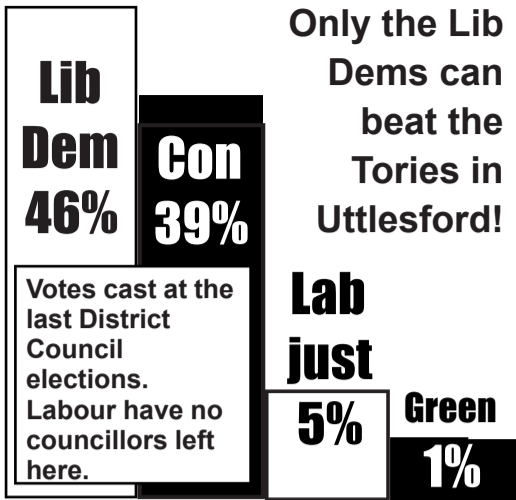


FOCUS

on Saffron Walden



Autumn 2006



Chris Bayley

Cllr. Christine Bayley lost her brave fight against cancer on 5th October. We extend our condolences to her husband, Bill.

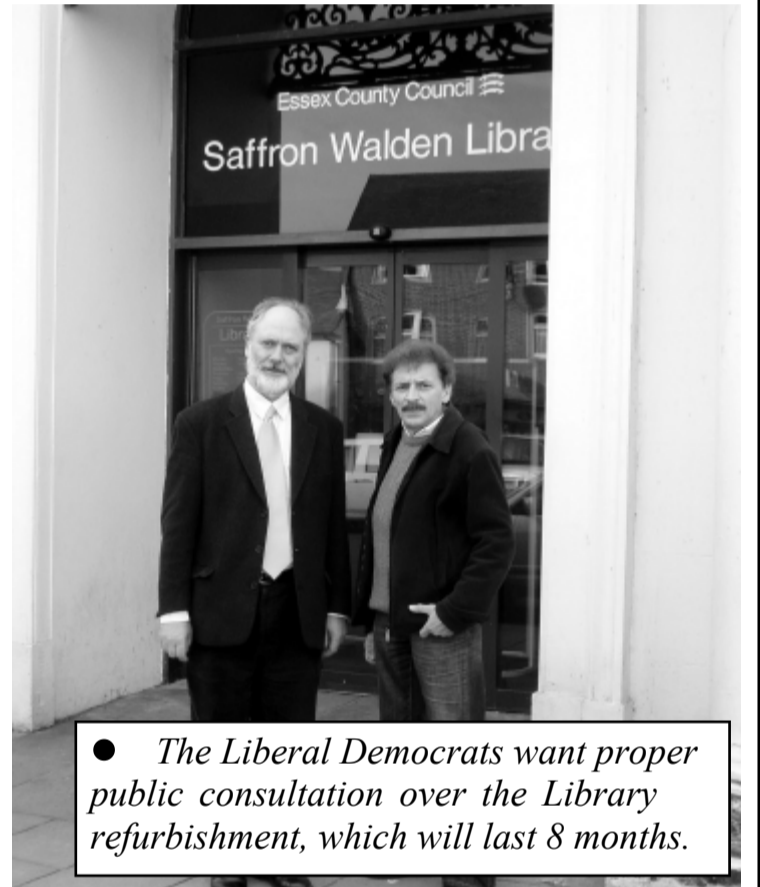
During her two terms as Mayor of Saffron Walden, she raised money for the Open Door young people's counselling service. Additionally she raised funds for the skate park project, and the community hospital. She was secretary of the Jubilee Over 60's Club.

Chris was acting Vice-Chairman of Uttlesford District Council last year. Council Leader Mark Gayler said "If you wanted someone to fight a cause on your behalf, you knew nobody would fight harder than Chris. Her contribution to the local community will be greatly missed."

County Council Ignores Town Opinion on Library

Conservative-led Essex County Council has ignored local residents' views about the planned refurbishment of Saffron Walden Library.

Liberal Democrat-led Saffron Walden Town Council organised a well-attended exhibition of alternative proposals for the remodelling of the Library, none of which would involve changing the planned structural alterations. The overwhelming response was that the County Council's proposals are wrong or unnecessary - particularly their plans for the children's library.



● *The Liberal Democrats want proper public consultation over the Library refurbishment, which will last 8 months.*

Bins Boost Recycling

The government's Audit Commission has praised Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council for introducing the new three-bin recycling system and for taking difficult decisions and 'bold steps'.

They said that the previous recycling system inherited from the last Tory administration was not good enough, with too much household rubbish being sent to landfill.

Lib Dem councillor Mike Hibbs said: "The new system is already producing results, with a major reduction in the amount of refuse we send to landfill and a huge improvement in our recycling performance. I am delighted that the hard work of the Council in planning the new service has been recognised by the report."



● *Local councillors Keith Crook and David Rhodes say that the new bins have helped local residents recycle more.*

Green Tax Switch



Liberal Democrats want to give the average family a £1,000 income tax cut to help save the planet.

The Lib Dems want to radically change the way Britain pays tax - less tax on good things (like income) and more tax on bad things (like pollution) instead.

The more you choose to switch to greener living, the less tax you pay.

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

"The proposals include:

- Increase road tax on the most polluting cars to £2,000
- Increase tax on air travel
- Extend the Climate Change Levy across the whole economy
- Take low earners out of the tax system
- Cut taxes on middle income earners"

- BBC News Website

Liberal Democrats - First For The Environment

Here to help

Cllr. Mike Hibbs
☎ 525205



Cllr. Keith Crook
☎ 502678

Cllr. David Rhodes
☎ 502678



Cllr. Hilary Shibata
☎ 525205

Sonia Sault
☎ 500596



Andrew Duff MEP
☎ 01223 566700
mep@andrewduffmep.org

Please call us if you think we can help.

Tories Leave Us In The Dark

● *Liberal Democrat councillors Keith Crook and David Rhodes inspect one of the lights that will be switched off under the Conservative proposals.*



Conservative-run Essex County Council is proposing to turn off most street lights in this area from 12.00 midnight until 5.00 AM.

"The Liberal Democrats are in favour of cutting carbon emissions but do not want the lights switched off where there is a possible threat to personal safety," said Lib Dem Cllr. David Rhodes.

Conservative County Councillors decided to turn the lights off without consulting Uttlesford District Council or local parish councils.

Whilst some will welcome the switch-off, others will be afraid to come home in the dark. This is likely to encourage greater car use as people will not want to walk around in the dark, causing more damage to the environment than the lighting.

"This proposal has not been properly thought out. The County Council should carry out a proper consultation before taking any action." said Lib Dem Cllr. Keith Crook.

Stanley Wilson Lodge To Close?

Rumours circulate that the owners of Stanley Wilson Lodge, Excelcare, are threatening to close Stanley Wilson Lodge, unless its workforce take a pay cut. Although Excelcare seems to be denying the rumours, Liberal Democrats oppose closure and pay cuts for low paid staff. This sort of situation is an inevitable consequence of the sale of the homes by Essex County Council's Conservative leadership.



● *Cllr. Mike Hibbs says "The uncertain future of Stanley Wilson Lodge is an inevitable consequence of the Conservatives' selling it off to the private sector."*

● *The Sustainable Homes Network can give you information about solar panels for your home.*



Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council is supporting the Sustainable Homes Network, which is a community initiative that provides practical information to help householders reduce the environmental impact of their homes and gardens.

Membership is free. You can join on line at: www.saffireweb.net/sustainablehomes or by writing to Sustainable Homes Network, c/o Uttlesford District Council, London Road, Saffron Walden CB11 4ER.

It matters what you think...

We need to know your problems/comments on local issues. Please write them down in the space provided below.



We may write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose

Name.....
Address.....
Phone.....
E-mail.....@.....

Help us to help you

- I will display a poster for the Lib Dems at election time.
- I can deliver a few leaflets from time to time in my area.
- I'd like to join the Lib Dems. Please call on me.
- I enclose a donation for Focus to the "Liberal Democrats" for £ _____

A donation of £12 or more entitles you to membership of the Liberal Democrats. Please tick if you don't wish to be enrolled