OCUS on Duryard & St James

No. 141 **Nov 2023** Exeter Liberal **Democrats**

News from your local Lib Dem team: Tammy Palmer, Cllr Michael Mitchell, Cllr Kevin Mitchell, and Will Aczel



Local Campaigner, Tammy Palmer, standing for Duryard & St James

Tammy Palmer, who lives in the St James part of the ward, has been selected as our candidate for the 2024 Exeter City Council elections.

Tammy is an experienced campaigner. She was a Lib Dem Cllr in London before coming to live in Exeter. This means she has the experience, knowledge, and skills to fight for a fair deal for Duryard and St James.

Tammy has dedicated her professional career to working in the voluntary sector. As a Snr HR leader and as someone that spent her whole childhood in foster care, she has particularly focused on tackling social inequality faced by young people in every aspect of life.

She is passionate about supporting local communities and ensuring their views are listened to and they are involved in decisions that affect their lives. Working with the St James Community Trust and local Residents' Associations, she led the recent community-driven campaign against the co-living development in Victoria St.

Tammy is keen to make the council more accountable and speak up for Duryard & St James alongside Cllrs Michael Mitchell and Kevin Mitchell.

Local Residents Fight Co-Living in Victoria St

Local residents made over 130 comments on the proposal for a 101-bed co-living block on the former Vanborn & Radford garage site.

Tammy Palmer led the campaign to turn down this application. She leafleted local residents, organised meetings for residents, and carried out detailed research about the application.

Tammy said: "The proposal would further contribute to community imbalance and the blocks suggested are inappropriate for the surrounding area. Labour give discounts to 'co-living' despite it still lacking clear policy standards."

The community are awaiting the planning decision. Cllr Michael Mitchell and Cllr Kevin Mitchell have insisted the application be discussed at a meeting which involves ward councillors.



Lib Dems Launch Petition for a Public Consultation on Labour's Rubbish Cuts



Labour's reckless spending means they are cutting street cleansing services by 15%. This includes removing 5 litter picker posts, reducing agency cover, and removing 1 in 4 bins across Exeter.

Lib Dem Parliamentary Candidate for Exeter, Will Aczel, said: "I pick up litter everyday on my dog walk in Exeter. It's never difficult to find some. Labour's response to rampant litter on our streets? Cut street cleansing.

"A public consultation would mean we get a say over our local area and Labour hear the impacts of their cuts."

Add your name to have your say: exeterlibdems.org.uk/campaigns-1/rccp

Contact the team:



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Will Aczel, Lib Dem MP **Candidate for Exeter**

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Labour plans to tackle housing and climate crises in total disarray

Two companies set-up and supported by Labour-run Exeter City Council have been axed this year. Exeter City Living and Exeter City Futures were intended to address Exeter's housing and climate crises. The Labour Council allocated over £100 million to Exeter City Living alone.



Tammy Palmer said: "Over the last decade, Labour have promoted a culture of limited scrutiny and transparency. This has resulted in a significant waste of precious council funds that could have been spent on services to benefit our communities.

"Labour ignored auditor's warnings and repeated calls by Progressive Cllrs for proper oversight and scrutiny of connected companies and loans. More opposition Cllrs will mean better scrutiny.

"The council now have to buy back assets it sold to Exeter City Living. If council loans to ECL aren't repaid, then Clifton Hill could be sold off. This

would be a devastating blow to the community who fought so hard to save this important community resource.

"I am fighting for more scrutiny, transparency, and accountability so that no more public money is wasted."

Will Aczel standing as Exeter's next MP



Will is campaigning to take over from retiring Ben Bradshaw as our next MP.

Will Aczel said: "I am honoured and excited to fight for a fair deal for Exeter. I grew up on Thornton Hill so deeply care about the city and understand the issues we face.

"I aim to fulfil our need for a stronger political voice so we can secure better funded public services, lower bills, and create a thriving environment. For example, with fair votes, our £5bn/year plan for free social care, and rapidly shifting investment from fossil fuels to renewables and insulation.

"I will endeavour to knock on many doors to listen to and speak with as many people as I can. Together, we can build a better future."

Cllr Michael Mitchell said:

"It's great to support Will. He offers a fresh, local voice, one that deeply cares about our city.

"Whilst Labour think they can get away with parachuting in a current London councillor, Lib Dems genuinely listen to our communities' needs. Exeter is crying out for a local champion to represent us and we have that in Will."

News and Action

New Local Plan Consultation

Comments are open until 15th January on the full draft new Local Plan. This shapes Exeter developments over the next 20 years. 9 exhibitions are taking place across the city. Make sure to have your say and let the Lib Dem team know your views. exeterplanfull.commonplace.is/

West Garth Solar Farm Approved

Questioning the University at the Planning meeting, Michael found out the East Park development has no solar panels and the solar farm would generate 3% of University needs. 'Cover roof spaces before using greenspaces' stated Michael.

Maximum Motors, Howell Rd

Plans for purpose-built student accommodation (PBSA) on this site were refused on the grounds of community balance. The developer subsequently applied to build 6 flats on the site. Whilst the public and Cllrs were concerned these too would be occupied by students, we aren't able to impose such restrictions. The developer is appealing the refused PBSA application.

West Park

Local residents fought a long campaign to alter two buildings in the proposed University West Park development on Birks Hall site. Michael worked with local residents by arranging a formal meeting for them with the University development team and got the University to hold a public exhibition. Sadly, the plans were approved unaltered at Planning by 1 vote.

HMO Garden extensions

47 **Union Rd**, 70 **Pennsylvania Rd** and 67 and 69 **Longbrook St** have all had planning applications for HMO extensions. An appeal against the council's refusal regarding 47 **Union Rd** was dismissed.

It's Lib Dem Tammy Palmer or Labour here

Lib Dem 938	Lab 791	are out	/ and vatives t of the e in rd & St
		Grn 278	Con 213
Res	ult here	in May 2	023

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Can we keep you updated on Lib Dem campaigns and news by email? Yes No

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