

# FOCUS

SUMMER 2021



on BRISLINGTON WEST

WITH CLLR JOS CLARK AND CLLR ANDREW VARNEY

# THANK YOU!

For re-electing Liberal Democrat Cllr Jos Clark, and electing her new colleague Cllr Andrew Varney

**WE ARE ALREADY HARD AT WORK IN BRISLINGTON**



Jos and Andrew would like to say a huge 'thank you' to the people of Brislington West who elected them to be their local councillors.

'Thank you so much to local residents who voted for me to represent them again for a second time,' said Jos. 'I'm also delighted that my hardworking colleague, Andrew Varney, has been elected for the first time to work alongside me. We promise to continue to work hard fighting for our community on the Council.'

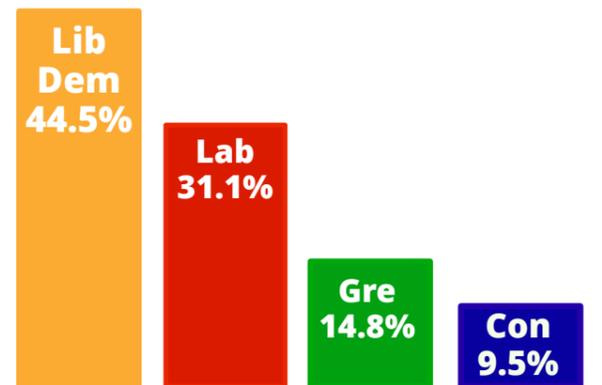
Andrew added, 'Over the last five years, as a local campaigner and activist, I have supported Cllr. Jos Clark in fulfilling her duties. Now as her fellow local councillor, we will be an even more effective team, working hard for everyone in Brislington West, regardless of who they voted for.'

Jos and Andrew have pledged to campaign hard on the environment, the single most

important issue we face. In Brislington West that means protecting and promoting our green spaces, supporting the creation of pocket parks, opposing the Callington Road Link and demanding better public transport and active travel routes for walking and cycling.

Keep up to date with all things Brislington West by signing up to Jos and Andrew's monthly newsletter: [https://www.bristolibdems.org/efocus\\_BE](https://www.bristolibdems.org/efocus_BE)

## The result in Brislington West For YOUR local councillors



May 2021 Local Election Results for Brislington West

## BRISLINGTON GREENWAY HANGS IN THE BALANCE

Jos and Andrew have been campaigning for the Brislington Greenway, an active travel corridor along the route of the abandoned Brislington Railway Line, for five years. Unfortunately, the Council have earmarked this land for the Callington Road Link.

Jos said, 'We were therefore delighted when local businesses, Meanwhile Creative and Greenways & Cycleroutes Ltd, contacted us about their proposals for the temporary installation of pop-up office spaces and workshops for local artists and craftspeople, together with an active travel corridor.'

Andrew said, 'These proposals will provide a shot in the arm for the local economy, and deliver our long-called-for active travel route. Unlike the destructive and damaging road proposals, this scheme will have minimal impact on local wildlife.'

Unfortunately, Labour-run Bristol City Council's transport department is recommending refusal. It seems they are determined nothing will get in the way of delivering their new road.

We will continue to campaign for the Brislington Greenway against the Labour Council's road plans, because that is what local people want!



You can join the Friends of the Brislington Greenway here: [www.facebook.com/groups/196044540963847/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/196044540963847/)

## LOCAL UPDATE

### PARKS

Jos and Andrew are working hard to protect and promote our green spaces. Andrew set up the Friends of Arnos Court Park last year and there are now over 500 members!

Andrew said, 'The Friends group have really hit the ground running. As well as organising litter picks, we've planted new oak saplings, and come up with a biodiversity plan. This year, we'll be installing bat and bird boxes, establishing low-mow zones and planting a new perimeter hedge with local school children to help screen the park from the A4 Bath Road.'



### SPEEDING

Jos and Andrew get a lot of emails from people concerned about speeding across the ward. This is a particular problem on Wick Road so Jos and Andrew recently joined residents and our local police community support officers for a Community Speedwatch session to see the issue first hand.

Jos said, 'According to data the team have collected over the last few years, Wick Road is one of the worst locations in the city for speeding. I am grateful to the Speedwatch members, who give up their free time on a regular basis to try to make our streets safer.'

Council officers recently presented local councillors with a report on proposals for road safety improvements on Wick Road. This report was actually commissioned by the Brislington Neighbourhood Partnership over 4 years ago but was delayed when the Labour-run Council scrapped these community organisations.

If you would like to get involved in community speedwatch, please get in touch.



## MASSIVE ELECTION WIN FOR THE LIB DEMS

Lib Dems gain 'safe' Conservative seat in June by-election

**The Liberal Democrats scored a stunning parliamentary by-election victory over the Conservatives in June.**

In Chesham & Amersham, Buckinghamshire, Lib Dem Sarah Green overturned a Conservative majority of 16,000 to become the new MP - with a 25% swing in the vote.

If that swing was repeated nationwide then the Lib Dems would pick up 154 more seats from the Conservatives.

### The Lib Dems are **WINNING!**

#### What the papers said:

"Lib Dems overturn 16,000 majority in Amersham and Chesham"  
- The Daily Telegraph, 18th June 2021

"Boris Johnson was reeling from a shock by-election defeat."  
- The Mirror, 18th June 2021

"Boris given bloody nose by Lib Dems in by-election."  
- The Daily Express, 18th June 2021

Be part of our winning team at: [LibDems.org.uk/join-local](http://LibDems.org.uk/join-local)

## A4 CONSULTATION COMMENCES

The public consultation on the plans for the A4 corridor, which includes the Callington Road Link, commenced on the 26<sup>th</sup> July with focus groups and community engagement in local streets taking place throughout August.

Council officers have been working on the A4 project for a number of years and Jos and Andrew have met with the team on several occasions.

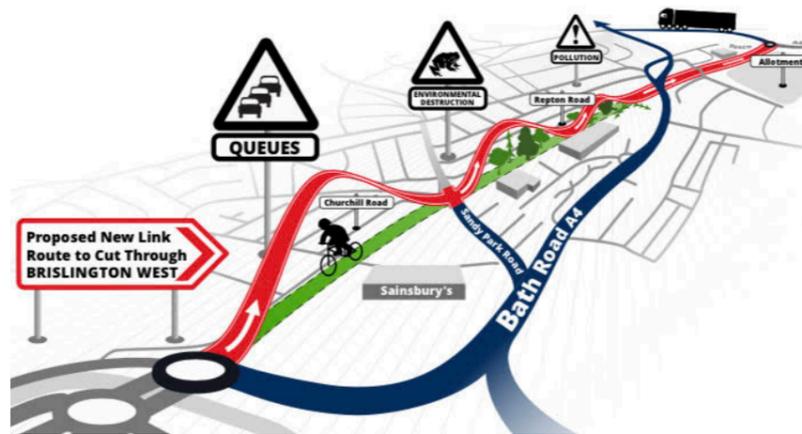
Jos said, 'From the outset, the plan has always been to reallocate road space on the A4 for public transport with private motor vehicles diverted onto a new road along the old Brislington Railway Line.'

You can fill in the consultation here: <https://consultation.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/infrastructure/bristolto bathsurvey/>

Earlier this year, these plans were reconfirmed in a meeting with the project manager, who said there would likely be a one-way road from Sainsbury's to Tesco, the Sandy Park Road humpback bridge would be replaced with a new crossroads, and the right turn from Brislington Hill onto West Town Lane would be banned.

Andrew said, 'Just last month, we were told nothing had been taken off the table. However, after Labour's poor performance in the local elections and with a new cabinet member for transport and a new project manager for the A4, it will be interesting to see to what extent these plans will change.'

**Local residents can rest assured Jos and Andrew will continue to vehemently oppose any attempt to run a road along the former Brislington Railway Line.**



## Contact your local Liberal Democrat team



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#### Sign up for our eFocus

Cllr. Jos Clark and Cllr Andrew Varney regularly keep residents abreast of local and city-wide news via our quarterly e-newsletter "Focus on Brislington West". Sign up here: [www.bristollibdems.org/efocus](http://www.bristollibdems.org/efocus)

#### Contact Us

[www.bristollibdems.org/brislington\\_west](http://www.bristollibdems.org/brislington_west)

[www.fb.com/BrislingtonLibDems](https://www.facebook.com/BrislingtonLibDems)

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Dear friend,

The elections here may be over but the hard work continues.

Our number one priority is to get the best for Brislington West and for everyone who lives here so please keep in touch with us and let us know how we can help.

Over the last year we've seen how special our area and its community spirit really is and we want to thank each and every one of you for your part in that. We know everyone has made sacrifices and we sincerely hope we can turn a new page together this summer.

Best wishes,

Andrew & Jos