



# FOCUS

# Bagshot

[www.surreyheathlibdems.org.uk](http://www.surreyheathlibdems.org.uk)

## Another Tory Tax Hike!

Conservative Surrey Heath Council has once again raised Council Tax above the rate of inflation. At a meeting on the 18th February, Conservatives voted for an inflation busting Council Tax rise of 5.5%.

This is despite the fact that Surrey Heath is one of the richest Borough Councils in the country - and currently has more than £32 MILLION POUNDS of your money in its bank accounts! Your Liberal Democrat Councillors, led by John Faulkner, proposed an inflation hugging 2% rise in Council Tax. This would be achieved by better financial management whilst allowing additional expenditure on areas such as: CCTV, Crime and Disorder Initiatives, environmental improvement initiatives and enhanced youth facilities.

Councillor Duncan Clark told Focus "This Tory Council only has one policy – tax, tax, tax! It has 32 million reasons why it could easily keep council tax increases low – but has repeatedly failed to do so! Instead it keeps making feeble excuses and continues to stuff cash into its coffers, while failing to deliver the services residents clearly want" Please contact us if you would like full costed details of our alternative budget.



**Above: Bagshot Councillors Bryan Ward, John Faulkner and Duncan Clark show just how rich Surrey Heath is!**

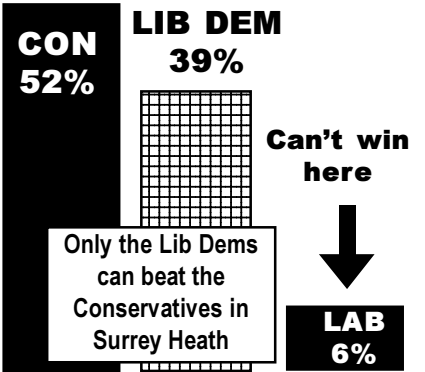
## Cuts...Cuts...

**Tory Councillors have slashed the funding made available to the Action Holiday scheme.**

Councillor Bryan Ward told Focus *"These cuts will hit parents on moderate incomes. This could be the last straw for this respected and long running service. Only last year the Tories increased charges by 100%. With so much money in the bank, this is an appalling decision!"*



### How you vote in Surrey Heath



Votes cast in the 2003 elections

# Policing Bagshot

Bagshot Councillors Bryan Ward and John Faulkner joined Lib Dem Parliamentary Spokesperson Rosalyn Harper, on a recent night time patrol of Bagshot with local community Policeman Adrian Passmore.

Councillor Bryan Ward told Focus: "PC Adrian Passmore invited us to join him on a night time patrol of Bagshot to get a feel for the issues the Police are trying to tackle at the moment. Our patrol took in most of the village on a Friday night. The key issue for our village is clearly the lack of facilities for young people to meet up and socialise. Apart from bus shelters and the Dry Arch there is no where for youngsters to meet. This follows the closure of our Youth centre by Tory Surrey County Council. "This is an issue that needs to be addressed and we will be working with local residents, the Police and other agencies to see if we can develop some form of youth club provision in our village.



Above: PC Passmore, Rosalyn Harper and Bryan Ward

# Councillors condemn train company



Councillors Duncan Clark and Bryan Ward (pictured left) have condemned South West trains for their recent decision to cancel normal services on the Bagshot line without consulting passengers or local councils first. Apparently the line was needed so that drivers could learn how to drive new trains and so the timetable was torn up and buses introduced instead.

Councillor Meurig Williams raised this issue at a meeting of Windlesham Parish Council, who agreed to complain in the strongest possible terms to the various agencies involved.



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touch  
with us...***

Action Line – 01276 473172  
Fax Line - 01276 473187  
Email -  
bagshotlibdems@netscape.net  
By post:  
Bagshot Lib Dems,  
FREEPOST G13420,  
Camberley  
Surrey GU16 5BR  
Our web site -  
www.surreyheathlibdems.org.uk



# Save Our Post Offices

Lib Dem Parliamentary Spokesperson for Surrey Heath, Rosalyn Harper, delivers a postcard to Tony Blair with Lib Dem MP Norman Baker. Following the recent closure of Mytchett Post Office, local Lib Dems are campaigning to protect all other Surrey Heath Post Offices from further closures.

