

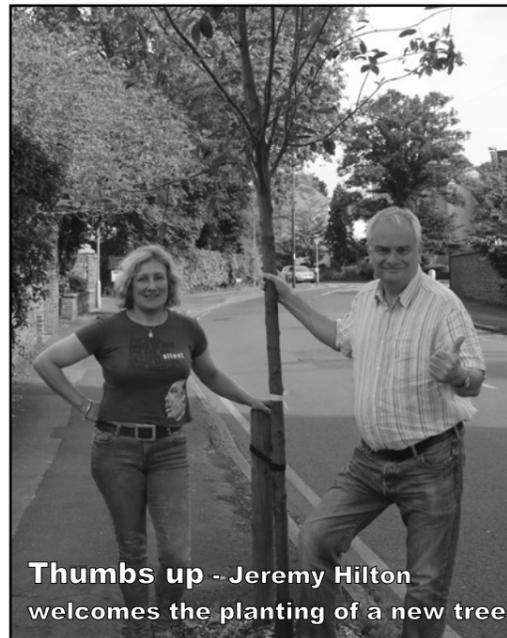
Vandalised trees replaced

The vandalised saplings in Denmark Road and Heathville Road have been replaced with new young trees.

Lib Dems are delighted that the county council has planted new trees to replace the ones destroyed by vandals.

Jeremy Hilton said: "Let's hope these new trees survive into adulthood. The highway trees in Kingsholm add to the area's ambience."

The council has also planted a sapling in Denmark Road to replace the diseased London Plane that was felled a few weeks ago.



Thumbs up -- Jeremy Hilton welcomes the planting of a new tree

Chinese Resource Centre used as polling station



On request from Jeremy Hilton the city council provided a polling station just for St. Oswald's Park.

The Chinese Resource Centre was used for the first time as a polling station at the local election on 5th May.

Please let us know if it worked better for you?

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Redrow & Tory council hold talks over housing plan for sports ground

The owners of the former Civil Service Sports ground, Redrow Homes, have been in discussions with city council planners, Spotlight has learned. It is believed these talks started in April.

Redrow have published plans to build 89 properties on the sports field.

Jeremy Hilton said: "Eighty nine houses on this site is far too many. We would lose a large green space in the heart of Kingsholm.



"I am worried that the Tory run council will take a cash sum as compensation for the loss of this former sports ground. We have a fight on our hands."

The Civil Service Sports ground, has a degree of protection as it is listed in the council's sports pitch strategy. It is also likely that Sport England would object.

Jeremy said: "We need to improve public open space provision in our area of Gloucester. Wholesale development here would be a great shame."

The former sports ground, was acquired by Redrow in July 2011 for just £10,000 but, without planning permission for housing.

SPOTLIGHT

St Oswald's Park, Kingsholm & Westgate - Aug 2016 - Liberal Democrats working for you

Battle to keep St Oswald's Park in the Gloucester parliamentary constituency

The battle to keep St. Oswald's Park in the Gloucester parliamentary constituency could begin again later this year.



Residents will remember a previous review of parliamentary boundaries proposed putting Westgate ward in the Forest of Dean constituency. In the end the revised boundary kept St. Oswald's Park in Gloucester.

In government the Liberal Democrats eventually blocked the plan to reduce constituencies from 650 to 600. The 2015 general election was fought on current boundaries.

Jeremy Hilton said: "Theresa May's government has announced a review of constituency boundaries, which will reduce the number to 600 seats. Gloucestershire will retain its six constituencies, but boundaries may change. It is important that the whole of my county council division, which includes St. Oswald's Park, remains in the Gloucester constituency."

The Boundary Commission will publish their draft proposals on the 13th September. The electoral data is based on those registered to vote on the 7th May 2016. The Boundary Commission must report final plans to parliament in Sept 2018, they would come into effect shortly after, ready for the next scheduled general election May 2020.

More details at <http://goo.gl/89eQwN>

Lib Dem candidates say Thank You

Westgate Ward Liberal Democrat candidates, Imogen Caterer, Sarah Dobson and Mathew Keithley would like to thank everyone who voted for them at the city council elections in May.



Lib Dems received 14% of the vote in Westgate ward. Next year at the county council elections St. Oswald's Park becomes part of the Kingsholm & Wotton division represented by Jeremy Hilton. Lib Dems won Kingsholm & Wotton city ward with 49% of the vote this year.

"Spray the weeds, please"



Persimmon & Hammersons (whoever is responsible) have been asked by Jeremy Hilton, to repair the bollard and to spray the weeds that are appearing along Longhorn Avenue and Gavel Way.

Liberal Democrat group agrees leading roles

Seven Liberal Democrats were elected on the 5th of May to Gloucester City Council. They have elected group spokespersons to shadow the Conservative administration. The Lib Dem group's priorities will be regeneration, housing and the environment.

Group shadow spokespersons

- Leader; Regeneration & Economy – **Jeremy Hilton**
- Deputy Leader; Performance & Resources – **Declan Wilson**
- Environment – **Isabel Brazil**
- Communities & Neighbourhoods – **Howard Hyman**
- Culture & Leisure – **Joanne Brown**
- Housing & Planning – **David Brown**
- Scrutiny – **Emily Ryall**



Back Row – Howard Hyman, Emily Ryall, Joanne Brown & David Brown

Front Row – Declan Wilson, Jeremy Hilton & Isabel Brazil

Repair work starts at St Oswald's Priory ruins



Repairs are being carried out at St. Oswald's Priory in time to commemorate 1,100 years since the death of Lady Aethelflaed of Mercia, founder of St Oswald's Priory, in 2018.

Aethelflaed was the daughter of Alfred the Great.

The priory ruins are a grade one historic monument and it is expected that the work will take two months, but this depends on the weather.

The work being done by experienced stonemasons and conservators will take place over the next couple of months, weather dependent.

Jeremy Hilton said: "St. Oswald's Priory is close to my home. It is an important historic monument reflecting Gloucester's history. It is good to see the repairs taking place."

Get your bids in now!

Community grants available for local groups

Local community groups are being urged to bid for funding for projects from the city and county councils.

The county council has two funds available to award grants to community groups, which must be signed off by the local county councillor. Contact **Jeremy Hilton** about these two funds.

The Active Together Fund can be used to encourage sport and physical activity projects in your local area from community walks to alternative sport classes, outdoor gyms through

to skateboard parks - as long as it gets people in your local community active.

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/activetogether

The Children's Activity Fund is for community activities that promote the well being of children and young people 0 - 11 years old. This does not preclude activities that also benefit older children and teenagers up to 18 years.

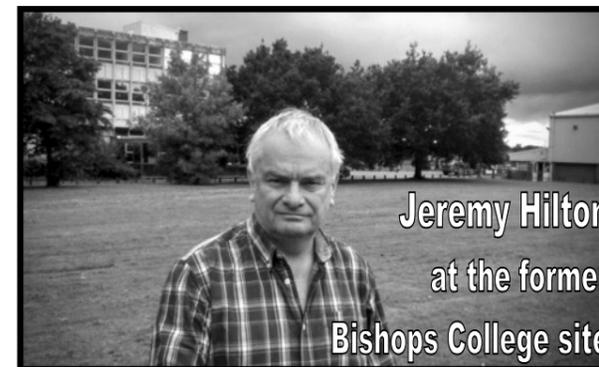
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/childrensactivityfund

The city council has a Members Allocation Fund and you will need to liaise with **Isabel Brazil** & **Jeremy Hilton** to gain access to a grant.

Members Allocation Fund allows every city councillor to spend £2,000 in his or her ward on community projects. Examples of appropriate use of funding include; start up costs for a community group or purchase of a bench seat in a public space.

Jeremy Hilton calls for a new comprehensive school in the north of Gloucester

The Liberal Democrats are calling for a new comprehensive secondary school to be built in the north of Gloucester. Jeremy Hilton said an ideal site would be the former Bishop's College off Estcourt Close.



Jeremy is calling on Conservative-run Gloucestershire County Council to halt the sale of the former school in Estcourt Close and postpone its planning application to Gloucester City Council to build 90 houses on the site.

There is no non-selective secondary school in the north of the city, with children not attending either Sir Thomas Rich's or Denmark Road High School for Girls having to travel to Churchdown, Brockworth,

Tewkesbury, Newent, the south of Gloucester or further afield. Everyday 2,000 pupils travel outside the city boundaries to attend comprehensive secondary schools.

However thousands of new houses are earmarked in proximity to the north of the city, as part of the developing Joint Core Strategy there will be a need for a new comprehensive school.

Jeremy Hilton said: "The question has to be asked with these new family homes being built on the outskirts of Gloucester which secondary schools are the children of these families going to go to?"

"It is going to create more pressure on the existing local comprehensive secondary schools.

"I am calling on the county council to review its provision of secondary schooling in Gloucester as the last review was carried out more than 10 years ago.

"Since then we have seen the development of the Joint Core Strategy with thousands of new houses planned around the north of Gloucester. It is wrong that 2,000 secondary school children have to leave Gloucester to go to school."

Future use of land behind Tesco unknown

Spotlight has learned that Tesco have been attempting to market land behind their store to potential housing developers. It is understood that the bids have not been sufficient to tempt Tesco to sell, and it is also understood that the Brexit vote may be dissuading investors. The city council also owns land further back along Gavel Way.

Jeremy Hilton said: "The land behind Tesco would make an ideal site for much needed housing and improvement to public open space provision at St Oswald's Park. A much better proposition than commercial use or left derelict as it is now.

The city council is working on its City Plan, which sits under the Joint Core Strategy. The City Plan will layout proposals for housing in Gloucester. I am encouraging officers to develop a masterplan for this land."

There are three landowners who own land off Gavel Way; Tesco, Hammersons & Gloucester City Council.

