

# Focus



## Focus # 393 on Willen & Willen Park

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

## To CONTACT Us

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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](mailto:focusteam@live.co.uk) 07803 036 656

[www.focusteamlive.co.uk](http://www.focusteamlive.co.uk)

## 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](mailto: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 & was Mayor of Milton Keynes 2019 - 20. He has twice been Leader of the Council. He has also been a magistrate, a member of the Milton Keynes Health Authority, the Thames Valley Police Authority, a trustee of the Bletchley Park Trust and the Parks Trust, and a member of the BBC East Regional Advisory Committee. He was the first chair of the city's Community Relations Council.

He 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



In 2006 Sam negotiated the financial agreement between Milton Keynes Council and the Extra Care Charitable Trust that enabled Lovat Fields Village to be built.



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