

Policy
Point

Green Tax Switch is ON



- Chris Huhne MP speaking in favour of the switch.

Liberal Democrat Green Action Plan:

- £1,000 income tax cut for the average family.
- Switch Britain to green taxes on pollution.
- The more you switch to greener living, the more of your tax cut you keep.

Cllr David Goodall reports: At the recent conference I attended in Brighton we voted for the Green Tax Switch. As Liberal Democrats we would wish to give the average family a £1,000 income tax cut to save the planet. By switching to green taxes instead, everyone can help switch off climate chaos.

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Liberal Democrats, if elected, will radically change the way Britain pays tax. Taxing good things - like income - less, and switching to taxing bad things - like pollution - instead.

Then, the more you choose to switch to greener living, the more of your Liberal Democrat income tax cut you will keep. It's your choice!

While other politicians just talk about the environment, Liberal Democrat leader, Menzies Campbell, has won praise for his green tax switch plan to actually do something to tackle growing climate chaos.

"We want fair tax, not more tax" says Sir Menzies Campbell MP, "but we do want to use tax to reward people who improve the way they live and do their bit to save our environment"

What the Experts are saying...

"The Lib Dems are spot on. The range of measures proposed on green taxation are welcome." - World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

"Ming Campbell has set the gold standard for green speeches. He was not only rich on vision, but rich on policy details too" - Greenpeace.



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Promises Made Promises Kept: At last a safer crossing



- **Left : Bruce Tennent dodges the traffic before the crossing and the election last May.**
- **Below : Cllr Bruce Tennent waits safely to complete his crossing in the new pedestrian refuge.**



Cllr David Goodall reports: At last after more than 2 years in the planning there is a safer crossing point near Romill Close and the NHS - Manor House. I was first made aware of the crossing problem by a resident living on the Townhill Farm estate who worked in the NHS - Manor House.

However I have learnt that getting any traffic item done takes a long time, particularly after the years it took to get the lorry restrictions in Townhill Way.

First, studies were done to determine the best and safest place to position a refuge, then the money had to be found for the scheme. Then I had to persuade my fellow councillors that this was the best use for the traffic money in West End. And finally a contractor had to be found to perform the work.

Hopefully now West End residents can use the bus and cross the road safely.

Why not join the Parish Council?



Cllr Tony Noyce reports: The Parish Council is at the heart of many activities in the village, and we :-

- **Parish Council Vice-chairman Cllr Tony Noyce by the newly refurbished entrance to the Parish Centre and Library now fit for wheelchair access**
- own and maintain many of the open spaces in West End, for example Moorgreen & Barnsland Recreation Grounds, the Cemetery, plus several play areas.
- own and maintain many of the community buildings, for example, the Parish Centre, the Youth Facility, the Old Fire Station - West End Museum, and the Cutbush Lane football changing pavilion.
- organise events, like the recent children's tea party and 1940's Big Band dance for the adults on VJ Day; the firework display for Trafalgar day, or the St Georges Day party this year.
- Plus of course we keep a very close eye on planning and highway matters, as well as police matters with our own Police Community Support Officer.

Next year sees the Parish Council elections in May so if you wish to know more of what is happening in your area and you wish to have a greater say why not join me on the council ? Just fill in the normal slip opposite.

Liberal Democrats for a fairer and greener Britain

Liberal Democrat Policy in Action

Keep it Local



Cllr Joyce Sortwell reports:

As reported previously in Focus one of the key principles of Liberal Democrat policy making is to keep control of public services at the most local practical level.

In West End this policy means the Borough Council is to handover ownership of community buildings like the Townhill Farm Community Centre as well as various play areas to the Parish Council.

In addition the Parish Council has also taken on the responsibility for the day to day running of the Townhill Farm Community Centre, following the decision of community association to disband.



• **Cllr Tony Noyce outside the Townhill Centre, which is getting a £10,000 Borough Council grant for repairs.**

Keeping in Touch

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West End Parish Council

Joyce Sortwell, John Read, Rick Whineray, Tony Noyce, Graham Sortwell, Peter Humphreys

New Youthhouse is open



Cllr Bruce Tennent reports: As reported previously in Focus the Borough Council gave nearly £30,000 to improve the Youth Facilities in West End.

I am pleased to say the improved areas are now complete and the information area will be of great help to young people in West End.



• **Left : The new computers and information area**

• **Right : The opening of the new 'Youthhouse' area**



Tory left West End five years ago, not three

In an election special edition of Focus, under the title "Conservative Councillor Abandons West End", we commented that a Conservative Councillor representing West End North had moved from West End immediately after being elected. This referred to Cllr Steven Broomfield.

In fact, Cllr Broomfield had moved to Fair Oak in 2001 – two years BEFORE being elected to represent West End – and he included his correct home address in Fair Oak on the ballot paper.

Focus prides itself on getting facts correct, so we have no problem in correcting our error and apologising to Cllr Broomfield for our mistake.

For the record - West End has four Borough Councillors. Three are Liberal Democrats, who all live in the village. And the fourth is at present Cllr Broomfield, who continues to live in Fair Oak.

What can we do for YOU?



Now 4 ways to contact your West End Liberal Democrats

- ① write to West End Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST, Eastleigh, SO50 9AA
- ② visit the website www.davidgoodall.org.uk
- ③ phone
- ④ email

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**Green Tax Switch
What the
Papers say ...**

The Green Tax Switch policy is attracting quite some interest in the papers. Here are just some of the comments :-

Many Labour voters may be attracted by Lib Dem plans to take more lower-paid people out of tax altogether. Under Gordon Brown, an extra 1.2 million have been dragged into the higher rate of tax
- The Independent.

[Lib Dem tax plans] will penalise behaviour that is bad for the environment while benefiting families with incomes of up to £70,000.
- Financial Times.

THE Liberal Democrats have outflanked David Cameron with a promise to cut the income tax bills of millions of families by up to £1,000 a year.
- The Times.

[Lib Dem tax plans will] leave low- and middle- income earners more than £1,000 a year better off.
- The Guardian.

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