

## Dan Daley sadly passed away on 24th March

Dan was a major figure in Maidstone politics for over 30 years. He was Liberal Democrat borough councillor for Allington from 1990 to 2022. He served as leader of the council for 7 years and mayor during the millennium year. From 2001 Dan was also the county councillor for the Maidstone Central Division at KCC, covering Allington, Bridge, Fant, Heath and High Street Wards.

Dan was an outstanding councillor, well respected by colleagues, adversaries, and constituents. He enjoyed helping people and loved promoting the many Maidstone organisations and good causes which were dear to his heart.

**Chris Passmore commented:** Dan was a good friend to many and was an excellent team player working with other Lib Dem Borough and County Councillors. I was pleased to have had the opportunity of working with him over the last four years. He had a tremendous knowledge of his Council Division and achieved many benefits for local residents. I will do all in my power to follow his example.



## About Chris Passmore:

I am delighted to have been selected to stand for the Liberal Democrats at the forthcoming Kent County Council by-election.

I came to Maidstone in the early 60's and apart from 10 years in the Royal Navy have lived and worked here, first in my family printing business and for the last 16 years running my own management systems consultancy supporting businesses across the South-East.

I have previously been a school governor for eight years and as a retired naval officer I support the Sea Cadets with practical training.

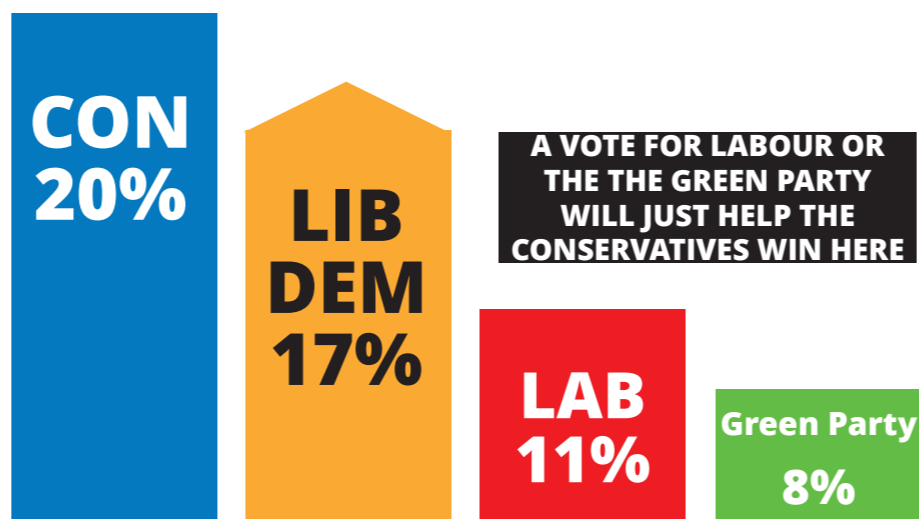
With politics becoming increasingly polarised I felt I could no longer be an observer and had to get involved and support the rational centre ground attempting to balance the diverse and changing needs of Maidstone. I am an active member of Barming Parish Council, and I am an environmental campaigner coordinating the application to make Bunyards Farm a Village Green and preserve fifteen hectares of green space, so essential for both nature and the well being of the residents of North-West Maidstone.

Most Saturdays I can be found out canvassing across the Maidstone Central Division and I look forward to the opportunity of meeting you.

07808 911612

chris.passmore33@gmail.com

## Make your vote count



Top candidate for each party in the last county election in 2021

Elections for Maidstone Central county council seat are a clear choice between your hard-working local Lib Dem team and the Conservatives.

Chris Passmore and the Lib Dem team work hard and keep in touch all year round. They can stop the Tories who are letting us down so badly, nationally and locally.

Only the Lib Dems can beat the Conservatives here, Labour come a poor third in the last county election in Maidstone.

## Three reasons to support Chris Passmore:

- ✓ Chris will give local people a strong voice and challenge Conservative mismanagement in Kent.
- ✓ Chris will battle to save our green spaces and protect our environment, and to stop yet more housing without the roads, GPs and dentists needed.
- ✓ This will be a close race. Only Chris can stop the Conservatives here.

Published and promoted by Duncan Howarth on behalf of Christopher Passmore (Liberal Democrat) all at Chanctonbury, Pickering Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9RH. Printed by Election workshop, 3, Sheffield Street, Manchester M1 2ND

# FOCUS

From your local Lib Dem team

## County council by-election



Chris Passmore, campaigning to stop the Conservatives and deliver for local people in Maidstone Central

**Following the sad death of long serving councillor Dan Daley, we have a by-election in Maidstone Central for one of our county councillors.**

In the last election in 2021, the Conservatives and the Lib Dems both won one of the two seats.

**It is vital we stop the Conservatives from winning the second seat - and Chris Passmore is the candidate who can do that.**

In Kent as in Government, the Conservatives are failing. Taxes rise and services are cut.

The problem is the same -

poor Conservative management. They just don't listen to ordinary people here.

"We need a councillor to hold the Conservatives to account at County Hall", says Chris. "I will do that and work hard for local people all year round."

**"The Liberal Democrats get things done here."**

The result is likely to be a close fight. The Conservatives are determined to keep their grip on Kent but Chris can help break it.

"If Labour and Green Party voters lend me their votes, together we can stop the Conservatives", explains Chris.

Liberal Democrats

WORKING HARD ALL YEAR ROUND

# Local Liberal Democrats working for you in Maidstone

## Tories pulled the plug on Park and Ride services in the borough

Maidstone's valued Park and Ride service ended when passenger numbers were picking up after lockdown, following Conservatives' refusal to provide pandemic support to service provider Arriva.

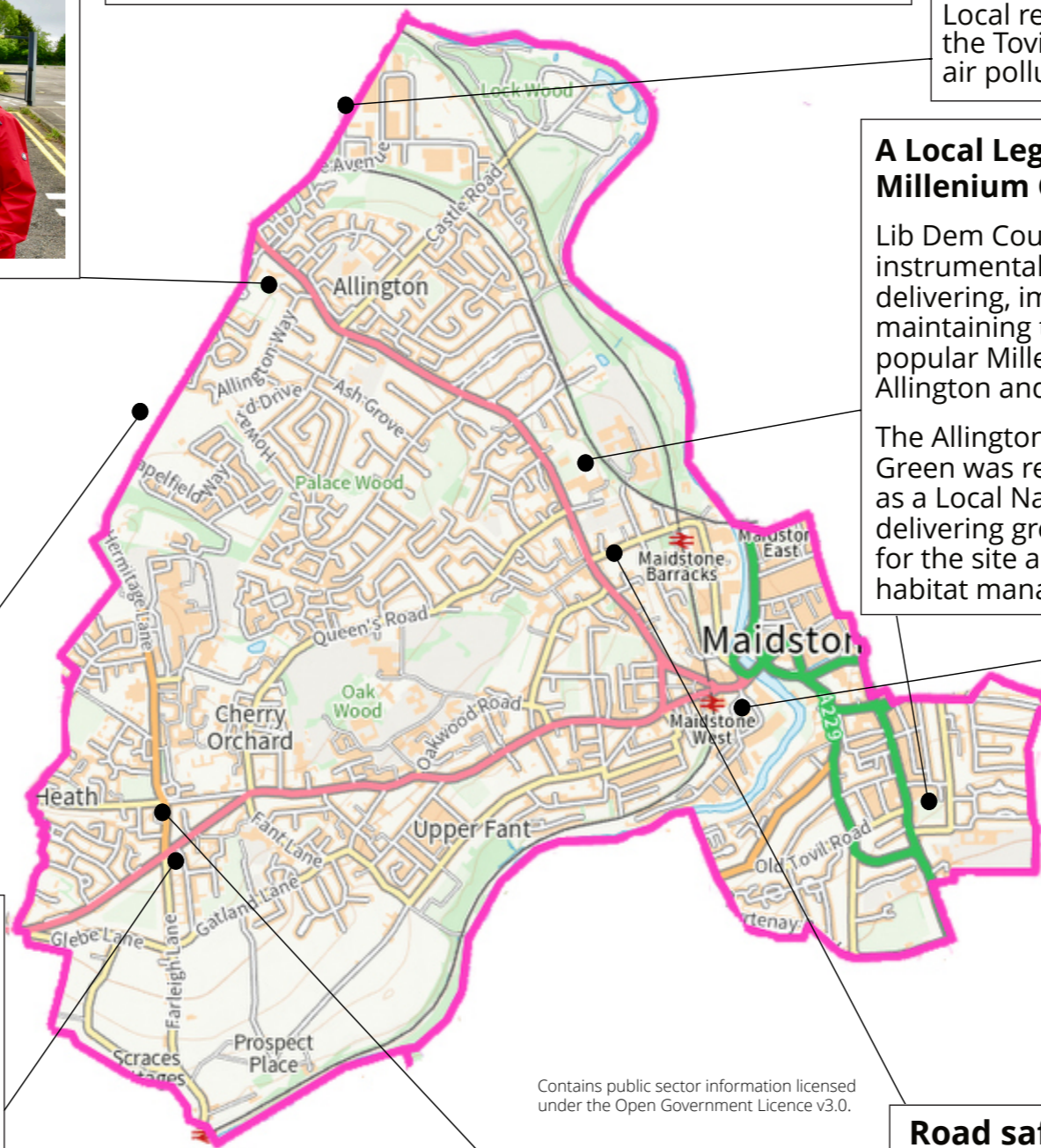
While Lib Dems fought to save the service, Conservatives, refused, even though there was government funding to assist recovering businesses.

Chris commented: "Arriva was committed to continuing Park and Ride services. It is unacceptable that Conservatives pulled the plug at a time when Maidstone town centre continues to suffer from chronic congestion and poor air quality."



## Making Space for Nature

Local Lib Dem Councillors were the driving force behind the establishment of urban nature reserves at Bridge Nursery, River Len, Buckland Hill, High Level Bridge, Trinity Park, Penenden Heath, Vinters Park and Hayle Park.



## Lib Dem success with new Waste recycling centre

The Lib Dem team in Maidstone, working with the Kent County Council waste team have pushed, over many years, for a second recycling Centre in Maidstone to serve Northwest Maidstone and Larkfield. It opened last year and is now proving a huge success.

Local residents do not now have to travel across the town to the Tovil Recycling Centre helping to reduce congestion and air pollution.

## Bunyards Farm

The MERLin group, which is campaigning to protect green space and develop active travel routes, has established that the site known as Bunyards Farm could be protected from development by being given Village Green Registration by Kent County Council.

Chris Passmore, leading the application for the Village Green commented, "During the summer of 2021, with the support of others, we gathered evidence which was submitted to KCC in December 2021 to support the application. We now believe that the decision will be made soon."



## A Local Legacy of Millenium Greens

Lib Dem Councillors were instrumental in conceiving, delivering, improving and maintaining the legacy of popular Millennium Greens at Allington and Collis Field.

The Allington Millennium Green was recently designated as a Local Nature Reserve, delivering greater protection for the site and improved habitat management.



## Hart Street chaos continues

A solution is needed for the traffic problems in Hart Street and there is no doubt that the current one-way system is not that solution. A proper scheme is needed. Sadly, instead the Conservative-run County is consulting on the current scheme.

The lack of preparation of a proper solution has been extremely damaging because it meant that the County was been unable to apply for the the recent Levelling Up grant funding from the Government, as there was no scheme ready in the Maidstone and Weald Constituency. Had the County achieved the funding a solution could now be being progressed.

## Conservatives send cash for vital junction improvement to Tonbridge

Lib Dem Borough and County Councillors met and worked with KCC Highway Officers to develop a scheme for Tonbridge Rd/ Fountain Lane junction, which would reduce local congestion and improve safety for pedestrians.

Improvements to this junction were first agreed in 2017, financed by local development along Hermitage Lane and Government funding.

Unfortunately, the Conservatives at County Hall, without discussion or explanation, allocated £2m to Tonbridge and Malling.

Chris commented, "if elected I will continue to campaign with my Lib Dem colleagues for money to be re- allocated to much needed improvements in Maidstone."



## Vital crossing in Fountain Lane delivered.

After several years of sustained pressure from Liberal Democrat councillors and local campaigners, this vital crossing in Fountain Lane, near Barming Heath, was installed.

Crossing Fountain Lane through streams of traffic on this busy road was previously high risk especially for those with young children and those with mobility issues. The crossing was paid for from developer contributions accumulated from new housing built in the area.



## Road safety success

New Crossing and 20mph Zone installed

As a result of persistent efforts by Lib Dem Councillors working with local residents and local schools, a 20mph zone was agreed and installed in Buckland Hill, Buckland Road, and St. Peters Street area.

A pedestrian crossing was also agreed on Buckland Hill to support students going to Maplesden Oaks and Maidstone Girls grammar School.

Lib Dems used their devolved budget to contribute £10,000 to the cost speed checks and installation costs and undertook a major survey where 90% of those who responded supported the schemes.

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