

Braiswick



FOCUS



Edited by Cllr. Martin Goss

November/December 2011

Rail Gateway Negotiations Continue

Conversations and negotiations continue with *Network Rail* and *National Express* over the installation of a new rail gateway across the NCP car park. Preparing for this project, your local Liberal Democrat Councillors have already raised £17,000 of funding from *Persimmon Homes* and *Taylor Wimpey*.



Councillor Martin Goss inspects the poor state of the current rail gateway.

Pavement Repaired



Cllr Martin Goss checks on progress....

Councillor Martin Goss has been chasing the Chief Executive of Essex County Council to finally replace the missing pavement surface on the corner of Aerofoil Grove and

Tufnell Way. The work, which was never completed by developers, is now done and dusted.

Bergholt Road Play Area

The group chaired by local dentist Stephen Pitt, working in association with Myland Community Council, have now raised some £36,000 towards the refurbishment of the play-area in Bergholt Road.

Our target is £90,000 so we are well on our way to success!

New Compost Toilet

Allotment holders shouldn't get caught short anymore!

Having sourced funding through grants, a new compost toilet has been installed at the original Bergholt Road Allotments. Opened by the town's Liberal Democrat MP, Bob Russell, this an efficient and environmentally friendly way of recycling waste!



Martin checks out the facilities.

Planning Applications Under Review

We have been asked to investigate a retrospective Planning Application where houses were built on the old site of 35 Braiswick. We have asked Planning Officers from Colchester to look at the plans and await their response. We will let you know the outcome when we know.

Correct Planning Permission should always be sought on buildings prior to them being built. Although retrospective Permission can be sought, as on this occasion, it is illegal to commence building without proper Planning consent.

Faster Broadband

BT appear to be slowly fitting new cabinets in the Bergholt Road and Braiswick area which will eventually lead to faster broadband.

This work is ongoing all over Colchester and will hopefully mean more residents can experience maximised broadband speeds.

White Garden Sacks

Some residents have complained that their white garden sacks go missing after the dustmen have visited. If this does happen, please let us know and we will try to get you replacement sacks.

If you need new sacks, these can be purchased from Colchester Borough Council at a cost of £3 each.

Bins for New Braiswick Park

Martin has secured four new litter-bins for New Braiswick Park in conjunction with *Taylor Wimpey*.

These bins will shortly be installed in the following locations:

Entrance to Aerofoil Grove/Tufnell Way junction.

Outside the new Community Space on Apprentice Drive.

By the Woodland entrance near Apprentice Drive.

On the pathway in the middle section of Woodland.

Salt Bins

Essex County Council have now changed their policy on Salt Bins. Residents can be given a 1 tonne salt bag if they agree to shovel it and keep the surrounding area in their street clear.

We are awaiting a response from Essex County Council on any liability issues should anyone injure themselves on cleared paths and streets.

Getting in touch with your local Lib Dem team

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Thank You Braiswick Resident's Association

Martin, Scott and Anne attended the annual Braiswick Residents' Association meeting on November 8th and were very pleased to receive a very warm welcome.

"It was a productive meeting and it was nice to see everyone there! We took away a number of local issues from the meeting, and will report back on our progress through our newsletters."

Bergholt Road Graffiti

Martin has reported graffiti on the litter-bins and dog-bins along the Bergholt Road recreation ground footpath. Most of this graffiti has now been removed. We have also asked for the graffiti on the allotments building along this pathway to also be removed.



Horses in Countryside Fields

Countryside Properties, who own some of the land between Bergholt Road and Mile End Road, have decided to lease some of their land to a farmer called Ben who wishes to keep around eight horses in the fields. *Countryside* have acknowledged that the horses might wander into the gardens of fence-less residents, and will write directly to residents who are affected.

Bergholt Road Pavements

We have again asked Essex County Council to survey the whole of Bergholt Road and make good any defective or damaged areas. If there are any parts of Bergholt Road which need work, please let us know directly and we will pass on your concerns directly.

Neighbourhood Watch

Drug Factories

Residents need to be increasingly vigilant. There have been local raids in the Bergholt Road and Braiswick area where rented properties have been used to grow marijuana plants.

If you see anything suspicious, such as blacked out windows or a strong smell coming from the property, please report it to police on:

0300 333 4444

Quad Bikes

Some residents have complained they have seen Quad bikes illegally driving around the area on pavements and footpaths.

If you see this happening, please report it to police immediately on:

0300 333 4444

Bergholt Road Bike Race

Some residents have reported that up to 50 bikes have been racing up Bergholt Road.

We have asked questions about this and await a response from local cycling experts.

New Braiswick Park Yellow Lines Update

Essex County Council have confirmed that a new 'Yellow Lines' plan will be issued by Christmas 2011 taking into account feedback from Residents of New Braiswick Park and their concerns over the current plan.

We fully support a major watering down of the current plan and will continue to work with residents to get the scheme you require.

Getting involved in your Community

If you want to change your community for the better, why not volunteer to help out your councillors? Could you assist in litter picks, street surveys or newsletter delivery?

Contact any member of our team for more details.

SAFER SCHOOL CROSSINGS PETITION

Too many children in Essex face danger when walking to school due to the lack of safe pedestrian crossings outside or near their schools. We need 8,000 signatures to spark a debate at Essex County Council. Can you help us and sign the petition below?

We call upon Essex County Council to provide and improve pedestrian crossings, particularly outside or near schools, to stop serious or fatal accidents from occurring.

Name	Address	Email	Phone

The Liberal Democrats and their representatives may use this information to send you updates on this campaign. We will not pass your details onto any third party beyond presenting your signatures to Essex County



Return free of charge to:

**MILE END LIB DEMS,
FREEPOST NAT6287,
COLCHESTER, CO1 2BR.**

Thank you for your support.