

YATELEY EAST

SPRING 2011

FOCUS



News and action from your local Liberal Democrat team

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Reading Road closure chaos!

Local Lib Dem Councillors have met South East Water and Hampshire Highways to try to avert chaos due to a planned closure of Reading Road.

South East Water planned to close the road from the roundabout by Frogmore College to Frogmore Road in February for 4 to 5 months for a new water main.

The councillors, including **Adrian Collett** (right), raised many concerns and suggestions made by residents about how to minimise the impact including:

- Can it be laid across the Common instead?
- Can rush-hour traffic be allowed through one way in the morning and the other in the evening?
- Can they shorten how long it will take and work over the summer holidays when traffic is less?
- Making sure everyone is told what is happening.
- Will local bus services be affected?
- What can be done to help get traffic through on **Cricket Hill** and **Rosemary Lane**?
- What can be done to help **Handford Lane** and **Vigo Lane** traffic get out onto **Cricket Hill**?

• If Reading Road is closed for 5 months, **Cricket Hill** and **Rosemary Lane** will be gridlocked. "They're bad enough at the moment!" says **Graham Cockarill** (left).



Yateley Common Management Committee has also suggested another route which would avoid most of the closure without damaging the Common.

South East Water agreed to look again at their plans. The works will **NOT** now go ahead until the issues have been carefully reconsidered.

Fighting to keep our roads clear of mud

Graham Cockarill writes...

The fight goes on to prevent a tragedy being caused by mud on our local roads. The roads are very slippery and could lead to a nasty accident.

The mud is falling off lorries operated by R Collard Ltd, who are building a causeway across the large lake in the old gravel workings to the east of Sandhurst Road. Stones and even bricks have also fallen off.

It has mainly affected **Sandhurst Road** and **Cricket Hill**, but evidence can be seen on other roads too. At one time all the 'keep left' signs on Cricket Hill were covered by mud.

Residents, councillors and council officials have all been pressing Collards to clean the wheels before the lorries leave the site, but this has not been properly sorted out.

County Cllr Adrian Collett has asked the Police to consider the highway safety aspects of the problem.



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Local News



Partial victory on bus passes

The Tories have cut travel tokens for people with disabilities from £55 to just £32 a year from April.

They also wanted to stop pensioners' bus passes being used before 9.30 am. Not helpful if you need to leave early for a health appointment or for a day out.

Thankfully as a result of our pressure the start time will now be 9 am.

Cllr Graham Cockarill said: "The bus pass has been a great success. It helps fill half empty buses and takes cars off the roads. It's surprising that the Conservatives wanted to make life harder for people."



Clark's Farm Update

There is widespread concern about the plan to convert Clark's Farm into an industrial waste plant that would generate more lorry traffic and create noise, dust and other environmental impacts.

Complex legal issues have delayed a decision, but that is now expected to be made on 27th April.



You can make your views known up until the decision is made. Full details are online at: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/planning/mineralsandwaste/planning-applications/applications/application-details.htm?id=14343>

Changes to Fleet Buzz

From 11th April there will be changes to services 71 and 82.

The 71 will still run early morning buses to Fleet and evening buses back from 4.15 onwards, but there will be no longer be any services in between.



However, the hourly service 82 to Farnborough will now carry on to Fleet, so it will still be possible to get to Fleet during the day, although it will take longer. The 82 will still go to Reading in the other direction.

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Contact any member of the Focus Team with any local problem or to find out more about the Liberal Democrats