

Focus



Focus # 393 on Middleton & Oakgrove

9 issues a year since 1979, not just at election time.
Printed on recyclable paper & distributed by volunteers.

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ELECTIONS: THURSDAY 5 MAY

Postal ballot papers arrive from Wednesday 20 April



Sam Crooks
The Lib Dem **Focus** team

Sam writes....

I'm not mad on elections. We work hard all year trying to get things sorted out for the community regardless of how people vote, and then suddenly it all goes party political for a month.

But that's democracy. Please vote to re-elect me on **Thursday 5 May**. You've seen me around all year, not just this month. And I've kept in touch through **Focus**, emails and facebook.

I'm proudly LibDem, but try to keep politics out of local government. My aim is to help create good houses, schools and jobs, and to build great communities.

We don't attack our opponents - please vote for me and the **Focus** team on the strength of our own record.

If you've any questions please contact me on:

focusteam@live.co.uk 07803 036 656

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THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS

WHAT LIBDEMS WOULD DO NATIONALLY WHAT WE'VE DONE LOCALLY

NATIONALLY, WE WOULD:

- Reduce the standard rate of VAT from 20% to 17.5% for a year.
- Introduce a windfall tax on oil & gas profits.
- Use this to double the Warm Home Discount & extend it to everyone on Pension & Universal Credit.
- Double the Winter Fuel Allowance.
- Roll out an emergency home & business insulation programme.
- Re-instate & make permanent the £1,000 Universal Credit boost.
- Raise benefits by the true rate of inflation (currently 6.2%) rather than by 3.1 %

LOCALLY WE HAVE SET ASIDE:

- Over £15 million to help residents on low incomes pay their council tax bill.
- Over £3 million for concessionary public transport fares.
- Half a million pounds to help residents struggling with the energy crisis.
- Support for the MK Foodbank Xtra, and for a Local Welfare Provision Scheme to help residents in need with essential furniture & kitchen equipment.

We will also provide a council tax discount to many residents who are currently ineligible for the Government's council tax rebate scheme.



If you're in financial difficulty, and think the Council can help, contact Sam on:

focusteam@live.co.uk
07803 036 656



Here's the Government website for offers to accommodate Ukrainian refugees

<https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>

Or you can donate money through the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

The Liberal Democrat *Focus* Team Working & keeping in touch all year round

SAM CROOKS...

...came to Milton Keynes to work at the Open University. He has also worked in France and America. For 10 years he has run the annual Cornerstone Christmas Appeal, collecting over £120,000 for local charities.

He has been a councillor in this area for over 20 years and was Mayor of Milton Keynes 2019 - 20. He has twice been Leader of the Council. He has been a magistrate, a member of the Milton Keynes Health Authority, the Thames Valley Police Authority and a trustee of the Bletchley Park Trust and the Parks Trust. He was the first chair of the city's Community Relations Council.

He has been a school governor of Middleton Primary School and was a member of the national General Teaching Council (the professional body for teachers) until its abolition in 2012. He is currently a trustee of the MK Dons Sports and Education Trust.



Opening the new St Mary's Wavendon C of E Primary School as Mayor



For four years Sam was responsible for Milton Keynes' new school building programme, at the time the largest in Europe, including both Middleton Primary school & Oakgrove's Sixth Form Centre



While Leader of the Council Sam started the city's kerbside recycling waste collection, then the first in the country.

HELP THE WORKERS TO WIN

LIB DEM
Focus
TEAM

Winner

2018
2019
&
2021

TORY

LABOUR

Labour have
never
won
here

We've won the last three elections here



Sam, Kerrie & Uroy The *Focus* team

We aim to reply to mails, text or calls within 48 hours. Texting's usually fastest. If we don't, please get in touch again in case we've missed your message.

Thank you !

Working for a FAIRER, SAFER, CLEANER & GREENER
Milton Keynes