

Do you know of something in your area that needs sorting out? Get in touch with your Lib Dem team - they are here to help.

From April 1, 770 people in Test Valley on low incomes will no longer pay income tax and 53,600 basic rate tax payers will pay £200 less a year. This is the first step towards the Lib Dem manifesto pledge of no tax on the first £10,000 of earnings.

From April the basic state pension will rise by 4.6%. Lib Dems in government are working to give people a decent offering from the state on retirement.

## Your Lib Dem Team Working for You



**Borough Cllr Len Gates:**  
Phone: 01264 356759  
Email: len.gates@andover.co.uk



**Town Cllr Barbara Carpenter:**  
Phone: 01264 338388  
Email: barbaralucky1@talktalk.net



**Town Cllr Kevin Hughes:**  
Phone: 07834 762490  
Email: kp-hughes@tiscali.co.uk



**Robin Hughes:**  
Phone: 01264 355241  
Email: robin.hughes@tiscali.co.uk

You can also contact Len and comment online at [www.lengates.mycouncillor.org.uk](http://www.lengates.mycouncillor.org.uk)

**Want to tell us something? Something you'd like help with? Let us know here! Return to: Alamein Liberal Democrats,**

**FREEPOST RSLJ-TEXH-HCEZ, Andover SP10 3TT**

**Your name:** .....

**Phone number:** .....

**Address:** .....

**Email:** .....

All replies will be acknowledged. Andover Lib Dems may use your contact details for further mailings. If you do not wish to receive further direct communication you can contact us at any time.

# ALAMEIN FOCUS

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Spring 2011

## TEST VALLEY CONSERVATIVES VOTE FOR PAY RISE

**TEST Valley's Tory-controlled** council has given itself a pay rise when the Government is ordering local authorities to slash budgets.

**Lib Dem councillors will not accept the rise.** Len Gates said, "For any councillor to accept an increase is an insult to every taxpayer suffering government cuts."

From May this year the Conservative Leader will get an extra £1,000, the Conservative led cabinet will also receive increases...

## Your **LOCAL** choice for Test Valley Borough Council Elections: **May 5th 2011**



Len **Gates**

Kevin **Hughes**

Robin **Hughes**

**Len Gates**

- Quality Assurance Manager
- Lived in the area since 1988
- Alamein councillor for 8 years
- Trustee of the Alamein Community Association
- Member of the team that has brought broadband to Smannell
- Co-founder and chair of the Roman Way Forum

Len has campaigned for local residents in Alamein and will continue to work hard for you.

**Kevin Hughes**

- Legal Publishing Analyst
- Lived in Andover all his life
- Governor of a local school
- Educated at the local schools
- Trustee and treasurer of the Alamein Community Association
- Town Councillor for Alamein

Kevin loves living in Alamein and is happy to help **all** residents with **any** issues affecting them.

**Robin Hughes**

- R & D Trials Engineer
- Family comes from Andover
- Children attend local schools
- Chairman of the Discovery Federation Governing body for three local schools
- Trustee and Chairman of the Alamein Community Association

Robin lives in Alamein and is an active campaigner for all in the Alamein community.

## The Lib Dems are different

### Reasons to Vote Lib Dem in May

- ✓ We will reverse the councillors pay rise and cut the cost of councillors and council meetings
- ✓ We will not accept any more major development in Andover
- ✓ We will bring in weekly summer waste collections and introduce doorstep glass collections
- ✓ We will scrap the Andover levy and devolve more power to the town council

### Reasons NOT to Vote Conservative

- ✗ They gave themselves a pay rise while cutting spending
- ✗ They voted for large scale development in Andover without the infrastructure to support it
- ✗ They spent money on County Hall and cut spending on children centres, buses and libraries
- ✗ They leased the Guildhall and demolished the bandstand

On May 5th only the **Lib Dems** can beat the Conservatives. Labour can't win here.

## CUT COUNCIL COSTS

Councillor Len Gates has called for cuts in the number, and the costs of borough councillors. Reducing the number of Andover borough councillors from 15 to 10 would save tax payers over £30,000 a year.

"Many services could be supplied more cost effectively by the town and parish councils" he said at the February council meeting. Town councillor Kevin Hughes agrees, "The Town Council is better placed to deliver quality services to Andover than the more remote borough council."



## AND - SCRAP THE ANDOVER LEVY

At the same meeting Lib Dem councillors called for the scrapping of the Andover levy. The £24 a year charge to all houses in Andover is claimed to cover "services which would normally be supplied by a town or parish council". Len Gates described the charge as "an unacceptable and unjustified tax on local residents". His proposal was backed by Romsey councillors who said there is no equivalent 'Romsey levy'.

## TACKLING TAKEAWAY TRASH

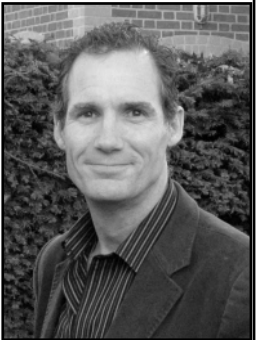
Lib Dem councillors Len Gates and Celia Dowden have called for developers who open fast food restaurants to pay for litter bins.

Local campaigner Robin Hughes said "One of the biggest causes of litter in our town is takeaway wrappers and food" "It is only right the developers should help pay to clean up the rubbish."



## DON'T CHARGE FOR STREET PARTIES

Test Valley is set to accept Lib Dem calls to waive its £25 fee for approving street parties to celebrate the royal wedding. The idea was put forward by St Mary's councillor Mike McGarry "The extra bank holiday gives residents the opportunity to join in a national celebration. We should follow the example set by other councils and encourage this" he said.



*Your Lib Dem team puts YOU first!*

## COUNCIL CHARGES CONDEMNED

The Tory run borough council cabinet has decided, at a secret meeting, to increase pest control fees by 50%. "This is an unacceptable imposition on hard pressed residents and could result in a runaway number of rats if there's a warm summer" said Lib Dem councillor Mark Cooper.

At the same meeting cabinet members rejected a unanimous call from the council's scrutiny committee to scrap plans to charge residents for planning advice. The £40 flat charge is unfair and reminiscent of the hated poll tax" Cllr Cooper said.



## NO TO SALE OF FORESTS

Test Valley's Lib Dem councillors joined over 500,000 people in opposing coalition plans to sell off national forests. The proposals, also opposed by Lib Dem and Tory MPs, have now been dropped. "The plans were not part of the coalition agreement and are opposed by the vast majority of the public. I am pleased to see the government has listened to common sense and dropped this ill thought out plan" said Lib Dem leader Len Gates.



### 2007 Borough Council election results in Alamein ward

