

# News and action from the local Lib Dem team

# FOCUS



**YOUR LIB DEM TEAM ARE WORKING HARD:**

- ✓ **Involving the community**
- ✓ **Protecting the environment**
- ✓ **Defending local services**

Andy Graham says: "We've got a great team of councillors locally and our aim is always to listen to and work with local residents to make sure this is a great area to live."

"We are already hard at work to get action on the important local issues we campaigned on during the elections."

## Oxfordshire has a Lib Dem Leader



Lib Dem county councillor Andy Graham joins 20 colleagues elected to serve on Oxfordshire County Council.

**Following major losses by the Conservatives in the elections, Oxfordshire County Council has a non-Conservative administration for the first time ever.**

Lib Dem Liz Leffman, County Councillor for Charlbury, is the new Leader of the council, after her party made EIGHT gains across the county.

A new team is now in charge, the Fair

Deal Alliance, which is made up of the Lib Dems, Greens and Labour, working together for the common good.

Councillors from the three parties will be sharing leadership and have agreed to put tribal loyalties to one side to work in the common interest.

However residents voted in the elections, the Liberal Democrats want it to be a successful administration that is greener,

fairer and more caring. They will listen carefully to local residents.

The Alliance is putting the need to take action to tackle Climate Change at the top of the agenda, and will put fairness at the heart of its programme.

**Lib Dem councillors are determined to bring real change to the county, and to get action on the issues they have been campaigning on locally.**

## A message from County Councillor Andy Graham ...

“When I was elected as the new county councillor in May, I got straight to work trying to get things done in Woodstock division.

I represent Woodstock and other local communities including Stonesfield, Tackley, Combe, Bladon, Middle Barton, Ledwell, Worton, Steeple Barton, Wootton, Glympton and Kiddington. Each has its own different issues and identities.

I set about listening to residents and businesses and finding out about the pressing local issues including parking, doctor's surgery/health centre, reducing road speeds and new developments, to name just a few.

The local town and parish councils have provided me with lots of useful information and I now chair the traffic advisory committee. We are spearheading the need to address car parking in the town.

The county council will be taking responsibility for parking enforcement. We will be considering resident parking permits, rationalising parking times so that businesses see the churn

needed to keep them going, electric charging points and the issues related to Blenheim visitors.

We won't please everyone but we cannot have a continuation of parking chaos and confusion.

You can see the OCC and my response to the Hill Rise and Banbury Road proposed development on the West Oxfordshire District Council website.

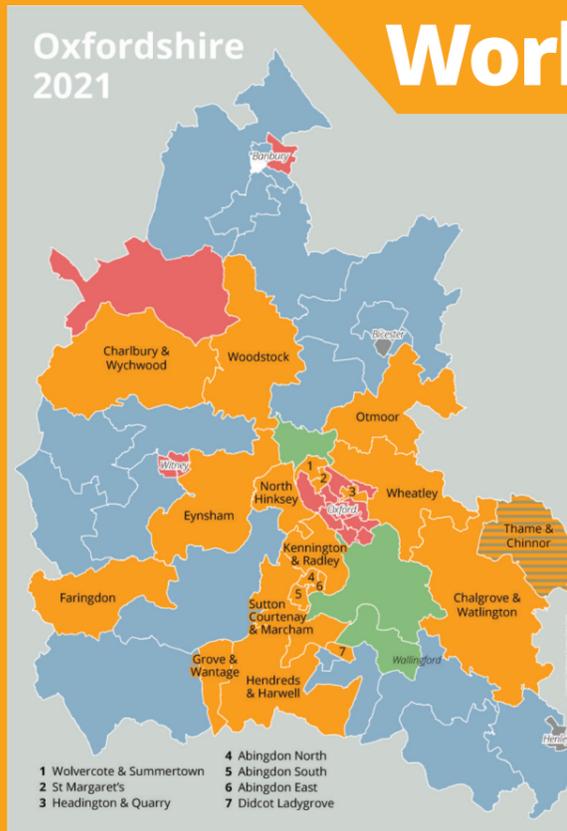
I objected to the principle of increasing the size of the development as indicated in the Local Plan and to the inadequate infrastructure. We cannot accept that affordable homes can only be built by increasing the size of developments. We have major problems with road capacity and the increase of HGV vehicles on the A44.

We have to look after our towns and villages by making sure that developments are sustainable. More active travel with cycle networks, increased bus connectivity, priority for pedestrian safety is the call I hear and I will work to bring forward schemes that reflect the quality of life we all crave for.



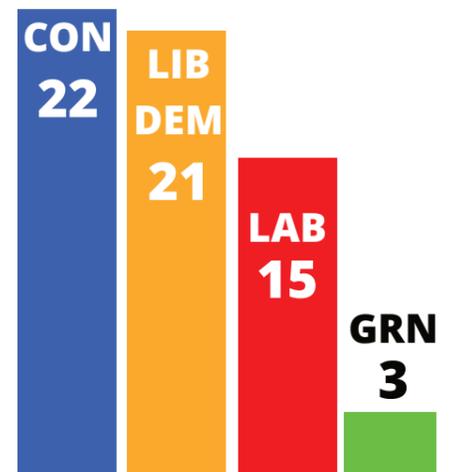
**Local Lib Dems: Working hard and keeping in touch**

# Priorities for the Fair Deal Alliance Working for Oxfordshire



1. Tackle the Climate Emergency
2. Providing opportunities for everyone to succeed
3. Prioritise residents' well-being
4. Review and reform the social care system to put end-users and carers first
5. Increase investment in an inclusive, integrated, county-wide active and sustainable travel network
6. Improve access to nature and green spaces for all
7. Support all our young people to improve health, Well-being and educational outcomes
8. Create a resilient local democracy where decisions are devolved to the lowest possible level
9. Support local employers and businesses, and make Oxfordshire a centre for green and sustainable technologies through a local 'Green New Deal'

## How the county voted



County Council election results as declared - May 2021

The Lib Dems made EIGHT gains in the County Council elections.

The Conservatives were the big losers. They lost seats to the Lib Dems, Greens and Labour. They lost control of the Council as a result.

## Lib Dems stronger on West Oxfordshire

The Liberal Democrats made further gains in this year's local elections and have strengthened their position as the main opposition to the Conservatives.

The Lib Dems gained seats in both Eynsham & Cassington and Stonesfield & Tackley wards. They also worked in cooperation with the local Green Party who won a seat in Witney North.

The Conservative majority on the council is now down to just seven.

"Once again, local residents have sent a clear message to the Conservatives that they need to change their approach to development, do more to provide genuinely affordable housing for local people and take the climate emergency seriously," said Lib Dem Leader Cllr. Andy Graham.

This year's local elections were the latest in a series of fantastic results for the Lib Dems in West Oxfordshire.

Their gains in the county and district elections follows four years of local gains in the area and a very strong second place in the 2019 General Election.

"More and more people are supporting the Lib Dem team across our district," said Andy. "We welcome that growing support and will continue to campaign on the issues that matter to local residents."

## Contact the local team:

### County Councillor for Woodstock division:

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### District Councillors for Stonesfield & Tackley ward:

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### District Councillor for The Bartons:

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### District Councillors for Woodstock & Bladon ward:

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## Action on 20 m.p.h. speed limits



The local Lib Dem team are campaigning for action to tackle unsafe traffic speeds in local towns and villages.

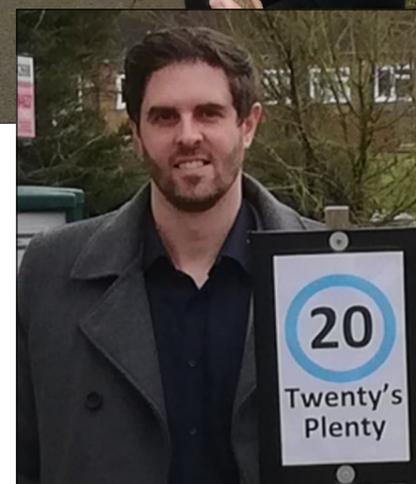
"Our local towns and villages were not designed for modern traffic levels, and many residents have told us how unsafe they find fast moving traffic."

"It can make it particularly hard for pedestrians and cyclists and for parents walking their children to and from school," said County Councillor Andy Graham.

"I have been lobbying the new County Council administration to do more on this issue and I am delighted that they are taking it very seriously."

A pilot project has already been started to look at how the implementation of 'twenty is plenty' schemes could be brought in more quickly.

The Lib Dems believe that any community that is concerned about traffic speeds locally should be given support to implement speed reduction strategies quickly.



# WORKING HARD ALL YEAR ROUND