



FOCUS

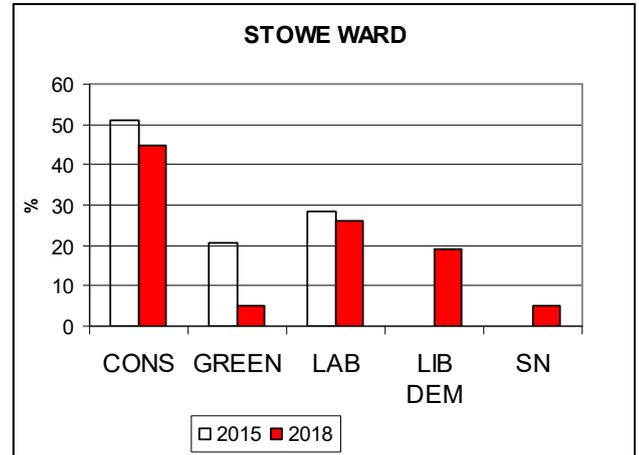
Jeyan Anketell & Richard Rathbone

ON STOWE

www.lichfieldlibdems.org.uk

Thank You for voting

Jeyan Anketell and the Stowe Liberal Democrat FOCUS Team say "Thank You" to all those who voted in the Stowe Ward By-Elections on 22nd February and congratulates the new Conservative councillor. Jeyan Anketell's share of the City Council vote increased by a sixth to 20% compared to the by-election in May 2017. The Liberal Democrat share of the vote was similar in the co-incidental by-election for the Lichfield District Council shown in the chart on the right with 2018 results compared with the 2015 Council Elections.



Jeyan Anketell and the Stowe Liberal Democrat FOCUS Team will continue to keep you informed and consult you regularly over the coming year, as in this Stowe FOCUS leaflet and also in regular 'Street Surgeries' across Stowe Ward.

Concerns about road safety & access to Trent Valley station



Lichfield City Neighbourhood Plan

Voting in the Referendum on the neighbourhood plan was unexpectedly close with just 2,384 voting Yes and 1,806 voting No - only a sixth of electors in Lichfield City actually voted.

Lichfield Lib Dem Councillor Paul Ray supported the plan - not because he thought it was perfect but because there were some good ideas and that Lichfield City could be worse off if there were no plan at all.

Please let us know about any thoughts you have about the Lichfield City Neighbourhood Plan - contact details are overleaf.

A number of residents have expressed concerns about the number of potholes almost all along every one of our streets in Stowe ward; particular concern has also been expressed about pedestrian access to Trent Valley station. Liberal Democrat campaigner Richard Rathbone has argued strongly in the Lichfield Mercury for a continuous proper footpath leading down to the station. "A partially sighted 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 and the large number of potholes, including where the path vanishes into car-parking spaces where the station approach is at its narrowest." Responsibility for Station Approach is with Network Rail - Richard Rathbone & Jeyan Anketell are writing to them urging action. For all other roads the failing is with our Conservative dominated local councils!



Our Community Hospitals

Jeyan Anketell attended the mid-December briefing given by Helen Scott-South (Chief Executive Officer of Burton hospitals NHS Foundations Trust) about the proposed merger of the Burton Hospitals and the Derby Teaching Hospitals expected then to be fully operational by 1st April 2018 (now 1 June 2018 at earliest).

Helen Scott-South said that Burton Hospitals NHS Trust is not sustainable on its own; there are problems with recruitment of permanent staff.

There is a national shortage of qualified medical staff, from nurses to Consultants, and paying for agency staff at all levels in order to rectify shortages is very costly.

Derby Teaching Hospitals Trust has no problems with recruitment, because of Derby's reputation for excellence in teaching and research. By merging with Derby, Burton would hope to have fewer problems in recruiting the medical staff it needs.

Burton hospital will retain its A & E facility, and there will be an enhancement of cancer diagnostics at Burton. The Lichfield and Tamworth hospitals will remain open, with a 7-day offering of services for Minor Injuries and Minor Illness at both; also on-the-day appointments with a GP. There will be more outpatient appointments; and there will be an Urgent Treatment Centre; eg for blood clots in the leg.

There will also be Maternity beds - midwife and family health led in Lichfield, where there are about 25 deliveries a month and consultant led in Burton. There are ongoing discussions about this, with partners staying overnight in Burton, and with support for both physical and mental health. There will be beds for Rehabilitation, 'step-up' and 'step-down' care at Lichfield (and Tamworth). There will also be beds for end-of-life care and delayed transfer care.

There should be improvements to local physiotherapy services in Lichfield and/or Tamworth. continuing and enhancing endoscopy services (at Tamworth) and X-rays (at Lichfield). There should be more diagnostics locally, with GPs in the building. GPs could send samples to the Samuel Johnson or Sutton Coldfield hospitals or elsewhere; local GPs will be keen to do diagnostics here, once they are confident they can be done here.

While the coming changes may lead to some improvements for us in Lichfield, the Conservatives in government need to invest far more in all aspects of our health and social care services in order to lift them out of the continuing state of crisis they have got us into!

Liberal Democrats would raise extra necessary funds by putting 1p on Income Tax ring-fenced for our NHS and social care.

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Your Lib Dem Focus Team - We're Here to Help

GET IN TOUCH

The local Lib Dem team work all year round for local people. If you would like their help or to comment on a local or national problem please do contact them by email, phone, or post.

The Lib Dems and their elected representatives may use the information you provide to contact you about issues you may find of interest. You can opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.

Can you help your Lib Dem Focus Team?

Deliver Focus leaflets in your own local area for up to an hour for each Focus issue? Please phone or email to discuss how you could help.



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Working for you all the year round