



Salford Labour Voice

in Langworthy & Ordsall

Autumn 2015

Crossing

A young man was seriously injured in a road traffic accident at Fitzwarren Street earlier this year. His school friends started a campaign to get a pedestrian crossing built and handed a petition to John, Paul and Gina who then lobbied on their behalf.

The campaign was successful and everyone can now cross Fitzwarren Street, leading to the superstore, safely. Councillors would like to thank all those involved in the campaign for a job well done.

Councillors John Warmisham, Paul Dennett and Gina Reynolds at the crossing.



New socially rented homes being built in the Stowell Estate

Located off Netherland Street in the Stowell Estate, 24 new homes are being built for social rent, there will be predominantly houses and bungalows with a small number of apartments. The scheme is being built by Greatplaces.

Councillor Mashiter said : "It is great to see a mix of much needed new and affordable homes being built, I know of many local young families looking for larger premises and more elderly residents looking for smaller homes that suit their physical needs, hopefully these

new homes will go some way to helping local housing need."

Contact Salford Home Search or Greatplaces to find out more about when the homes will be completed ready for occupation.

Salford Home Search:
www.salfordhomesearch.co.uk
or 909 6514

Greatplaces Salford :
www.greatplaces.org.uk or 447 5000



Salford Riots - Four Years On

Four years after the riots in Salford your councillors have been looking at what progress has been made and what lessons have been learnt.

Langworthy Councillors, community activists and local business representatives met with Police and Crime Commissioner Tony Lloyd & Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Jim Battle to review policing, community issues, education and employment

opportunities. The meeting was organised by Pendleton Homewatch Co-ordinator Graham Worrall

Your Labour Councillors will continue to work with the police, community groups, local employers, local businesses and education providers to get the best for the people of Langworthy.

photo: Councillor John Warmisham, Deputy PCC Jim Battle and community activists who took part in the discussion, Graham Worrall on left.



Ray buying produce grown by the allotment holders, all proceeds raised as well as any unsold vegetables went to Broughton House in Salford, a charity who care for our ex-service men and women

Ordsall Community Allotments Society going from strength to strength

Councillor Ray Mashiter said "In early September I popped down to the allotments' open day to find a huge array of freshly grown produce. The success of this project has taken everyone by surprise, to see the site now properly bed into our local community is nothing more than amazing, credit must go to the society themselves - their open and welcoming approach for all to join and take part has been the key to their success."

Salford families on the breadline



As of April 2015, over 3 million in-work families are dependent on tax credits. 2.7 million of these families include children. As a result of the proposed cuts these families are expected to lose £1300 next year. In Salford, Eccles, Swinton and Pendlebury over 60% of families rely on these tax credits and will be hit hard when these measures come into force. That is why I voted against cuts to working and child tax credits recently in the House of Commons.

It is apparent that these cuts are just another part of the Conservative Government's attack on the people of Salford. Not only are they cutting tax credits, they have frozen benefit payments for four years meaning 13 million families (of which over half are working families) will lose almost £300 a year.

At the same time certain companies and certain wealthy individuals continue to avoid payment of tax to the tune of £billions each year.

If you combine Tax credit cuts with the Conservative's attack on the ability of workers to stand up and fight for their rights through the restrictions on the right to strike in the savage Trade Union Bill, the horrific cuts to our Local Council, Schools and NHS budgets, it is clear to see that the Conservative's tag line of being 'the party of the working people' is a complete lie.

Rebecca Long Bailey MP

Labour Leader Jeremy Corbyn On your side

The Tories are in power for a further 5 years.

They have pledged to cut further and faster than they did in the last five years

We will see:

- Local health services under threat as never before.
- Services for the elderly facing Tory cutbacks and closures.
- Schools struggle to provide our children with a decent education.
- This Tory government is planning on cutting jobs and vital services like the police.



Health are we getting better?



In February 2015 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by NHS England, the ten Greater Manchester Councils, including Salford, and the Greater Manchester Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), NHS and Foundation Trusts to devolve health and social care. This allows us to take control of a £6 billion budget covering acute care, primary care, community services, mental health services, social care and public health.

What will the Devolution of health and social care to GM allow us to do?

- Improve the health and well being of all of GM residents from early age to older people, recognising that this will only be achieved with a focus on the prevention of ill health and the promotion of well being
- Move from having some of the worst health outcomes to having some of the best.
- Close the health inequalities gaps faster

What WONT change because of devolution?

- The NHS will still be responsible for keeping people safe and delivering the NHS Mandate and Constitution to all our residents.
- There will be no new layer of government and resources will not be taken away from the front line to support this.
- CCGs and Councils will keep their existing accountabilities, legal obligations and funding
- There will be no requirements for NHS reorganisation.

What WILL change because of devolution?

- We will be fully involved in decisions which affect us and from April 2016 we will take those decisions locally.
- We will work together in new ways to tackle some of the major health, housing, work and other challenges we face in our region.

What will we be looking at?

- Joining up health and social care services to make life easier for residents
- Helping people stay as well and independent as they can by offering them the advice and treatment they need in the community rather than hospital.
- Helping people see or talk to a GP easily, at a time and place that suits them.
- Easing pressure on hospitals by making sure only people who really need to be seen in a hospital go there
- Developing new Dementia services and expertise, including a National Institute for Dementia.
- Improving hospital care and general surgery under 'Healthier Together'
- Doing more to help people whose mental ill-health is making it difficult for them to work

Tories scrap target for raising children out of poverty

The Tories plan to remove the official measure of child poverty. The relative poverty measure, enshrined in the Child Poverty Act passed by Labour in 2010, required the Government to eradicate child poverty by 2020. The act defines a child as being in poverty if it is in a household with less than 60% of the national median average income.

Instead, the government will define poverty not in terms of money, but by measuring the number of workless households and educational attainment of children.

It will leave the UK as the only OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) country not to use the 'relative indicator', which is the internationally accepted measure of poverty.

Ian Stewart, Salford City Mayor, said "Poverty is fundamentally about a lack of money and therefore this is what we should continue to measure. Locally it will be important that we continue to monitor indicators which include in-work poverty as we know this is an increasing issue and that the majority of welfare benefits in GM are paid to people who are in work".

Salford born Comedian Jason Manford took to facebook to slam David Cameron for 'changing the definition of child poverty' in a bid to wipe it out. He mocked the Prime Minister on Facebook, writing: "Can't believe David Cameron has wiped out Child Poverty in the UK. What a legend.

"Simply by changing the meaning of what we understand to be 'poverty'. Genius. So glad the country voted him in. Nice one. Chuffed to bits." He received over 80,000 likes!!!



photo by D Sharon Pruitt

City of Salford Community Stadium

The City of Salford Community Stadium (A J Bell Stadium) is a great asset to our city. It was built in 2011 to kick-start the regeneration of an area in Barton, now known as City Gateway.

The sale of the surrounding land will more than repay the loans taken by the Stadium Company from the council and, as a young and rapidly developing business, will continue to bring in profits for the future.

Alongside the two sporting tenants, Salford Red Devils and Sale Sharks, there is a fast growing events and conferencing business. Last year, over 33,000 people attended the Stadium for such events with a major concert also being planned for 2016.

The Stadium's development strategy for the land will provide new jobs for several thousand people and transport for the area will benefit from a bypass and tram line to come.

The exciting developments in discussion include advanced negotiations for small food retail and approximately one hectare for motor retail and fast food. The prime site of approximately 4 hectares is likely to be developed by a household name bulky goods retailer.

This development is putting Salford on the map and paying back in dividends.





Tory planning policy means millions of pounds of money that should go into creating good places to live – including affordable homes - is going into profits for the development industry, says Salford Labour.

Salford backs new development which brings new homes, jobs and help for public finances. But new development should not add extra pressure to local communities.

So new development should, under policies adopted by Salford’s Labour council, pay for the extra school places, more play space and affordable homes.

Good developers include many of these things in their plans. But too many are now taking advantage of new Tory rules.

These say that where a development is not making enough profit, local policies to make developers pay should be ignored.

And when you calculate ‘enough profit’ according to Tory rules it turns out to be about 17%.

Labour’s planning spokesperson Councillor Derek Antrobus said: “We want developers to make a profit because we want them to build homes and provide jobs in Salford.

“But the profit levels that can be guaranteed by following Tory guidelines are joke. Often it’s banks and landowners rather than the developers themselves who are taking an unfair cut. But this is all at the expense of investing in good places.”

Salford Labour’s approach has been backed by the Town and Country Planning Association which says the majority of councils have their hands tied.

Councillor Antrobus added: “We have written in protest to the Minister but all we have received is a wishy-washy response saying that development has to be viable.”

CHILDRENS SERVICES GOOD AND IMPROVING

It is good news all round in Children Services. Ofsted have named Labour run Salford as one of just a handful of local authorities whose safeguarding services are ranked as “good” whilst Schools have seen a 2% increase in children gaining 5 or more GCSE passes including English and Maths.

Salford’s assistant Mayor John Merry said: “I congratulate all involved in this including Teachers officers and the Children who achieved such good results but I also want to thank the Councillors who have worked so hard to achieve this whether it’s by serving as Governors visiting homes or scrutinising the performance of the department. “



Ofsted found that all aspects of safeguarding children had improved to

good but were particularly impressed with the services provide to looked after children and the support provided to hard pressed families. Labour is committed to meeting the challenges that a successful Salford is bringing. The challenge of providing new school places to an increasing population and continuing the improvement in our schools are just two of our commitments to the future of the city.



Tory Budget blow Spells End of Social Housing

Tory government picks up Thatcher’s war against affordable rented homes

Whilst social housing tenants celebrated the budget announcement that social rents would decrease annually by 1% for the next four years and that the right to buy your social home would be extended to all housing association tenants.

In reality the long-term implications for social tenants and their families is rather bleak, heralding the end of affordable rented housing as we know it as Osborne returns to the 1980 Thatcher policies that sold off thousands of social homes.

Given that two thirds of social tenants claim

housing benefit the rent reduction is in fact a welfare cut, saving the DWP millions but costing the housing providers on average £28m from their business plans over the next 4 years that would have been invested in new housing. The Housing Federation estimates that some 27,000 new homes will now not be built to help replace those lost to Right to Buy sales.

Better off tenants, hit by a steep rise in rent are already concluding that it will be cheaper to buy their home than continue to rent and it now looks likely that the government subsidy on which social landlords have depended to build new

homes will only be provided for homes to be sold through shared ownership schemes. Already we are seeing Housing Associations returning to planners to change their new schemes from homes to rent to homes to buy with shared ownership.

In addition, with far fewer rented homes available, social tenants will no longer enjoy the security of tenure for life but have a time-limited tenancy.

Ultimately, then, Salford families, driven to the over-priced private rented sector will have nothing to celebrate at all.



The Untold Implications of George Osborne’s ‘Living’ Wage

Anything that can be done to genuinely lift workers out of poverty-pay should be welcomed! Within Salford & Greater Manchester we have real challenges with low pay and Salford Labour Party are fully committed to working towards Salford becoming a Living Wage City!

The Living Wage is set annually by the Living Wage Foundation (LWF) and currently stands at £9.15 per hour for London & £7.85 per hour outside of London.

George Osborne’s new ‘Living’ Wage of £7.20 per hour (for 25s and over) announced in July’s emergency budget clearly undermines the work of the LWF and those progressive organisations that have become accredited Living Wage employers. Osborne plan also proposes to raise his ‘Living’ Wage to £9.00 per hour by 2020, which is currently less than the London living wage.

More importantly, what is lost in Osborne’s low pay headline grabbing politics are the impacts of the proposals on our 2 million under-25 year olds, ineligible for this level of pay and expected to struggle to make-ends-meet on the national minimum wage. Similarly, Osborne’s cuts to tax credits and other in-work benefits will hit working families the hardest, with the Institute of Fiscal Studies stating:

“Among the 8.4 million working age households who are currently eligible for benefits or tax credits who do contain someone in paid work the average loss from the cuts to benefits and tax credits is £750 per year,”

Salford Labour Party believe that any developments to genuinely lift workers out of poverty-pay should be welcomed but it’s clear that the Chancellor favours sound-bite politics over a genuine commitment to tackling low-pay and its consequences within our communities.





Your local Ordsall Councillor team prioritise supporting Ordsall youth

Here in Ordsall a priority for us is to support our local young helping them gain the very best start in life. This Tory government is set on a path of punishing young people blocking their way to making a good start in life.

Your local Ordsall Labour Councillor team knows better, so earlier this year we set up a local Ordsall youth partnership. All providers in the local area come to the table and co-ordinate their activities, the aims and priorities for the group are to:

- Encourage and inspire young people to achieve their full potential
- Enable young people to gain skills and experience new challenges
- Creatively explore issues that are important to young people
- Support young people to make informed choices
- Involve young people in decision making at all levels
- Ensure young people's inclusion as active and valued members of their community



Councillors' Burch, Dobbs and Mashiter



Our Bees in Crisis

Bees have a massive role in producing our food, they pollinate most of our fruit and vegetables. But our bees are under threat.

Bees have lost much of their natural habitat in the past sixty years (including 97% of wildflower meadows) and are under assault from pesticides and intensive farming.

John Warmisham, Langworthy Ward Labour Councillor, is supporting Friends of the Earth "Save the Bee Cause" and would like you to support them as well.

To get involved or find out more please go to: www.foe.co.uk/what_we_do/the_bee_cause_home_map_39371

Regeneration

Chimney Pot Park area

Your Labour Councillors have been successful in finding a new developer, Great Places Housing Association, to take on the regeneration in the Chimney Pot Park area.

Having been let down by the original developer we are pleased that the land was able to be transferred to Great Places who will now complete the work.

Seedley Primary School site

We need more family homes in Langworthy, so the new homes being built on the Seedley Primary School site is good news for us all.

We hope to bring more development into the area building homes on the other vacant land sites in Langworthy.



Labour councillors at the Seedley Primary School site

Residents being heard



Councillor Mashiter - helping on the Labour Party stand talking and listening to residents.

Councillor Mashiter said : "Throughout the summer I have been out there talking face to face with residents about their main concerns, it came as no surprise that the Tory imposed cuts to our local services is top of the list.

Residents are quite rightly very angry to see our local health services being under threat as never before, our services for our elderly residents are facing cutbacks and closures and with the prospect of losing 1500 Police Officers here in Greater Manchester, David Cameron and his government have a lot to answer for."

A Clean Sweep

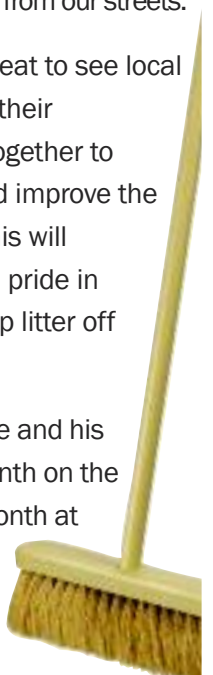
The Salford Cleanup Group, formed by Pendleton resident Joe O'Malley, was launched in March this year.

Labour councillors Paul Dennett and Gina Reynolds joined an enthusiastic group of

volunteers from the neighbourhood to collect twenty one bags of rubbish from our streets.

Paul Dennett said "It's great to see local residents taking pride in their neighbourhood, joining together to clean up their streets and improve the environment. We hope this will encourage others to take pride in their community and keep litter off our streets."

If you would like to join Joe and his team they meet every month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Brotherton House at 6.30pm, or contact one of your local councillors for details.



Your councillors for Langworthy



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