



## Driving nightmare!

When driving on main roads local drivers, faced with congested traffic would filter off into the side roads to avoid the traffic and ease the congestion.

Unfortunately the 'Mini Holland' developments in Leyton and Walthamstow now force all traffic onto **Lea Bridge Road, Hoe Street and Leyton High Road**. This has caused

major traffic congestion on our main roads which increases pollution and delay and creates more problems for cyclists. Traffic engineers in their haste to make our streets safer for cyclists and pedestrians have made some areas into a fortress making people drive round to find an entrance then drive round to find an exit. No notice was taken of the impact it would make on local traffic.

**Focus says:** The Council says they 'want to ensure that the schemes benefit the whole community, not just cyclists, but they have forgotten that the community also drive cars. There should have been a traffic impact assessment done which would have shown that the current scheme makes driving a nightmare for drivers and produces more pollution for pedestrians.



Tailback of cars heading down Oliver Road into the Ruckholt Road Mini Holland

## Outrageous!

The BP/Spar (previously M&S) garage in **Leyton High Road**, has applied to the Council for a license to sell alcohol 24 hours a day, every day.

Residents and the **Focus Team** are outraged that BP/Spar feel that this is what our area needs. We already suffer from problem drinkers in nearby parks. Do we really want to encourage more anti-social behaviour all through the night? By the time **Focus** goes to print the Council will have made their decision.

The outcome will be reported in the next **Focus**.

## Manor Court/Manor Hall Gardens - Litter problems

**Focus** is pleased to report that the litter around the grounds of



**Manor Court** on the corner of **Park Road and Grange Park Road** and the unkempt grass area on the corner of **Manor Hall Gardens and Lea Hall Road** has at last been tidied up.

## Liberal Democrats: Fighting for you

### NEWSFLASH!

### Brooks Farm - Skeltons Lane Park

**Focus** has been told that the YMCA, who run the farm, are looking for another organisation to take over and manage the farm. Apparently it does not currently meet the YMCA's corporate objectives. **Focus** hopes to have more information in the next **Focus**.

### Coronation Gardens - bring back the fish?

What has happened to the fishpond in Coronation Gardens?

It was once a thriving fishpond but is now a slime covered dead area.

**Focus Team member Bob Sullivan** was pleased to see the waterfall back in use but the Council has said that they were trying to find some money to ensure the pumps and waterfall and water quality are maintained. They may then bring back the fish.

Bob offered his services to get rid of the slime, cut back the bushes so the pond can be seen and, if the water quality is OK, put in some fish. Unfortunately, the council has declined Bob's offer. He is now trying to set up a 'Friends of Coronation Gardens Group', and would like to hear from residents interested in helping. Contact details on the back page.

# Ruckholt Road - residents kept from their homes



Traffic tailback in Ruckholt Road

The 'Mini Holland' development in **Ruckholt Road** will stop residents from driving to their homes.

The Council is blocking off three entrances - **York Road**, the slip road from **Alexandra Road** and the left turn into **Ruckholt Road** from **Oliver Road**. The only access therefore for most residents is from the direction of Hackney.

The **Focus Team** believe the planners have overlooked this problem although it was pointed out to them many times. **Focus** is carrying out a residents' petition/survey to ask that they open up the left turn from **Oliver Road** into **Ruckholt Road**. The blocking off this turning gives no benefit to cyclists or anyone, so it needs to be opened up so that **Ruckholt Road** residents are allowed full access for them, their friends, family and deliveries.

## Lib Dems - supporting local people

### Ive Farm Close madness!

There is an area tucked away at the bottom of **Ive Farm Close** that for years has caused problems for residents with prostitution, drugs, alcohol and anti-social behaviour. The old garages that also back onto **Villiers Close** have been cleared leaving an open space.

**But would you believe it?** Labour councillors have agreed to putting in two bench seats plus a few planting troughs to make it look nice. The Council is calling this small area a 'Pocket Park'. How pretentious!

**Lib Dem Focus member Bob Sullivan says:** "This is crazy. Putting benches down, particularly one having a cover on it, will only encourage people to congregate in the area. This area has had a long history of prostitution and drug and alcohol abuse. This development can only encourage anti-social behaviour".

**Focus** is asking the Council to think again.



### Howell Court - trees and bushes

The **Focus Team** has contacted London and Quadrant (L&Q) and the Council regarding the overgrown trees and bushes that overhang the alleyway between **Howell Court** back gardens and **George Mitchell primary school**. The Council says that it is the responsibility of the school. **Focus** is chasing this up.



The Liberal Democrats may contact you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish the information given to be used for this purpose.

### Coopers Lane

The flats at the corner of



**Coopers Lane** and the **High Road** have been in a terrible state for years. The management company has tried to clean them up but they really need major work done on them.

The **Focus Team** is contacting the management agents to find out if there are any plans for a major refurbishment of the flats.

### Thornhill Road - abandoned car?

**Focus member Bob Sullivan** contacted the police to check out an abandoned car in Thornhill Road. Neither the registration nor the chassis numbers matched the car. The police said they believed it was stolen and probably used for criminal activity but they did not have proof to get it towed away.

Bob therefore contacted the Council, who removed it.

### Why not join the Liberal Democrats

The **Lib Dems** are the only real opposition to Labour in Leyton and Leytonstone.



Contact **Bob Sullivan** (details below) for more information.

### Leyton Lib Dem Focus Team Working for YOU

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## Liberal Democrats - Service & Action All Year Round