

ALDERSHOT

SEPTEMBER 2009

FOCUS

News & action from your local Liberal Democrats

www.aldershotlibdems.org.uk www.hantslibdems.org.uk www.libdems.org.uk

How you voted...

Con
46%

Lib
Dem
34%

Labour can't win here at the General Election



Lab
12%

Votes cast in 2009 County Elections in Aldershot Constituency (est.)

ANGER AT HOWARTH EXPENSES

Local residents have been stunned and angered by the arrogant reaction of Aldershot's MP Gerald Howarth following revelations about his expenses.

He has refused to apologise or repay a single penny of the £531,290 he claimed over the last four years, saying he could be earning more money in his previous job as a **city banker!**

Although London is only a 40 minute train journey away, our MP lives in Chiswick and keeps a second home in Farnborough, funded by taxpayers' money.

Local residents who have to commute to London each day by train are asking why Mr Howarth



MORTGAGE



FOOD



BARBECUE & GARDEN CHAIRS



PHONE AND CABLE TV

Squire of the manor

Not content with his MP's salary of £64,766, Howarth splits his time between 3 jobs, including a £30,000 a year directorship of a company registered offshore in the Isle of Man (a well known tax haven).

The former banker was unrepentant, adding that people expected him to act as "squire of the manor" by paying for charity raffle gifts and attending events.

Online reaction

Local residents have been showing their disgust at our MP's milking of the expenses system, posting a record number of comments on the *News & Mail's* website www.gethampshire.co.uk

Action blocked

The Liberal Democrats have been calling for a complete overhaul of the expenses system for many years. In contrast, many Labour and Conservative MPs have done everything they could to hang on to their extravagant allowances.

Last year, Lib Dem MPs backed a radical set of changes to the system but were thwarted by an

MP meets expenses row with defiance

Aldershot News, 15/5/09

"Mr Howarth said he could be earning more money...in his previous job as a city banker."

Aldershot News, 15/5/09

"your expenses are disgusting"

Resident's comment, www.gethampshire.co.uk 19/6/09

"you should hang your head in shame"

Resident's comment, www.gethampshire.co.uk 18/6/09

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/mympsexpenses> for details

Stop the weeds NOW!

Liberal Democrat Councillors are pressing the Conservative-run County Council for action to deal with the appalling state of our roads and footpaths which have become overgrown with weeds.

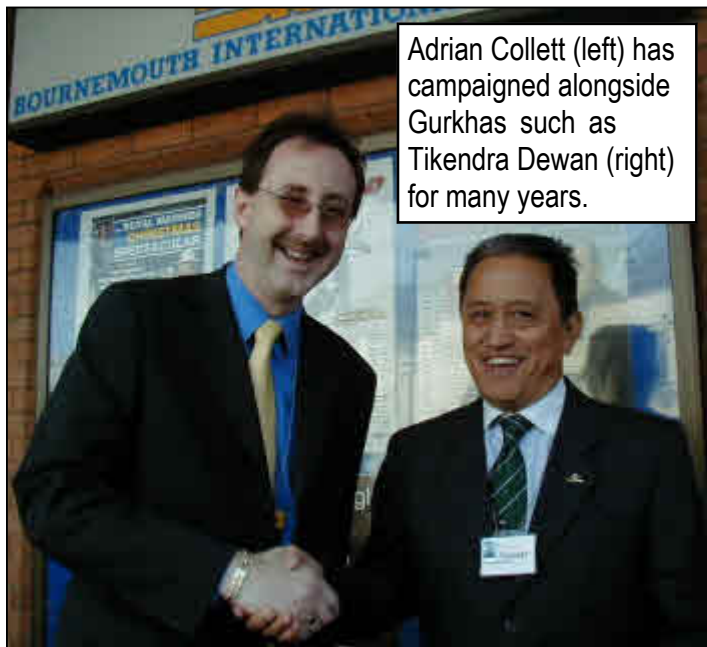
The Lib Dems asked Hampshire County Council to deal with the problem back in June but they said it would be at least 6 weeks before anything could be done.

Since early May many local residents have mentioned the disgraceful state of our roads and pavements covered in weeds. Some residents have said it looks more like a deserted Wild West town!

Lib Dem Councillors put a motion to the Borough Council in July highlighting the problem but the motion was referred to a committee to look at in September.



Lib Dem Councillors have been pressing the Conservative County Council to deal with Rushmoor's growing weed problem.



Adrian Collett (left) has campaigned alongside Gurkhas such as Tikendra Dewan (right) for many years.

Lib Dems welcome Gurkhas

Adrian Collett, prospective Lib Dem MP for Aldershot has long campaigned for Gurkhas' rights. Lib Dems have argued that soldiers prepared to die for us should be allowed to live with us.

In May, Liberal Democrat MPs in Parliament put forward a motion which forced the Government to allow Gurkhas who served more than 4 years the right to live here.

In June, Rushmoor Council approved the wording of a Lib Dem motion that "This Council welcomes the government's decision to bow to public opinion and the will of Parliament and allow all retired Gurkhas with at least 4 years service to settle in the UK, and looks forward to the positive contribution that any who decide to settle in Rushmoor will make the local area."

Adrian Collett said, "These brave, decent people who have risked their lives for us deserve to be treated fairly."

Published & promoted by Aldershot Liberal Democrats, 12 Stake Lane, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 8NP. Printed by O&R Printing, Workshop, 24 Cheyne Way, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 8RX.

Help us to campaign for Aldershot

I want to support the Lib Dems' campaign for Aldershot...

- I can display a poster at election
- I want to be part of the local tea
- I can deliver *Focus* in my area
- I can make a donation of £

(A donation of £10 or more entitles you to party membership. If you do not wish to join tick here)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

How do you think our area can be improved? We want your ideas...

RETURN TO:
Aldershot
Lib Dems
FREEPOST
Farnborough
GU14 8BR

Contact Us



Paul Bowers
Rushmoor
Borough
Councillor

info@aldershotlibdems.org.uk

Adrian Collett
Parliamentary
Spokesperson



acollett@cix.co.uk

Tel: 07837 535902

Website

www.aldershotlibdems.org.uk

Standing up for YOU

