillors welcome the opinions of the national party leader.

Nick Clegg said: “Any sensible person will see that running a council is not the same as running a budget airline. It's totally ridiculous.”

Cllr Jack Cohen commented “I am glad Nick Clegg has raised it again on a national level. “I think the Conservatives on a national level are lukewarm about it, but the Barnet Tories seem so stubborn on this I doubt they will change their minds.”



Nick Clegg & Monroe Palmer at Bournemouth Party Conference

MORE LOCAL NEWS OVER ⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨

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