

Braintree District Council Elections Thursday May 2nd 2019

Vote Green

Michelle

Weeks

For Witham North ward



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Vote for a positive change in Witham North ward – vote Green

**Michelle Weeks is your lead Green candidate in Witham North ward for the district council elections to be held on Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>.**



Michelle has lived in the ward for many years and works in a pharmacy. She has stood for election previously and at the by-election in North ward held in October 2016, Michelle secured over 27% of the vote.

**In Witham North ward each voter has 2 votes for the district elections.** Michelle will be standing for the Greens alongside Steve Hicks, who has previously served as a Witham Town Councillor.

Michelle and Steve work closely with Green Party County Councillor James Abbott. Residents in North ward have helped to elect James twice to the County Council – **so the Greens do win here.**

Greens have held seats on Braintree District Council for 20 years, representing local residents and challenging the “powers that be” in Braintree. **Green councillors are dedicated to putting the concerns of Witham residents first, independent of Tories or Labour.**

**Many people in Witham feel that the Tories who control Braintree District Council have neglected Witham.**

Having more Witham area Green councillors will mean a stronger voice for a better deal for Witham.

**A key issue is health. Despite the increase in housing development around Witham there has been a complete failure by the ruling Tories to ensure that Witham North ward is provided with a GP Surgery. And despite pledges from the local Tory MP, there is still no new clinic for Witham as a whole.**

If elected Michelle and Steve will campaign for Witham North ward to have a GP Surgery **and** for the town to have its own Community Hospital or Walk-in-Clinic. Braintree, Halstead and Maldon all have Community Hospitals – **it is high time Witham did too.**

## Key pledges:

- ★ **We will campaign for Witham North ward to have its own GP Surgery.** Despite several planning applications over the last decade, the area at Little Elms remains run-down. This could be a potential location for a new GP Surgery, as well as providing new shop space and some local housing.
- ★ **We will continue to press for Witham to have its own Community Hospital or Walk-In clinic.**
- ★ **We will work closely with County Councillor James Abbott to deliver improvements on local roads and pavements and solutions to parking problems.** Since 2013, this has included resurfacing along Rickstones Road, improved pavements in Mulberry Gardens and Albert Road and improved pedestrian access between Walnut Drive and Cut Throat Lane. We will support Highways Panel bids for new pedestrian crossings at Templars School and at Rickstones Road at the Academy.
- ★ **We will continue to work with local residents to protect our local environment:** Local green spaces and wildlife areas such as Bellfield and the River Walk are important and must be kept safe from development.

*You have 2 votes for the district elections – please help to elect Michelle Weeks and Steve Hicks – independent voices representing Witham North ward residents at BDC.*

*If you have a local issue you wish to discuss with Michelle or Steve, please get in touch:*

Telephone: 01376 584576

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<b>Michelle Weeks</b> <b>Steve Hicks</b>	<b>Green Party</b> 	
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[www.witham-braintree.greenparty.org.uk](http://www.witham-braintree.greenparty.org.uk)

## What future for the Little Elms shops area ?

*Picture: Michelle Weeks with County Councillor James Abbott.*

*Green councillors will support sensible re-development of this area that includes new spaces for shops, local housing and new recycling facilities.*

*The opportunities to include a GP Surgery for Witham North ward at Little Elms should also be explored.*



## Important local issues:

- ★ **Green Councillors will continue to oppose the huge waste incinerator planned for nearby Rivenhall Airfield.** Emissions would reduce local air quality and there could be more HGVs on Braintree Road and Cressing Road.
- ★ **There is a need to reduce congestion and improve air quality in the town.** Improvements are needed around the railway station and more investment in walking and safe cycling routes will give people more options on getting about. Greens support a policy of 20mph speed limits near all schools.
- ★ **Witham needs affordable new homes, but the level of development around the town is of concern – so many green fields being developed but with little in the way of on-site services.** Tory controlled BDC shut the community centre on Forest Road but failed to ensure a new hall was built. Greens will continue to press for new developments to provide much needed local services.

**Green Pledge for the May 2nd local elections: supporting local communities and protecting our shared environment**