

Subject: News Bulletin from Aidan Burley MP #13

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Since the last edition, Aidan has:

- Conducted his April **volunteer day**, helping with a **survey for Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)**.
- Visited Opus Land's new 47,000 sq ft green development at **Kingswood Lakeside** in Cannock, which will be the new regional headquarters building for Veolia Environmental Ltd.
- Attended a meeting of **Chase PAIRs**, an Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Forum for Cannock Chase.

- Campaigned in Cannock for a **no vote in May 5th's referendum on changing our voting system.**
- Was quoted in the **Mail on Sunday** calling for **control over excessive police overtime pay.**
- Played **rugby at Twickenham** for the House of Commons Rugby Club.
- Conducted a **help and advice surgery** in **Norton Canes**. If you would like an appointment at one of Aidan's future surgeries please call 01543 502 447 or email aidan.burley.mp@parliament.uk.

Website of the Week:

www.thedilshad.co.uk

The website of the Dilshad restaurant in Chads Moor.

April Volunteer Day: MP helps with survey for Cannock Chase AONB



Aidan Burley on Friday 15th April helping to conduct the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty's 2011 Visitor Survey.

Chase MP Aidan Burley joined volunteers from Veolia Environmental Services and Emma Beaman, AONB Officer from Shugborough Park Farm, on Friday to conduct the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty's 2011 Visitor Survey.

The survey aims to establish how many visitors travel to the Chase, where they come from, and why they visit AONB sites – in order to continually improve the tourism offer to local people. In all, over ninety volunteers are devoting 12 days of their spare time, from October 2010 to October 2011, to survey visitors at 30 protected AONB sites at Cannock, Rugeley, Lichfield District, Stafford and South Staffordshire.

After a short briefing session, Aidan, clipboard in hand, set about surveying visitors at Marquis Drive in Cannock. The information gathered from the surveys is invaluable to groups such as AONB

who help to promote and protect Cannock Chase and surrounding areas.

During the afternoon Aidan also received his certificate for becoming the first individual member of the AONB Membership Scheme (cost, not met by the tax-payer, £25!) which is working to make sure the right balance is struck to conserve and enhance the area, while maintaining it as a living, working environment.

This latest volunteer day forms part of Aidan's commitment before the election to spend up to a day a month volunteering in the local community. Aidan has previously volunteered at Chase Voluntary Service, Dog A.I.D. and Home Comforts among others.

Commenting after his session Aidan said: *"I really enjoyed my afternoon surveying visitors. I wanted to take an active role to help maintain and protect these AONB sites and surveys like this are vital to ensuring these sites remain protected. Spending the afternoon talking to local residents and visitors reminded me of just how lucky we are in Cannock Chase to have such natural beauty on our doorstep – and I was amazed by how far people had travelled to visit the Chase, including from Wales!"*

Emma Beaman, Assistant AONB Officer added: *"We're so grateful to all our volunteers, including Aidan, for giving up their free time to help us with our survey. We're also delighted that Aidan has shown his commitment to the local environment and has become our first individual member of the AONB Membership Scheme."*



This week Aidan Burley MP has published his first Annual Report as Member of Parliament for Cannock Chase.

Aidan and his team will be delivering the six page report – produced at no cost to the taxpayer and printed locally in Rugeley – to all households in Cannock Chase over the next few weeks.

The report details what Aidan has been up to as your local MP both in Westminster and around and about in Cannock Chase.

Commenting, Aidan said, *"It is important that MPs are accountable to residents and this Annual Report, along with my regularly updated website and this email newsletter, explains what I am doing on your behalf."*

You can also read the Annual Report online by [clicking here](#).

Charity of the week: Chase PAIRs



Aidan at a meeting of Chase PAIRs, an Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Forum for Cannock Chase.

Formed as a partnership of around 35 statutory and third sector organisations who are committed to reducing domestic/sexual abuse in the area, Chase PAIRs members include Women's Aid, Local housing associations, Staffs probation and police, local High Schools, HealthNET, Children's Centres, ADSIS and Carers Association.

The forum provides training to local groups/organisations, raises awareness of healthy relationships with children and young people, provides awareness raising materials, take part in local and national campaigns and organises forum meeting and events to allow professional to network and share good practice.

During the forum meeting Aidan heard a general update on PAIRs and guest speakers from Staffordshire Women's Aid's new Sexual Abuse Support workers who spoke about the Cannock Chase Area and information sharing. Aidan also spoke about his vision of how the support network in Cannock Chase would change, particularly focussing on families and children.

MP visits new Opus Land Development



Aidan alongside Managing Director of Opus Land Richard Smith at Opus Land's new 47,000 sq ft green development.

Chase MP Aidan Burley made a visit to Opus Land's new 47,000 sq ft green development on Friday 15th April 2011.

The site, located at Kingswood Lakeside in Cannock, will be the new regional headquarters building for leading waste company Veolia Environmental Ltd.

During the visit Aidan met with Richard Smith, Managing Director of Opus Land, who led him around the new development with the Site Manager. The new building is expected to be operational in July this year.

The BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) 'excellent' rated building includes innovative environmental measures such as roof mounted solar panels for heating water, rainwater collection to support the sanitation system and light sensors ensuring that lighting is activated only when the offices are occupied. The office scheme, which has been designed and built for the UK's leading recycling and waste management company, Veolia Environmental Services, will be completed this summer and accommodate 400 employees relocating from its existing sites in Wolverhampton and Walsall.

Commenting after the visit Aidan said: *"As a frequent commuter along the M6 Toll travelling from Westminster to Cannock Chase, it is a heartening sight to see Opus Land's development for Veolia progressing so quickly and getting closer to completion each week.*

"Although many of the employees will be relocated from Veolia's existing sites in Walsall and Wolverhampton, there will also be new job opportunities created for local people and it will act as a magnet for future success of the company. In short, with their fantastic new HQ, I expect Veolia to continue to grow their business, which should lead to more jobs being created for local people. This development is a visible sign of the regeneration of our area – a totemic symbol showing that Cannock Chase is 'open for business'".

Aidan marks clubs centenary year



Aidan helping cut the official ribbon confirming the name change from the Unionist Club to the 'Cannock Conservative Club' with Colin Cooper, Club President Alan Brickley, and Club Secretary, Alan Slade.

Aidan Burley MP visited the re-named Cannock Conservative Club on Saturday 16th April 2011 to mark its 100 year milestone.

After chatting with Club members, Aidan gave a speech praising the work of the club and for its role in turning Cannock Chase blue for the first time in 18 years. Aidan also helped cut the official ribbon confirming the clubs name change from the Unionist Club to the 'Cannock Conservative Club'.

Founded in 1911, the famous local Club at High Green has kept the Conservative presence in Cannock for 100 years. The club has recently undergone a major refurbishment and has an ever growing membership.

The visit follows on only a few months after the Prime Minister David Cameron visited the club in January to help mark the clubs centenary.

Commenting Aidan said: *"I was delighted to attend the Conservative Club to celebrate their centenary. I am immensely proud of the club for the contribution they have made to the community in Cannock Chase over the last 100 years. I'm sure they will continue this record of service for the next 100 years."*

Photo news:
Cannock says No to AV



Aidan campaigning against changing our voting system to the Alternative Vote (AV) in Cannock last Thursday with neighbouring Conservative MPs Gavin Williamson MP and Karen Bradley MP.

Aidan is urging all Cannock Chase residents to vote No to AV. For more information see www.no2av.org.

Aidan in the papers:
Talk about golden handcuffs: The £70k

bobbies guarding our VIPs

Mail On Sunday
Sunday 10th April 2011

Rank-and-file police bodyguards earn average salaries of £70,000 a year – double what a beat bobby earns outside of London.



One protection constable from Scotland Yard's SO1 division was paid almost £100,000, including massive overtime payments which were more than his basic pay package.

Embarrassingly for Scotland Yard, the figures come weeks after an independent review of police pay called for savings of £60million a year in overtime payments.

Last night, Tory MP Aidan Burley called for immediate action to curb the protection officers' pay.

He said: 'These figures prove police pay is out of control. It is beyond belief that officers are earning more in overtime than their basic salary.'

Scotland Yard's SO1 division of specialist police armed bodyguards provides protection for David Cameron, Government ministers as well as former Premiers.

The annual 'security post grant', given to all police forces to fund protection work, was £128million last year, with most going to the Met.

Last night, Scotland Yard defended the salary levels. 'We take value for money very seriously. Overtime is called upon when it is vital to maintain operational effectiveness.'

Aidan in the papers: Week in Westminster

Chase Post
Thursday 14th April 2011

Last week we saw the different campaigns – for and against – the Alternative Vote Referendum kick off. There were speeches from the Prime Minister (against) and the Deputy Prime Minister (for) plus a host of celebrity endorsements either way.



For those many people too busy working hard, the fact that we are having a referendum on whether to change our voting system on 5th May might seem something of an irrelevance. The reason is because this was a necessary concession by the Conservative Party to the Liberal Democrats, in order for them to agree to enter a Coalition Government with us.

The campaigns for and against AV are non-partisan and parties are divided not just across the floor but within themselves - indeed I never thought I'd see the day that John Prescott and I would see eye to eye on something!

Under AV the second and third and fourth and fifth (you get the message) preferences of those who vote for minor parties are recounted until one candidate receives more than 50 per cent of the votes cast. Those in favour argue that AV will make our system more representative. Those who are opposed believe that the process of reallocating the votes of the losers is simply unfair.

In theory, at the election last year in Cannock Chase, those who voted for Mike Walters (who came last with 93 votes) could have had their votes counted six times. I personally don't believe that one citizen's vote can be worth six times more than another, and think that every member of our society should have an equal say in who represents them.

However, I do believe that that it is right to ask the public about changes to the way they are to be governed. Who knows, in time, referendums may even be extended to other questions as well.

5 ways to contact Aidan Burley MP:

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By post: Aidan Burley MP
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In person: [Click here for details of how to book an appointment at Aidan Burley MP's regular help and advice surgeries.](#)

www.aidanburleymp.org

More news from Aidan Burley MP, coming soon...

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Aidan Burley MP – Putting Cannock Chase First!