



FOCUS

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FOR STOWE WARD

Stowe ward - District & City Council by-elections
Thurs.27 September 2018

Richard Rathbone



Concerns about road safety & access to Trent Valley station

The previous issue of Focus reported about pedestrian access to Trent Valley station. Liberal Democrat campaigner Richard Rathbone had argued strongly for a continuous proper footpath leading down to the station. "A local resident told me that she felt she was taking her life in her hands each time she walked down to the station, what with the disappearing footpath, including where the path vanishes into car-parking spaces where the station approach is at its narrowest."

Richard Rathbone recently met with a West Midlands Trains station manager to view and discuss these and other concerns. Richard pointed out that the new housing developments at Streethay and the new car park will increase footfall and therefore the risk of accidents.



A number of possible solutions were discussed including further 'traffic calming' and a new footpath. Richard will continue to work with WMT representatives to make sure that there is an adequate response.

Once again, for the 4th time in less than two years, a Conservative local councillor has resigned in Stowe ward - this latest one slamming her Conservative colleagues on the council after just 6 months as a councillor!

Conservatives control all levels of national and local government in this area and still try to blame others for their failings.

Richard Rathbone is an experienced and hardworking local campaigner who will speak for and work for residents in Stowe ward.

Richard Rathbone works as part of your hardworking Lib Dem team. Richard Rathbone is the best choice to be our new local councillor on **Thursday 27 September 2018**



Lift Installation at LTV Station

The installation of a lift at Trent Valley railway station is long overdue. Richard will urge West Midlands Trains to carry out the work as soon as possible.

Richard Rathbone



A Local Campaigner for Stowe ward

A Good Gateway to Lichfield?

Richard Rathbone has lived in Stowe ward since 2010 & was born in Somerset. Following his M.A. in Modern History from the University of Oxford, he has taught history and held a number of school posts with administrative and leadership responsibilities. He is presently security inspector for the body representing the GCE and GCSE examination boards. As a member of the Lichfield Rail Promotion Group, Richard Rathbone says, "As well as improving the facilities at Trent Valley and City railway stations, we should be seeking to reduce the congestion on our busy city roads by providing better bus services, including a Park and Ride scheme."

Richard wants to see more social housing schemes promoted in the city, and the number of unoccupied houses and business premises reduced through council action.

A great deal of time and money has been lost for no progress with the collapse of the Lichfield Council 'Friarsgate' city development plan. Now recriminations and Conservative infighting threaten to cause more delays.

What is needed now are new ideas and a fresh approach.

The grey hoardings that now greet visitors arriving in Lichfield are an ugly contrast to the listed building at St John in the Bars. New buildings must harmonise with the existing older architecture in the town



There is no need for Lichfield to be turned into yet another anonymous Midlands town full of bleak concrete boxes as described in the failed Friarsgate plan.

Close cooperation with local housing associations could offer a mix of affordable and social housing for rent and improve choice and affordability. Such housing along with a cinema, leisure centre or even a small heritage museum would help to maintain a lively city centre.

Liberal Democrats believe in effective local government to celebrate what makes communities unique.

Lichfield Lib Dems have put some ideas for Friarsgate in more detail in an article on their website

www.lichfieldlibdems.org.uk along with an online survey asking for peoples views. What are **your opinions?**

Council By-election 27 September 2018

Richard Rathbone

Liberal Democrats



I can help **Richard Rathbone** and the Lib Dem team by ...

Delivering leaflets in my area

Donate to the campaign

Please make Cheque's payable to 'Lichfield Liberal Democrats'. Or donate on our website where you can also see more details of our campaign.

www.lichfieldlibdems.org.uk

Getting in touch

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