



Open, Tolerant & United

# CHILDS HILL NEWS

from your local

**LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

**Councillor Jack Cohen**

**Susette Palmer Sachin Patel**

**Feb 2018**

## FLY-TIPPING BLIGHT

Cllr Jack Cohen continues to deal with many complaints about unlawful development, fly tipping and noise and nuisance. Jack Cohen and Sachin Patel are pictured at what must be one of the worst examples in the Borough. Sachin says “I am shocked that the Council are not addressing sites like this in the alley between Mortimer Close & Garth & Cloister Roads where we found empty glass bottles among the rubbish. It’s not just an eyesore: it’s dangerous too.”



## CRICKLEWOOD GREEN

Barnet Council has, at last, designated Cricklewood Green as a community asset. This follows years of campaigning to protect the Green from development. Susette Palmer welcomes the designation. She remembers when we discovered secret plans to build on the Green and the real threat to its existence. “I am really pleased that this designation will protect an open space in an area that has all too few green spaces” she said.”

Well done local residents.

## STREET DRINKING RETURNS?

Following a change in the law Barnet can no longer designate the whole Borough as an alcohol free zone. We are seeking clarification exactly what this means. We are very concerned that Barnet has already removed the “no alcohol” signs in Cricklewood. Cllr Jack Cohen and Susette Palmer say: “We fought long and hard to ban street drinking in Cricklewood and Golders Green. The signs did act as a deterrent so we find the removal of these signs worrying.” The police will still have some powers under anti social behaviour laws but they will not be as strong as before. We hope to be able to update you in our next Childs Hill News. In the meantime, we will be campaigning to get the Cricklewood signs re-instated.



**OVER 60% OF BARNET RESIDENTS VOTED TO STAY in the EU**

*but both the Conservative government & Labour opposition are still pushing for a Catastrophic Brexit.*

**Is this what Barnet wants?**

Liberal Democrats are open and outward looking.

We passionately believe that Britain’s relationship with our neighbours is stronger as part of the European Union. While in need of reform, the EU remains the best framework for working effectively and co-operating in the pursuit of our shared aims. Over the past 40 years it has led directly to greater prosperity, increased trade, investment & jobs, better security and a greener environment.

### **Britain is better off in the EU.**

Liberal Democrats want to live in a country of fairness and tolerance, the country of the NHS, the country that welcomes refugees and immigrants, the country of multilateral collaboration, champion of human rights, caring for the poorest and most vulnerable – the country that celebrates its varied cultures and diversity.

### **What the Conservative and Labour parties appear to want is to push us into a catastrophic Brexit,**

silencing debate by repeating that “the people have spoken”, and accusing non-believers of sabotage.

This is not an acceptable alternative to policy. We must save Great Britain, we need other options if the direction we are heading in is a danger to our national well-being.

**Forecasts for growth are bad, inflation is rising, every other country thinks the U.K. is mad, and we agree.**

**We should stay in the single market and the customs union to protect our businesses, jobs, and the future for our children.**

**LIB DEMS WANT an EXIT FROM BREXIT**

**MORE NEWS OVER the PAGE ⇌**

## What we stand for:

**The Liberal Democrats exist to build and safeguard a fair, free and open society, in which we seek to balance the fundamental values of liberty, equality and community, and in which no one shall be enslaved by poverty, ignorance or conformity.**

*The preamble to the Liberal Democrat Constitution*

### GRANVILLE ROAD ESTATE



These are apparently the only blocks in the Borough needing the cladding removed and replaced following the Grenfell fire disaster.

Cllr Jack Cohen, Susette Palmer and Sachin Patel were at the AGM of the estate.

It is clear that the residents are having problems not only with the re-cladding but also with problems with the heating

system and with damp & mould in the flats.

A major problem is that issues are exacerbated by insufficient and confusing communications from Barnet Homes meaning leaseholders don't understand why, and for what, they are being billed.

### CHILDS HILL PARK

The Friends of Childs Hill Park have a full programme for further enhancing Childs Hill Park this year. A new winter bed has just been installed in the Granville Road border. Spring will see the inauguration of a new Tree Trail, which will teach users and local children more about the beautiful trees in this park. Thanks to a grant from the Big Lottery Fund, plans are now being developed to plant a prairie garden in the Dunstan Road bed.



The fruit trees are now mature enough not to need cages, which makes weeding much easier for the volunteers. The pear tree had a mosaic name-plate, made by Susette Palmer, installed on Mitzvah Day. Susette has now done mosaics for all the trees which will be installed shortly.

### CLLR JACK COHEN REPORTS

**Cllr Cohen continues to be active on your behalf. Since the last edition of CHN Jack has raised many local concerns at Full Council. These include-**

- \*Street Lighting in Cricklewood, this follows complaints about the low levels.
- \*The slow progress of implementing the CPZ on the Westcroft Estate.
- \*Urging the Council to take strong action against fly-tippers.
- \*The reduced frequency of the number 13 bus following the recent route changes.



### OUR NHS IN CRISIS



1 in 10 nurses leave the NHS each year. If the government truly values our nurses, they will scrap the 1% cap on pay rises and solve the underlying problem of critical underfunding in the NHS and social care.

**Liberal Democrats are honest about what is necessary: by putting a penny in the pound on income tax, we can find the funding the NHS desperately needs.**

Liberal Democrats have long called for a cross party NHS and Care Convention, bringing together stakeholders from across the political spectrum, along with staff, patient groups and members of the public to delineate the problems. Tribal politics have failed to provide a solution to the existential challenges facing the NHS and social care. The winter crisis proves that the current situation is unsustainable and will get worse with an ageing population & rising demand. **Vince Cable, Leader of the Liberal Democrats says, "The Conservatives have left our NHS chronically underfunded with staff embattled and undervalued, while the Labour Party offer pie-in-the-sky solutions they hope never to have to deliver."**

### MONROE LEADS THE WAY

The ideas-free Tory Government has suddenly come up with their solution to the crisis in housing. They have belatedly discovered land banking by developers. **If only they had listened to Lord Monroe Palmer who told the House of Lords:**

"Tory and Labour Governments have for years and years failed to encourage the building of enough homes. The nation has an industry producing half the houses we need. What do the Government intend to do about the hoarding of building land? Our major housebuilders do not build to meet a need; they build so that they can sell at a good profit. Thus, on large sites with planning permission, builders will rarely sell more than 150 units per annum. This ensures that they sell the properties at a price to satisfy their shareholders." *Hansard, Nov 2016*

**Labour and the Tories ignored his proposals.**

#### To contact Cllr Jack Cohen

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**Surgery:** 1st Thursday of month 7-8pm at Childs Hill Library.

**facebook.com/childshilllibdems**

**twitter:** @barnetlibdems **web:** [www.barnetlibdems.org.uk](http://www.barnetlibdems.org.uk)

### JOIN THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

**A record number of people have joined the Liberal Democrats in Barnet since the general election.** People want to join a party that upholds liberal principles and works all year round for local residents. **Email** [monroe@barnetlibdems.org.uk](mailto:monroe@barnetlibdems.org.uk) **or join via** <https://www.libdems.org.uk>