

FOCUS

Liberal
Democrats

On Ouzel Valley Ward

Your Community Newsletter from
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ISSUE 404 Delivered by volunteers



Lib Dem Manifesto for 2026

The Liberal Democrats have launched their 2026 manifesto which sets out 8 high priority areas and a range of other issues they want to champion. We believe the *top three* for Ouzel Valley ward are:

- Affordable housing
- Support for mental health
- Continuing help with the cost of living.

"We know these issues matter, from our young people right through to our older pensioners, as these are the things residents are most concerned about. None of these issues are easy to sort: it takes time and resources," says Jenni Ferrans.

Residents often ask why are we paying more, what is my council tax spent on? Council Tax only covers a very small proportion of the money needed to run vital services like social care, road maintenance, waste etc. The rest comes from central government grants, but year on year governments have cut the grants, *"It's now vital that we prioritise the things that are most important"* says Cllr Jenni Ferrans. *"That's why Uroy, Macsene and I want to work on these priorities."*

As well as our key priorities, Lib Dems will also be working on:

- Protecting our environment
- Getting SEND right
- A safer night time economy
- Support for carers
- Keeping the council solvent so that we can support the services local people care about.

Let us know what you think.

Lib Dem Plan to Reduce A&E Waits

The Lib Dems have launched a plan to bring down the waiting times for accident and emergency beds following shocking new figures.

The plan includes 1,000 more hospital beds, social care beds for people waiting for care when they are discharged, re-enablement care beds as people leave hospital, and a care support worker in every hospital. **Jenni Ferrans** says *"We've tried some of these things in MK at a low level, and we know they work, helping keep our waiting times below the national average, but Lib Dems want to increase that and to roll it out across the country."*

Disappearing Bench!

Macsene has asked MKCC to fix the bench in **Simpson** near the canal which is subsiding into the ground at one end!



Gritting Oakgrove

Jenni has got the Council to add Atlas way and Babbage Gate to the gritting route now that they've been adopted.



Success!

Uroy has got the hospital underpass at **Peartree Bridge** cleaned, removing graffiti, litter and trolleys.



MK: One People, One City, One Community

Potholes Galore!

Jenni has asked the Council about the arrangements for repair of **Abbey Road, Simpson**.

This is just one of about a dozen potholes in a short road!



Not again!

Uroy has reported the fresh graffiti on the cabinet on **Peartree Bridge** near the hospital underpass.



Cleaned Up!

Macsene has got the graffiti cleaned off the cabinet and the post box at **Noon Layer Drive, Middleton**.



Easing UK-EU Trade

Since the Conservatives' botched Brexit deal, UK firms have struggled to get supplies from, or sell to, Europe because of the red tape and delays involved. Now a Lib Dem bill to create a EU-UK customs union has passed its first reading. We hope that it will improve trading with our biggest customer and supplier, worth up to **£25 billion** a year!

Getting Around

The Loop circular bus service connects Woburn Sands, the hospital, Bletchley, Westcroft, CMK and Kingston, with stops in or near Ouzel Valley at Oakgrove Atlas Way, H7/V10 roundabout, H7 Claridge Drive, Kingston Chippenham Drive, Simpson roundabout north, and Netherfield school. More details on Arriva's website - search for The Loop. You tell us its very reliable.

If you can't get somewhere by bus, you can order the **MK Connect** shared taxi service, running from 6am-8pm Mon-Sat.. Your order is placed in a queue and they provide a shared taxi within an hour. Use their web app or phone MKCC on 01908 691691. If you have an older/disabled person's bus pass, it costs £1.50 per journey.

In Brief..

Jenni has traced the owners of the land by the electricity sub-stations on **Tewkesbury Lane, Monkston** and **Arnos Grove, Monkston Park** and the invading hedges will now be cut back.

Peartree Bridge residents need double yellow lines round the entrances to the estate off **Waterside**. We'll be taking your petition to MK Council and asking the Community Council to support you.

Did you know?... you need a licence for a HMO and planning permission to convert a house to a HMO. Don't get fined!

Did you know?...

All rubbish going into shared rubbish cupboards at flats must be in black, red or blue sacks. No other bags and no loose rubbish will be taken, and you'll be charged for clearing up the mess.

Your Voice Matters

Please contact us if you have any issues you want to raise or need help with. You can also complete our survey using the QR code.



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Or write to: Ouzel Valley Focus, 4 Chetwode Ave, Monkston MK10 9EJ

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Action and Service All year Round