

Stoke Bishop Matters

Local news from Peter Abraham,
John Goulandris and Charlotte Leslie

Your local Conservative team

Charlotte Leslie

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Local woman, Charlotte Leslie, on track to be your new MP

Conservatives have chosen a local woman, Charlotte Leslie, to be their Parliamentary Candidate at the next General Election. Charlotte has lived in Bristol for over 25 years and went to school in Westbury.

Bristol North West is going to be one of the closest run contests between Labour and Conservative in the country!



Boundaries have changed which means that Bristol North West once again includes

you in Stoke Bishop, as

well as Henleaze and Westbury. **With only 4 out of 18 Councillors in the new constituency, Election experts predict that the Lib Dems are out of the race.**

Charlotte said, "This is where I grew up, where my friends and family live, and where I count as my home. It now looks highly likely that we will return Bristol North West to the Conservatives. I would be proud to serve the interests of every resident here as your local MP."

Lab
18,671

Con
17,596

Source: UK Polling Report (notional 2005 result).

Protecting the Downs

The Downs have been quite rightly described as "Bristol's Crown Jewels" and need to be protected for the enjoyment of future generations.

Sadly, far too many visitors park on the grass, light bonfires and BBQs, and drop litter. Peter Abraham, who was until recently Lord Mayor and Chairman of the Downs Committee, said, "Local residents treat the Downs with great respect, and understandably are very cross when they see others flouting by-laws."

In order to improve the policing of the Downs, Peter and John met recently with Downs Ranger Gordon Millward. The concerns of local people were taken on board, and new signage will be provided alongside greater security patrols in the area.



Charlotte campaigning with care workers

Care for the elderly

Charlotte Leslie supported the Bristol Home Care workers' successful campaign to prevent further Lib Dem privatisation of home care.

Charlotte said, "The Liberal Democrat plans to privatise home care further were brutal cost-cutting measures that would have put the welfare of our elderly at risk. The Lib Dem Council presided over gross mismanagement, paid out an excess £800,000 of our money to private companies, and then had plans to cut the in-house service to compensate. I do not think that the vulnerable and elderly should have to pay for Council mistakes. This is not about party politics. This is simply about our duty to the older generation."

www.charlotteleslie.com - Conservatives working for you

What a load of rubbish!

In April, John Goulandris called on Bristol City Council to hold a referendum on waste and recycling policies to coincide with the local elections in May.



John was concerned that some aspects of current policy were seriously flawed and could even act as a disincentive to recycle. He said, "Having successfully piloted a free green bin scheme in Stoke Bishop, the Council now insists on charging for this valuable recycling amenity. People are forced to pay to be green, rather than being encouraged to recycle. It's bonkers!"

When challenged to restore the scheme, the then Lib Dem in charge responded by saying that those rich enough to afford gardens should not be subsidised by those without! The Lib Dems are no longer in office, and the new Council has agreed to set up a 'Citizen's Jury' to seek views on how waste and recycling can be improved. Local people will be approached in the next few weeks.

Update: Bristol & West Sports Ground

DTZ, the agents acting for the Bank of Ireland (who own the site) have advised that a sale has been made to a local businessman who has indicated that he wishes to build a nursery for children there. So far, however, no planning application has been made.

Local residents will be aware that the last planning application for the site was rejected unanimously by the Planning Committee with the recommendation that no commercial development whatsoever be allowed on the site.

John said, "I am keeping in touch with Friends of Avon Gorge, SPRA and other groups. If an application is made, I will make sure that local people are consulted!"



Support our local shops

Stoke Bishop is a great place to live. One attraction is the excellent shopping facilities offered in Stoke Bishop village and on Shirehampton Road, giving local people the chance to buy everything they need on their doorstep.

Sadly, shopkeepers have expressed concerns to John that trade is down and that closures may be inevitable. John said, "That old truism comes to mind, use them or lose them. My wife and I make every effort to shop locally as much as possible, and I would urge others to do the same."

John and Peter hold surgeries at 131 Westbury Road on the first Monday of the month (except Bank Holidays) at 7.30pm. No appointment necessary.

Road Tax: Have your say on what we pay...

Charlotte Leslie has launched a petition for Bristol people to approve any final decision of the Council to introduce a road-tax pilot.

There are arguments for congestion charging - reducing carbon emissions is a priority and at peak hours, Bristol is grid-locked. But charging people to use the roads while our public transport is so inadequate seems unfair. Until we have decent public transport, it is unlikely people will get out of their cars. Instead of reducing carbon emissions, it could simply push more traffic congestion out into areas of Bristol

like Westbury-on-Trym, Henleaze, Stoke Bishop and Horfield, and make it even harder to park outside the Congestion Zone.

Conservatives believe this is an issue for the people of Bristol to decide. Please sign our petition calling for a referendum on congestion charging.



Bristol Evening Post 6.7.07

"I/we oppose the introduction of a pilot scheme of congestion charging in Bristol without giving Bristol's citizens a referendum on the issue."

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<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Please return to: The Conservative Party, **Freepost** (SWB 176), Bristol, BS6 6BR.