

St Thomas's Road News

*From your local Labour team: Peter Chowney, Jay Kramer & Jeremy Birch
August 2011*

Today, we have been calling on residents to see if we can help with any problems you may have with the County or Borough Council. We have produced this newsletter to help keep you in touch with what's going on.

Rubbish collection: the debate restarts



Room for bins?

Three years ago, the council consulted residents in the Mount Pleasant area on proposals for communal rubbish bins. From this, it was clear that many

people believed the bins would cause problems by cutting down parking spaces and encouraging fly-tipping. Some would have had to walk considerable distances to get rid of their rubbish. So the idea was shelved. But that didn't sort out the rubbish collection problems in this and other parts of the town not on the wheelie bin scheme.



Cllr. Peter Chowney

Peter Chowney said: "Plastic sacks that get ripped open by gulls and foxes, and injure refuse workers, are not a permanent solution. We need to find a better way – that could be, perhaps, small wheelie bins, tougher, seagull-proof sacks, or rigid

collapsible 'binvelopes'. But it has to meet local people's needs and suit their lifestyles. It also needs to maximise the amount of rubbish we recycle. Whatever is proposed, we will continue to fight for a system that works for local people."

Groups will be set up across the town, involving local representatives from residents associations and area forums, to discuss ideas. And the council will consult residents on any proposals that emerge.

But all this is taking place against a backdrop of huge funding cuts for Hastings.

Jay Kramer said: "I have to admit that cost is an issue – with the government



Are 'binvelopes' a solution?

cutting £6m from our budget, we have to make big savings. One way we might be able to do this is with a bigger refuse collection contract, covering several districts, not just Hastings, collecting rubbish in common ways. But we have to make sure local people are properly consulted and involved. More information will follow soon, but if you have any thoughts or ideas on what would work best, we'd be happy to hear from you."



Cllr. Jay Kramer

'Opblitzed' launched

Hastings police have launched operation Opblitzed to deal with anti-social behaviour at weekends. This involves a direct line for the public to contact a police sergeant, who can direct police to the incident. The line will operate from 6.30pm to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays. If you need a quick response to an incident in your area, the number to call is: 07717 490407. And if you do, let us know if it works!

Some useful contacts ...



Dog mess and litter?

You can report any street cleansing or refuse problems on 0845 2741077, or contact the Litterline (free) on 0800 085 4500
e-mail: refuseandrecycling@hastings.gov.uk



Untaxed and abandoned cars?

You can report untaxed and abandoned cars by phoning 783376, giving the number, description and location of the car, or e-mail: abandoned-untaxedvehicles@hastings.gov.uk. Abandoned cars are often in a dangerous condition – report them, and they will be removed!



Crime and anti-social behaviour?

You can contact the Safer Hastings Partnership on freephone 0800 0854500, or e-mail antisocialbehaviour@hastings.gov.uk. Or you can contact Darren Fox, the Police Community Support Officer for Tressell Ward directly on his work mobile number: 08456 070999, extension 26453. He works shifts, so leave a message if he isn't on duty. But don't forget, if you see a crime in progress, ring 999!

You can contact your Labour councillors at:

Town Hall, Queen's Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1QR or:

Peter Chowney: Tel: 01424 436032 e-mail: cllr.peter.chowney@hastings.gov.uk
Jay Kramer: Tel: 01424 719835 e-mail: cllr.jay.kramer@hastings.gov.uk
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Jeremy is the County Councillor for Tressell and Old Hastings. Contact him about County Council matters.

And keep up to date with what's going on through our website:
www.tressell.org.uk



And we have a Facebook page! Search for 'Tressell Councillors', then join in with discussions about issues and plans for Tressell Ward.