

FOCUS

APRIL 2015



NORTON WEST



WE ARE NOT THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Want rid of the Tories?

Liberals make 3 promises at all elections:

- Work hard.
- Be honest—say what we mean.
- Ask the awkward questions.

Compare this with the LibDems who have propped up a Tory government and usually support the Tories on Ryedale District Council.



Saving the Library and Buses

The ConDem government has savaged the financial support to North Yorkshire. Big savings have to be made. Liberals have proposed the abolition of Ryedale District Council and replacing it with a North Yorkshire Area Committee for Ryedale. This would make a big saving (£20million to £40million per year) by the reduction of senior managers across the county. A fraction of these savings would keep the bus services and the libraries intact.

Gladman

Gladman have smashed the Ryedale Local Plan in Kirbymoorside. Now they are making an attack on Norton. Their application is to build 90 plus homes in Langton Road.

In Kirbymoorside the first application went to Appeal. Gladman withdrew their appeal on the basis that Ryedale District Council would approve their second application. This application was passed by the Chair's casting vote; 3 in favour, both Liberals against. All the other councillors (Tory, LibDem and Independent) on the committee abstained.

At the Appeal after the 3rd application only the Liberal councillors attended and spoke against the application.

Liberals campaigned for three years against this abuse. Liberals will campaign against this Norton application far better than any other party or individual.

YOUR LIBERAL CONTACTS

Eddie Thornton

Middleton Hall, Middleton, Pickering
Eddie@RyedaleLiberals.org.uk
(01751) 472283

Alasdair Clark

8 West View, Middleton, Pickering
Alasdair@RyedaleLiberals.org.uk
(01751) 798318

John Clark

Cropton Mill, Pickering,
JohnClark@RyedaleLiberals.org.uk
(01751) 417131

NOT THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

We underline we are not the Liberal Democrats. The Liberals have a long history behind many social improvements. Lloyd George introduced the State Pension; Beveridge designed the NHS; Keynes showed that government spending was needed to stop a recession hurting the vulnerable. ConDem austerity policies are hurting the poor, the sick and the young. This is not a Liberal approach – it is the destruction of our social fabric.

Living Wage

Ryedale Liberals proposed that the lowest paid on the council should receive ‘at least the Living Wage’. The Tories said that the cost (a total cost of £5,000/year) was too high a risk for the Council. The Liberal motion was defeated.

However for the highest paid the approach is very different. After a two year wage freeze, local government employees have, from the 1st January, received a 2.2% award over 2 years. The National Agreement was for the lowest paid up to those on £42,032. In Ryedale the pay increase was continued up to £70,000. No debate, no discussion, just an extra cost to the council. No mention of risk – at a cost of £6,000/year between the higher paid managers.

Green Waste

For 3 years Conservatives, LibDems, and Independent councillors all voted to accept the government ‘bribe’ to keep the council Tax down. As a result Ryedale District Council now has less money for services. The Tory council voted to charge for green waste. All the Liberal councillors voted to increase the Council Tax by £3 per year and NOT charge for green waste collection. Meanwhile more waste will go to landfill and Ryedale’s recycling levels will fall dramatically from over 50%.

Our national taxes are used to pay for a freeze - so we pay anyway. Those wishing to have their green waste collected will end up with a 20% increase in payments to RDC. Should anybody trust the ConDems again?

Fracking

The Liberals on Ryedale District Council Proposed:

“Ryedale District Council completely opposes all fracking in Ryedale.”

We also tried:

“Oppose all fracking until 90% of scientists believe there is no harm to health, climate and the environment.”

and *“A five year fracking freeze.”*

Every Tory councillor opposed these options. They are clearly prepared to risk:

- Water quality.
- Damage to farming and tourism.
- Climate change.
- Health of Ryedale people.

Your Liberal councillors are not willing to risk any of the above. The benefits would be for big business. All the negatives would be for the people of Ryedale.