



Summer 2017

CHILDS HILL NEWS

from your local

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

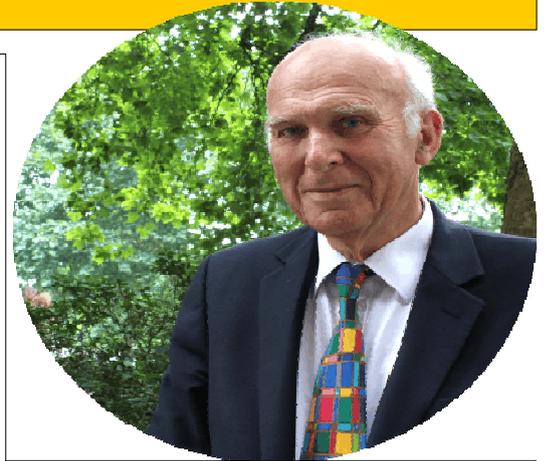
Councillor Jack Cohen

and the team:

Jonathan Davies Monroe Palmer Susette Palmer Sachin Patel

Barnet Children Services ‘Poor’ says OFSTED

The education watchdog has issued a damning report on Barnet’s Children’s Services. OFSTED have judged children’s services in Barnet to be inadequate. The Local Safeguarding was also judged inadequate. Criticism of services for children who need help and protection or need looking after is scathing. For example OFSTED conclude, “too many services for children and young people in Barnet are poor” Cllr Cohen describes this as “a sorry state of affairs. If Barnet cannot safeguard our vulnerable young people then the Conservative run Council is in a bad way”



Vince Cable’s Priorities

Vince Cable, as the new leader of the Liberal Democrats, has set out his priorities for a better future for Britain.

Vince, widely respected for his experience and economic expertise says, “I am ambitious for Britain. The Liberal Democrats offer a compassionate, positive vision for the future. Investment in public services, support for businesses to create jobs & a fairer deal for young people.

“And we must make sure Brexit does not mean we lose sight of other vital issues-like securing fairer funding for the NHS, especially mental health and social care.

“ And with our schools under severe financial pressure we will lead the fight for extra teachers and funding .”

To read Vince’s manifesto in full go to <https://libdems.org.uk/vince-manifesto>

Golders Green Plan Withdrawn



Barnet Council had very little choice but to withdraw its controversial planning brief after a groundswell of opposition from local people from across the area. We were horrified by the plans for a tower block development, the proposed move of the

war memorial and other unacceptable plans. **Susette Palmer says she was mystified why the proposals ever saw light of day. “ It shows how out of touch this Council is. Well done to local residents for mobilising such an effective and successful resistance”**

Congratulations to St Agnes School

Congratulations to St Agnes RC Primary School in Thoverton Road on its 125th anniversary. The school ,originally in Gillingham Road, is a successful thriving and welcoming school. **Cllr Jack Cohen has been a Governor at the school for over thirty years.** Cllr Cohen says he has seen many changes over the years but **the school has constantly achieved high standards.** The school will be holding a celebratory Mass in September.

To contact Cllr Jack Cohen Email:

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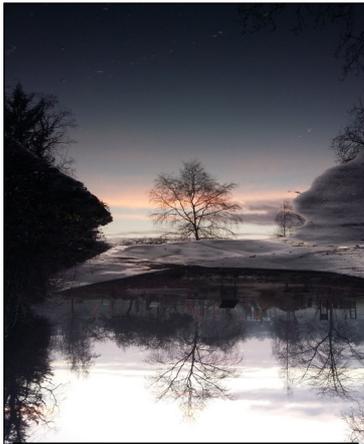
Surgery: 1st Thursday of month 7-8pm at Childs Hill Library.

Twitter: @barnetlibdems

Web: www.barnetlibdems.org.uk

MORE NEWS OVER the PAGE ⇨⇨

Will we really gain from Brexit? The Leave campaign promised £350m extra a week for the NHS. Not only have the Brexiters failed to stump up this extra cash, but it turns out the UK's contribution to the EU was less than half what they claimed. This contribution pales in comparison to the economic benefits we get from being part of the single market and customs union. The best way to ensure the NHS receives the funding it desperately needs is to prevent an extreme Brexit that would blow a massive hole in the public finances. *Tom Brake, Lib Dem MP & shadow cabinet member*



“Morning Reflections”

Childs Hill Park

On 9 July there was a summer tea party in the Café in Childs Hill Park, Granville Road NW2. This was a double celebration, firstly that the Chair of the Friends of Childs Hill Park had been awarded a British Empire Medal for her work in leading the Friends organisation. Secondly it was the culmination of a photographic competition organised by local resident Su Sareen. Su presented trophies to the winners, whose photos were beautifully displayed in the Café.

It was a very enjoyable tea, with many guests who had never previously been to Childs Hill Park. They all said they would be back again as it was such a beautiful park with so many facilities to enjoy.'

Lack of Building Enforcement

Residents continue to contact us complaining about unauthorised building works or conversion of houses to multiple occupation. We put pressure on the Council to put its house in order. Additional staff were taken on and better systems put in place. There have been some improvements but we believe responses to complaints are still not good enough. Cllr Jack Cohen says he shares many residents' frustration that the Council is often slow to act.

Cricklewood Roundup

Cllr Jack Cohen and the team are working closely with Residents groups by:

- working closely with residents groups to make sure that the Environment Agency properly monitors the waste transfer station.
- carefully monitoring plans to open an aggregates transfer station on the other side of the railway.
- being instrumental in shortening the yellow box outside B & Q.

He is also pleased to report that the long awaited Westcroft Estate / Lichfield Road controlled parking zone is at last at consultation stage.

Travellers take over Basing Hill Park

Just how vulnerable our parks and open spaces are was again made clear by these unwelcome visitors. The park should have been safe from their entry but one of the gates could not be locked and the retractable post in the gateway was either broken or had not been locked into place by park maintenance. The result was a take-over which Barnet and local police had to deal with by obtaining a Court Order to remove them.

Susette Palmer said, “After being alerted Barnet Council did take action but the fact Barnet Tories removed park keepers, which I organised when I was Councillor in charge of our parks, is at the root of the problem.”

COMIC STRIP! They say that a picture is worth 1000 words!

From the left:

*Susette Palmer complained about the corner of Dunstan Rd & The Vale in 2014.

*The tree, probably literally the root of the trouble, has been cut down, but roots remain.

*The paving stones remain untouched; the one shown is 4cms (1.75 inches) proud of the ground and wobbles when you tread on it.

This is not the street safety residents should expect & it is far from unique.



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 or return the form to 31 The Vale NW11 8SE**

I would like to join the Liberal Democrats.

Name..... My email is.....

Phone.....Address.....

.....postcode.....