

Redlands Round-up

Jan Gavin working for you

SINCE BEING chosen by Labour in Redlands Jan has been out and about meeting people, sorting out issues and concerns for local people.



Jan reported to the Council a very dangerous wall at the end of **Bamburgh Close**, which could have caused serious injury. The council were very grateful and got a team out to look at it immediately.



Jan also reported some dumped furniture in the same area, she got onto the Council and they promised to get it removed.



Jan chased up on the promise made back in the summer to the Neighbourhood Action Group to put in some bollards on the **Erleigh Road** to stop vehicles backing out into the path of a zebra crossing.

Contact **Jan Gavin** if you have an issue or concern you would like her to help you with.

Broken LibDem Promises

Scrap university tuition fees — cap sky-high, fees will rise to at least £7000 a year

No new nuclear power stations - 8 new nuclear power stations to be built

3,000 more police officers on the streets — Police budgets to be cut by 18%

Cut rail fares — Rail fares set to rise 3% above inflation

These are just a few of their broken promises. **The Liberal Democrats are not to be trusted**, they are just Orange Tories, who don't care about ordinary people.

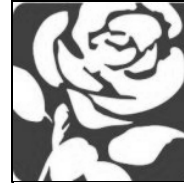
Get involved in your community — Join the Labour Party

Check up on what **Jan Gavin** has been doing in Redlands and find out about local campaigns.

www.redlandslabour.org.uk

Contact Jan for help on a local issue or campaign .. No job is too small!

Phone: **0797 967 1215** or email: jan@redlandslabour.org.uk



Redlands Matters

Redlands Labour Party

Autumn 2010



Labour's Jan Gavin to fight the LibDems in May 2011 Council elections

REDLANDS LABOUR Party is delighted to introduce Jan, Labour's candidate for the local council elections in May 2011.

Jan has lived and worked in Reading for more than 30 years as a teacher and education advisor. Jan is an experienced campaigner on behalf of local people and organisations. Jan told Redlands Matters that she is planning to meet as many residents as possible. She will fight the worst of the ConDem cuts

to try and protect services for local people. If you have an issue or concern you wish to raise with Jan, contact her. Details on back page.

Find out more about what Jan has already achieved for the Redlands at:

www.redlandslabour.org.uk

Footway Parking Ban — Labour demands consultation

THE LOCAL ConDem coalition have decided to introduce a borough wide footway and verge parking ban early next year to raise extra money. This means that all footway and verge parking will be illegal and subject to the same fines as vehicles that park on yellow lines.

We agree with the ConDems that some roads where no alternative parking is available should be exempt from the ban. We also recognise that bad parking in some roads makes it impossible for pushchairs and wheelchairs to pass safely.

But we don't think it is right that the LibDems in Redlands should decide which roads are included and which are not. We think that there should be a proper public consultation with all residents to get their views.



Controlling Landlords & HMOs [houses in multiple occupation]

THE TORY Housing Minister has decided to scrap the need to apply for planning permission to convert a home to a house in multiple occupation (HMO). This means that Reading landlords no longer need to apply to the Council to convert houses where the property is occupied by less than six unrelated individuals who share one or more basic amenities.

The Government is saying that Councils can impose their own controls locally, Reading is still 'awaiting further advice from central Government' about how to do this! The Coalition has opened up a great big yawning gap in controls through which dodgy landlords will be rushing to establish new HMOs without any need to consult or even inform neighbours.

We want to make sure that we keep a good balance between family homes and HMOs. We also need to make sure that any conversions are of a decent standard with proper fire safety precautions. We want to make sure that the many students who live in Redlands have decent, safe housing.

We have organised a petition to present to the Council calling upon them to use their powers to require all new HMOs to apply for planning permission.

You can sign the petition on the web at

<http://www.gopetition.com/petition/39897.html>

Local education services take a huge hit

They said 'we will not cut front-line services'

READING ConDem Council have decided to go ahead with the £1.5m cut to the local Education budget.

- £280,000 from the schools improvement service, a central support and advice service for schools which has helped so many local schools.
- £429,000 from the youth service for projects with young people.
- £345,000 from the Give it a Go fund, which schools were promised for outings for children whose families can't afford school trips
- £350,000 from children's centres
- £75,000 from the 'children in need' services
- £75,000 cut to the Connexions services for young people not in education, employment or training

Reading Labour strongly opposes this level of cuts. I am sure you do too!

ConDems Cuts Watch

ConDem Cuts – Women and Children first

EXPERTS have agreed that the ConDem cuts target the bottom 30% of the population. It is estimated that **70%** of the cuts in benefits announced so far by the ConDems will come from the pockets of women. Just look at the frightening list below:

- **Abolition** of Child Trust Funds
- SureStart maternity grants **cut**
- **Cuts** to SureStart Centres
- A 3-year **freeze** on Child Benefit
- **Child Benefit cut** for many women who choose to stay at home
- **Cuts** to working tax credit
- **Cuts** to the percentage of childcare costs parents can claim

Is this fair, Is this protecting the future?

Look out for our campaign on these cuts in the coming months, join in by registering your support, signing our petitions and by making sure you tell the LibDems what you think in the local elections next May.

Reading University

GOVERNMENT cuts were already being felt within higher education. The Government is to cut funding by 40% (£3 billion). This will mean whole departments are cut, lecturers and other staff will lose jobs and funding of the library and counselling services will be impacted putting student welfare at risk.

This will also have a knock on effect on Reading's economy as a whole. Tuition fees will dramatically increase next year. This is the start of a process which will result in University being for the wealthy only.

Housing Benefits

THE Department for Work and Pensions had to do an impact assessment of the ConDems Housing Benefit cuts for each local authority. This is what they estimate the impact will be in Reading for families living in housing with:

1 bedroom = £12 a week less
2 bedroom = £11 a week less
3 bedroom = £13 a week less
4 bedroom = £20 a week less

Is this FAIR?

How is this protecting families?



Labour in Redlands

Speaking-up for local people

