



Freeze Council Tax!

Lib Dems Call for No Increase in County Council Tax in Difficult Economic Times



Lib Dem County Councillors have committed to freeze council tax if they win control of the County Council on June 4th. "When times are hard, the county council shouldn't be increasing council tax unless it's unavoidable," commented leading Lib Dem County Councillor Robin Hughes. "With the huge reserves that the council have stashed away and the low rate of inflation, there's no need to put up the County's Council Tax this year or next year. The Conservatives always hike up council tax the year after an election."

County Councillor Robin Hughes said, "Council tax is a unfair tax that hits those on fixed incomes most unfairly. Given the current credit crunch Hampshire should have given back a little of the money it has overcharged in the last three years and stashed away in the bank".

It's time for a change. Tory run Hampshire County Council has put £83 million in extra reserves since 2006. This money could be used to improve services and freeze council tax in the current difficult times, rather than sit in the bank.

Increase in County Council Tax

2009/10	Election Year
2008/9	4.5%
2007/8	4.9%
2006/7	4.7%
2005/6	Election Year
2004/5	4.7%

Conservative-run Hampshire County Council has been raising its Council Tax by close to the Government set maximum every year except when there have been County Council elections.

FREEZE COUNCIL TAX NOW!

I / We the undersigned call on Hampshire County Council to freeze Council Tax and not to increase it in 2010/2011.

Name:.....

Address:.....

Address:.....

Telephone/Mobile:.....

Email:.....

Return to: **FREEZE COUNCIL TAX,
FREEPOST BZ461, ANDOVER SP10 4NU**

COUNCILLORS ROBIN HUGHES AND LEN GATES BACK SPEED REDUCTION



Cllr Robin Hughes and Cllr Len Gates with the Viking Way survey.

Alamein Liberal Democrats have been surveying residents' opinions on traffic calming in Viking Way. All homes in Edgar, Danegeld Close, Moot and Olaf Closes were contacted to seek their views on a 20 mph speed limit and additional sign age to control traffic.

Residents overwhelming backed Lib Dem calls for speed restrictions in the area. The results of the survey have been reported to Testway Housing and council highway officers for further consideration. If you know of an area where 20 mph limits are needed or you would like one of our free "20 is plenty" stickers for your dustbin please let us know.



Action on motorbikes

Following complaints from local residents about motorbikes using Dark Lane between Andover and Enham Cllr. Len Gates contacted police and neighbourhood wardens for action. Patrols were increased in the area and as a result two offenders were issued with warning notices.

Police are confident they have solved the problem in the short term and that offenders will move on to more suitable locations. In the meantime they are continuing to monitor the area.



Len Gates at Dark Lane

Fly-tipped rubbish has also been removed from the area and TVBC Environmental Health officers will be checking to ensure no more rubbish is dumped there.

Testway Housing has agreed that the Neighbourhood Officer for the area will order a sign to advise drivers to slow down and warn of children playing and look for a suitable place to install a sign.

If you see motorbikes using this path or any other one call 08450 454545 or 101 and report it. All calls are treated in confidence and all are logged and investigated.

Public to be consulted on town council

Later this month Test Valley Borough Council will be considering proposals to consult residents on a town council for Andover. A survey will be delivered to all residents asking their views on whether Andover should, like other towns, have its own town council.

The survey will include a summary of the arguments for and against the proposal and an estimate of the costs involved. Establishing a town or parish council for Andover could cost as little as £1.51 per household and allow local residents to decide how their money is spent. At present all Andover residents pay an Andover levy administered by Test Valley councillors many of whom have no knowledge of or interest in Andover. Increases in the Andover levy would only occur if approved by the town council and Andover residents.

Andover Lib Dems have always supported a town council for Andover but believe the final decision should be made by local residents - not the borough council nor any other pressure group.

As well as a town council residents will be asked to consider other options including the parishing of just parts of the town allowing those parts wanting local democracy to go ahead even if others don't. We urge all Alamein residents to vote **yes for a town council** and **yes for the parishing of Alamein ward**.



Working for local residents # 1

Prompt action by Cllr Len Gates gained a reprieve on the closure of the residents lounge at The Oval and changes to the letting policy to protect residents' interests.



Working for local residents # 2

Following requests from local residents, Len Gates arranged for additional dog waste bins to be installed around Alamein ward. The first bin has already been installed on the open space in Hadrian Road. More bins will shortly be installed around Roman Way and a bin is also planned for the northern end King Arthur's Way.

Your Councillors

County councillor:

Robin Hughes

Tel: 01264 355241

Mobile: 07786 196392

Email: robin.hughes@tiscali.co.uk

Borough councillor:

Len Gates

Tel: 01264 356759

Mobile: 07793 607190

Email: len.gates@andover.co.uk

Parish councillor:

Nigel Gooding

Tel: 01264 336167

Mobile: 07827 293683

Email: nigel.gooding@hotmail.com

I would like to join the Liberal Democrats

I would like to deliver Focus in my area

I will display a poster at election time

I would like to talk to you about the following

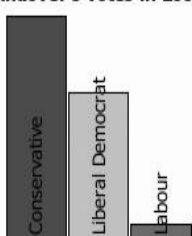
Name:.....

Address:.....

Tel:..... **Email:**.....

Return to: Alamein Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST BZ461, Andover SP10 4NJ.

Andover's votes in 2007



ITS A TWO HORSE RACE

The current borough councillors in this area are

Andover: Tory 11, Liberal Democrat 4
Test Valley: Tory 33, Liberal Democrat 15

In the last elections in Alamein ward Labour came a poor fourth. There is only one alternative to the Conservative administration - the **Liberal Democrats**.

Labour can't win here