

SOUTHEND FOCUS

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Brexit is a fraud built on lies. Enough is enough.. it's time to STOP IT!

Nina Stimson

*Liberal Democrat
Parliamentary
Spokesperson,
Southend West*



THE old Chinese saying "may you live in interesting times" could have been written now.

Whether you really, really want Brexit, even without a deal, or (like me) would much prefer to remain, the drama of the past few weeks has exceeded anyone's imagination.

The 2016 referendum split families and friends. But opinions have changed.

Extravagant promises that were made to encourage Leave votes have fallen away.

Many people have told me they are increasingly concerned about leaving without a deal, even if it opens up the prospect of a trade deal with President Trump.

That could see US chlorinated chicken on some supermarket shelves and US healthcare giants trying to grab a share of our NHS. Thanks but no thanks.



After Boris Johnson took up office with his "do or die" attitude to leaving the EU on October 31, our new Prime Minister managed to lose the Conservatives' already very slim majority in the House of Commons after MPs had left to join the Liberal Democrats or sit as independents. Then yet another Conservative moved over to the Lib Dems.

Johnson has also lost every single vote in Parliament and sacked 21 of his own Conservative MPs for daring to disagree with him – even his own brother has resigned from the Government.

Winston Churchill's grandson, Sir Nicholas Soames, was thrown

out after 37 years along with party grandee Kenneth Clarke.

To cap it all, the Supreme Court has unanimously ruled that Johnson's decision to shut down Parliament was 'unlawful'.

The future of our country is at stake. Unlike the Labour Party, the Liberal Democrats are unequivocal in our opposition to Brexit ... of any kind.

If we are voted into government at the next general election our leader Jo Swinson (above, left) will revoke Article 50 and cancel Brexit. If we hold the balance of power we will demand a second referendum.

It is a message that is hitting home. In the past three months we have gained six MPs and our membership has increased by 30,000.

We are the party of Remain. But we are simply on the side of ordinary people who were sold a lie and wish to change their mind.

Let's make it happen.

An extended version of this article appeared in the Leigh Times.

“A No-Deal Brexit could devastate the NHS and social care, causing significant disruption to the supply of medicine, lasting up to six months. Many medicines, including life-saving agents for cancer diagnosis and therapy, cannot be stockpiled and for those that can, stockpiles could run out. These kinds of shortages and delays can be fatal.”

**Joint statement:
British Medical Association, Royal College of Nursing, Royal College of Midwives, TUC and UNISON.**

“A No-Deal Brexit is not a clean break. No Deal is a tripwire into economic chaos that could harm our country, and the EU, for years to come. (This) is not the much derided 'Project Fear' predictions of 2016. This is Project Reality.”
Confederation of British Industry Director General Carolyn Fairbairn.

The Lib Dems need YOU! Come and join us ...

The Liberal Democrats are surging in Southend.

We polled more votes in the European election than the Conservatives, Labour or the

Green Party. Three new Lib Dem local councillors were elected in May and our group, led by Carole Mulroney, is a key part of the joint administration. But we

need YOUR help. Come and join us. You will be very welcome.

Email Granville Stride:
membership@southendlibdems.org.uk
It's time to get involved!

Overleaf: Climate change is a real and present danger.. it must be stopped

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**CLIMATE
CHANGE**

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Climate change is everyone's problem..we must do our bit to STOP IT!

Carole Mulrone

*Liberal Democrat
Council Group leader
and Cabinet Member
for Environment
& Planning*



**WORLD-WIDE protests,
shocking photographs of the
Arctic sea-ice melting and the
Amazon rainforest burning ...
climate change is at the top of
the political agenda.**

It is something we cannot ignore. So, here in Southend, I and my fellow councillor Peter Wexham - supported by our joint administration colleagues - pushed forward with a motion for the Council to declare a climate change emergency, just as councils are doing up and down the country.

Cabinet has agreed the motion, which calls for the Borough Council to cut its own carbon emissions to zero by 2030.

We will be working with other agencies, organisations and



businesses to achieve this. It's a hard task but we are determined that nothing will stop this change.

Residents will see improvements in air quality, recycling and overall greening of the Borough, making a cleaner environment for everyone.

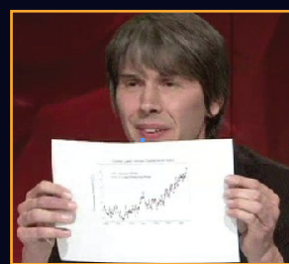
This doesn't come cheap and there has to be cooperation between organisations and local government. The biggest barrier is lack of funding from central government. I really hope



that whatever government is in place, they start helping local authorities to achieve these targets.

The administration and council officers are eager to move this agenda forward for a better Southend.

For our part, the Liberal Democrats are committed to doing everything in our power to stop climate change .. for the sake of our children and grandchildren.



“ This is a global problem. The absolute consensus is that human action is leading to an increase in average temperatures.

Professor Brian Cox

“ Twenty of the warmest years on record have all occurred in the last 22 years.

Dr Peter Stott of the Met Office

“ It may sound frightening, but the scientific evidence is that if we have not taken dramatic action within the next decade, we could face irreversible damage to the natural world and the collapse of our societies.

National treasure Sir David Attenborough

Tree cheers! We are already making a difference

ONE thing we can do right now is improve our policy on trees.

We have halted non-emergency tree felling in the area and initiated the

preparation of a new and more robust tree policy for Southend.

We will be planting an additional 1,000 street trees over the next three years on

top of the usual number. The tree donation scheme will also be enhanced.

These are small initial steps – but they are the right ones.

Overleaf: Project Fear has become Project Reality .. that's why Brexit must be stopped

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