

FOCUS

on Weybridge



From your local Lib Dem team - November 2022

FRACKING

Liberal Democrats fight to protect our environment

Only a day ago (at time of writing), fracking sites in Surrey were at risk following then Prime Minister Liz Truss's announcement of an end to the ban on fracking.

Following grassroots consternation and political pressure from MPs and Councillors across the country, Prime Minister Sunak has confirmed **his** government's intention to back track on former PM Truss's relaunch of fracking.

In September, concerned by Truss's reckless lifting of the ban, LibDem and Residents Association Councillors voted for the Council to write to government voicing strenuous objections. This was not backed by Elmbridge's Conservative councillors. And our Conservative MP, Dr Ben Spencer, voted against giving MPs the chance to debate the ban on fracking.

So much for our local Conservatives' concern for our environment!



STAND UP AND BE COUNTED !

Bank of England Forecast of the Peak 2023 Interest Rate

Before Mini Budget

4.75%

After Mini Budget

6.1%

Elected MPs should represent us with common sense, not blindly follow their leadership.

Enough has been written about the disaster of the Truss/Kwarteng mini budget – it doesn't need repeating here. But why did Dr Ben Spencer – our Conservative MP – stand up in parliament and praise that Chancellor, welcoming his measures as a vote of confidence in Britain? Then he supported the next Chancellor's reversal of those measures. Seems he might as well be a robot. Runnymede & Weybridge deserves better!

Visit us online at weybridgelibdems.org.uk

WEYBRIDGE HALL - AN UPDATE

Great news for Weybridge residents and businesses who have lobbied for Weybridge Hall to be restored as a centre for arts and entertainment. The owners of Esher Theatre are coming to town!

Swift Entertainment's plans are to provide a 300 seat theatre broadly in line with the layout of the old cinema. The Hall will be sympathetically restored, with the current exterior being kept intact, thus maintaining the look of this part of Weybridge. The interior design will include a screen so the Hall can be used as a cinema as well as for live shows. There will also

be a Pineapple style dance studio with sprung floor on one of the upper floors. Live performances will feature many big names with shows being staged throughout the year at matinee & evening performances. Charlie Swift of Swift Entertainment says they will also show films suitable for the demographic of the area, with Downtown Abbey suggested as an example.

The return of the Hall to community use is something your local Riverside councillors campaigned for internally at EBC and is the most exciting new venture for the town in a long time!



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NEWS BITES

YOUR CHANCE TO COMMENT

Elmbridge is seeking residents' views on improving water-based play facilities in Elmbridge. There is a 20 question survey on the Council website. Do please give your views. The survey is open until 30th November.



ZEBRA CROSSING

Hooray, a zebra crossing for Queens Rd near Manby Lodge School. Thank you to all who successfully campaigned for this. We hope the application for a zebra crossing on Oatlands Drive, near St James Primary school will be successful as well.

LITTER PICKING

Thank you to all who worked hard picking up litter in Weybridge on Sunday October 2nd. We wish it wasn't necessary.

MEET US AT CAFE ONE



Come and meet your Lib Dem ward councillors and the Focus team. We get together on the first Sunday of every month at Cafe One, Baker Street, 11am to 12 noon.

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