



Age Concern Garden

Labour councillors are urging residents to make use of the new Age Concern facility on Chorley Road (the former Critchely House).

The area at the back of the centre has been transformed into a tea garden. It was formally opened last summer by Councillor Derek Antrobus.

He said: "It's a great facility for all residents just to drop in for a snack. But it is a great resource for older people with opportunities from joining a writers' group to learning computer skills."



Barry on the Kingfisher Trail

Last year, the Lancashire & Greater Manchester Wildlife Trust were awarded Heritage Lottery Funding to re-instate and to improve local awareness of the 14 mile long Kingfisher Trail which runs down the Crol / Irwell Valley.

Part of the trail runs along the Bolton and Bury Canal and through the Clifton Country Park.

They are consulting with local people and interest groups about the route, facilities and features of the trail that will be described in the guide and on the web site for the benefit of local people and visitors.

Barry visited part of the Trail and described it as an outstanding facility right on our doorstep. If any residents have suggestions contact Barry or the other local councillors.

Young couples betrayed by Tories on housing

The number of young couples being able to find a home of their own is down by 300,000 under this Tory Government.

And we see in Swinton and Pendlebury so many young people struggling to find a home of their home.

Labour-run Salford City Council has done its bit. More homes are being built in the city than anywhere else in Greater Manchester.

And there are more than 10,000 new homes with planning permission that have not yet been built.

Swinton North Labour councillor Derek Antrobus said: "The Government needs to wake up to the fact that it is not the need for planning permission that is slowing down housebuilding.

"The real problem is developers are not building because people cannot get the mortgages. It's time to help first time buyers into homes. At the moment we just get Tory gimmicks which benefit the wealthy.

"We also need to make sure that the Government lets councils build homes once again. The nation has never met its housing targets without major public investment."



Better Facilities in Pendlebury

Councillor Barry Warner paid a visit to Pendlebury Post Office on Bolton Road

The post office is due for a major uplift involving being newly refurbished, longer opening hours, selected Post Office services being available from the retail counter and improved accessibility.

The post office will close at 5.30pm on Thursday 3 March and reopen with the new facilities at 1pm on Thursday 17 March.

Barry commented that the inconvenience caused by the two week closure would be made up by the improved facilities.



Heather Fletcher, the latest member of the Swinton South Labour team has already begun visiting constituents and discussing local issues.



Salford Labour Voice

in Swinton & Pendlebury Spring 2016

Keeping the Green Clear

Residents around Clifton Green have had to put up with a lot of disruption and inconvenience for a good few months.

It had become a regular stopping point for travellers who would just turn up, without any notice, and park their caravans and lorries.

It was a frustration for both residents and councillors about the time it would take to move them on, only for them to return a few weeks later.

Councillor Barry Warner can be seen examining the barriers which were erected to stop unauthorised access to the Green.

Barry said that he hoped these barriers would prevent any more visits while at the same time allowing local residents to take full advantage of the large grassed area and children's playground.



We Love Clifton



Parts of Clifton are becoming the target of anti-social behaviour.

Local residents are determined that this will not be tolerated or allowed to carry on.

On 30 January a group of residents were joined by MP Rebecca Long Bailey, Cllr Barry Warner, City West, Police and Council Neighbourhood officers to discuss what could be done.

Residents were clear that despite the problems, Clifton was a great place to live and there were some fantastic people in the area.

Barry stressed that if there were problems they needed to be reported to the appropriate authorities. He said that if people felt intimidated by the threat of reprisals they could provide details to their local councillors.



Tory cuts bite: Buses axed, Number 70 altered

The latest round of Tory cuts has forced transport chiefs to cut the subsidies they give to services by £720,000.

Under the privatised bus system, companies run popular routes for profit. But socially important routes – such as those to hospitals and on housing estates – don't make enough money for private bus companies.

But the Government has cut its share of paying for local services. That means buses up and down Greater Manchester have been axed.

In Swinton, the number 70 which links Clifton to Salford Quays, will be altered. Details have yet to be announced.

Swinton North's Labour representative, Councillor Derek Antrobus, said: "We need better public transport to enable people to get to work and access vital services.

"But every act of this short-sighted Tory government is threatening the future prosperity of our city and its people."

Introducing Heather Fletcher

We are sorry that in May Councillor Gena Merrett steps down for family reasons. Gena has been a wonderful colleague to work with and I am sure you will agree that she has served Swinton South ward and she will be greatly missed. I am sure you all agree and wish her well for the future.

It is with delight that I am pleased to announce that Swinton South Labour has chosen Heather Fletcher as their prospective Labour candidate, I have known Heather for many years. I know Heather, a qualified solicitor, if elected will make a wonderful councillor.

I have been travelling around the ward introducing Heather to constituents and she has been given that special Swinton South welcome. She has also visited many important community sites in the ward.



I hope many more of you will get the opportunity to meet Heather before the election in May and agree to cast your vote to support her election.

Howard Balkind

photo: Heather Fletcher and Councillor Howard Balkind

Your councillors for Swinton North



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The council budget: the facts

The Tories have taken away support to keep the tax down. Now under the Osborne tax proposals, they want to force us to increase council tax by 3.75% or make further cuts.

Faced with this onslaught of government cuts why are some local critics attacking the Labour Party rather than the Tories?

We are told, by critics, that we can somehow set a "legal" no cuts budget and make no cuts. This is not the case. If that was possible why would we not adopt such a budget?

For these reasons:

1. A "no cuts budget" based on irresponsible borrowing leads to the bankruptcy of the city.
2. The truth is that no such "legal" budget is possible. We are told that we can exhaust the Council's reserves and borrow the rest to bridge the £22 million pound government cut. Under the law, any attempt to set such a budget requires Council officers to intervene and set a different budget from the elected councillors.
3. It would lead to the appointment of government commissioners to

impose worse cuts on the people of Salford. This would fall heaviest on the most vulnerable

4. Every Council in the country who has considered this, has rejected the idea of a "no cuts" budget as a cruel con trick. We are not prepared to play games with people who need our services.

Salford Labour Councillors know they have no choice but to implement cuts. We try to do so as sensitively as possible in order to protect those Salford citizens most at risk from this Tory government's discrimination against the most vulnerable while it protects the powerful.

Now we hear the Tory government has announced a £300 million grant to help mainly Tory authorities while not giving a penny to Salford. Yet another insult to the people of this city.



Give Salford it's share of the £300 million transitional fund

The government announced a £300 million transitional fund for local authorities – then handed nearly all of it to Tory councils. 85% of the additional money will go to wealthy Conservative-run areas with Salford receiving nothing.

Salford Labour Party demands a fair distribution of the transitional grant scheme to ensure that those in most need receive a fair share of the funding.

Tory cronyism is taking from the poor to give to the rich!

This Government is giving Conservative councils most of the money from a £300

million Government fund set up to ease the blow of Government cuts to council budgets.

Wealthier local authorities like Surrey, Hampshire and Buckinghamshire are receiving extra funds but Salford Council is getting nothing.

grants awarded for 2016-18:

Surrey	£24.10 million
Hampshire	£18.69 million
Buckinghamshire	£9.22 million
Salford	£0 = ZERO

sign the petition at:
change.org/p/george-osborne-give-salford-it-s-share-of-the-300-million-transitional-fund

Paul Dennett for City Mayor

Dear Resident,

I have recently been selected as the Labour Party's candidate for the Salford Mayoral election in May. For those of you who don't know me I am a dedicated, campaigning socialist councillor for Langworthy. I am from a working class family with Labour values at my core - I cut my teeth establishing residents associations in the high-rises off Blackfriars, and community campaigning is close to my heart. As a proud Trade Unionist, I believe we are stronger when we work together, stand together and look out for one another.



I am campaigning for a manifesto of growth, jobs and for skills in our city. Against the misery and austerity promised from further Tory cuts, I will fight for a bright future for the Salford of tomorrow.

The policies I stand by are,

1. Championing a new Skills Agenda, linking our educational institutions with local employers to create an integrated programme of training and development
2. A Fair Rents Commission, to ensure Salfordians aren't priced out of their communities
3. The creation of an Equalities Charter for the city, to promote fair treatment and representation for the city's minority communities
4. A campaign within Greater Manchester for significant transport investment in Salford, connecting areas of the city currently cut off
5. Supporting a productive growth strategy, creating a home for new digital industries, manufacturing and high-wage jobs in the city

The future of our city, our public services and local high streets, is at risk under the incompetent economic management of the Tories. Against all expert opinion, they continue with a policy of austerity which is strangling our communities, crippling our health and social care facilities, and dampening growth. Labour offer a program of hope and change for Salford, and I hope you will join me in fighting for those values in May.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Dennett



Labour supporters with Paul Dennett following his selection

Labour's Vision for Salford

Salford Labour Party Manifesto 2016

Between 2010/11 to 2016/17 the council has had to make cuts of £171 million to balance its budget. We have had to manage a 42.4% reduction in our core government funding. This equates to a cost of £753 for every home in Salford. We have done our best to manage these savage government cuts despite increasing costs and pressures on services. Now we have run out of options.



A Safer City

Community Safety remains a key priority for the City. People are entitled to walk the streets without fear of being attacked or having their house burgled. Cameron and the Tories do not see this as a priority, cutting back funding, year after year, for the emergency services. We however are

determined to campaign to reverse police funding cutbacks.

We pledge to use our powers to prevent antisocial behaviour to the full extent of the law. We will continue to target burglary, vehicle crime and hate crime.



A Healthier City

Although much has been achieved, we still remain a City with some people dying at a younger age than they should. We will work with the Health Service and use

our Public Health responsibilities to build a twenty first century health system.

A City that Looks After the Elderly

The Osborne Tax of an extra 3.75% in Council Tax will not solve the problems we face in meeting growing needs for social care for older and vulnerable people. We will align our

services with health under one body that will allow people better access a whole range of services and prevent deprivation.



A City that Supports its Young People

Looking after our children remains at the heart of our agenda. We will pioneer a new approach. We will seek to address all the needs of families by working with the Police, Health providers

and Government Departments. Only by doing this can we tackle the root causes of neglect.

A City with Decent Homes

Housing, for those already living in Salford and for those who want to come to our city and make a contribution remains at the top of our list.

We will ensure new housing, both social and to buy, to address the needs of homeless and those living in substandard accommodation.

We will also establish a fair rent commission to establish what is a fair rent for property in Salford.



A Greener and Cleaner City

The Government has sought to reduce the money available to manage the environment. We, however, will continue to work in partnership with the general public and voluntary organisations to maintain our commitment to our green spaces.

Our City needs public transport. We will seek, with other Councils in Greater Manchester, the power to regulate passenger transport on the same basis as London.