



## Lib Dems tackle graffiti

Offenders will have to explain their actions to their victims under new Lib Dem plans to tackle anti-social behaviour. The Lib Dems want to introduce 'Responsible Behaviour Panels' modelled on a stunningly successful scheme run by the Lib Dems in Somerset. The panels have had a major effect in cutting reoffending rates for anti-social behaviour. Under the scheme, offenders have to appear in front of their victim and members of the community to explain their actions. The victim, panel and the offender then agree how the offender will make up for the damage that has been caused. Lib Dem MP Home Affairs spokesman Nick Clegg said, "Lib Dem Councils are leading the way in effective action to cut crime and anti-social behaviour." We ask why does it take so long in Rugby to have such action as this?



**Cllr Sue Roodhouse inspects graffiti removal at the Warwick St underpass**

## Rokeby Forum

The Rokeby Neighbourhood Forum instigated by Cllr Sue Roodhouse has seen growing support. It is now becoming a regular event with attendance by the Borough Council's Tenant Support Officer and local Police Community Support Officers. This has allowed the local community to air its concerns directly with officers and local councillors. It is also an opportunity of updating the community about any local matters. The forum will now be seeking to develop further with the aim of making the Rokeby neighbourhood an even better place to live.

For further information please contact **Councillor Sue**

**Roodhouse Tel 560882** if no answer please leave a message or e-mail [sue.roodhouse@rugby.gov.uk](mailto:sue.roodhouse@rugby.gov.uk)

## Roots

Following a number of complaints, Lib Dem councillors have carried out a street-by-street survey of Hillside to inspect the tree root damage to footpaths. All of the streets where root damage has been identified have now been brought to the attention of the County Council Highways section who have assured Cllr Sue Roodhouse that they will investigate and report back on what actions will be taken. To date the County Council has not reported back.



## Mountains of Waste

### Waste not. Want not. Liberal Democrats take local action over the key debate on

- Growing mountains of waste - Warwickshire produced 288,781 tonnes of household waste in 2005/06.
- Increasing energy demands
- Changes in our weather patterns
- Increased levels of pollution, Rugby has air quality action zones because its air quality has got worse instead of better

#### The pressure of targets is increasing your council tax!

Liberal Democrats say there should be an integrated approach to waste management in Warwickshire. This would make it easier for Local Authorities to meet ever more stringent local, national and EU targets.

The EU Landfill Directive sets the following challenging targets for the UK. The amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill must be reduced :

- To 75% of 1995 levels by 2010
- To 50% of 1995 levels by 2013
- To 35% of 1995 levels by 2020.

For Warwickshire, this means that by 2020 we will only be allowed to landfill a maximum of 52,897 tonnes of BMW. So, we will need to find alternative treatment for almost 225,000 tonnes of biodegradable waste. If we fail to meet these targets - we will be fined £150 for every tonne of waste that we landfill over and above our target. Warwickshire, along with the Districts and Boroughs, is already feeling the pressure from these targets.

**Government Targets** for the recovery of municipal waste, and the recycling and composting of household waste. were set by the Government in the UK Waste Strategy in 2000 which include

the following National recycling/composting targets :

- To recycle or compost at least 25% of household waste by 2005
- To recycle or compost at least 30% of household waste by 2010
- To recycle or compost at least 33% of household waste by 2015

**Warwickshire** as a whole recycled and composted **29.9%** of its household waste in **2005/06**. But the rates vary substantially between the districts and boroughs with **Rugby** at the bottom as the following table shows:

AUTHORITY	2005/06 RATE
North Warwickshire BC	20.40%
Nuneaton and Bedworth BC	24.93%
<b>Rugby BC</b>	<b>17.94%</b>
Stratford-on-Avon DC	38.59%
Warwick DC	28.13%
<b>Warwickshire</b>	<b>29.90%</b>

Warwickshire is still way behind the leading authorities such as Cambridgeshire, who recycled and composted 42.2% of their household waste in 2005/06. The best performing district council in 2005/06 was Rushcliffe, which recycled and composted 50.3% of their household waste.



Liberal Democrats have called on the Conservative Cabinet to create a Waste Partnership Company. This would enable the introduction of a uniform approach to waste collection and recycling across the county.

## Waste not want not meeting update

### Liberal Democrats want action not just words on climate change

At a recent public meeting Rugby Liberal Democrats discussed biomass and the latest technology for generating energy locally. They also adopted the Zero waste Charter. The charter commits its signatories to work towards the principles of minimising municipal waste in Britain.

Many local authorities are signing up to the charter both locally and internationally the most notable being the government of New Zealand.

### The key points of the charter are

- Set a target of zero waste for all municipal waste in Britain by 2020( 50% by 2010 75%by 2015)
- Extend the doorstep collection of dry recyclables to every home in Britain without delay
- Extend doorstep collection of organic waste collection, and establish a network of closed vessel compost plants
- Convert civic amenity sites into re-use and recycling centres
- Ban any new thermal treatment of mixed waste and limit disposal contracts to a minimum of ten years
- Extend producer responsibility legislation to all products and materials that are hazardous or difficult to recycle

Cllr Neil Sandison who chaired the meeting says the adoption of these proposals could significantly reduce the amount of waste to landfill, and help Rugby and Warwickshire reduce both hazardous waste and green house gas emissions into our county.

## Let's fight the fear of crime together



Liberal Democrats have been calling for extra resources to tackle the fear of crime by investing directly into developing Neighbourhoods. The fear of crime is always high on our survey returns and Liberal Democrat

Councillors are already fighting crime by working with the Police in helping to establish a stronger network of Neighbourhood Watch schemes which help and improve the quality of life locally. The main aim of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is to create a partnership between the local community, the police and local councillors. The schemes are a great way of building community relations and working together with the police to reduce crime, fear of crime and improve the quality of life in your area.

### What can Neighbourhood Watch schemes do?

They can target local crime problems and take action to prevent them. In consultation with the local police they can find out from local people what crimes most concern and affect them and focus on those specific problems. Most crime is opportunist, committed on the spur of the moment, or when a car or house is left unlocked. This means there is enormous scope for reducing chances for criminals. Local problems such as combating anti-social behaviour, vandalism and graffiti are well within the scope of a well-organised Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

### How to set up and run a scheme

If you would like to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your area, contact the Crime Prevention Co-ordinator at your nearest police station, who will give you further information. Tel Rugby 541111 or contact your Liberal Democrat team of councillors. To kick things off you will want to arrange a meeting between all interested parties in your immediate area and your local police. When you have decided upon the date and time, circulate all the relevant houses with specially designed invitation cards or leaflets (we can help you with this). Before the meeting, visit your neighbours again, and give them a personal reminder. Otherwise, you may well find that attendance is not as great as you would have wished. Hold the meeting in your own home or one of your neighbours' homes so that the atmosphere will be informal and comfortable. At the meeting, make the opening remarks and briefly explain the purpose of the meeting. After this, the Crime Prevention Officer or local beat office will probably give a brief talk. At the meeting, you can also appoint one person to be the co-ordinator of the scheme. They will get people working together and be the major point of contact for the community and for the police.

### *Keep the scheme going by working together*

## What Future?

West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (WMRSS) Phase Two Revision is currently out for consultation. The only Options considered in this revision are those identified by the Secretary of State. Currently these cover housing, employment, transport and waste. The current WMRSS revision will set the framework for development in the Borough over the next 15 to 20 years.

Rugby will remain one of the five areas designated for growth. The future role of Rugby is likely to be as a 'gateway' between the affluent areas of the West Midlands and the Milton Keynes growth area, where significant proposals for development are planned within the Spatial Strategies for the East Midlands and South East.

**Housing.** The consultation identifies three potential levels of housing growth for Rugby over the period 2001-2026. The options are as follows:

	Housing Numbers
Option 1	7,100
Option 2	13,100
Option 3	23,100

Could this mean housing development of the Radio Station site? The Options set the framework for future planning of the West Midlands and the final contents of the document will directly influence the future of the Borough of Rugby. There is now an eight-week consultation period on the 'Options' which runs until the 5th March 2007

Contact by e-mail [wmrss@wmra.gov.uk](mailto:wmrss@wmra.gov.uk) or full documents on the web site [www.wmra.gov.uk](http://www.wmra.gov.uk) or Tel 0121 245 0200 Fax 0121 245 0201

# CRIMESTOPPERS

## 0800 555 111

Your call is free  
You can report crime anonymously

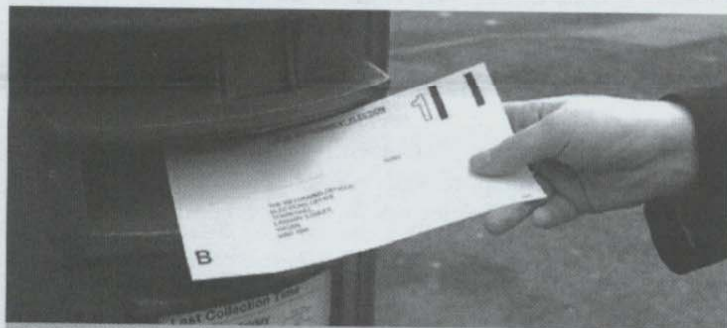
### COMMUNITY WARDENS NUMBER 0800 096 8800

## FORUM FEEDBACK

The latest Rokeby Forum Meeting on 12th February was the best attended yet. The Council reported that they had carried out a trial leaflet drop on Anderson Avenue asking people not to park their cars on the road for a specific day so that the Street Cleaning gang had access to clean the whole of the road. This was very successful and the Council thanked the residents for their co-operation. They plan to do the same on Charlesfield Road in the near future.

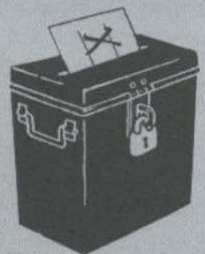
The Council also confirmed that they would shortly be fitting a lockable gate on the access to the garages behind Anderson Avenue. All residents who need access will get a key.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FORUM WILL BE IN LATE MARCH - DATE AND TIME IN THE NEXT EDITION.**



## Postal vote

The rules have changed from this year. All Postal or Proxy votes will have to be re-registered. If you are already registered the Council should write to you with a new form to complete. If you don't complete the form you will be taken off the list of Postal or Proxy voters. If you are already registered and have not yet had the new form **Contact the Democracy Section at Rugby Borough Council on 01788 533595** or apply on line at [www.rugby.gov.uk](http://www.rugby.gov.uk)



**Are you on the register to vote? You can check at the Borough Council 01788 533395**

More information can be had from  
Your Liberal Democrat Team at  
[www.rugbylibdems.org.uk](http://www.rugbylibdems.org.uk)

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## Ming Campbell's Lib Dems have launched a 5 step plan to cut crime:

- More police on patrol - don't waste billions on ID cards
- Take back our town centres - let communities close pubs and clubs that cause trouble
- Make sentences mean what they say - life should mean life
- Compulsory work and training in prison - to cut reoffending
- Better compensation for victims - paid for by prison work

### EFFECTIVE ACTION NEEDED

If you back our plan, please sign and return the petition below

**I/We back the Lib Dem 5 steps to a safer Britain campaign.**

Name/s .....

Address .....

Phone .....

Email .....

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

- I will be voting for the Lib Dems at the next election
- I would like a postal vote
- I will display a poster in my window at election time
- I want to join the Lib Dems