

## Ashbourne updates on...

### Clifton Road crossing

A local Lib Dem member was able to present to Cllr Simon Spencer a paper detailing the problems in crossing this busy road. As a result we received in August written confirmation from Steve Alcock that a study of the problem will be undertaken by Derbyshire County Council 'after the new school term starts.' No survey had taken place at the time we went to press. Please help us to keep up the pressure by signing our petition - use this QR code.



### Derby Road crossing

Lib Dem **Cllr Rob Archer** has been trying to get County Councillor Steve Bull (Con) to meet with him at the site. This is by the retail outlets on Derby Road where we are campaigning for a safer way to cross this point on a busy road with its two adjacent junctions. We will need your support if this first stage in persuading the County Council to act is to take place. Please sign our petition!



**Memorial Park Bandstand** The sorry state of the Bandstand was raised at the August Community and Environment Meeting of the District Council by local Lib Dem Peter Dobbs. He requested a clear statement of what the Council intended to do to the Bandstand (apart from surround it with fencing). Although it was suggested that we would be hearing from Cllr Gary Purdy (Con Leader) nothing has been received. Please sign our petition to try to get it restored!



**Contact the Ashbourne Focus Team** Website: [derbyshiredaleslibdems.org.uk](http://derbyshiredaleslibdems.org.uk)

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## DO YOU HAVE AN ISSUE? CAN WE HELP?

The local Lib Dem team want to hear from you on any issue, big or small, that you'd like help with.

My issue:

Name ..... Email .....

Tel ..... Postcode .....

- I can give an hour or so every few months to deliver leaflets in my area
- I would like a poster at the next election to show my support for the Liberal Democrat team.
- I would like to join the Liberal Democrats.

Cut out and return to: 2b, Windmill Lane, Ashbourne DE6 1EY or email (see Team details above)

If you return this form, the Liberal Democrats, locally and nationally, may use information provided, including your political views, to further our objectives, share it with our elected representatives and/or contact you in future using any of the means provided. Some contacts may be automated. You may opt out of some or all contacts or exercise your other legal rights by contacting us. Further details are in our Privacy Policy at [www.libdems.org.uk/privacy](http://www.libdems.org.uk/privacy).

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# FOCUS

on Ashbourne & District

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## Liberal Democrats - keeping you in touch with local issues



## With so many empty shops Is Ashbourne a town in crisis?

**Rob Archer (Lib Dem Cllr for Ashbourne South) writes**

"Ashbourne's high street shops and banks are gradually disappearing together with the market. Bennetts, Waitrose, Barclays, NatWest, as well as several other small independent shops such as Graves Menswear and Absolutely Fabulous Flowers have already gone. The Bear Patch and Dorothy Perkins are set to close. The main reason for these closures seems to be a reduced footfall which suggests that despite the town growing so rapidly, fewer people are being drawn into the town centre. Although there are clearly factors outside of our control that are having an impact on this, I believe that a serious lack of investment in the town and lack of proper infrastructure planning are the main reasons for the demise of the town centre and market.

During the induction process provided for new councillors by the District Council it was made clear to me that our town is regarded as hugely important for the Derbyshire Dales with the vast majority of the new housing as well as new business and industry described in the Derbyshire Dales Local Plan destined to be located in Ashbourne. In the light of this it would seem remarkably short-sighted to allow so many of the town's facilities to fall into disrepair whilst allowing the town's roads to become increasingly choked with traffic and air pollutants.

All the evidence is that market forces will not solve this problem - some intervention, possibly short term, is needed to halt the decline".

## And it's not just shop premises that are unoccupied.....



## Lib Dems - for a stronger economy and fairer society

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