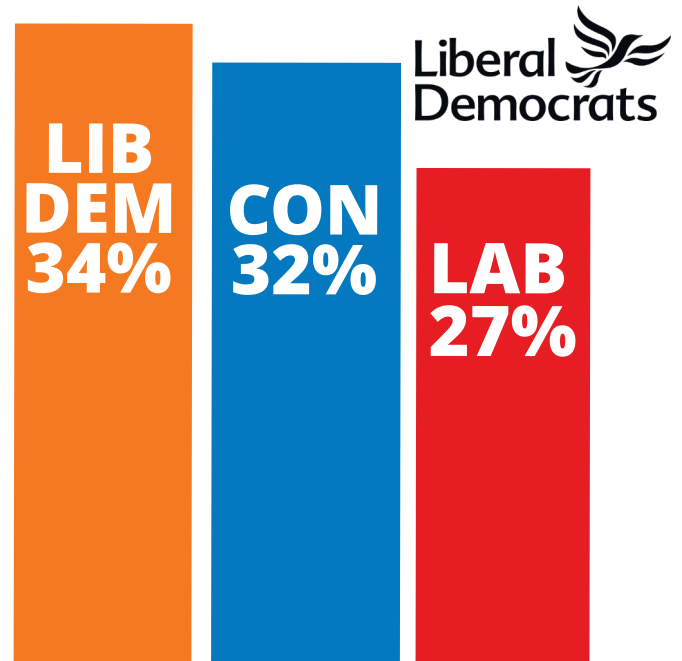


# FOCUS ON CANNON HILL

From Councillor Jenifer Gould,  
Richard Poole & Asif Ashraf



Percentage of votes for 1<sup>st</sup> place candidate at the 2022 Local Election in Cannon Hill

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## Lib Dems lead the fight to protect our police stations!

Over summer the Mayor of London tried to sneak through plans to close police station front counters - including at Wimbledon and Mitcham, threatening their long-term future.

Merton Lib Dems refused to let this go unchallenged, pressing for an emergency council meeting to demand answers and call out Labour's failure to act. Disappointingly, Labour councillors blocked Lib Dem proposals to strengthen community policing.

This is the latest in a pattern of Labour failing to stand up for residents on this issue. In March, they failed to even mention the importance of local police stations, when the Mayor of London wanted their views on his new plan for London policing.

**Meanwhile, Merton Lib Dems, have been pushing to restore trusted, visible local policing at every opportunity, including calling for a new police base in Morden.**



Local campaigner Richard Poole said: "Stripping away vital points of contact between communities and their police is utterly indefensible."

**If you haven't already, please sign our petition:**  
[mertonlibdems.org.uk/keep-open](https://mertonlibdems.org.uk/keep-open)

## Working to clean up Cannon Hill

Cannon Hill Lib Dems are listening to residents about their issues and concerns over fly tipping, graffiti, rubbish and street weeds.

Labour-run Merton Council claims that every street is being cleaned every week. But this is just spin as they don't mean each street and pavement is swept every week.

Lib Dem campaigner Asif Ashraf said "Labour have made promises on street cleaning they had no intention of delivering on. Residents are rightly frustrated and fed-up."



## Keep in touch!

The quickest way to get updates on local issues & news is to sign up for emails from your local Liberal Democrat councillor and focus team.

Sign up today to stay in touch with the team and receive news from your area.

Scan Me!



**Sign up at: [www.mertonlibdems.org.uk/keep-in-touch](https://www.mertonlibdems.org.uk/keep-in-touch)**

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## Taking action on HMOs in Cannon Hill

Residents are concerned about Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in our area. While HMOs help key workers and young people find housing, too many or poor-quality conversions cause problems like parking issues, waste problems, unsafe living conditions, and loss of family homes and gardens.

In 2015, the Conservative government changed planning rules, allowing landlords to convert homes without full planning permission, or licencing for smaller HMOs which reduced residents' ability to have their say.

The Lib Dems in Merton want stricter rules, similar to those in neighbouring Sutton, to better manage smaller HMOs. They are urging Merton's Labour-run Council to close these loopholes and require full planning and licensing permission, giving residents more say and improving standards.

Cllr Jenifer Gould said "This isn't against all HMOs, but about ensuring new ones are safe, well-managed, and appropriate for the area. They aim to protect residents, allow them to have their say and ensure housing is fair and decent for those who need it."



# Local Lib Dems' 'Parks Promise'



Cannon Hill Lib Dems are standing up for our green spaces like Joseph Hood Rec and Cannon Hill common

**Merton Lib Dems are calling for a new 'Parks Promise' to ensure Merton's green spaces receive the care and investment they deserve.**

The plan includes proper maintenance, fair funding for parks across the borough, more support for volunteer groups, and genuine consultation with residents on the future of green spaces.

Merton is one of London's greenest boroughs, but many parks and green spaces are relying too heavily on volunteer and Parks' Friends groups to pick up the slack from poor upkeep and a lack of investment from Merton Council.

While well-run commercial events can bring valuable income, the Lib Dems argue there must be more community engagement to agree the appropriate number of big events for each park.

**Cannon Hill campaigner Asif Ashraf said: "Our parks are some of Merton's greatest assets, but we should not have to rely on volunteers to keep green spaces clean and welcoming.**

**That's why we're calling for a 'Parks Promise', a clear commitment to protect and improve Merton's green spaces for generations to come."**

## LOCAL ACTION



**Cannon Hill Lib Dems are again raising with the Council the need for zebra crossings on Cannon Hill Lane near Cherrywood Lane and near Elm Walk.** An increase in footfall, speeding traffic and extra visitors to Joseph Hood Rec with outdoor gym, the planned sports hub with basketball court and floodlights extending operational hours all adding to the need.



**Local Lib Dems have responded to the recent news that Labour-run Merton Council has re-launched (again) their plans for Morden regeneration.**

After years of promises made and not kept Merton Lib Dems are pushing for real action and not more empty promises with Labour's plans that aren't funded for years to come.

Read more at [mertonlibdems.org.uk/morden](http://mertonlibdems.org.uk/morden)



**Lib Dem councillors are fighting to end the chaos for residents caused by Labour's rushed roll-out of parking e-bike bays.**

In June it was announced that e-bike companies had agreed that users would use designated "physical or virtual" parking bays.

People make noise when they take and leave bikes, and bikes are being left outside bays, blocking driveways and other parking bays. This has left local residents frustrated, with complaints to Merton Lib Dem councillors rocketing.

Local Lib Dems met with Lime management and pushed for safer, better-managed bays. They got Lime to review the most problematic locations and raised calls for the removal of the most unsafe sites with the Council.

Local councillor Jenifer Gould said: "We're not against e-bikes, but they have to be managed properly."

# Conservatives' NHS mess - local GPs overstretched



The Lib Dems are calling for 8000 more GPs nationally to boost access

**Conservative policies have led to an NHS and GP crisis, making it difficult for residents to see a doctor.**

A Merton Lib Dems survey found that access to health services is the top local concern, with **60% worried about getting a GP appointment.**

Long waits and complex booking systems mean many lack access to appointments they desperately need. Despite the efforts of NHS staff, years of underfunding have overstretched GP surgeries.

**Liberal Democrats aim to improve GP access,** proposing the right to see a GP within seven days (or 24 hours urgently) and hiring 8,000 more GPs.

Richard Poole of Cannon Hill Lib Dems said: "The Conservatives have damaged our NHS; the Lib Dems are fighting for investment and reforms to restore GP services.

We must also see urgent improvements at St Helier Hospital for local patients and I call on Labour to properly fund works needed."