

21st November 2023

Dear Members,

I am pleased to present the Party Chair's report for the North Bedfordshire Liberal Democrats at our Annual General Meeting. It has been a year of challenges, victories, and community spirit that truly embodies the essence of our party.

Our team worked tirelessly during the **Bedford Borough elections**, advocating for our values and principles. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who stood as a candidate, demonstrating a commitment to the betterment of our community.

I also want to express sincere thanks to all the **volunteers and supporters** who generously dedicated their time and energy to support our campaign. Your enthusiasm on the ground and in reaching out to voters made a significant impact.

This year, we regrettably witnessed **Mayor Dave** narrowly missing a re-election on such a tight margin. Mayor Dave has been an amazing leader for our community, dedicating an impressive 13.5 years in office. We extend our deepest gratitude for his steadfast commitment and the substantial positive impact he has had on Bedford Borough throughout his tenure. Undoubtedly, his legacy will persist, and we are profoundly thankful for the exceptional leadership he has provided.

I would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to **Tim Hill** for his remarkable 26 years of dedicated service as a Councillor representing Elstow and Stewartby Ward. His valuable contributions have left an indelible mark on the Bedford Borough Council, and his absence is keenly felt.

We played a significant role in the **byelection in Mid-Bedfordshire** earlier this year. NBLD volunteers were actively instrumental in the substantial increase in the overall Liberal Democrat vote share. Their dedication and efforts made a meaningful impact, reflecting our party's growing influence and commitment to positive change.

We should certainly be proud of the progresses we have made as a party, and I am confident in our ability to navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we can continue to be a force for positive change in Bedfordshire.

Thank you for your dedication, passion, and unwavering support.

Sincerely,

Joanna

Joanna Szaub-Newton

Party Chair for North Bedfordshire Liberal Democrats

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