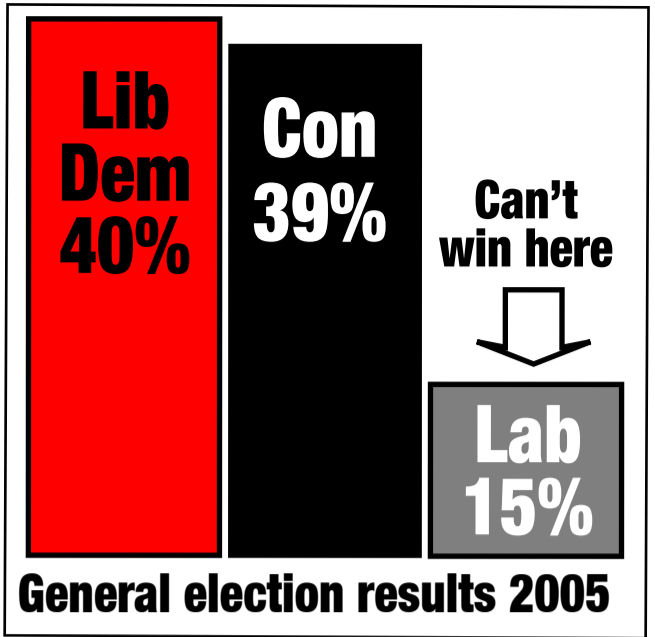


FOCUS

Winter 2008

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

On Silhill Ward



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Edited by Cllr Leela Widger and Lorely Burt MP

Traffic Success!

Hermitage Road

In a recent Council Meeting, Councillor Leela Widger spoke strongly in favour of introducing yellow lines to prevent all day commuter parking which for several years, has reduced the free flow of traffic.

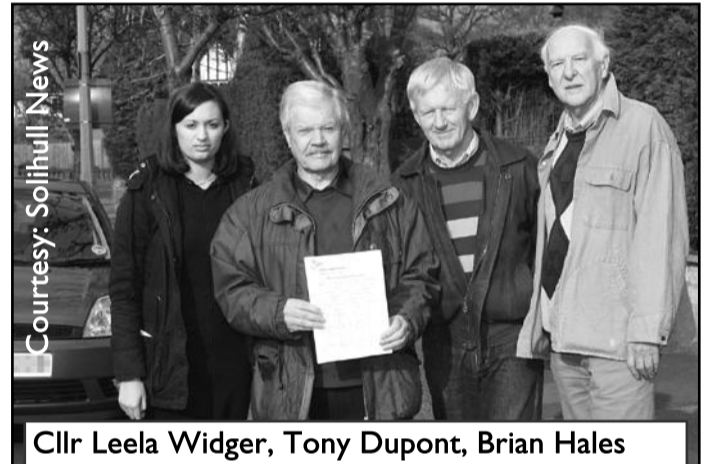
The road, also used as an ambulance and bus route, had regularly been the subject of lengthy queues and near-by misses.

Councillor Leela Widger has worked closely with residents, submitting a petition, which helped prompt Council action and we are pleased to report that the matter has now been resolved.



Cllr Leela Widger discusses parking issue with Hermitage Road resident Eric Hall earlier in the year

Buryfield Road



Cllr Leela Widger, Tony Dupont, Brian Hales (Buryfield Road resident) and Barry Armitage (St Helens Road resident) campaigning for action.

In recent years, residents raised concern about congestion and road safety, caused by parked vehicles located at the Warwick Road end of Buryfield Road.

For the past two years ago, Leela Widger has consulted residents with surveys and pressed the Council for action with letters, meetings and a petition signed by over 250 residents.

Pressure paid off as officers were recently given the green light to introduce measures to restrict parking early in the New Year.

Wherretts Well Lane/ Lugtrout Lane

Leela recently supported measures to address concerns about parking outside the local Yew Tree Primary School. Residents had raised the matter with Leela, and at a recent Council meeting, approval was given to introduce double yellow lines in specified areas.

Seven Star Road

Following pressure from the Liberal Democrats and residents, action has been taken to address traffic hazards associated with obstruction caused by all day commuter parking.



Cllr Leela Widger presented case at Council meeting for added restrictions.

At the Council meeting, Councillor Leela Widger presented the case for restricted parking and the Council agreed appropriate measures to limit parking in the service roads.

Touchwood Hall Close

The recent decision to approve a range of parking measures to improve safety and the flow of traffic during the School Run is a welcome step following sustained pressure on the Council to take action.

The measures, which are designed to prevent all day commuter parking, are anticipated to be introduced early in the New Year and should help both residents and school parents.



Cllr Leela Widger and Touchwood Hall Close residents, Arthur Collins and Terry Stretton, campaigning for parking measures.

Liberal Democrats - Working ALL year round

Lib Dem Leader visits Solihull Pensioners

Councillor Leela Widger, who was recently appointed as Shadow Spokesperson for Health and Social Care on the Council, joined Liberal Democrat Leader Nick Clegg and Lorely Burt MP at the Solihull Pensioners Convention last month.



Leela Widger, Lorely Burt and Nick Clegg meet with Solihull Pensioners at Convention

Pensioners raised a number of important concerns about the

Labour Government's treatment of older people, including the inadequacy of the current state pension and unfairness of means-testing.

It is Liberal Democrat Policy to raise the basic level of the state pension and its associated increases with earnings-linked inflation. In addition, a Lib Dem Government would remove means-testing which is unfair, inefficient and another form of wasteful red-tape..

Redlands Road, Glebe Road, Orchard Avenue

At a recent Council meeting, Leela spoke in favour of introducing double yellow lines at the corners of these roads.

The Council approved these restrictions which were recently laid and should remove a serious parking hazard.

Parking problems

All day commuter parking continues to pose problems in several roads throughout Silhill. Councillor Leela Widger has submitted several petitions and is pressing the Council to introduce residents' only parking to prevent the build up of all day commuter parking.

The roads affected include Marsham Court Road, Redlands Road, Newfield Close, Grove Avenue, Grove Road, Lighthorne Road, Broomfields Avenue and Woodfield Road.

Silhill ward news in brief

- Heaton Road/Marsham Court Road - in a Council meeting earlier in the year, Councillor Leela Widger spoke in support of proposals that work be carried out on the footpaths, which were dangerous, uneven and due for repair.

The Liberal Democrats note and welcome the recent works and relaying of the paths in these roads.

- Streetsbrook Road Infill - last year, developers applied to the Council to build a major development in the area.

Councillor Widger strongly opposed the development both at the Council meeting and also at the Appeal Stage with National Government Inspector. The application was subsequently refused.

Recently, the threat of a major development has returned. A similar application is shortly due to appear before the Planning Committee in January.

Councillor Widger will continue to work with residents to oppose the development.

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Have your say

Use the space below to tell us about problems in your area or to comment on local or national issues then return to:

Leela Widger (Silhill Liberal Democrats)
15 Ashleigh Road, Solihull, B91 1AE

I can help!

- I can help to deliver a few FOCUS newsletters
- I would like a Postal Vote application form
- I will display a poster at election time
- I will vote for the Liberal Democrats at the next council election
- I enclose a donation to help pay for the FOCUS newsletters

£25 £15 £10
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A donation of £9 or more entitles you to membership of the Liberal Democrats. Please tick here if you do not wish to join.

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.

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Lorely Burt holds weekly advice surgeries for local residents.

For an appointment, please contact Lorely's office.