Cllr Sheila Bailey was re-elected on the 5th May with a 58% share of the vote. Sheila said “I would like to thank all those who voted for me and the Labour Party. Your support, as always, is very much appreciated. Along with Cllr Harding and Cllr Coaton, I will continue to do my very best to represent everyone who lives in Edgeley and Cheadle Heath”.

Local Elections make Labour the biggest Party on the Council with 23 seats. This means Labour Councillors have taken the Executive from the LibDems. Edgeley and Cheadle Heath Councillors will all play important roles in this new structure with Cllr Philip Harding taking over as Chair of the Council’s Planning and Highways Committee, Cllr Richard Coaton as Secretary of the Labour Group and Cllr Sheila Bailey becoming an Executive Member for Communities and Housing.

Labour gains put Lib Dems out of power

Front page courtesy of the Stockport Express - May 11th 2016

Labour the biggest Party on the Council

In Edgeley and Cheadle Heath Ward there was a majority for Remain, as there was in Stockport as a whole but the final vote across the country was for leaving the EU. What this will mean for the country and for local residents nobody really knows at this stage.

Laburnum Way in Cheadle Heath was hit by flooding on the 16th June. The Fire and Rescue Service were called and water pumped away before it could get into nearby homes.

Despite the fact that the gullies appeared to be clear, the volume of water that fell could not drain away. Investigations by United Utilities over the following weekend identified tree roots in their surface water sewer that have now been removed. Cllr Philip Harding said “This was a dangerous situation and we are grateful to the Fire and Rescue Service for their response. Hopefully, the work by UU has removed the blockage but we will monitor the situation next time there is heavy rainfall”.

Overflowing bins have now been emptied and the landlord asked to make sure the area is kept clear of fly-tipping and debris.

This property in Edgeley has been empty for 5 years. It is an eyesore and we have asked the Council to locate the owner and press for the house to be brought back into use.

This was a dangerous situation and we are grateful to the Fire and Rescue Service for their response. Hopefully, the work by UU has removed the blockage but we will monitor the situation next time there is heavy rainfall.”

The wetlands have now been cleared and jetted which should solve the problem.

Passageway between Sandown Rd and Kant Rd

This adopted passageway was overgrown and fly-tipped. Work was done by the Community Payback Team to clear it. Not all passageways in Edgeley and Cheadle Heath are adopted for maintenance purposes. Cllr Sheila Bailey said “Whether passageways are adopted or not, it is in everyone’s interest to keep them as clear of rubbish and overgrown vegetation as possible. There has been an increase in black bags being dumped. Every time this happens it costs Council Tax payers around £60 to have them removed which is money that could be better spent”.

If you see anyone dumping rubbish please let us know.

St Augustine’s Church vandalised

Severe damage was done to the doors and windows at St Augustine’s Church. The owners were notified and it has been boarded up. Cllr Philip Harding said “This will go on happening until the owners develop the site. I have asked the Council to contact them again to find out what they intend to do with this building. It’s just not fair to local residents to have these continual problems”.

Edgeley Reservoirs - some repairs needed

Following our request, Council Officers are obtaining a quote for the repair of all the benches around the Edgeley Reservoir. Cllr Richard Coaton said “This is a very popular area and the state of the benches is unacceptable. I hope repairs will be carried out as soon as possible”.

Face to face meeting with SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity. More pictures inside. Another great day.

EU Referendum

On the 23rd June Britain voted to leave the EU.
**Community News**

**Alexandra Park Play Area to receive £80,000**

In our last *Labour Link* we reported on our campaign to make sure that the Alexandra Park play area received the money the Parks Review said was urgently needed.

**This will happen.**

Cllr Sheila Bailey said “One of the first decisions taken by the new Labour Executive was to allocate money to play areas identified as being in real need. Alexandra Park play area is one of these and £80,000 will be spent to replace and upgrade play equipment. The Bowls Pavilion is being refurbished and the new skate park will be installed very soon”. But there are still problems with the bowling greens

Cllr Sheila Bailey met recently with some of the bowlers and walkers in Alexandra Park to hear about the ongoing abuse of the greens. If it doesn’t stop the greens will become unusable.

**These are just a few of the incidents that occur:**

* Dogs being exercised, fouling the greens and leaving faeces for the bowlers to remove.
* Children (and some adults) on bikes or playing football.
* Some people deciding to use it for holding a barbecue.

Do we want to lose the last bowling greens in Edgeley & Cheadle Heath? The vast majority of local residents do not. Leaflets asking people to keep off the grass have been produced and handed out in the park, CCTV has been installed, the police have increased patrols but still the problems persist. It may be the only way forward is to fence the greens as has been done in other parks. Far less costly would be for them not to be abused and for bowlers to be able to continue enjoying their sport.

The first meeting of a new Friends Group has taken place which we hope will involve all park users. If you are interested in becoming involved please let us know 477 2004 or 442 8695 bailey.harding@ntlworld.com or richard.coaton@ntlworld.com

**Learning about Dementia**

www.dementiаfriendѕ.org.uk

Dementia Friends is about learning more about dementia and the small ways you can help. Cllr Sheila Bailey and Philip Harding recently attended a course held at St Matthew’s Church, Edgeley and later received their badges.

“*It was a very helpful and interesting course helping us to understand more about Dementia and about the need to create Dementia friendly communities*” said Cllr Philip Harding

**Not in our name**

During and since the EU Referendum there has been an increase in Hate Crime. It has no place in our communities. The overwhelming majority of British people stand together against hatred and prejudice. We give our wholehearted support to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Greater Manchester who said “These acts of racism are not in our name and will not be tolerated”.

We have received complaints about the use of this passageway by off-road bikes.

Cllr Richard Coaton said “These bikes cause a noise nuisance for nearby residents and a danger to pedestrians using the passageway. Labour Councillors in the adjoining Ward have also had complaints and I am working with them to see what can be done to stop this happening”.

**Twinkle Toes Play Group**

Cllr Philip Harding and Cllr Sheila Bailey visited a new group being set up in Edgeley. It is open to any family in the area. We are hoping to help them get started with a grant from our Ward Flexibility Fund. Please contact us for more information.

**Armed Forces Day**

Another great event with hundreds of people turning out to support our Armed Forces and Emergency Services.

**The Rio Carnival came to Edgeley**

Children from St Matthew’s School finished off their week of art and crafts with a Rio-style carnival at St Matthew’s Church where they danced and sang. Also joining in was Stockport Academy’s steel band. Well done to all the children for a fantastic display.

**Aurora Industrial Park**

Seddons will be starting work on this development in July. The update meeting in Cheadle Heath for residents around the site was very well attended. We met with Seddon Managers and asked for regular updates. We have been advised that for several weeks at the beginning of the work there will be noise because of the need to compact the ground before building. They contact details for the project manager will be on site.

**A New Community Centre on Castle Street**

Community Essence has opened a new community centre on Castle St, totally refurbishing the old Ethel Austin building. It’s a great space. Why not call in, have a coffee and see what’s on offer. Well worth a visit.

**St Matthew’s Church Community Day**

Over 30 organisations came together to exchange information with each other and with local residents.

Organisations present included: Stockport Writers, Scouts, Life Leisure, Olive ROC Centre, Twinkle Toes Play Group, Community Essence, Give2Gain time bank, St Thomas’ Church Olive ROC Centre, Stockport Homes and many more.

**Some local news in brief…..**

* Work was carried out to deal with drainage problems at the corner of Bordon Rd.
* A section of footpath on Cheltenham Rd was resurfaced after complaints.
* Order raised to clear guilty in Edgeley Rd layby.
* Blocked gully on Hardcastle Rd reported for jetting.
* New street sign for Duchy St ordered.
* Graffiti on the litter bin on Merclan Way reported for removing.
* Overhanging hedges reported on Stockport Rd, Grenville St, St Lesmo Rd and Heathside Rd.
* Faults with street lighting reported on King Street West.
* Rocking grid cover replaced on Edgeley Rd.

**Passage from Runnymede Close to St Petersburn Rd**

**Dog Fouling** - we are looking at ways we can increase fines for dog owners who do not pick up after their dogs. Asking politely just doesn’t seem to work!

**This is just a few of the incidents that occur:**

* Children (and some adults) on bikes or playing football.
* Some people deciding to use it for holding a barbecue.

We have received complaints about the use of this passageway by off-road bikes.

Cllr Richard Coaton said “These bikes cause a noise nuisance for nearby residents and a danger to pedestrians using the passageway. Labour Councillors in the adjoining Ward have also had complaints and I am working with them to see what can be done to stop this happening”.

**Car Wash**

Asking politely just doesn’t seem to work!