

# Wheathampstead Liberal Democrats



Chris Oxley  
Pilgrim Cottage,  
Coleman Green,  
Wheathampstead  
AL4 8ES  
Phone 834238  
Chris@Lesmar.com

## Top Key Issues March 2012

1. **Luton Airport Expansion** Luton Council seeks to double the number of passengers to 18 million a year. In our opinion this will have a major adverse effect on Wheathampstead particularly with the increased traffic. Please express your views to [www.futureLuToN.co.uk/optimisation](http://www.futureLuToN.co.uk/optimisation) and let Judy have a copy.

2. **Schools.** The main problem was Secondary school transfers in Wheathampstead. The problem has increased enormously. The increases in houses being built throughout the whole District makes obtaining places at both Junior and Secondary schools an ever increasing problem. We understand the shortage of places in the District is in hundreds not tens.

School places are organised by the Conservative controlled County Council; the problems are getting bigger every day yet nothing seems to happen to resolve the issues.

Judy Shardlow and I will be happy to help any/all parents whose children fail to get a place at an acceptable local school either Junior or Senior. Just e mail or phone us.

3. **Did you really want a Tory controlled council if you did not vote Tory in the first place?**

In May 2011 the Lib Dems lost control of the District Council. The Conservatives are now the largest party with 50% of the seats. They are being supported by Labour, Green and Independent with 6 seats between them. We are already seeing them taking action that we consider will increase pressures on the District budget and increase council rents.

4. Conservatives have **cancelled our cinema** project. They wish to support the private cinema that we believe will be unaffordable for young people. They have also changed the swimming pool project which in our view will increase the running costs significantly. Who will pay? You!

5. **Recycling** We are particularly pleased that under the Lib Dems the District Council hit its recycling target a year ahead of schedule and increased the target to 60%. This not only helps the environment but generates substantial funds for the District Council to protect services. Lib Dems are determined to continue to do all they can to protect our Green Belt.

Fortunately Lib Dems in the central government coalition persuaded the Tories not to support Eric Pickles' crazy idea to revert to expensive weekly collection of rubbish and recycleables which would have cut the Lib Dem savings

6. **Pedestrian Crossing Marford Road** Our petition was a great success. County has indicated they have put the project on their list. We hope it will go ahead soon.