

# FOCUS

Pelaw, Heworth, Wardley & Bill Quay

**ELECTION SPECIAL**



LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Issue 104 - April/May 2022

**The result last time here:**

Only **Amanda Wintcher** and the **Lib Dem Focus Team** can beat Labour here.

The Conservatives came a poor third last time and voting for them risks letting Labour win!

# Vote for Amanda

**On Thursday, May 5th, it's between Amanda & the Focus Team or Labour here**

On May 5th, Pelaw and Heworth will elect a new councillor. The Focus team candidate is Dr Amanda Wintcher and she is campaigning to join Ian and Paul on the Council. Amanda has lived in Pelaw for 14 years. She is an archaeologist, and does voluntary work at Jarrow Hall and litter clean-ups across our area.

Amanda said: "I have been working with volunteers here for many years and have been involved in community groups since I was a teenager. I was impressed by Ian and Paul's hard work and so I started helping them a few years ago. I want to see Pelaw and Heworth be cleaner and greener. As someone who doesn't have a car I really understand the problems people have with the prices and reliability of public transport and I will campaign hard on this if I am elected".

"I was delighted when the local Lib Dems asked me to be the Focus team candidate at this election. If the residents of our area do me the honour of electing me, I will work really hard to represent people. With Ian and Paul, we will have a united team holding the Council to account on behalf of Pelaw and Heworth."



**Paul, Amanda and Ian outside Pelaw Library: Paul and Ian are asking residents to back local resident, Amanda Wintcher, in the upcoming Council election**

## Is 'Sorry' good enough?



**Amanda Wintcher**

The Council is getting very used to saying sorry.

It has apologised for the "undue stress" caused to grieving parents after it threatened to remove memorials in the Saltwell Cemetery's Children's section (Chronicle, 31 January 2022). It had to write: "We sincerely apologise for this very regrettable situation", after losing hundreds of residents' survey responses on the future of Leisure Services (Council Website, 15 November 2021), and most recently the council "apologise for any inconvenienced" caused by the misprinting of thousands of Council Tax Bills a few weeks ago (Council website, March 10, 2022).

Local campaigner Amanda Wintcher said "Everyone makes mistakes, but the number of errors seems to be growing. If I am elected in May, I will be asking what can change to prevent these errors being repeated."

## Fact File

- Pelaw and Heworth is currently represented by Ian Patterson and Paul Diston and one Labour Councillor
- Pelaw and Heworth has had some of the closest results anywhere in Gateshead: in 2016 Ian Patterson won by just 20 votes!
- The Conservatives have been third in every local election since 1998
- At the last election the Conservatives had only 7% of the vote
- Only the Lib Dems can beat Labour in Pelaw and Heworth

# Focus - Working hard all year round



# Six to Fix

The Liberal Democrat's plan to make Gateshead a cleaner, greener and fairer place to live



## 1. Get the Basics Right

We would improve basic services, including:

- increasing the budget for Street Cleaning and Dog Wardens
- consulting on an extended Green Bin scheme
- supporting fortnightly waste collection

## 2. Value for Money

We would ensure funds are spent wisely, by:

- scrutinising Council budgets in line with residents' concerns
- eliminating excess spending
- reviewing the use of Council reserves

## 3. End Council Waste

We would end Labour's waste by:

- ensuring the Council applies for Government funding to reduce pressure on residents and the budget
- reviewing failing projects like the Council's funeral business
- rethinking traffic schemes

## 4. Green Gateshead

We would make Gateshead the Green Capital of the North East, by:

- protecting our green spaces from inappropriate development
- encouraging new Park and Ride and car sharing schemes
- increasing prosecution and fines for fly-tipping

## 5. Homes for All

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- protecting our green spaces from inappropriate development
- encouraging new Park and Ride and car sharing schemes
- increasing prosecution and fines for fly-tipping

## 6. People before Politics

We would put residents' welfare above party politics, by:

- ensuring Gateshead benefits from the new regional authority
- making residents' views on regional transport heard
- giving Gateshead a stronger voice in the North East



On Thursday, 5th May elect a hard-working local campaigner . . .

# Amanda Wintcher

