

Another road resurfaced this time - *The Limes*

Safety measures planned for Sandhurst Lane



The Limes has a new road surface thanks to Jeremy Hilton who had secured funding from the county council's Highways Local Fund.

Jeremy Hilton said: "The road received a full inlay resurfacing and should now last many years before it needs doing again."

Sandhurst Lane

"The next project that I have agreed with the highways manager (funded from the Highways Local programme) is white lining along Sandhurst Lane, which we hope will reduce traffic speeds," Jeremy Hilton added.

It's time that Oxford Road was resurfaced!

Oxford Road has been added to the county council's forward programme for resurfacing, following a request by Jeremy Hilton.

This is stage one to getting a road resurfaced, the next step will be securing a budget for it.

He said: "Obtaining the funding to do the resurfacing is the hard part. I will continue to press the county council to allocate funds to resurface Oxford Road."

Isabel Brazil said: "Oxford Road is full of ruts and needs upgrading. Neighbouring Henry Road was resurfaced some time back and Oxford Road ought to be next."

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Working all year round for Kingsholm & Wotton

Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service should stay with county council

The county council has run the fire service for the last 43 years. The police and crime commissioner wants to take it over, as allowed under new legislation.

Jeremy Hilton believes it should stay with the county council and his motion opposing a transfer was backed unanimously by all county councillors.

Jeremy Hilton said: "It's clear from a recent study that removing the fire and rescue service from the county council would cost the public £2.5m over three years. The equivalent to employing 28 additional firefighters.

"We should remember that GFRS under the county council's governance is one of the most innovative and effective fire and rescue services in the country.

"We established the TriService centre and workshops, have been co-responding to medical emergencies for a decade and pioneered 'safe and well' checks that benefit vulnerable people. We all remember the brilliant job our firefighters did during the 2007 floods."



Jeremy Hilton (right) joins the welcoming party as fire minister Nick Hurd MP (centre) visits Gloucestershire on the 6th July.

SPOTLIGHT



Kingsholm & Wotton ward No. 204 - Liberal Democrats working for you

Lib Dems to the rescue over 'damning' Ofsted report

The Liberal Democrats successfully got unanimous cross-party support for a full and independent review into the recently published 'shocking' Ofsted report into Gloucestershire County Council's children's services.

The report issued on 13th June highlighted widespread concerns over the "integrity" of the senior leadership team and a "lack of management oversight" leaving children in situations at risk. There were also "significant weaknesses" in social work practice and the existence of a "culture of bullying and blame" with members of staff working in fear.

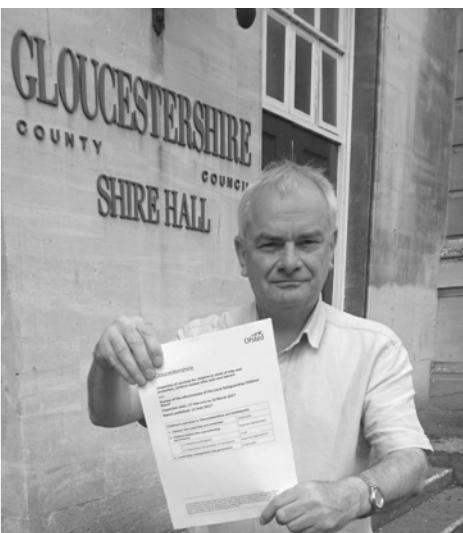
Gloucestershire County Council has now had two inadequate Ofsted ratings in the last six years. The Tories have run the council since 2005.

An improvement panel has been set-up, and the Liberal Democrats have pushed hard to ensure that membership will consist of opposition councillors and not just the Conservative administration.

Liberal Democrat county councillor Jeremy Hilton said: "This was a shocking report. I am concerned that the council has been given yet another 'inadequate' rating.

"There are loads of unanswered questions, but I'm hoping that now we have successfully secured a review this will finally provide much needed answers.

"It is important that the improvement panel turns the service around for the sake of vulnerable children resident in Gloucestershire."



Jeremy Hilton with a copy of the Ofsted report

Can you help deliver *Spotlight*?

Spotlight newsletter is funded by your local councillors to keep you up to date on local issues. We already have a good team of helpers, but we could do with filling in the gaps. A round usually takes about an hour.



Areas we need help

- Deans Walk/Serlo Road
- Clapham Court & Alvin Street
- Sebert Street/Swan Road/Guinea Street
- Westfield Terrace/The Limes/Orchard Close

Jeremy Hilton says thank you as he is re-elected to the county council

Jeremy Hilton would like to thank all those who voted for him at the county council elections on 4th of May.

He was elected to his sixth term as county councillor.

Jeremy increased his share of the vote and gained an overall majority. Labour slipped back into third place as the UKIP vote collapsed.

The result in Kingsholm & Wotton

Jeremy Hilton (Lib Dem)	1,525 - 52%
Conservative	694 - 24%
Labour	531 - 18%
Green	98 - 3%
UKIP	83 - 3%

Tories challenged to keep streets free of litter

Liberal Democrat councillors Isabel Brazil & Jeremy Hilton are challenging the Tories who run the city council to clean up Kingsholm and Gloucester.

They are demanding details of the cleaning schedules for every street in the ward.



The move comes as both residents and councillors are critical of the council's failure to keep the streets free of litter.

Isabel Brazil said: "We are not at all happy with the street cleaning in Kingsholm and it is no better in other edge of city centre communities.

"We must know exactly how often the Amey contract says a street, footpath or open space should be cleared of litter."

Jeremy Hilton agreed: "There is a distinct difference in the cleaning regime from the city centre to those streets on the edge of the city centre.

"I'm fed up with seeing litter around Kingsholm and other areas in Gloucester. The Tories and their contractors are letting us down."

Hillfield Gardens benefits from council grant



Friends of Hillfield Gardens gather around the new rockery garden

The friends of Hillfield Gardens were awarded £2,000 by the city council to build a rockery garden on the old footpath (now closed) to Hillfield House.

The project was supported by local Liberal Democrat councillors Jeremy Hilton and Isabel Brazil.

A local gardener was employed to do the work, which included the installation of a bench.

Concern about anti-social drinking at Wellington Parade rose garden

There is a persistent problem of anti-social behaviour related to drinking of alcohol at the rose garden by Wellington Parade.

A couple of years ago your councillors got the rear wall removed to dissuade people from sitting and drinking here. However, the problem is persisting especially during the summer months.

A petition has been raised by local residents asking to for the drinking of alcohol at the rose garden to be prohibited. The city council has so far not agreed to a by-law.

There is a Designated Public Place Order active for the rose garden. This DPPO is not a "drink banning order" but does allow an authorised officer to remove alcohol from an individual if they are causing a nuisance.

Jeremy Hilton said: "My colleague Isabel Brazil and I do support the introduction of a by-law to prohibit drinking alcohol here. We would also like to see the police patrolling the area more often."

If you see any related anti-social behaviour do report it to Project Solace by email: asb@gloucester.gov.uk or phone 01452 396396

Children's Activity Fund grants



The county council has reserved £5,000 per county division in the Children's Activity Fund to grant fund community groups who arrange activities for children between 0 and 11 years old.

There is no lower limit to the grant application, but the maximum is £5,000.

The details on how to apply can be found at: <https://goo.gl/neNLz1> The grant funding requires the approval of the local county councillor.

Jeremy Hilton said: "Please do get in touch with me if you have an idea that will provide healthy activities for local children."

Sprinklers installed at Clapham Court

Eleven storey Clapham Court in Kingsholm received a fire safety inspection by Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service on the 15th of June shortly after the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in London.

Your councillors have received a copy of the fire safety inspection. They are pleased to learn that the sprinkler system installed in 2015 is in good condition.



firefighters and have been offered 'safe and well checks'.

Jeremy Hilton said: "Clapham Court had its sprinklers installed in 2015 at the cost of £160,000, which equates to £2,000 per flat.

"This was a wise decision by Gloucester City Homes. In my view all high rise apartment blocks should have sprinklers systems retro fitted if they don't already have them."

Isabel Brazil said: "The fire & rescue service has also confirmed that Clapham Court does not have the cladding associated with the fire in London."

Dean's Way Meadow gets a new bench

A lovely sculptured wooden bench has been placed in Dean's Way Meadow. It was carved by Andy O'Neill from a solid piece of oak.

The bench was commissioned by Liberal Democrat councillors Isabel Brazil and Jeremy Hilton.

Funding for the bench came from Gloucester City Council's members allocation fund.

Isabel Brazil said: "The bench should become a feature of the meadow for many years. It's a great place to stop and take a rest and enjoy the meadow."



Jeremy Hilton & Andy O'Neill with the bench as it is unloaded

Kingsholm & Wotton action file

- Isabel Brazil is working closely with the new **Orchard Close Owners & Residents Association**. The group was set up to deal with matters related to maintenance of this private road.
- The city council has issued an enforcement notice to remove a building that has been erected on land behind 141 Oxford Road.
- A replacement street nameplate has been ordered for **Worcester Parade**. Additionally, street nameplates have been requested at the changeover point between **Worcester Street and Kingsholm Road**.
- Royal Lane near to **Newland Street** has been closed off while building work took place. Isabel Brazil has been seeking the reopening of the lane.
- The footways in **Rivermead Close** have been added to the forward plan for resurfacing following a request by Jeremy Hilton. A date has not been set for the work to be done.
- Jeremy has asked that the vandalised sapling near 22 Estcourt Road is replaced, plus consideration be given for a new tree near to 148 Estcourt Road. The tree surgeon is due to inspect the sapling outside 46 Heathville Road.