



Liberal Democrat

FOCUS

Studley
County Council
division

From your local Liberal Democrat team

County Council election May 6th

CLIVE RICKHARDS CHOSEN TO STAND FOR RE-ELECTION

Clive Rickhards has been chosen by the local Liberal Democrats to stand for re-election for the Studley division to the County Council at the elections on May 6th.

Clive said, 'these are uniquely difficult times for our communities and the pandemic has affected almost everyone. Whilst in many ways it has brought out the best in people, there are huge challenges ahead.

I believe that it is now time for our councils - both county and district - to be more ambitious for our communities. Government money is available, but I don't consider that our councils have done enough to make sure that our area benefits fully from what is on offer and I will work to try to remedy this.

IT'S THE RESIDENTS WHO SHOULD COUNT

It's important for councillors to recognise that they are elected to represent the views of residents and that means listening to what you say. Because of the pandemic it's been difficult over the past year to make face to face contact. However, I'm always available on the phone or email and I hope residents will continue to contact me with their thoughts'.

(Studley division includes Studley, Mappleborough Green, Sambourne, Aston Cantlow, Great Alne and Coughton).



Clive Rickhards

Phone 01527852180
Email m.rickhards@sky.com

About Clive ...

Clive is the current County Councillor for our area. He has previously served on Stratford District Council and was twice Chairman of Studley Parish Council.

A retired teacher, Clive has degrees in Economics and Politics and Philosophy. He taught in a Secondary school, in further education and in a sixth form college, giving Clive a good understanding of the needs of young people in our villages and the challenges they and our schools face after the pandemic.

On the County Council he was Chairman of the Council in 2017-18 and has served on the Corporate Parenting Panel for looked after children. He has a strong interest in planning and served on the County's Regulatory (Planning) Committee and was a member of the Studley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Clive believes that the pandemic has seen the community working at its best, with volunteers coming forward in large numbers. 'We need to keep that volunteer spirit going', said Clive. 'Our villages face many challenges in the next few years and we must work together to bring about the regeneration we need'.

Three good reasons to vote for Clive

● Hard working

Clive has a long record of hard work all year round – he doesn't just pop up at election time! The interests of our community will always come first for Clive. To save money and be more effective we need more joined up working: between the NHS and care services and between our county and district councils. Food poverty and mental health issues are of increasing importance for funding allocations.

● Our villages are important

Clive will campaign for our area to get a fair share of national funding to support COVID recovery measures. He will keep pressing for funding for measures to relieve traffic problems and improve air quality.

● The green agenda

Clive and Liberal Democrat councillors have been at the forefront in promoting the green agenda on the county and district councils. We will promote 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle', to cut waste and increase our recycling. We will work to improve biodiversity, expanding and safeguarding our green spaces and defending the green belt.

Fairer, Caring, Greener

A RECORD OF ACTION - AND MORE ON THE WAY

We believe candidates should be judged on their record - not on the number of promises they make in election leaflets! Clive has a strong record of action in the division: delivering for residents time after time.



Organised Community Library Volunteers
 New Puffin Crossings Village Gateway scheme
 Anti flooding projects in our villages
 Solving residents' parking problems
 Secured grants to local organisations
 Helped achieve re-classification of E roads
 Fighting speeding traffic
 Opposing inappropriate development and protecting the green belt

LET'S BE AMBITIOUS FOR STUDLEY AND OUR VILLAGES

The pandemic has hit our district hard. Clive is concerned that our councils are not being ambitious enough in the plans to support our villages: our shops, jobs and economy.

The Future High Street Fund recently awarded Leamington £10 million, Nuneaton £13 million, but Stratford district nothing. A bid for regeneration in Studley had already been rejected. When £1 billion was announced for the Towns Fund in the budget 45 areas were awarded money, but our district got nothing.

When the Liberal Democrats at the district council proposed that the council should have a dedicated officer preparing bids for government and other funding, the Conservatives voted it down. Yet more and more government funding comes through a bidding process.

OUR DISTRICT DESERVES MORE

'I am determined that our area gets a fairer share of the recovery funding that becomes available', said Clive. 'But it also means much better cooperation between our councils. The Conservative leadership at the county and district councils seem determined to argue. We've seen it over the judicial review on COVID and over the Site Allocations Plan. I want to see everyone come together and work for the benefit of our area. We need ambitious plans and then a determination to get government funding to support them'.

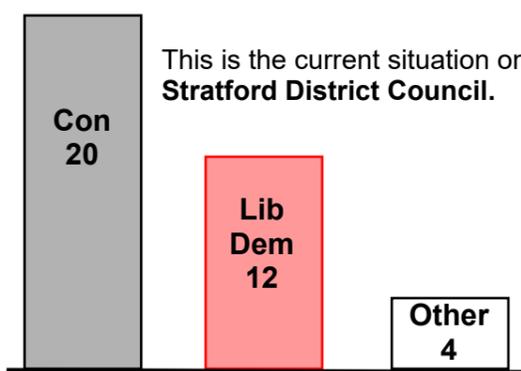
OUR HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES

The way our care services have been treated is nothing less than a national scandal. Despite government promises care homes were not protected in the early days of the pandemic.

The Liberal Democrats have made improvement and reform of care a top priority. There is now a widespread belief that there needs to be much better integration between care services and the National Health Service. The discharge of patients from hospitals to care homes early in the pandemic without all the proper checks shows what can go wrong when the two areas are so separate.

With the stress brought on by issues around the pandemic, mental health services are becoming increasingly important. At the county council Clive supported Liberal Democrat budget proposals to put aside £4 million to support local mental health provision, but this was voted down by the Conservatives.

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT



This is the current situation on Stratford District Council.

At the county council there are 9 Conservative county councillors and 4 Liberal Democrats in the Stratford district.

There are no Labour councillors at either county or district level in our district.

ELECTIONS AND POSTAL VOTES

Because of the pandemic we expect that more and more people will be wanting to vote by post at the election on May 6th. Application forms can be downloaded from the Stratford District Council web site or please contact Clive who will be happy to arrange for forms to be delivered to you.

Phone 01527852180
 Email m.rickhards@sky.com



CLIVE RICKHARDS

WORKING FOR OUR COMMUNITY