

Local government elections on May 3rd

This is how we see the main political parties ahead of the local government elections on May 3rd. Please try to vote if you can –

Labour

The Labour Party (led by Tudor Evans) was responsible for the closure and subsequent demolition of Seaton Pool. Their election literature refers to the provision of another pool in the north of the city. However, they have done no work in finding sites or putting together funding. We have written to some of their candidates and they are unwilling to commit to a plan of action for providing a new pool in the north of the city. We therefore find it difficult to take them seriously. Overall, we feel that the current Labour administration has left Plymouth with some of the worst swimming facilities in the country.

Conservatives

The Conservative Party (led by Vivien Pengelly) strongly opposed the closure of Seaton Pool. They have written to us pledging to find a site for a pool in the north of the City within 3 months if they win control of the Council.

Liberal Democrats

The Liberal Democrats (led by Karen Gillard) say there is a need for a new pool in the north of the City. They have not yet made a pledge to build it within any particular timescale. The Liberal Democrats held the balance of power in the Council following the election last year. However, Karen Gillard did not use her influence to try and prevent the demolition of Seaton Pool last April and was reluctant to state her views on the matter. We found this disappointing. She has tended to side with the Labour Party in most key decisions.

Independents

In particular, we should mention Lee Finn who has been a friend of this website from the very outset. He has worked tirelessly to oppose the closure of Seaton Pool and has campaigned hard for a replacement. He is standing as an independent candidate in Eggbuckland ward. The Independents, as a whole, have done much to expose sleaze within the Council and have published their own newspaper to raise local issues which can be found at:-

<http://devonportcolumn.org.uk/index.htm>

