

Alamein Focus team and your local councillors welcome comments from the public. Please use this section to advise us of issues you would like us to deal with and return it to -  
 Alamein Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST BZ461, Andover SP10 4NJ.

Your Comments:

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 please tick here.

**Your Focus Team -**



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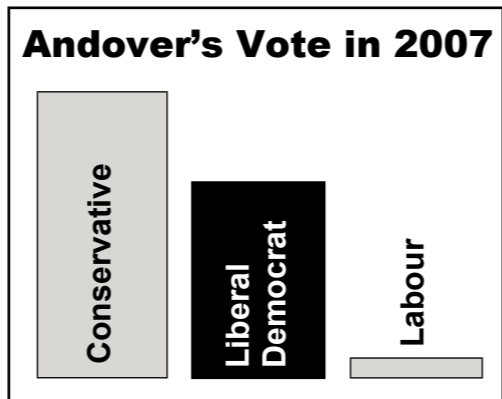


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You can also contact us and comment online at  
[www.alameinlibdems.blogspot.com](http://www.alameinlibdems.blogspot.com) and  
[www.lengates.mycouncillor.org.uk](http://www.lengates.mycouncillor.org.uk)



**A simple choice**

Councillors in this area are

<b>Andover:</b>	Conservative	11
	Liberal Democrat	4
<b>Test Valley:</b>	Conservative	33
	Liberal Democrat	15

In Andover there is one alternative to the present Tory administration -



# ALAMEIN FOCUS

Smannell & Enham

Summer 2009

## YES TO A TOWN COUNCIL



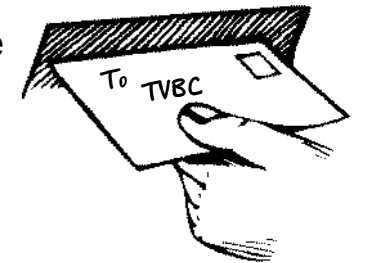
Andover residents have voted overwhelmingly in favour of a town council. The recent survey, carried out by Test Valley in response to a 5,000 signature petition, showed over 60% of replies saying yes to the proposals and rejecting alternatives.

The question will be asked again in a second letter when residents will also be asked to approve a 19 member town council.

Andover Lib Dems have argued for a town council since 1988 and included it in their 2007 election manifesto. Local Tories have opposed and blocked the idea a number of times but some now accept there is a need and a

demand for reform. The second letter is being sent out because opponents said the first survey was not conclusive.

We know the value of parish councils in Smannell and Enham and believe a town council is vital for the future of Andover. We reject their claims about costs and bureaucracy and support the wishes of urban Andover for the same rights as the rest of Test Valley.



### WHY PARISH COUNCILS WORK



Alamein councillor Len Gates believes parish councils are an important part of local democracy "they and add to my effectiveness as a councillor and we work together to represent local communities" he said. "The success of the parish councils in Enham and Smannell is an example of what could happen in Andover.

Len is currently working with the two parish councils on

- The developments at East Anton and Smannell Road
- Controlling mini motor bikes on local footpaths
- Upgrading the Cinder Path as a safe route to school
- Improving local broadband access
- Improving village bus services
- Preserving local phone boxes.



# ANDOVER'S HISTORIC BANDSTAND DEMOLISHED



Cllrs Mike McGarry and Len Gates at the bandstand

After several weeks debate during which Test Valley's story changed almost daily Andover's Vigo Road bandstand has been demolished.

The decision was approved by cabinet members without reference to local councillors or the public. Claims the building was unsafe were shown to be false and last minute attempts to save the building by councillors were over-ruled.

Lib Dem councillors did manage to monitor the dismantling, and ensure historic parts of the building, including a previously unnoticed engraved beam were salvaged.

Speaking afterwards Cllr Len Gates said "Unfortunately the building needed removing, but not now and not in this way. The people of Andover are entitled to an explanation and a suitable replacement."

Tom McCann has been selected as Lib Dem Prospective Parliamentary Candidate to challenge the Tories in NW Hampshire.

Tom is an experienced campaigner who has spent over 14 years as a local councillor.

Over the next months he will be out meeting the people of Andover and campaigning on local issues.

## INTRODUCING TOM McCANN



NW Hants Chairman Rob Cooper and Tom McCann

## WORKING FOR YOU IN ALAMEIN WARD and ACROSS ANDOVER



Flytipped rubbish cleared

Over the spring and summer your local Focus team has been out and about in Alamein ward dealing with the issues and problems you have raised. During this time we have -

- Dealt with fly-tipping on Roman, King Arthur's and Icknield Ways.
- Negotiated traffic calming for Viking Way -
- Arranged for removal of graffiti at several sites -
- Worked to clear rubbish from and control motorbikes on local footpaths -
- Worked to improve road signage for the Smannell Road diversion -
- Worked to monitor and control contractor traffic at East Anton -
- Arranged for extra litter and dog bins on Roman and King Arthur's Way -
- Arranged for tree works and footpath clearance on Smannell Road - and -
- Campaigned for more recycling and better pest control services and
- Argued for reductions in the costs of councillors and council services



Traffic calming introduced



Overhanging trees cut



New dogbins installed

## RENDEZVOUS COSTS SCRUTINISED

The costs of the Rendezvous and Guildhall are to be investigated by the council's Scrutiny Committee. Cllr Len Gates has tabled a list of questions on the set up costs, income and maintenance of the two buildings.



"The proposed letting of the lower Guildhall and underuse of the Rendezvous is becoming an embarrassment and needs investigation" he said.

## FLUORIDATION LATEST

Last year Test Valley backed calls from Lib Dem councillors led by Len Gates to reject fluoridation of local water supplies. Despite this and massive opposition from across Hampshire the health authority voted to go ahead with the plans.

Shadow Health Minister Sandra Gidley has condemned the decision and joined objectors to deliver a 15,300 name petition to Downing Street.



Graffiti removed



Footpaths cleared



Potholes repaired



Road signs improved



Contractors monitored