



West Swindon Matters

Shaw & Nine Elms

Mike Heal



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Election Newsletter.

Swindon Tory Run Council Runs Up £63 Million Debt!

Swindon Tory Council has been in a cuts frenzy whilst at the same time racking up record debts! It has made £21 million pounds worth of deep cuts and it sounds like boasting when they keep repeating it. They have done it to satisfy the Tory led government austerity agenda, which has cut £8.5 million from Swindon's grant. The grant has been cut by a whopping 8.9% yet Wiltshire council had a mere 2.2% cut from its grant and Dorset actually got an increase in funding!

The Tories say we're all in this together, but Swindon has come worse off and has been borrowing a staggering £600,000 a week for the last 2 years! When questioned at the budget meeting about this eye watering £63 million pound debt the Tories gave no answer. Along with loan charges this is a lot of money for the 70,000 households in Swindon to fork out, with such hard times ahead!



Footpaths In Shaw Are Cracking Up!

As a wheel chair user I am constantly finding it difficult to get around Shaw & Nine Elms as the footpaths are beginning to get worse. Its not only wheelchair users that have difficulty. Mothers with pushchairs are also facing the bumps and cracks, this makes it an uncomfortable ride and is dangerous.

When you are pushing a child in a pushchair or when using a wheelchair controlling its direction is very difficult and its ride is uncomfortable. I have nearly been tipped out of mine on more than one occasion as the footpaths are now in a perilous state. This may not affect the able bodied to the same extent. The repairing of footpaths does not appear to be a priority!

Mike Heal Is Local and Lives in Shaw & Nine Elms

Over 10 years ago after serving in the army I settled here with my family. I love the place people are so friendly and warm. Three of my four children were born here and all have attended Shaw Ridge School, where I have been a member of the Governing Body. I have taught at Swindon College and worked with Swindon Music services supporting young people to achieve their potential. I enjoy playing music, including my favourite saxophone.



If I Am Elected In Shaw & Nine Elms

- I will push hard for the regeneration of the town centre.
- End Tory waste and mismanagement of council tax payers money.
- Cut the Town Hall senior management team structure instead of front line service cuts.
- Campaign for 100 new homes for rent to be built each year in Swindon.
- Campaign for more Personalised Care Programmes for individuals.
- Support voluntary sector organisations like Dial a Ride which value the quality of care.

Thursday 5th May - Vote Labour

Elect Mike Heal

The Tory Way Of Doing Business

Conservative Council's Secret Behind Closed Doors Dealings

Only 4 Conservative Councillors made the decision to loan £450,000 to an off the shelf Wi-fi company that only managed to get a credit rating of £500. Yes that's right £450,000 of your council tax money for a company that could only borrow FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS of credit. No Councillors beside those 4 were allowed to see the business plan of the Wi-fi company. This was all done behind closed doors and the rest of the councillors were excluded from the process. Conservative democracy is nothing more than a shambolic travesty! The Conservative Deputy Leader is a Director of this Private Ltd Company and is up for election in this ward. This is no way for your Council to use council tax payers money at a time of cuts.



Residents in Shaw & Nine Elms Ask Mike To "End The Tory Tattiness in Shaw & Nine Elms"

Mike says "*The Conservative Council is failing the residents who live here, however that is not surprising as the Conservative Candidate lives in Dorcan. I and my family live around here and it now more noticeable than ever that litter and graffiti are everywhere. This is outrageous and our absent Conservative candidate is wasting council taxpayers money on wi-fi and fountains that no one wants. The Conservatives could better spend this money on keeping this area clean and tidy.*

Swindon SureStart Funding Cut By 20%



The Children's Centre at Saltway is to have its funding cut. This Tory cut will hit families hard and SureStart is designed to help young children reach their full potential by helping them during their most formative years. It also helps parents to support their children's education and improve their life chances.

Thousands of children have benefitted from these centres over the last 5 years. To cut their funding in Swindon by an average of 20% will impact hard pressed families and hold back children's progress.

End Tory Waste & Mismanagement

This tired Conservative Council is making deep cuts to services while it is wasting Council Tax Payers Money on dreams and vanity projects.

Radio 1 Big Weekend cost hundreds of thousands of pounds and it was paid for in part by using a business grant of **£491,000** that was meant to help small businesses get through difficult times.

The Mechanics Institute has become an embarrassing débâcle and a political folly as the Council is now facing paying out some **£600,000** for work it had estimated would be just **£249,000!**

£249,000 on a town centre dribbling fountain.
£330,000 for a pile of old Tabernacle stones that are now in a field in Wroughton surrounded by weeds.

The scandalous **Waste & Mismanagement** of this profligate Conservative Conservative must be stopped now, and it is just one of the reasons why I am campaigning to defend your public services in Shaw and Nine Elms against Conservative squandering of your council tax.

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Contact Mike Heal: Tel: 07810 872849

Labour Web: www.swindon-labour.co.uk

Please Feel Free to Email Me: healmichael@hotmail.com

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