

Focus

Tooting Graveney Ward

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LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
www.libdems.org.uk

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Parking charges up 26%

Wandsworth Council have put the annual car parking charge up from £75 to £95 – that's an increase of over 26%! In nearby Merton Council it costs just £60 for an annual permit. The increase was effective last October, but residents are only finding out when they renew.

Local residents have expressed outrage to the Liberal Democrat Focus team. "At a time of hardship, when everybody is struggling to make ends meet, the Council should do the same," says Stephanie Dearden. "Just two years ago the permit cost £66, so it's gone up by nearly 44% in two years."

Surinder Rhode says, "A lot of less well-off people need to have a car, and have no choice but to park it in the street. This charge hits them hard. It's unfair of the Council to treat them like a piggy bank that they can raid in hard times. They should manage the Council's finances more carefully."



Stephanie Dearden and Surinder Rhode: "Wandsworth Council should manage its finances better so that residents don't have to face such steep increases."

Focus says: "Freeze the charges"

Sign our petition below or online at:
campaigns.libdems.org.uk/page1048

**POLICE SHOULD BE MORE
VISIBLE, SAY RESIDENTS**

CRIME MAPS PUBLISHED

See over...

Parking charges petition

Return to: 196 Franciscan Rd, London SW17 8HG.

We say that Wandsworth Council's decision to raise the cost of residents parking permits by 26% is unfair. We call on the Council to freeze the cost of resident's parking for the next 2 years

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone:

Email:

Signature:

**TOOTING
DESERVES
Better**

If you sign this petition, the Liberal Democrats and their elected representatives may use the information you've given to contact you. Some contacts may be automated. You can always opt out of communications at any time by contacting us. Published and promoted on behalf of Tooting Liberal Democrats by David Patterson both at 196 Franciscan Rd, London SW17 8HG. Printed by Ted Shrimpton, 120 Dorchester Avenue, Bexley DA5 3AW.

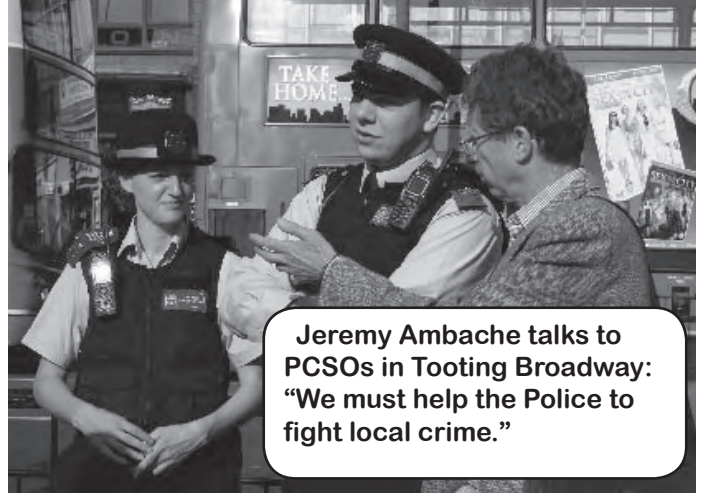
POLICE SHOULD BE MORE VISIBLE, SAY RESIDENTS

Over 70 people responded to the Graveney Focus team's recent house to house survey in Ashvale, Longmead, Vant, Dewey and Franciscan Roads. This survey covered many aspects of life in Tooting, but we had a lot of comments on local policing, including:

- Over 65% would like even more visible policing on the streets.
- Several people said that they appreciated seeing the Police on their street.
- Some residents reported young people fighting near Mitcham Road.
- A number of respondents said that they preferred 'real police officers' rather than PCSOs.

One person said that when police officers walk in twos they should make it easier for passers by to make eye contact with them, as when two officers talked to each other it was more difficult for members of the public to make contact.

Jeremy said: "We have passed these comments on to the local Safer Neighbourhood Police Team. We support more bobbies out on the beat, and we aim to work with the local Police to help in the fight against crime."



Jeremy Ambache talks to PCSOs in Tooting Broadway: "We must help the Police to fight local crime."

Focus Action!

- Focus continues to keep an eye on the **new library**, due to open in November 2009. Jeremy Ambache says: "Local people are being asked how this facility should be used. Do get involved! What do you think the new library should provide? What should there be - books, computers, other activities and meeting spaces?". You can give your views and get more information is available on the library the web site at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/tootinglibrary. Also if you contact the Graveney Focus team we are happy to pass on your views.
- In our last issue of we reported that heavy lorries were ignoring the ban on using **Rectory Lane**, and that big skip lorries were causing a lot of noise and vibrations. We have had several replies from local people supporting our action to stop this. The Police have told Jeremy Ambache that they will be watching for lorries over 7.5 tonnes using Rectory Lane and may prosecute the owners. We'll keep you informed of progress.
- We've also heard that noise and vibrations from **skip lorries** are a problem elsewhere in Graveney. Please get in touch if you think so. Road humps seem to be the main problem.

Police publish crime maps

The Metropolitan Police have recently published local crime maps on the internet showing the incidence of some crimes in local areas. They show five categories from "High" to "Low or No Crime" in different colours. Graveney ward has been divided into six districts. Overall crime in Graveney is described as "average", with the area around Mitcham Road, described as "above average". This seems to be because of a high incidence of robberies in this area, which are reported as low everywhere else in the ward. You can see the crime maps on maps.met.police.uk/.

Jeremy Ambache says, "These crime maps are quite interesting, but it isn't clear yet how they will help the community to fight crime."

Any local issues that you would like Focus to investigate?

Email info@wandsworthlibdems.org.uk, phone Surinder Rhode on 020 8767 9557 or drop a note into 196 Franciscan Rd, London SW17 8HG

Can you help? Focus is delivered completely by volunteers. Can you help us by delivering your local street? If you can, please call David Patterson on 020 8870 3635.