

LOCAL PEOPLE BACK CAMPAIGN FOR A&E

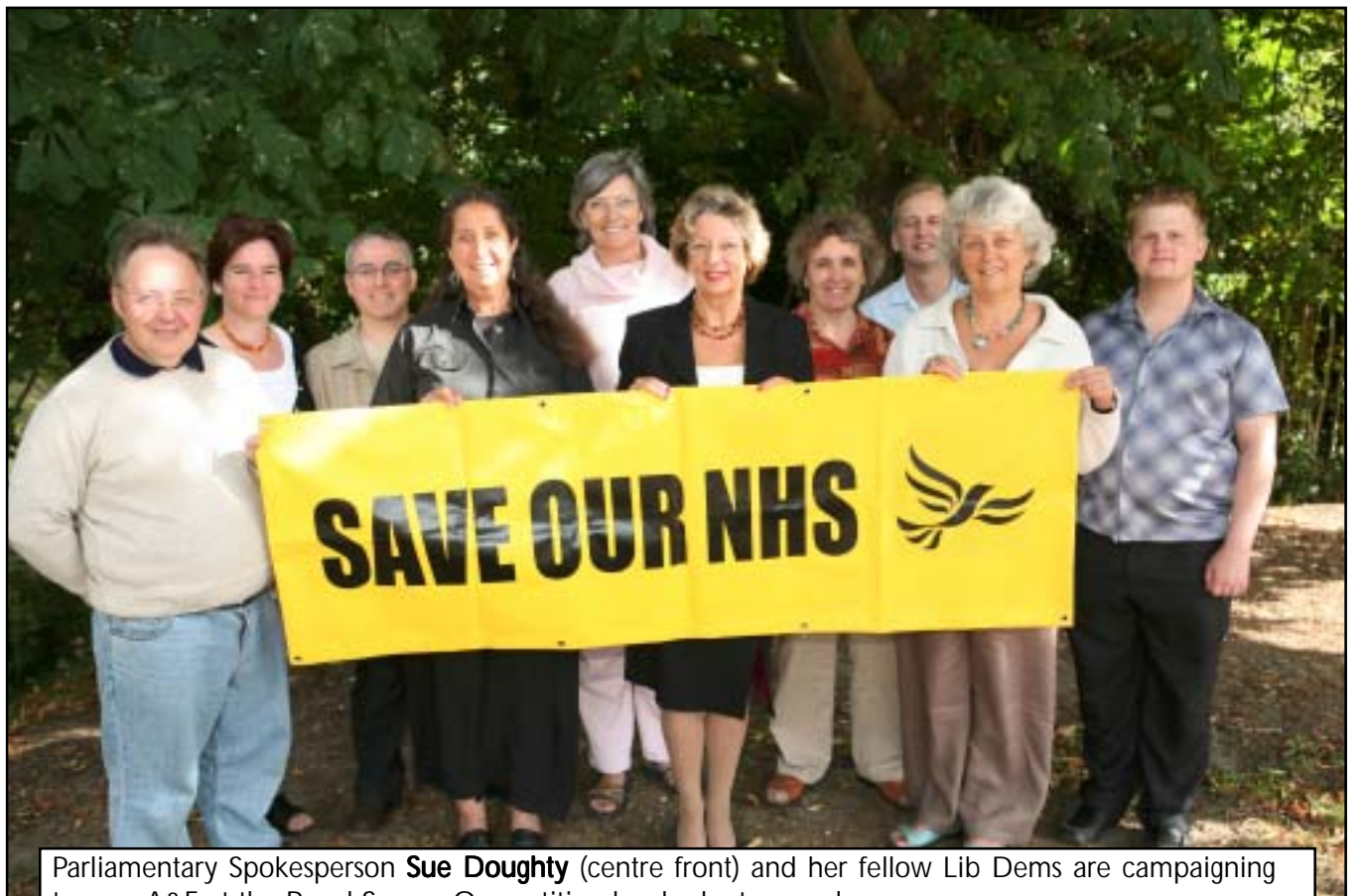
Thousands of local people have signed a Lib Dem petition as the battle intensifies to save A&E at the Royal Surrey.

The department could be under threat due to the massive debts that the Government has lumbered the NHS with.

Lib Dem Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sue Doughty** said, "Local people are rallying round our campaign to avoid these savage cuts. We have received thousands of signatures already."

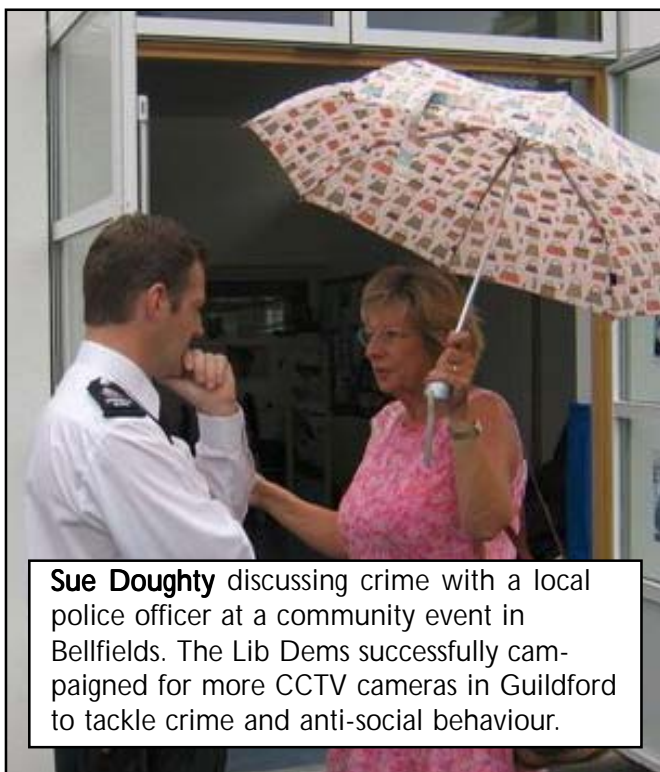
County Cllr **Pauline Searle** added, "The effect on local healthcare will be devastating if A&E closes - especially with West Surrey already having Cranleigh and Milford Hospitals set for closure."

Sue Doughty has also written to Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt about the local NHS. The consultation period on the possible cuts will begin in October.



Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sue Doughty** (centre front) and her fellow Lib Dems are campaigning to save A&E at the Royal Surrey. Our petition has had a tremendous response.

New cameras to help fight crime



Sue Doughty discussing crime with a local police officer at a community event in Bellfields. The Lib Dems successfully campaigned for more CCTV cameras in Guildford to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

Guildford Borough will soon benefit from new CCTV cameras.

The Liberal Democrats proposed a number of new sites for CCTV in light of residents' fears about violent crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Conservatives twice rejected the plans before they eventually passed them at a full council meeting.

County Cllr **Pauline Searle** said, "CCTV has been uniquely responsible for increasing public safety. I am glad that the Conservatives eventually backed down to accept these cameras.

"We must now extend the cameras to other places to help protect the public."

It's so close here!

General election 2005

Con
22,595

**Lib
Dem**
22,248

Labour
can't win
here



Labour
5,054

Only the Lib Dems or the Conservatives can win in Guildford.

Labour **can not win here**. Many Labour supporters are switching to the Lib Dems to help defeat the Conservatives.

Christ's College Building Update

Guildford Councillors have voted unanimously to support the detailed planning application for the Christ's College and Pond Meadow development.

Last February in the College Hall, local residents were able to view detailed drawings, descriptions, models and a scrolling presentation of the buildings.

In recent months considerable progress has been made and the plan is still for building to commence in the Autumn.

County Cllr **Pauline Searle** told *Focus*, "This is an exciting development for Christ's College and Pond Meadow. I look forward to the buildings opening."



Pauline Searle at Christ's College. Work on the new buildings is expected to start soon.

Roads need repairing

The Lib Dems are becoming increasingly concerned at the state of Surrey's roads.

Even the leader of Tory-run Surrey County Council (SCC) admitted in *The Surrey Advertiser* that "The condition of the county's roads is not meeting public expectation everywhere."

Despite widespread anger in Surrey about the state of the roads, SCC have reduced the number of Highways Officers by 50% as part of their Business Delivery Review – trying to save money having wasted millions on a failed office move to Woking and hiring expensive outside consultants.

Civic Hall latest

Guildford will finally be getting a new Civic Hall after years of Tory dithering were brought to an end.

The new-build project in London Road will cost £20 million+. Plans for a move to the University campus were rejected after a survey carried out by the Lib Dems found less than 2% support.

County Cllr **Pauline Searle** told *Focus*, "I am glad we are eventually getting our Civic back after years of delay. However, there will always be a sneaking suspicion that taxpayers are forking out millions more than they needed to."

Anger as Conservatives ignore public protests

Many local people are angry about Conservative panic-proposals to avoid the ban on new housing caused by Special Protection Areas (SPAs) such as Whitmoor Common.

New houses can not be built within 5 km of the SPAs inhabited by certain rare ground-nesting birds.

The Conservatives want to spend over £1million on four sites of council-owned countryside to

divert people from the SPAs. The Lib Dems say this will not work and the money should be spent on green space easily accessible to new housing.

Lib Dem group leader **Fiona White** said "This strategy is rushed and poorly-thought out. People living on the other side of town will not get in their car to walk their dogs in Riverside Park.

"The Conservatives should take note of the huge opposition to their panic proposals and rethink."

Lib Dem recycling scheme here at last!



Sue Doughty (centre) with the Lib Dem Environment Spokespersons at Surrey (Cllr Sarah Di Caprio, left) and Guildford (Cllr Liz Hogger, right.) Councils. The Lib Dems are glad that the plastics collection scheme has finally been introduced - but want to see collection expanded to include kitchen waste.

Guildford will finally benefit from Borough-wide kerbside collection of plastic bottles, after the Conservatives backed down.

For years, the Liberal Democrats pushed for the scheme to help reduce landfill and the threat of incineration across Surrey. After rejecting the scheme as recently as February, the Conservatives have finally bowed to Liberal Democrat pressure and will be introducing it.

The next task is to keep food waste out of the black sacks going to landfill. Lib Dem councillors want that collected for composting, and proposed a trial scheme for 2007. So far the Conservatives have refused to commit themselves.

Cllr **Liz Hogger** said, "I'm pleased the Conservatives have at last agreed to the plastic collection scheme. Now the Lib Dems are pushing for kerbside collection of food waste too."

BOOK SALE

Saturday 25 November

St Joseph's Church Hall, York Rd

Free entry - refreshments - thousands of second hand books, CDs, vinyls and tapes

Please contact Alan or Maija Lawrence on 01483 503701 if you have any spare books, tapes or CDs. We will collect from you.

Did you know?

Guildford's Conservative MP has missed over a third of her meetings on Parliament's Health Select Committee.

With health services in Guildford under threat from Government cuts, she has the **worst** attendance record of all the committee members who have been in place since May 2005.

Contact your local Lib Dem team

Parliamentary Spokesperson - Sue Doughty

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County Cllr Pauline Searle

☎: 01483 825424 ✉: pauline.searle@guildford.gov.uk

Meet your Lib Dem councillor: If you have an issue that you would like help with, we hold a surgery at Millmead on the first Thursday of every month from 6.30pm. Ring 306000 to book an appointment with a Borough or County Councillor.

Help us to campaign for the local area!

Do you want to help the Liberal Democrats? Return this slip to:
Liberal Democrats, Freepost, SCE 15741, Guildford, GU1 7BR.

- I can deliver some leaflets in my area Name
- I can display a poster at election time Address
- I can help with clerical work Tel
- I can make a donation of £___ to help pay for *Focus* Email

(A donation of £6+ entitles you to party membership. If you do not wish to join or already belong, tick here)

The Liberal Democrats may wish to use the information above to contact you from time to time to keep you informed of campaigns we think are of interest to you. Please write to us if you do not wish to be contacted in this way.