

on Cotham Ward FOCUS



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Stephen Williams, Ian Townsend and Anthony Negus

Editors: Ian Townsend & Anthony Negus

April 2015

Ian Townsend - hoping to be your next councillor



Ian Townsend is hoping to be elected as your councillor for Cotham ward on May 7th to serve alongside current councillor, Anthony Negus.

Ian was born in Bristol and has made Cotham his home. He has previously worked at South Gloucestershire Council and worked for eight years in Parliament. He now works to end global poverty at an international development research organisation based near Temple Meads.

Ian said: "I am very pleased to have the opportunity to stand to represent you and the Cotham community, on May 7th. I hope that you will choose to elect me so that I can continue the strong representation of our community that the local Lib Dem team has provided for so many years."

Ian has played an active role in the campaign to save Redland Library from the threat of closure, and supported Anthony in his work addressing increasing housing intensification and its resulting problems. Ian is dealing with issues with the local RPZs where we believe in achievable flexibility to meet community needs.

Ian is a regular at Cotham neighbourhood forums and has met with local residents' groups from across the area. Ian's three main priorities fit with local views: sustainability, integrated transport, and cleaner, safer streets for all.

Outgoing councillor, Neil Harrison said: "I know that Ian will continue my work on social and environmental issues and his willingness to work hard for Cotham, already helping to enforce rules to keep our streets clean, makes him an ideal person to replace me."

Anthony Negus added "Ian shares my passion for this area and has what it takes to deliver that commitment. He has listened and learned as we have been around to meet local residents. He is full of ideas and gets things done and so would be a natural replacement for Neil."

As well as standing up for Cotham, Ian is keen to help councillor colleagues hold Bristol's mayor to account. He said: "In a mayoral system, it is even more critical that councillors take detailed interest in council and city-wide issues. I will work hard to help our neighbourhood and the city to be more liveable and sustainable, and work for a better deal for Bristol. I love Bristol and with your support I will do my best to make it even better."

Real green Action

It was the Lib Dems who made green policies a reality in our city and delivered European Green Capital status for Bristol. We saw the prize as a generational change of hearts and minds and support for the sustainability agenda - though it will help to raise Bristol's international investment profile and attract tourists. Lib Dem Council Leader Barbara Janke set up the green partnership in 2008, and we bid for Green Capital status twice under the Lib Dems-run Council - winning the second time. On top of this, Stephen Williams and local campaigners successfully bid for an additional £7 million of central government funds to help give Green Capital 2015 a lasting legacy for Bristol.

20 major local LibDem green achievements include: targeting energy reduction in the city by 30% by 2020, installing biomass boilers and solar panels for schools, introducing wind turbines in Avonmouth as part of our Bristol Energy Company. On top of this we introduced a nationally recognised recycling system, which pushed recycling rates above 50% (almost double rates in Green Party-run Brighton). Now under the Mayor and a Green Party Assistant Mayor responsible, rates are 49% and falling, with waste shipped for burning in Sweden! You can read Anthony's blog post for more about the ground-breaking Lib Dem achievements that earned Bristol Green Capital status here: tinyurl.com/greencapital.

The Lib Dems supported the development of Bristol Cycle City (and have a new Lib Dem cycling manifesto written by Ian Townsend, which you can read here: tinyurl.com/cyclingmanifesto) and earlier this year Nick Clegg announced £10 million of additional funding for Bristol to make cycling easier and safer. We also support a low-emission zone for central Bristol.

Nationally, the Lib Dems introduced the Green Investment Bank and have had a key role in doubling renewable energy output over the last 5 years. We want to double it again over the next 5 years, which is vital if we are to meet our climate change targets. In his role as Minister for Local Government, Stephen Williams has ensured that every new house built from 2016 will be zero carbon, reducing bills and emissions.

Our 2015 election manifesto prioritises the environment. We plan five new green laws. These include: targets for biodiversity, clean air and water; a national household energy efficiency programme; a clear plan to reduce waste, de-carbonise electricity generation and reduce coal use.

Additionally, we forced the Conservatives to enact fairer taxes, extra funding focused on poorer schoolchildren, more childcare, an honourable level of foreign aid and effective measures to increase employment. But we have shown here in Bristol that we can do far more when unfettered.

In the last five years we have ensured sustainable growth with some tough choices, done whatever we could to diminish the gap between rich and poor, increased opportunity and delivered many other Lib Dem policies. The massive deficit and our position as the smaller party in the coalition meant we could not deliver everything we wanted to - and we regret that. We have not changed our position and will keep pressing for a fairer society within a sustainable world.

Within Bristol City Council and in Government we have put our aspirations into action and helped to build a fairer and a greener society. A vote for the Lib Dems is a vote for real green progress.

Stephen WILLIAMS

Liberal Democrats



Ian TOWNSEND

Liberal Democrats



Working for you across Cotham ward...

...and here are just a few examples

Resisting higher densities living in our community



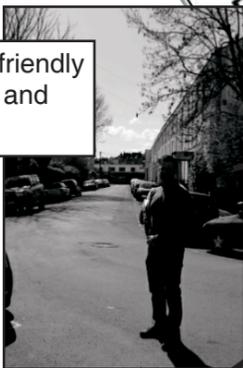
Working with residents for better development and planning Outcomes.



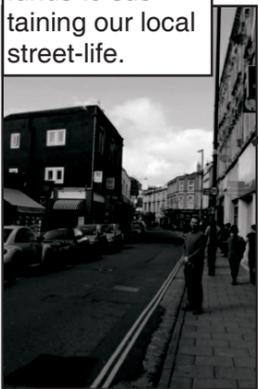
Coordinating the need for local schools with sustainable outcomes



Seeking cycle-friendly traffic calming, and more trees!



Investing time and community funds to sustaining our local street-life.



Campaigning to save Whiteladies Cinema, just outside the ward.



Fighting for neighbourhood streetscene improvements.



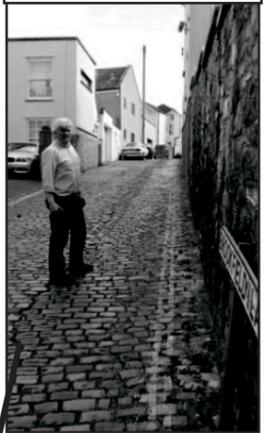
Ensuring residents have their say on local plans – and saving trees!



Supporting residents against relentless ambitious licensing changes.



Lobbying for common sense solutions to parking and traffic issues.



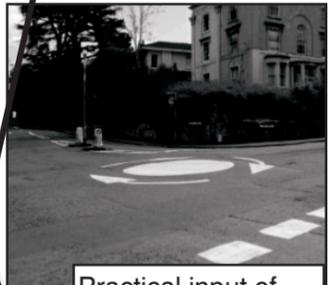
Working alongside local groups to get the best for our community.



Helping and intervening with parking zone issues.



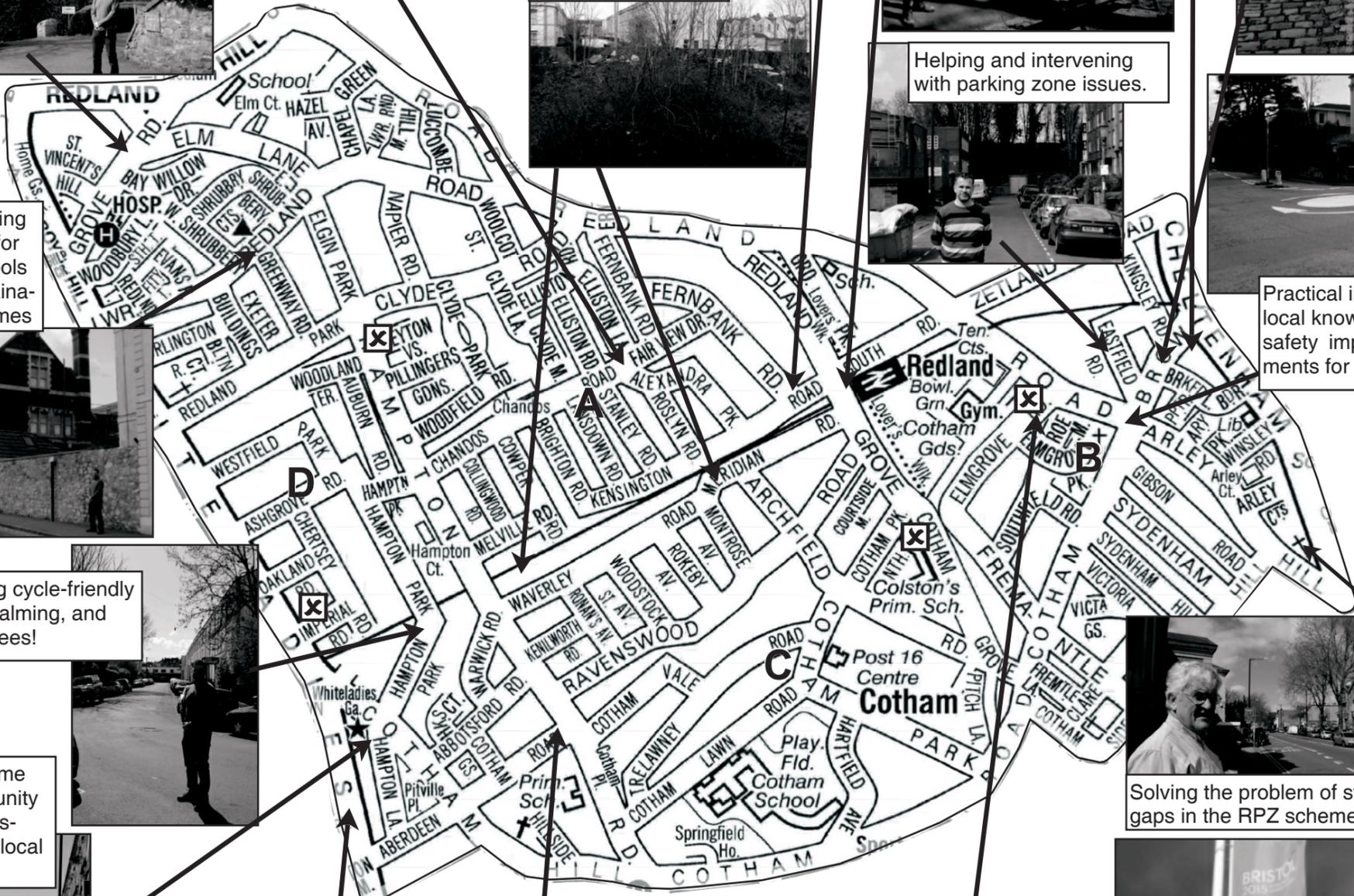
Practical input of local knowledge to safety improvements for all users.



Solving the problem of street gaps in the RPZ scheme



Ian Townsend - proud to be delivering European Green Capital for Bristol.



Get in touch with the Lib Dem team for Cotham...



Stephen Williams
stephen@stephenwilliams.org.uk
0117 942 3494
PO Box 2500, Bristol, BS6 9AH
www.stephenwilliams.org.uk



Ian Townsend
ian4cotham@outlook.com
ian4cotham.focusteam.org.uk
0117 942 8773
c/o Unit 7, Fenton Court, Fenton Road, Bristol, BS7 8ND



Cllr Anthony Negus
anthony.negus@bristol.gov.uk
0117 353 4713
c/o Lib Dem Office, Brunel House, St Georges Rd, Bristol BS1 5UY