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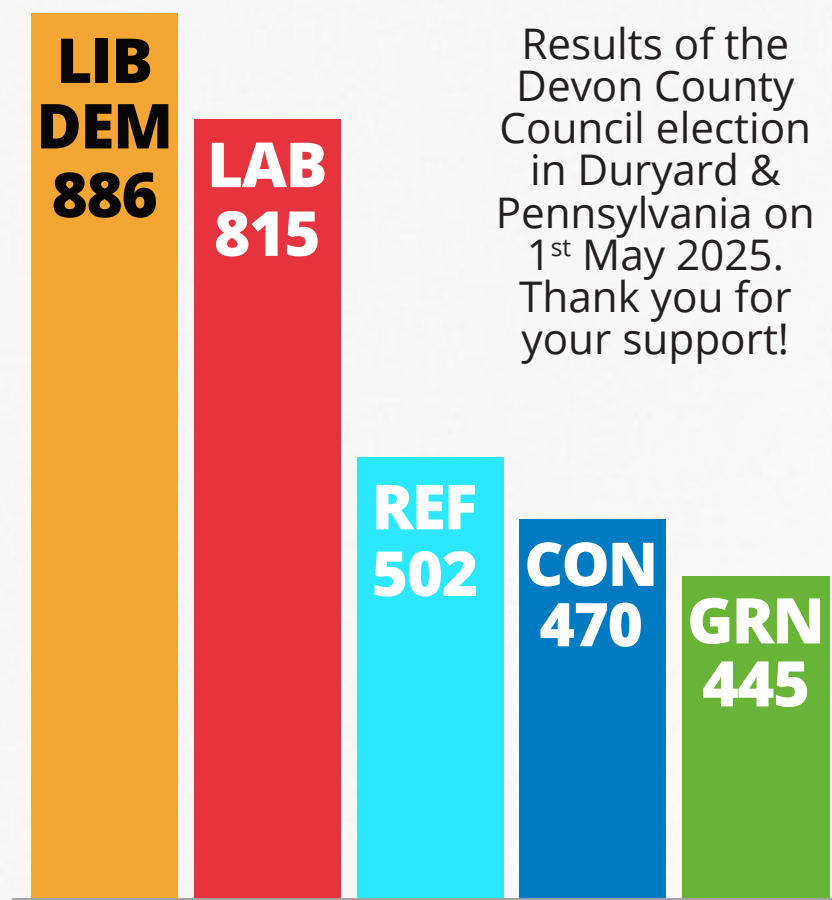
No. 145
Summer 2025

Exeter
Liberal
Democrats

on Duryard & St James

Printed by Election Workshop, 3 Sheffield Street, Manchester, M1 2ND.
Published and promoted by Exeter Liberal Democrats, 35A Howell Road, Exeter, EX4 4LT.

THANK YOU!



Lib Dem Michael Mitchell ELECTED



Will Aczel, Cllr Michael Mitchell and the Lib Dem team have been working hard for residents in Duryard, St James & Pennsylvania.

Cllr Michael Mitchell, Will Aczel and the team would like to thank residents for their support in the recent County Council elections.

In addition to the three hard working Lib Dem City Cllrs for Duryard & St James, Michael was elected to the County Council to represent Duryard and Pennsylvania. He said:

“

Not only have the Lib Dems made this breakthrough in Exeter, we won across Devon and are now running a minority administration at County Hall.

The number of Con cllrs has collapsed from 40 to 7 and the people of Exeter have rejected Labour reducing the number of Labour Cllrs from 7 to NIL.

I have already picked up lots of casework, largely connected to highway and parking issues. I intend to work with residents to put forward schemes that have their backing and support.

”

886

Votes for
Lib Dem
Michael

Cllr Kevin Mitchell: fighting for Duryard & St James

Cllr Kevin Mitchell is re-standing for Duryard & St James on Exeter City Council. This follows two years representing the city as Lord Mayor.

First elected for St James in 2003, Kevin is the longest serving current councillor in the city. He knows who to speak to and has the respect of key players to get things done. Kevin has been a portfolio holder and group leader, Lord Mayor for two years and Deputy Lord Mayor for two years also.

He prides himself on community politics - as he passionately believes in a bottom-up approach where communities, not councils, determine local priorities.

Kevin actively campaigned from day one for the St James Neighbourhood Plan and Article Four Direction - strongly defending the overarching principle of a balanced community. He is pushing for the implementation of an additional licensing scheme, arguing that landlords should be held to account.

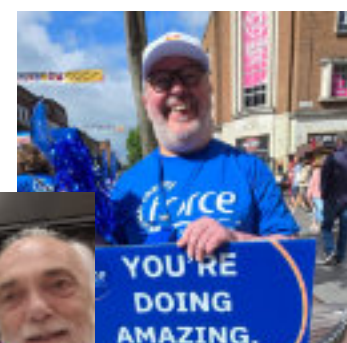
He has also worked with the university as a 'critical friend' to attempt to improve its relationship with the community. He implemented the 'Students on the move scheme' and has pushed the university to implement stronger policies on noise and antisocial behaviour.

Kevin has actively worked with the local community to revitalise Queens Crescent Gardens and the Devonshire Place Orchard.

Kevin believes there's always more that can be done to improve our community. He believes in working with those of all parties in the best interests of the community and city.

Kevin passionately believes in the benefits of diversity and has a record of standing up for minorities and strongly supports inclusion.

Kevin and the team will be out knocking on doors, listening to you, and campaigning on your priorities all year round.



Cllr Kevin Mitchell active as ever post-mayoralty: at the Exeter Respect Festival, a Have Your Say meeting, and continuing to support his nominated charity, FORCE, post-mayoralty.

Rubbish in St James



Lots of you have contacted us about the shocking mess left on Springfield and Victoria. The council refuse team attended to deal with the immediate issue.

Tammy is also arranging a wider discussion with the university and council to look at a long term solution to tackling this problem. It's unacceptable for any of our residents to have to live in areas blighted by the issues caused by HMOs.

Reinstated meetings with Exeter College



Kevin recently ensured Exeter College reinstated termly Community Liaison meetings. He is pleased this engagement will ensure concerns and praise can again be fed-back to the college.

We've talked about opportunities for the College and students to get involved with the community. Any ideas please get in touch with one of us. Gardening projects have been discussed with the college, such as with Bury Meadow Park.

Apply for a community grant

Both the City and County Council have schemes to support community groups and activities through a grants system.

The City Council makes £3,000 available per ward and the maximum grant application is £350. The application is signed off by your ward councillors.

The County Council makes £8,000 a year available for each electoral division. You need to have spoken to Michael as your County Councillor in advance of the application. There is no maximum set for County applications.

Both grants require you to apply online:
ECC: [exeter.gov.uk/people-and-communities/grants/exeter-grants-programme/exeter-ward-grants/](https://www.exeter.gov.uk/people-and-communities/grants/exeter-grants-programme/exeter-ward-grants/)
DCC: [devon.gov.uk/democracy/councillors-info/locality-budgets/](https://www.devon.gov.uk/democracy/councillors-info/locality-budgets/)

Labour pull the plug on Northbrook Pool

Labour have officially chosen to close Northbrook Pool by ceasing funding for it.

This is despite:
➡the decision being based on a flawed report. The council still has no accurate way to measure usage of its pools;
➡the fact Labour didn't find out how much it would cost to keep running before coming to their decision;
➡Northbrook actually making the lowest losses of any council-owned pool in Exeter;
➡pouring £44 million into St Sidwell's Point (including £19 million borrowed);
➡their responsibility over the declining maintenance of and lack of capital investment in Northbrook pool to-date;
➡this decision hitting local community groups, schoolchildren, poorer and disabled people the hardest.

The pool's closure therefore seems to have been wholly avoidable. The council did agree to work with any community group initiative about the future of the pool.

The council must learn from its mistakes - not be passive, and instead actively work to engage with potential user groups.

Michael elected Exeter HATOC chair

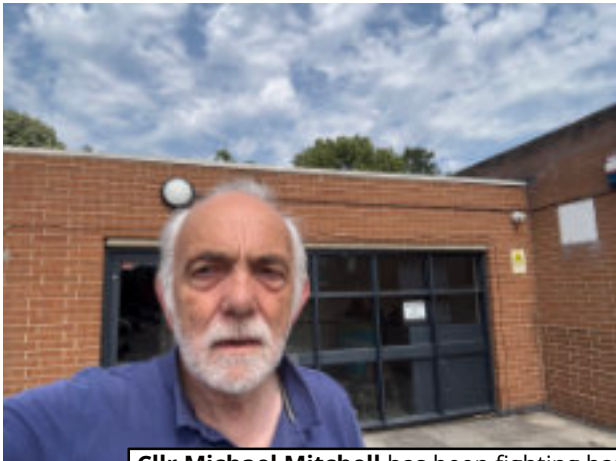
CLlr Michael Mitchell has been elected chair of Exeter's Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC).

Michael is the sole Liberal Democrat on the committee, so this demonstrates his drive to work cooperatively and effectively across party boundaries. Following the chaos of Exeter HATOC in previous years, Michael provides a breath of fresh air thanks to his strong commitment to consultation, proper and fair process.

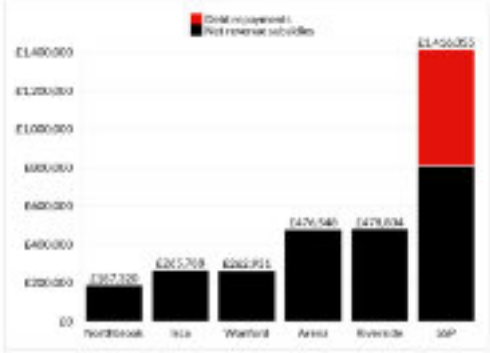
Hoopern Valley: official opening

In one of Kevin's last events as Lord Mayor, he officially opened the newly accessible Hoopern Valley.

Thanks to Michael's pressing, the addition of an initial design-stage consultation meant improving accessibility became a priority for the university in its management of the valley.



Cllr Michael Mitchell has been fighting hard to save Northbrook Pool from Labour's cuts



2023-24 Exeter Leisure centre net revenue subsidies & debt repayments. Source: Exeter City Council. 2024-25 figures will be published in July.

As published in the Exeter Observer

Contact your local Lib Dem team...

Keep these contact details handy and get in touch with the team anytime you need help.



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Labour Disability Benefit Cut Chaos



In response to the concerning cuts and severe lack of clarity, the Lib Dem Parliamentary Spokesperson for Exeter, **Will Aczel**, wrote to Exeter's Labour MP on 19th April to provide him the opportunity to clarify his position.

Will said: "It's abhorrent we're looking for savings amongst our most vulnerable whilst inequality continues to rise. Fixing social care would be far more productive. I'm yet to receive a response after three months."

You can read Will's letter in full at: exeterlibdems.org.uk/news/article/pipcuts

King Billy site update

Your local Lib Dem cllrs have ensured the latest planning application for the site will be decided by the full Planning Committee. This site and its development have raised many concerns within the local community. The ancient surrounding wall has already been demolished. Make sure you have your say before this application comes to committee, contact **Kevin** and **Tammy** with your thoughts about this application for a high-rise PBSA.

