

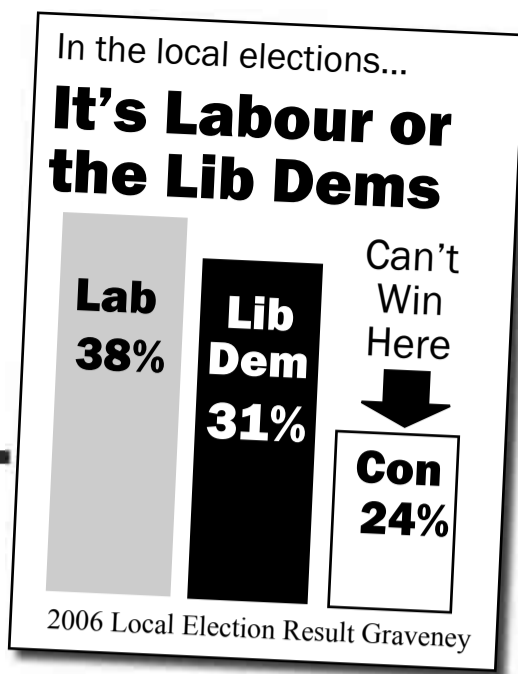
Tooting Graveney Ward Focus

Published & promoted on behalf of Tooting Liberal Democrats by David Patterson both at 14 Effort St, London SW17 0QR.
Printed by Ted Shrimpton, 120 Dorchester Ave., Bexley DA5 3AW.



Editors Jeremy Ambache, Stephanie Dearden, Jamie Gillespie, Surinder Rhode

November 2009



20mph Zone for Graveney?

Local Campaigner **Jamie Gillespie** is calling for a 20 mph zone for residential streets here in Graveney.

This follows a recent Focus survey in which 57% of all respondents said that cars were going too fast in their street. Many thought this was a danger to children and vulnerable adults - and some said that they thought the noise was a serious nuisance.

The survey also showed that most local people were not happy with road humps as a way to reduce traffic speed. "Road humps can just cause more noise," says Jamie. But a number of people thought they were the only solution.

Jamie says that a 20 mph zone would be perfectly practical here. "Graveney is a natural island for traffic encircled by the railway line and two main roads - Tooting High Street/Upper Tooting Road, Tooting Bec Road - with Rectory

Lane the remaining boundary. The ward is also crossed by one main road - Mitcham Road," he says.

The residential streets in this area could easily be zoned off to be a protected 20 mph zone, with prominent signs and enforcement. This would make these streets safer and quieter.

"Liberal Democrats say that 20mph zones should be in force in more areas like ours," says Jamie.

What do you think?

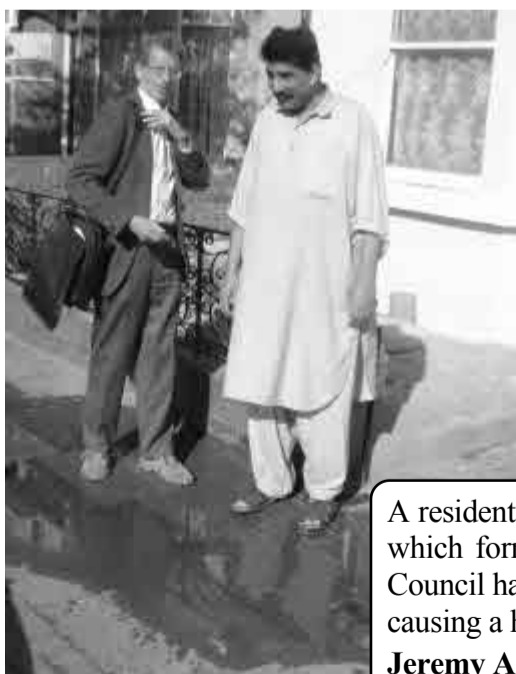
Of course introducing a 20 mph zone would require careful planning, and full consultation with local residents. But do you think it's a good idea - or not?

Do get in touch - our contact details are on the back of this leaflet.



Jamie Gillespie and Jeremy Ambache watch as a car goes over one of the road humps in Franciscan Road. Residents think that traffic is going too fast, but many don't think road humps make things any better. Jamie says "I think Franciscan Road should be part of a 20mph Zone."

Every picture tells a story...



This traffic island in **Franciscan Road** is now floating loose! It is dangerous for traffic and pedestrians crossing the road. **Jeremy Ambache** has reported it to the Council for urgent action.

A resident from **Eswyn Road** told us about this puddle which forms on the pavement whenever it rains. The Council has already tried to fix it, but they botched the job, causing a hazard to pedestrians.

Jeremy Ambache reports: "I have asked the Council to resolve this, and I want them to do a proper job this time!"



The hoarding outside the **Library** now says it's opening next February, replacing "Late Autumn". But plans for its **learning suite**, a space for seminars and meetings, are taking shape: it's been agreed that local groups will be able to use it. **Jeremy Ambache**, who's been going to the management meetings, says "This is a good idea to support the local community. Do let me know any local groups would like to use this facility, and I will pass your requests on." Contact **Jeremy** by email at graveney@wandsworthlibdems.org.uk or phone him on 078 2813 2814.

Working for you - all year round!

Police Catch 32 Lorries

Police and Council officials carried out a surveillance operation on **Rectory Lane** on 16th October to catch lorries flouting the ban on vehicles over 7.5 tonnes in force there. They stopped and issued tickets to 32 of them in the six hours of the operation. This means that up to £4,000 of fines will be collected - which will go to Council funds.

This action followed protests about the lorries from local residents, who complained about noise and vibrations. Two petitions were sent to the Council, one of which was organised by Focus.

"This is wonderful news," says Focus team member **Jeremy Ambache**, who first raised the issue with the police and Council in October last year, after a local resident complained. "At first nobody seemed very clear who's job it was to enforce the ban, but now we are getting serious action."

But the large number of lorries that were caught shows just how big the problem still is. The Council will be writing to the companies involved to make sure they know about the ban.

Don't forget Church Lane!

Meanwhile Jeremy and the team have pointed out that the heavy lorry ban also applies to Church Lane, where residents have recently also raised a petition. They have asked for similar steps to be taken there.

"With all the publicity over Rectory Lane, we don't want the lorries using Church Lane instead," says Jeremy.

Also some residents on **Franciscan Road** are concerned that some heavy lorries might also use this street instead. However, it is thought that Franciscan Road is too narrow for them to use comfortably. Lorries do go there, but they are under 7.5t, and not subject to the ban.

"We will keep an eye on the situation," says Jeremy.



Surinder Rhode talks with a police constable during the recent operation on Rectory Lane to catch heavy lorries.

Here to help you!

The Liberal Democrat Graveney Focus team can be contacted at:

Email - graveney@wandsworthlibdems.org.uk

Phone - 020 7223 8758

Post - FREEPOST RSCJ-GKUT-HCTH,

Graveney Focus

14 Effort Street

SW17 0QR



FOCUS first broke the story on lorries breaking the ban in Rectory Lane last year, when they photographed a skip lorry right next to the road sign publicising the ban!



Jeremy Ambache says "I'm a keen cyclist but cycling on the pavement is illegal and can be a danger to pedestrians. I always use the road."

In Brief

Council Comes to Graveney

Local residents attended a meeting on Tuesday 20 October in St. Boniface School hall, and listened to Edward Lister (Tory leader of Wandsworth Council) defend local services. He was supported by the local councillors and six council officers who helped to answer questions from residents.

Jeremy Ambache and **Jamie Gillespie** were there for the Focus Team. The main concerns voiced by residents were home improvement grants; the state of pavements; planning decisions; parking; cycling on pavements; fly tipping; and foxes.

Fox Nuisance

Several people have contacted Focus about the foxes in the area. Foxes cause quite a problem when they destroy rubbish bags. They even keep people up making a noise in the early hours of the morning. **Jeremy Ambache** has discussed this with the Council's pest control staff. They do not provide a service to keep foxes out of the area. The Council advice is that local residents can bring in private firms to remove the foxes! But this is only practical when the foxes are actually living on your property.

Further measures might be to improve the use of proper dustbins, or even to introduce wheelie bins. If you want more information on foxes contact the Fox Project at foxproject.org.uk. Although this charity is sympathetic to foxes, it does give ideas about humane deterrence.

Pavement Cycling

Cyclists using the pavement is a frequent complaint locally. One resident from **Bickersteth Road** told Focus about a recent collision he had with a careless cyclist on the pavement. **Jeremy Ambache** has raised this issue with the local police. The police say that if they can identify the offenders they will not hesitate to fine them. If you see pavement cyclists do pass on details to the Graveney police team on 020 8721 2071.

GOT A PROBLEM OR AN ISSUE...

Use the space below to tell us about problems in your area or to comment on local or national issues then return to the address below.



Return to ...

FREEPOST RSCJ-GKUT-HCTH
Graveney Focus
14 Effort Street
Tooting SW17 0QR

Your details...

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Tel.....Mob.....

Email.....@.....

I can help!

- I can help to deliver a FOCUS newsletters in my street or nearby.
- I would like a Postal Vote application form.
- I will display a poster at election time.
- I will vote for the Liberal Democrats at the next council election.
- I enclose a donation to help pay for the FOCUS newsletters
- £30 £15 Other £__

Please Make cheques payable to "Liberal Democrats"

Tooting deserves better!