

# RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION FOR POOLFIELDS

We are pleased to announce that a residents association was formed on 30th March for the Poolfields estate; it will be actively supported by Aspire but is for all residents.

They will be holding regular open meetings. We councillors are not on the committee as it needs to be led by residents, but if requested will do all we can to support local residents.

**Give it your support!**



## TAX CUT FOR 50,000 LOCAL RESIDENTS

It is Liberal Democrats in government who have ensured that 2,400 Newcastle residents will no longer pay any income tax AND 50,000 will pay less.

Also, better annual increases in state pensions, graduates will pay back less per month with poorest paying nothing, more apprenticeships, etc.

**Support us on May 5th as we fight for more changes to government proposals.**

Nigel belongs to a pressure group to radically improve the NHS proposals.

**FED UP WITH  
PARLIAMENT NOT  
REPRESENTING  
YOUR VIEWS ?  
THEN TAKE ONE STEP  
IN THE RIGHT  
DIRECTION.  
VOTE 'YES' IN  
THE REFERENDUM**

A fairer voting system will add to democracy, without taking away your right to vote for only one candidate if you so wish.

**5th MAY**

**VOTE  
For**

**Nigel Jones**



**THE TEAM THAT WORKS FOR YOU  
ALL YEAR ROUND  
EVEN ON COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS.**



**Cllr. Marion Reddish**  
6 Renfrew Close  
ST5 2JZ  
01782 613265  
marion.reddish@  
newcastlelibdems.org.uk

**Cllr. Nigel Jones**  
10 Wedgwood Avenue  
ST5 2JD  
Tel: 01782 632895  
nigel.jones@  
newcastlelibdems.org.uk

**Cllr. June Walklate**  
15 Barracks Road  
ST5 1LF  
Tel: 01782 740554  
june.walklate@  
newcastlelibdems.org.uk

Published and promoted by D.N.MacIver on behalf of Nigel Jones at 55 Walley's Drive, Maybank ST5 0NG  
Printed by LPS, Endon Bank, Church Lane, Endon ST9 9HF



# THISTLEBERRY FOCUS

April 2011

FROM YOUR  
LOCAL  
COUNCILLORS

## COUNCILLOR SELECTED FOR LOCAL ELECTION

Cllr. Nigel Jones has agreed to stand again for the local council elections in Thistleberry ward on 5th MAY. Nigel has 9yrs experience as a councillor .



**NIGEL JONES  
IN THE WARD**

- Active in the ward (dealing with residents' individual problems, lobbying the Borough and County Councils to get things done in the ward, working with Aspire Housing for the ward and occasionally speaking at planning committee about applications in the ward).
- Active on the council (chair of Audit for 4 yrs, vice chair of licensing, party spokesperson on finance, economic scrutiny, public protection etc..).
- Worked hard as a member of the two community centre management committees in the ward for many years.
- Parliamentary candidate for the Liberal Democrats in the last general election.
- Methodist Local Preacher, won many prizes playing the piano in the Newcastle under Lyme Music Festival; as a keen walker initiated and helped design the Newcastle Way.

He is keen to continue as part of your local Liberal Democrat team with Cllrs. Reddish and Walklate working for you in the ward; also with the team of Liberal Democrats on the Borough Council that has done so much to improve the council over the last 5 years.

### WESTLANDS BUS CONTINUES

Contrary to rumours, the number 33 and 33A bus service will continue. We investigated this a few weeks ago; it is being taken over by D&G. This was confirmed by our conversation with the County Council and D&G in mid March  
**TIMETABLE ENCLOSED(courtesy of D&G)**

**NO INCREASE IN  
COUNCIL TAX!  
SERVICES MAINTAINED!  
NO REDUNDANCIES!**  
That is just part of the achievement of your Newcastle Borough Council.  
*See inside for more information.*

### NATIONAL COALITION

Your local Liberal Democrat councillors say:

“We agreed the coalition was necessary to tackle the nation's structural deficit, to restore freedoms to people and local authorities and to get rid of wasteful bureaucracy. We are having some good influence in government. We do not agree with major parts of government acts such as Education and the NHS and are very concerned about the financial effects on people who are less well-off.” *(See back page for more)*

Published and promoted by D.N.MacIver on behalf of Nigel Jones at 55 Walley's Drive, Maybank ST5 0NG  
Printed by LPS, Endon Bank, Church Lane, Endon, ST9 9HF

# LIBDEMS ON BOROUGH COUNCIL

## HELP US KEEP GOING



**NEWCASTLE  
2006 after many  
years of Labour**

**NEWCASTLE  
2011 after 5 years of  
Coalition**

### VALUE FOR MONEY

Classed poor by the Audit Commission, with failing recycling service.  
No energy saving.

Classed GOOD by Audit commission, national award for recycling, with a cut in costs.  
Energy saving programme in place.

### BOROUGH SERVICES

Planning and Housing services inspected and declared poor.  
More than 30% streets declared dirty.  
Street scene inefficient

Planning and Housing services declared good by inspectors.  
Less than 10% streets declared dirty.  
Efficient streetscene service.

### COUNCIL BUILDINGS

Guildhall in a state and privately run.  
Lancaster Buildings unsuited to modern use.  
Swimming pool deteriorating, no suitable plan to replace.

Guildhall repaired and bought back for public use.  
Lancaster Bldg completely modernised.  
New pool/leisure centre on time and within budget.  
Two new cemeteries.  
Blue Planet building for new business.

### LOCAL TAX

Council Tax rises 4.9%, after even more in previous years.

NO council tax rise.  
Services maintained.

Liberal Democrats have led on most of the above: David Becket (environment), Robin Studd (regeneration & planning), Wenslie Naylor (Leisure). Nigel Jones was chair of Audit from 2006 to 2010 when most inspecting and restructuring happened.

## Next Year will present more challenges to develop services and the local economy

**“The council has a good track record of managing within financial constraints.” (from latest Audit Commission report)**  
**Vote Lib-Dem to keep the local Liberal Democrat team in place.**

## NEW ESTATE



- Developer told to start work on play facility
- Ugly pumping station fence to be adjusted and screened
- Plans for turning the stream into a sustainable drainage system are nearly complete, but experts say the trees have to be taken down.
- We are pressing for consultation on the landscaping by the stream now.
- Council has pressed developer to clear the mess in the stream now.
- Objections made to yet another change in new housing designs.
- Council is to challenge the inadequate provision for residents in the houses of multiple occupation.

We councillors and the Liberal Democrat members of cabinet have been representing your views on all the above issues and doing what we can to persuade officials and the developers to improve the situation.

## OPEN SPACES

### THISTLEBERRY WARD



PLEASE NOTE there have been no plans recently to sell off any of the open spaces in Thistleberry ward. The council has a green space strategy to preserve the general nature of the Borough's environment. The plans which were recently announced for other spots are being publicly scrutinised.

### LATEST ON KEELE ROAD

- ✓ We are told by County Highways they are still working on plans to deal with speeding and other safety matters.
- ✓ Highways have responded to our request to get an officer to investigate safety and problems of access to Poolfields Close.



CONTRARY to other reports, your local councillors did not sign any agreement to demolish the wall on Keele Road

### PLEASE BE CLEAR

This is your councillor's newsletter and is not to be confused with the newsletter that some of you receive from the Thistleberry Residents Association.

## LANDFILL SMELLS

We are working with other councillors to get a public meeting to discuss the problem of smells coming from the landfill site; in calm weather it spreads across the ward. The company have made efforts and spent much money trying to deal with this, but we know that residents are still concerned.



We hope for an announcement in May. **WALLEY'S QUARRY GAS EQUIPMENT**

PLEASE REPORT SMELLS, WITH DATE & TIME TO THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY: 0800 807 060

## THISTLEBERRY FORUM

Come and discuss  
**FUTURE OF POLICING  
IN  
NEWCASTLE**

with

Chief Inspector Pete Owen  
Thursday 14th April, 7:00pm  
Newcastle Community High  
School