



NEWSLETTER 330 May 2019



in our local elections 2 May

Here is the full list of candidates for the Regency Ward.

Poppy Burt (Labour)
Tim Catt (Conservative)
*Tom Druitt (Green) sitting councillor
Lawrence Anthony Parkhouse Eke (Liberal Democrat)
John Gisbert Kapp (Conservative)
*Alexandra L R Phillips (Green) sitting councillor
Dan Simmonds (Labour)

On 31 March, the Society contacted all four parties fielding candidates. Here are the replies we received:

Green Party from Tom Druitt:

Alex and I are both people who relish a challenge and we have enjoyed helping residents with a range of issues from finding housing to dealing with graffiti, rubbish, parking issues, drugs, anti-social behaviour, and noise complaints.

Our experience over the last four years is that neither the Council nor the Police have been able to adequately keep on top of the various issues and residents are being let down. Funding is a chronic issue for each, and it makes me angry when we hear stories of large corporations (and wealthy individuals) managing their affairs so as to minimise their tax liability (sometimes to zero) whilst residents have to put

up with crime, anti-social behaviour, rubbish in the sheets and sub-standard services. Going forward I think the big priority is the parlous state of the city centre; we really need to focus the limited resource we have on making the city beautiful again – a city we can all be proud of.

Labour Party – from Dan Simmonds

Some of our plans for the Regency area:
We will protect the unique nature of the heritage area and support independent shops, cafes and bars; all crucial to our visitor economy. This includes action to stop the growing nuisance of ‘tagging’, which encourages anti-social behaviour.

We intend to keep a close watch on the management of the i360 and the problems we as a council face with its finances. We will focus on helping those on our streets find safe, secure and sustainable housing, and make sure the 365-day night shelter opens. We will also focus on addressing the causes of homelessness.

Finally, we’ll focus on moving people, not vehicles; our plan to introduce a park and ride scheme will ease traffic in the area and ensure the best use of road space – as well as reducing CO2 emissions.

We received no reply from either the local Conservative head office or from the LibDem candidate.

Society Contacts

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Twitter

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Social Events

GETTING TO KNOW YOU PARTY



The first event to be organised by the Society is a social evening which will be on Tuesday May 1st. It will be held at the Hotel George IV in Regency Square at 8.30 pm.

The idea is to provide an opportunity for members to meet each other in an informal way. There will be wine and a light buffet and a charge of 75p will be made to cover the cost (payable at the door).

RSAS Newsletter No 1 April 1979

Sunday 7 July 2019

If you missed the party in May 1979 make sure you come along to the Society’s 40th anniversary event. A great way to help you get to know your neighbours – one of the main aims of the Society.

Bring your picnic to Clarence Square at midday on Sunday 7 July. Like any other family picnic there will be:

- games (giant Jenga, skittles etc)
- a bit of music but beware! it might date from 1979
- lots of fun

Bring your family, your friends and your neighbours.



A Safe Walk on the Prom

As much as we deplore the reasons that make the presence of armed police on the prom a necessity, a big thank you to them for being there. Better safe than sorry.



Good Friday 2019: thankfully not a day to remember

Danger on your doorstep

Last week an elderly member of the Society tripped over a raised piece of crazy paving in Regency Square. Following a complaint from the Society, this trip hazard was quickly re-embedded into concrete. The Council has since gone around the square, marking with bright yellow paint repairs that are needed.



It won't be long until someone falls down these steps with their missing edges

With the advent of the i360 and its recent busy Easter, Regency Square is becoming one of the most frequented squares in the city. It is also just about the most neglected.

Over the last few years, the Society has had dangled before its eyes the possibility of money from the revenue of the i360. This is beginning to look like a mirage.

After showing – several times – to senior officers at the Council the 34-page “Regeneration Strategy for Regency Square document prepared by the committee of the Society, it is surprising that one of those officers can write the following to the Society as if the document did not exist:

“As previously discussed, if prior to a Working Group being set up the RSAS are putting together an outline project plan with initial design costs then the council will await sight of this in due course so we can put forward for wider consultation as per previous exchange below for seeking comments from other parties (who will sit on that Working Group) such as ward councillors and Heritage officers.”

The Society feels that BAi360 jam tomorrow is no longer an option. We call upon the City Council to fund repairs (including removing graffiti on the car park walls and repairing gates into the north garden) out of Council money. Let's forget i360 money until it becomes a reality.

And on a brighter note ...

Did you know, this area has its very own Wombles. There is a tiny band of socially minded people who have joined the City Council's volunteer Tidy Up Team.



These marvellous people scour the squares in our area, around benches, in bushes. They are fully trained to keep safe. There are things in those bushes you do not want to know about.

If you would like to join the Tidy Up Team, contact the City Council:

<https://preview.tinyurl.com/y3e6425f>

We all owe these litter pickers a huge debt of thanks. Here's a bouquet for them, courtesy of that wonderful Regency Square resident whose planter is always a joy to see.



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