

Newsline

News for **Noctorum and Claughton**

from your local Conservatives www.birkenheadconservatives.org.uk

Issue 1
SPRING
2024

Top issue: save Noctorum Road Playing Fields

Thank you to everyone who has, so far, taken part in our new survey for residents. We wrote to 2,600 people in this part of Noctorum and Claughton. To take part, go online to: www.birkenheadconservatives.org.uk

We've had a massive response already, with residents raising a range of issues that need attention by Wirral Council.

One of the many complaints was about the poor state of the roads in this area.

On page two, we report back on the roads and pavements that the Council has now agreed to repair.

The top issue, however, was opposition to building 33 houses on the site of the

former playing fields between Noctorum Road and Noctorum Lane.

The land met eight of the nine criteria for designation as 'Local Green Space' in the Council's long-delayed Local Plan but the plan isn't yet legally in force.

Following an appeal against the refusal of planning permission by Birkenhead School, the Planning Inspectorate had intended to hold a hearing in March.

However, this was cancelled, and it will now be a full Public Inquiry.

The Noctorum Ridge Residents' Association is leading on this campaign and you can read about their work at www.nrra.co.uk



The plans would see Noctorum Fields, designated as Local Green Space in the draft Local Plan lost forever.



The Noctorum Ridge Residents' Association has more info at www.nrra.co.uk

Reporting back: local issues, local action...



New A&E unit at Arrowe Park 'on track'

The new £28m emergency and urgent care facilities at Arrowe Park Hospital are on track.

It will combine the emergency and urgent treatment units and have better access for ambulances. The current phase of work is scheduled to become operational this month, as planned.



Government issues guidance on 20mph

In October 2023, Conservative Councillors called for a pause in the rollout of 20mph zones.

In March, the Department for Transport issued revised guidance. This states local councils should only use 20mph limits in sensible and appropriate areas such as outside schools and where there is local support.



Extra help to tackle homelessness

Wirral is to receive more than £1.5m in additional funding to help vulnerable residents at risk of becoming homeless, or who are already sleeping rough.

The cash, announced in March, follows the landmark Domestic Abuse Act 2021 which means Wirral Council now has a legal duty to provide more support to victims.



£4.1m for more places for children with SEND

An extra £4.1m is to be spent in Wirral to help create more dedicated school places for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Last month, Wirral Council was forced to apologise to a family and pay £3,350 after failings meant a child 'missed out' on a year of school.

www.birkenheadconservatives.org.uk

Our newly-formed branch is open to new members. Join at www.conservatives.com/join

Road repairs agreed by Council

In March, councillors backed a programme of repairs for 2024/25, costing £7.2m.

In our area, Noctorum Avenue will have 'micro asphalt' treatment, as will Vyner Road South (between Redstone Rise and Upton Road).

Noctorum Lane (between Upton Road and Vyner Road South) will also be repaired.

Other roads, such as Howbeck Road and Noctorum Dell, have been identified as

needing work but not this next year.

Instead, the Town Hall says they are a 'medium priority' for sometime in the next few years.

If your road needs attention, go to www.birkenheadconservatives.org.uk and take part in our residents' survey.

A further £3.5m will be spent on local safety schemes, including work to improve the Slaty Road/Grosvenor Road junction.



The junction of Noctorum Dell needs repairing, but not just yet says the Council.

MORE POLICE. SAFER STREETS.

ON THURSDAY 2 MAY, USE YOUR VOTE TO ELECT FORMER POLICE SERGEANT BOB TEESDALE AS POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER...

724 MORE POLICE IN MERSEYSIDE

CRIME IS DOWN IN WIRRAL

MORE ACTION ON ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR



Read more about Bob Teesdale at www.birkenheadconservatives.org.uk



Action requested for footpath clean up

Residents contacted us about the overgrowth and weeds on the footpath off Wethersfield Road and behind Bentham Close. We've asked the Council for action and will report back in our next newsletter.



Missing traffic mirror reported

The junction of Noctorum Road and West Road is a blind spot for many drivers. That's one of the reasons why a traffic mirror was installed. Sadly, it's missing. We've reported it to the Council's Highways Department.



Every new member makes us stronger...

Welcome to those supporters who have joined us, or offered to help our campaign. To join, go to our website - it costs around £3.5 a month and every pound is used on our campaign locally.