

FOCUS

Your Local Newsletter



No. 157

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Council chooses free fireworks over Library funding



At the Council's budget meeting **Lib Dem councillors** highlighted the Council's spending of £130,000 on fireworks in January. This money could have kept the Libraries at Harrow Green or South Chingford open for a year. At the meeting it was said funding funding of Harrow Green library is a waste of money. Labour councillors also said that they liked the fireworks. This is astonishing given that the libraries are situated in the most deprived areas of Waltham Forest. It would seem that the Council prefers half hour of fireworks rather than keeping libraries open.

Focus Team member Tulat Raja says, This is not all. The Council is planning to spend another million of tax payers money on fireworks and other events this year. Given the current financial situation is this the right priority? What do you think – should the Council spend money on fireworks or open Libraries? Write to **Focus**.

Do you want to cut your energy bill ?

Ed Davey, the Lib Dem Energy and Climate Change Secretary, launched a programme which is being supported by a number of Councils, including Waltham Forest.

It allows residents the opportunity to become part of a collective group. Once sufficient members have joined, an 'energy auction' will invite energy suppliers to offer their cheapest tariffs to everyone who has registered.

After the auction each member will receive a personal offer so you can see how much money you can save. Only then do you have to decide whether you wish to accept the offer. For more information and to register your interest:

http://www.biglondonenergyswitch.org.uk/index.html#.UXpZ_MrkRrd

Focus Team member Matt Lake says, "Collective Switch can help save energy as well as saving money. Why not find out more about it."

Chapel End Liberal Democrats fighting for YOU all year round

Marten Road and Sturge Avenue Pothole menace



Sean Meiszner checks a pothole in Marten Road

The long cold winter has seen a massive growth in the number of potholes on roads across the borough. On a recent ward walk, the **Chapel End Focus Team** identified a number of the worst, and have reported them to the Council urging prompt action.

At the Council's Budget meeting the **Lib Dems** put forward a proposal to allocate £1 million for highway resurfacing. Unfortunately, this was voted against by the Labour majority.



Tulat Raja reported this pothole in Sturge Avenue

Lib Dem Focus Team member Sean Meiszner says, "Potholes can cause serious damage to cars, and are dangerous to cyclists. Do you know any serious potholes in your road? If so, please let the Focus Team know, thank you."

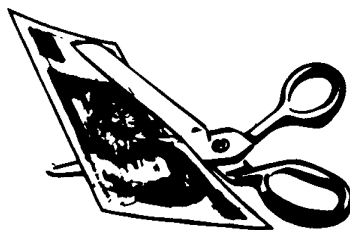
Lib Dem FOCUS Team service and action all year round NOT just at election time



Liberal Democrat Service & Action All Year Round

More Money in Your Pocket

One of the main targets of the **Liberal Democrats** when they went into Government was to raise the income tax threshold to £10,000. This means that anyone earning under that amount would be taken out of tax altogether and anyone earning over that amount would pay less, leaving more money in their pay packet.



In April this year the tax threshold will rise to £9,440 which means 95,600 of Waltham Forest taxpayers will have an extra £600 in their pockets to spend and over 9,000 working people in Waltham Forest will have no income tax to pay at all.

Focus Team member James Goodman says: *This is good news for all working people in Walthamstow and will bring in an extra £57 million into taxpayers pockets in Waltham Forest.*

COMPETITION Spot the landmark



Can you guess which local landmark the Focus editors have photographed?

Get in touch with the Focus Team and you could win £20.00.

Good Luck

**Lib Dem FOCUS Team
keeping you informed**

Can You Help? Planning News

The Focus Team always welcomes volunteers to deliver the **Focus Newsletter** near to your home.

It is published every 6-8 weeks - a round usually takes about 45 minutes.

Please contact the **Focus Team** if you would like to help keep residents in touch with local news. Thank you.



A planning application has been lodged covering land including West Works, 43 Fulborne Road and Victoria Works, 30 Victoria Road.

The proposal is to demolish the existing buildings and erect 124 residential units (32 x 1 bed, 49 x 2 bed, 25 x 3 bed flats, 8 x 3 bed and 10 x 4 bed houses, with associated access, landscaping, parking, refuse, recycling, and cycle storage. Also included is 1,257 sqm flexible spaces within D1, D2, B1 A2 and A3 use classes.

Further details can be found on the Council's website, under Planning Explorer, by quoting application no. **2013/0360**.

STOP PRESS

Local resident **James Goodman** has joined the **Chapel End Focus Team**, and is looking forward to working in the ward.

More information in the next issue.



Your Chapel End Focus Team



Matt Lake Sean Meiszner Tulat Raja

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We want to hear from YOU

Name _____

Address _____

Tel/Email _____

I think something should be done about ...

Please return to THE FOCUS TEAM, 3 PALMERSTON ROAD, E17 6PQ

The Liberal Democrats may contact 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 the information above to be used for this purpose.

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Liberal Democrats - Service & Action All Year Round