

FOCUS

NEWS FROM MARION REDDISH AND JUNE WALKLATE

Action for
Thistleberry
from your local
Lib Dem councillors

Time to sort out the mess!

The voting fiasco, disastrous recycling AND a massive overspend ... We need better

It was the voting fiasco which led Labour to lose control of your council. But there are now concerns over recycling and a massive overspend.

Lib Dem councillors, including Marion, pictured here, supported the vote of no confidence, but will not be supporting the Conservatives every time.



Marion demands action

Marion and June say they are hoping for improvements in street scene operations and a review of the recycling programme. Lib Dems implemented and ran the container service for many years without problems.

So, why are there problems now? Under Labour it did not work! Will the Conservative-led council do any better?

Marion and June have asked Street Scene to empty very full bins. If you have an overflowing bin in your street, let Marion and June know. They are particularly aware that the bins by the shops get full and so contact Aspire regularly.



No houses on The Butts

That's the good news ... The Butts is **not** one of the sites named in the Joint Stoke/Newcastle Local Plan for future housing development.

Thistleberry Lib Dems have continually opposed any idea of this beautiful well-used local amenity being built on.

However, the Local Plan is out for public consultation until the end of February and you can make your views known. Find out how at the back of this edition of **FOCUS**.

Working hard for Thistleberry

BIG Problems at Castle House

Some of the cladding is damaged, some brick work is damp ... it's Castle House, the new civic offices.

The building is not fit to move into yet. If the council does not move out of its present offices by May, the developers will ask for compensation. **How much will that cost?** The Lib Dems have always said that the new building is not adequate for the council.



Marion and June at Castle House

Tell them what you think

You have a chance to say what you think about the Joint Stoke/Newcastle Local Plan from 1 February for a month.

Go online at www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/jointlocalplan. You can also review plans at the Guildhall or libraries within Newcastle.

Thistleberry Lib Dems will be recommending that the A525 does not become the only route from the Keele sites as there are alternatives.

Whilst this Plan is long overdue because Labour have dragged their feet, **we need to get it right!**

Need some help?

Your Thistleberry Lib Dem Newcastle Borough councillors want to hear from you on any issue - big or small - that you'd like help with.



Contact
Councillor
June Walklate
on 621483



Contact
Councillor Marion
Reddish on
613265
marionreddish@btinternet.com

News & Action

- After many requests from the FOCUS team **Rothesay Avenue** has had some of its potholes resurfaced. "What a pity," says Marion, "that the Conservative-controlled County Council didn't finish the job! We are still left with some very deep potholes and uneven surfaces."
- A grit bin has been requested for residents to use by the school in **Ostend Place**.
- Marion continues to press for work on **Persimmons**.

This includes the acoustic fence, open spaces not up to adoptable standard, landscaping, hardstanding car park at the entrance to be landscaped as well as bridge work and repair to play facilities. Thank you to Persimmons residents who have shared concerns about pigeons on the estate.

- Thank you also to residents who contacted us about fire safety issues at the **Harriett Higgins Centre**.

- Marion and June have also taken up residents' concerns about safety issues if houses were built behind Orme Road towards the bottom.

- There have been a number of **abandoned cars** in the area. Please let Marion or June know if you think there is one in your street. There are a growing number of **parked cars on pavements**. Although some roads are narrow, this is illegal. The authorities are informed when this causes obstruction.