



Mole Valley Conservative Association's Newsletter

Issue 36; May 2010

Welcoming Note

Welcome to the May issue of the Mole Valley Conservative Association's Newsletter.

To unsubscribe to this newsletter, please contact us through the website 'Contact us' page with a subject line of 'unsubscribe'.

Our aim is to provide you with a monthly update on the work of the Conservative Association and your elected representatives. We would value your feedback or comments.

We hope you enjoy reading the May issue.

A word from the Chair

A change in Government



A huge thank you is due to all of who helped with the elections of May 6; be you candidates, teller, canvassers, deliverers or helpers in the committee rooms. Without such help Paul's majority would not have increased. Unfortunately the voting pattern was not reflected in most of the seats being fought for MVDC and by next year this has to be addressed. Guildford Borough Council Elections are also due in 2011. The turnout throughout the Constituency was 75% and in some wards as high as 82% - and as the Parliamentary result indicates we certainly got our core vote out. UKIP could be seen to cost us two wards and the roads (which are a county responsibility) were certainly a factor.

We were pleased to see that our assistance helped achieve an increased majority in Guildford and Conservative wins in Crawley and in Carmarthen West and Pembrokeshire South. Helyn Clack should be congratulated in reducing the Labour majority in Walsall North by ninety percent.

Having fought very hard against the Liberals at the election we then woke up one morning to find they were on the same side. The syndrome of 'My enemies, enemy is my friend' – to kick Mr Brown out of No.10. Traditionally the Liberals are the party of high taxation and in the agreement of 11 May this influence is evident.

The changes as in Capital Gains Tax are not helpful and I hope the dropping of our pledge on Inheritance Tax will be a delay not a change in course.

As the coalition has a clear majority let us hope for a total freeze on Council tax and, as I have been arguing for since last autumn, a reduction of 500,000 in the deskbound Public sector head count. Mr Cameron's loyalty to Scotland is very laudable, particularly as Scotland showed little loyalty to Mr Cameron.

Mr Colin Crispin
Chairman, Mole Valley Conservative Association



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News from the House of Commons

A big thank you



I am very grateful to all those who helped the Conservatives in the General Election campaign. As I am sure you are aware there were many in Mole Valley who assisted us to our very satisfactory result.

Help came in many forms, including door-to-door campaigning, leaflet delivery, office assistance, permission for poster placement, erecting or displaying our posters, polling day assistance at polling stations and in committee rooms and, of course, many generous donations.

My vote share was stronger than ever with 31,263 votes or 57.6%. I took twice as many votes as the Liberal Democrat candidate Alice Humphreys whilst the Labour, UKIP and Green candidates only picked up a handful of votes.

As I said to the local press after my win, "It shows the support that I have because of the time I have spent working in Mole Valley.

"My first long-term priority is to continue the fight for Epsom Hospital, and to get a fair share of the grant for police, schools and local services.

"I think this reflects the way people feel here and in this country as a whole, people want a Conservative government, hence the results here and elsewhere – Guildford is a brilliant example."

Our planning for the 2011 and 2012 local elections and the next General Election has already started and your help again will be very welcome for these battles to come.

Thank you again for your help.

Sir Paul Beresford
Member of Parliament for Mole Valley

Report from Mole Valley District Council

New Council Leader Elected



Following the council elections, no one party has a majority on the Council. However we are still the largest Group on the Council with 18 seats out of the total 41.

Sadly we lost good councillors in Tim Hall and John Chandler, as well as Sylvia Sharland in the EECA area of Ashted, as well as losing seats in other wards where sitting councillors were retiring. We do however congratulate Philip Warren who gained his seat from the Lib Dems in Capel, Leigh and Newdigate. Tim Ashton is



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also to be congratulated for nearly gaining Leatherhead North – just 12 votes short! Overall we secured more votes across the whole Mole Valley area than any of the other parties.

Whilst the Ashted Independents supported our own Cllr James Friend as the new Leader of Mole Valley District Council, some of those Independents then joined with the Lib Dems in voting against his proposed Executive to run the Council, and so as the only way of getting their support at Full Council on 25th May, we currently have a team of just 3 – James Friend, Kathryn Westwood and Clare Curran – as the Executive, on the basis that none of them had been portfolio holders before.

We are therefore in uncharted waters, and the new Executive will meet in early June. Hopefully an agreement can be reached to allow sensible policies to be progressed. As a Group we are determined to try to save Mole Valley from dangerous Lib Dem policies, and to work with our new Government to help residents.

The high turnout in the local elections, which clearly led to split voting with people voting for one party at the national level and a different party locally, was seen in many areas – including for example Sutton where the Lib Dems saw a big reduction in the size of the majority for the Lib Dem MP Tom Brake whose seat had been one of our Party's top targets, but at the Council level, the number of Sutton Lib Dem Councillors increased by 11!

We have taken on board the electoral message and are keen to keep everybody informed of what we are doing and to engage with local residents; as Party Members we thank you for all your support and hard work – especially over the election period – and we hope that by working together we can once again increase our numbers at the council and be able to put into practice the policies we all know make sense.

Cllr Chris Hunt

Ashted Village Ward, Mole Valley District Council

Mole Valley Conservative Councillors new Communications Officer



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Report from Guildford Borough Council

New Council Leader



It is all change this month at Guildford as we have a new council leader, Tony Rooth, after Andrew Hodges stepped down after more than a decade at the helm.

Andrew has done a tremendous job as Council Leader for many years and he will be a hard act to follow. He led us back into power in 2003 after 12 years in opposition and, under his leadership, we have kept council tax rises below inflation every year while increasing our recycling rates considerably and commencing an exciting new project to replace Guildford's Civic Hall.

Tony Rooth, who represents the Pilgrims ward, has stepped up as Leader after a year as Deputy. He was lead member for Finance and hence, can claim a lot of credit for keeping the council on a tight financial rein. Tony has also reshuffled the Executive, bringing in much needed new faces. Sarah Creedy and Nick Sutcliffe have joined the Executive, while Vas Kapsalis and I have stepped down after seven years.

Our councillors were also in celebratory mood on 6 May, when Anne Milton was returned with a fantastic majority of 7,782. Sue Doughty, the previous Liberal Democrat MP, has now been seen off for good, having taken the decision to retire after such an enormous defeat. Guildford Borough Councillors in Mole Valley played their part, having worked in the Friary and St Nicholas ward throughout the campaign in the bid to see Anne re-elected.

Cllr Andrew French

Deputy Leader, Guildford Borough Council



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Feature Article

The Queen's Speech



Following the State Opening of Parliament, the House of Commons debates the Government's legislative programme, as outlined in the Queen's Speech. As our new Conservative Prime Minister, David Cameron, has made clear, his Government believes the principles of freedom, fairness and responsibility are the key themes of the Queen's Speech and legislative programme.

The main priorities are:

- **Reducing the deficit and restoring economic growth:** reform of financial services regulation, support for national infrastructure, and *"building a fair and family friendly economy"*.
- **Reforming public services and encouraging individual and social responsibility:** *"greater freedom for schools, teachers and parents in education, strengthening the voice of patients in the NHS, radical welfare reform, a cap on immigration, greater accountability of the police and local councils, measures to tackle alcohol-related violence and anti-social behaviour, and support for communities and social enterprises."*
- **Reforming Parliament and politics** *"to restore trust in democratic institutions and rebalancing the relationship between the citizen and the state; creation of fixed term Parliaments, a referendum on changes to the voting system and fairer and fewer constituencies, reforms to party funding, the right to recall MPs, and proposals for a reformed second House."*
- **"Restoring freedoms and civil liberties; including through the abolition of identity cards and the repeal of unnecessary laws."**

23 Bills were announced in the Queen's Speech. Also announced, was a draft Parliamentary Privilege Bill and the following parts of the Programme for Government for which no primary legislation is required or currently planned:

- Reducing the deficit
- Tax and benefit system
- High-speed broadband connections
- High-speed rail
- Limits on non-EU migration
- Flexible working and equal pay
- Public Health
- Social Care
- Political Party Funding
- Estimates for the public services
- Climate change
- Strategic Defence and Security Review
- Afghanistan and Pakistan
- Middle East Peace Process
- Nuclear non-proliferation and Iran
- International development spending



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News in Brief

Conservative Success throughout Surrey

As well as Sir Paul Beresford, the following
Surrey MPs were re-elected:



Epsom & Ewell - Mr Chris
Grayling
Guildford - Ms Anne Milton
Reigate - Mr Crispin Blunt
Runnymede & Weybridge -
Mr Philip Hammond
South West Surrey - Mr
Jeremy Hunt

Surrey Heath - Mr Michael Gove

The following fresh faces ensured that the
whole of Surrey remains Conservative:

East Surrey - Mr Sam Gyimah



Esher & Walton - Mr Dominic Raab
Spelthorne - Mr Kwasi Kwarteng
Woking - Mr Jonathan Lord