

Liberal Democrat membership up by 16,000

New Lib Dem Leader to be announced 16th July



Norman Lamb Tim Farron

A ballot of all Liberal Democrat members decides who is the new leader to take over from Nick Clegg

Membership of the Liberal Democrats has jumped by 16,000 new members since polling day and there has been a good boost of new members in Gloucester. This despite a shattering blow to the Liberal Democrats at the general election.

The top reason being given by new members for joining is Lib Dems support for continued membership of the European Union and the pending referendum. Other reasons are people wanting to fight to retain the Human Rights Act that the Tories want to abolish and Theresa May's plan to reintroduce the "Snoopers Charter" to spy on our emails etc.

If you would like to join a growing band of Liberal Democrat members in Gloucester, you can do so online at www.libdems.org.uk/join

Hampton Court

After requesting one in April, a new dual-use (litter & dog) bin will be installed at Hampton Court (off Lansdown Road), adjacent to the open space.

This area has now been adopted by the city council, which will be responsible for maintenance.

Requests for maintenance should be sent in by email to heretohelp@gloucester.gov.uk or by telephone to 01452 396396.

Lansdown Road roundabout



Highway officers are to look at re-engineering the roundabout at the top of Lansdown Road on the request of Kingsholm councillor Jeremy Hilton.

Jeremy Hilton said: "The roundabout is a bit too big and large vehicles often drive over it leaving a muddy circumference to the roundabout. I have asked Gloucestershire Highways to cost up plans to provide a half metre paved area around the circumference of the roundabout so that when large vehicles do drive over it they don't make a muddy mess."

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Jeremy Hilton – re-elected national fire service spokesperson

Jeremy Hilton was re-elected (2-year term) by all Liberal Democrat councillors in England and Wales as their local government spokesperson for the fire and rescue service. Jeremy has held this position for the past four years. He gained 81% of the vote in a two-candidate contest.



In the last year, Jeremy has served as the chairman of the Local Government Association's Fire Services Management Committee.

Public tennis in Kingsholm

High School for Girls has received £5,000 grant from the county council's active together fund, which required the support of county councillor Jeremy Hilton.



The funds will be used to introduce the Lawn Tennis Association scheme called 'Key Fob', which allows members of the public to use the school's tennis courts outside school hours for a small annual payment. The system has been introduced successfully in Dorset.

Users will book the courts through an online database

SPOTLIGHT



Kingsholm & Wotton ward No. 193

Fixing & painting Kingsholm's Royal Mail postboxes



Sebastian Field is pleased that the postbox on Tewkesbury Road has been refurbished. He reported this to Royal Mail a while ago and has been pressing them ever since to get the job done as promised. Now it has been cleaned and repainted it is looking good.

The postbox on Worcester Street, which we reported on in the last Spotlight, has now been reopened. It was sealed off without warning one day.

Sebastian Field said: "I have sent several messages and so has Jeremy to find out what was happening with this postbox. Eventually we were told that the postbox was being refurbished, which is fine but we and local residents were not informed!"

Jeremy Hilton added: "This is a well-used postbox and serves a lot of local residents. It is also in a conservation area and repairing the post box was preferable to replacing with a modern one.

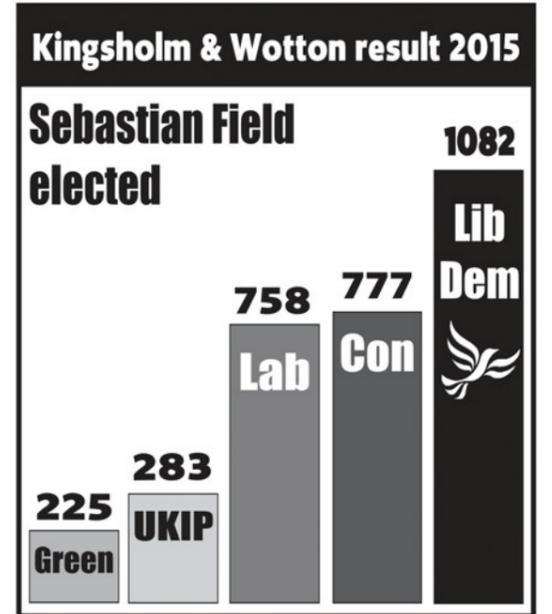
"Royal Mail should keep councillors and residents better informed in future."

Sebastian Field says thank you

Sebastian Field was delighted to be re-elected as a city councillor for Kingsholm and Wotton on May 7th.

He said: "I am hugely grateful to the 1082 people who voted for me. Thank you to the residents of Kingsholm and Wotton for keeping me on as your councillor. I promise more of the same hard work you have come to expect from Jeremy and me."

There are seven Liberal Democrats serving on Gloucester City Council. In 2016 there will be all out elections for the city council on new boundaries just approved by the Boundary Commission.



Rooftop Housing planning application for Gardiner Bros site deposited with council



The council has received plans to demolish the former Gardiner Bros warehouse to build 23 apartments and three terraced houses on the site.

The planning application is from Rooftop Housing Association.

Both Jeremy and Sebastian support development of much needed housing on this site, but believe the proposal could be improved.



Cllr. Sebastian Field has lodged some objections to the plan calling for the main warehouse to be retained and converted into homes. He has also pointed out the problems of congested parking in Alvin Street.

The planning application can be viewed on the city council website No. 15/00418/FUL

Kingsholm & Wotton *action file*

- Sebastian has met with residents in Pillowell Drive to look at road safety issues in the area
- The double yellow lines in Newland Street have been repainted at the request of Jeremy Hilton.
- Sebastian is helping residents with problems with some trees in Heathville Road
- Jeremy was onsite to see morning traffic congestion outside St Peter's School and the exit to the Aspen Medical Centre on 5th June.
- The remnants of two post stumps in Heathville Road and Deans Walk are to be removed as they are both a trip hazard.
- Sebastian has asked the county council to repair the missing/damaged railings along St. Oswald's Road.

Sebert St footpath

Jeremy Hilton has asked the county council to cost up the resurfacing of the footpath in Sebert Street along the terraced housing section.

The council is also considering extending the footpath along to the end of the barrier onto the rec', which is often very muddy.

Funding could come from the Highways Local Scheme that is allocated to the local county councillor to approve.

Student bedsits at former doctors surgery



Jeremy Hilton would like your views on the change of use of the former doctors' surgery

A planning application is in for a change of use to the redundant doctor's surgery in Heathville Road.

The proposal is to convert the buildings into two large houses of multiple occupation for students and nurses. One would have ten bedrooms and another seven bedrooms. The site would have 16 car-parking spaces.

The application arrived at the city council on 27th May and is pending a decision. Jeremy Hilton serves on the planning committee and he would welcome your views on the proposed change of use.

To view the application: www.gloucester.gov.uk - 15/00576/FUL

Liberal Democrats will fight to save Human Rights Act

The Tories want to abolish the Human Rights Act (HRA). Liberal Democrats oppose such a move. We believe the HRA, underpinned by the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) safeguards the civil liberties of everyone in the UK.

The ECHR was drafted by the newly formed Council of Europe in Rome on 4 November 1950. It came into force on 3 September 1953.

ECHR was inspired by Winston Churchill, and drafted under the guidance of another Conservative, David Maxwell-Fyfe, in the face of considerable opposition from the Attlee government.

Jeremy Hilton said: "Protecting our human rights is important in a free and fair society. I urge like minded people, to join me, in the fight to stop the Tories trampling on our civil liberties."

THE RIGHTS CONTAINED IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT ARE:

- | | |
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| 1. Right to Life | 9. Right to freedom of expression |
| 2. Right not to be tortured or treated in an inhuman or degrading way | 10. Right to freedom of assembly and association |
| 3. Right to be free from slavery or forced labour | 11. Right to marry and found a family |
| 4. Right to liberty | 12. Right not to be discriminated against in relation to any rights contained in the European Convention |
| 5. Right to a fair trial | 13. Right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions |
| 6. Right not to be punished for something which wasn't against the law | 14. Right to education |
| 7. Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence | 15. Right to free elections |
| 8. Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion | 16. Abolition of the death penalty |

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Resurfacing Estcourt Road slip roads delayed

The resurfacing of Estcourt Road slip roads has been postponed until 2017/18. The reason given for the delay is a change in treatment and costs. Jeremy Hilton is investigating further.

Denmark Road dual carriageway

Your Lib Dem councillors are pressing Gloucestershire Highways for a date for the resurfacing of the dual carriageway section of Denmark Road.

Northgate House, London Road

A planning application arrived at the city council on the 26th May to change the use of Northgate House, London Road into a student accommodation with ten bedrooms. To view the application.: www.gloucester.gov.uk - 15/00663/COU

Jeremy Hilton makes further request for Myers Road to be resurfaced

The surface of Myers Road is appalling and Cllr. Jeremy Hilton has made yet another request to the Tory run county council to get it resurfaced.

Jeremy said: "This road is the access point to Swallow Park and also used by many lorries visiting Allstone's. The road should be kept in tiptop condition.

"The latest news I have from the county council is it has dropped out of the repair programme. I am attempting to get the resurfacing of this road reinstated."

Jeremy Hilton is also working with the council to improve the parking regulations along the short stretch adjacent to Hamer Street.

Applicant withdraws plans for house at back of 102 Kingsholm Road

The planning application to build a house at the back of 102 Kingsholm Road has been withdrawn by the applicant.

Access would have been over the public garden in Estcourt Road.

The plan was opposed by local residents and local councillors.

Jeremy Hilton said: "This is good news. The access for this proposed house was over land that the city council keeps as public open space.

"If approved, the access would in my view have caused vehicle conflict at the junction of the slip road with the main dual carriageway."