



PEOPLE FIRST

ELECTION SPECIAL FOR YOUR TOWN & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

It's Time For Something Better !

What little money we have left should be spent on services – not on Council salaries!

- We will cut Council waste & bureaucracy so that your money is spent on services that benefit you.
- We will maintain weekly collections of dustbins and campaign for a doorstep collection of glass for recycling.
- We will allow resident involvement and strengthen the Council's approach to planning, to protect our town & the Green Belt.

- We will reverse Tory cuts to voluntary organisations who give greatest value for money and help across the District.
- We need safer streets with action to tame speeding traffic & commuter car parking.
- We will freeze parking charges for 4 years & CUT out all evening parking charges altogether.
- Basic Services such as repairs to roads & pavements must improve



Three Staff at Almost Half a Million !

The Sevenoaks Chronicle has given the game away, the top three staff at Sevenoaks District Council are together paid £360,000. Add the 24% for NI & part funding of their generous pensions & we get a cost to you of £446,400. At the same time car parking charges go up, grants to voluntary groups are cut, youth services are stopped & pensioner's minibuses left unfunded. John Gilbert says "While the District Council must employ good staff the salary levels of these administrators has been allowed to get out of control. The cosy relationship between the Tories & the senior staff must be broken up. The priority must always be to maintain services to residents"

Prevention of crime and anti social behaviour is one of our priorities. We will continue to try to get more police in our patch



The Hospital is a vital part of the structure of local healthcare. We will continue to campaign with local residents to save it.

On 5th May you have an opportunity to vote for new District and Town Councils. Elect more Liberal Democrats to give our town a better future!

Vote Liberal Democrat on Thursday 5th May

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS WORKING FOR YOU IN SEVENOAKS

Supporting young people

Your Lib Dem councillors helped to get better play equipment at Greatness and Pontoise Close play areas. We helped to make the skate park at Greatness a success working with Greatness Residents Association to ensure local people's interests were protected.

Merilyn and Robert at the new Greatness play area.



Supporting Volunteers in Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks works as a community thanks to the huge contribution of volunteers, but they need council cash to help run services. Tories have cut £45,000 funding for local groups - Lib Dems would restore funding by cutting overheads – The Tories picked the wrong target.



The Lakes

The Town Council has refused to take over the running of the Lakes & the District Council is cutting costs & neglecting their duties to keep this wonderful facility in good order. Cathy Baker & the Liberal Democrat team have pressed the District Council for essential spring time grass seeding over muddy patches. In the end we would like to see it run locally by the Town Council.



West Kent Housing

Robert & his family are West Kent Housing Association residents and he has been asked to serve on the new West Kent Scrutiny Panel that checks on the best ways of providing services to occupiers.

Robert will work to ensure services are provided efficiently & that they meet the needs of residents.



Safer Streets

When the District Council asked local people what they most wanted last year, tackling speeding traffic came top. We are campaigning for safer roads & crossings along the A25, in particular on **Bradbourne Park Road** & at the junction of **Mill Lane & Seal Road**.

We are also working for HGV lorries to be cleared from **Cramptons Road**.



NEWS: From May 2007 to May 2010 the District Council Tax (Band D) went up by **13.41 %**. Over the same period the Consumer Price Index went up by only **8.5%**. **Why the difference?**

WHY SEVENOAKS NEEDS COUNCILLORS WHO WORK FOR YOU

Mill Pond

Congratulations to the fantastic efforts of Greatness Lane Residents Association who have designed a scheme for creating a new refurbished Mill Pond area at Greatness with boardwalks, landscaping & a pond cleared of sludge built up over years of neglect. GRA secured over £90,000 of external funding. Cllr John Gilbert played a very small part in securing small seed funding of £7,000 from SDC.



Transport for Pensioners

With little public transport in Sevenoaks, the minibuses are a lifeline for many pensioners. Cutting all the cash for them means that, while volunteers can fill part of the gap, many will go without. Lib Dem councillors put forward a funded plan to save money **and** save the service. The ruling Tories said no and cut the lot!



Planning for People

Many will remember how we lost the Farmers after Tory councillors failed to press for a Public Inquiry. Now residents are barred from speaking at site meetings on controversial plans, and have to protest against unbalanced planning meetings. Liberal Democrats are committed to reforming the system and to make it fairer and more democratic



Saving Sevenoaks High Street

We want to keep Sevenoaks a great place to live, work and do business. We proposed a Town Partnership to help councils, businesses and retailers join forces to work together and make the most of what Sevenoaks has to offer everyone. Our town mustn't be just a source of car park revenues for the Council!



Parking

With huge hikes in parking fees, and evening charges for car parks, Tory councillors have turned residential streets into pay and display car parks. Yellow lines and parking machines are now spread across our town. Lib Dems fought off some of the worst ideas, **and will now cut out evening charges & freeze daytime prices for 4 years.**



CAN WE HELP YOU ? PLEASE LET US KNOW

If you've got a problem we may be able to help with, we'll do our best. Drop us a line at FREEPOST TN3442, 8 Crownfields, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1EF or ring or email a candidate

On Thursday 5th May Vote Liberal Democrat and elect



Cathy Baker is a retired school teacher and lives in Sevenoaks. She knows the area well. Cathy is concerned about the environmental issues & would like green spaces protected. She would like to see an increase in the use of public transport, especially the implementation of a park & ride scheme that could ease congestion. Cathy wants to see vital services protected from Council cuts. In the past Cathy has worked for VSU Youth in Action & is now a member of the Sevenoaks Fair Trade Committee. Cathy has campaigned for measures to calm speeding traffic in residential areas.

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Merilyn Canet has had her home in Sevenoaks for over 50 years. Raised on a farm in Sundridge, she went to school here, raised her daughters here and ran her dental practice in Sevenoaks.

Merilyn has been an active Town & District Councillor over many years & has a proven track record campaigning for family issues, the environment and trying to get Councils to do their jobs well. Merilyn led a volunteer team that have successfully regenerated a large allotment site & continues to be an enthusiastic allotment holder.

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Robert Dobson has lived and worked in Sevenoaks for over 30 years and is standing for the council as he sees Sevenoaks reduced to a ghost town of empty shops and charity outlets while the Tory run District Council ratchets up parking charges, the local roads turn into assault courses and millions are wasted on inflated senior officer salaries.

Robert is a West Kent Housing resident who also sits on their newly formed resident scrutiny panel and is keen to see the District council do more for those on lower incomes; the Tory-run Council cuts back on services while Council tax remains high and the cost of living makes it harder for people to get by. With a young family he will fight to ensure that parents' voices are heard throughout Northern Ward.

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John Gilbert has lived in Sevenoaks for 35 years and will continue the struggle to get money spent on real services rather than on inflated Council salaries & pensions.

John is a Chartered Surveyor with a particular interest in planning and seeks to protect green spaces & raise the quality of design approved in planning consents.

He will continue to work with local groups like the Greatness Residents Association to campaign on such matters as speeding traffic & safe road crossings.

John has called on the Council to concentrate on core services, roads, pavements, grass cutting, calming speeding traffic and smartening up our environment

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For The Town			For The District		
Cathy Baker		X	Robert Dobson		X
Merilyn Canet		X	John Gilbert		X
Robert Dobson		X	Remember it's a TWO horse race- there are NO Labour candidates		

AV REFERENDUM - Cathy, John, Merilyn and Robert will be voting YES to fairer votes in the referendum. Allowing us, the voters to rank candidates in order of preference will give power back to us: 1. No more need for tactical voting – you can vote for your favourite candidate, 2. Fewer Safe seats – MP's will need to work hard and appeal to a broad range of people, 3. MP's will need to get the support of 50% of the voters. There are always losers for any reform like this. If you are a lazy complacent MP or if you like extremist & divisive parties you will not like AV. That's why the BNP and some old dinosaurs of the old parties are against it.