

## A27 – the green solution

FOLLOWING reports in the local press about the progress of the consultations over the A27 'improvements' at Chichester, Arundel and Worthing, the Green Party have some different solutions to the problem of peak hour traffic congestion.

We are dismayed at the idea that the government is spending £600 million on the A27 in these three areas alone – this vast amount of money could be used in wiser ways than building bypasses. The Greens are convinced that in the case of Arundel and Chichester the loss of irreplaceable countryside for new roads is too high a price to pay for a short-term solution which is aimed at enabling long distance traffic to hurtle past our communities.

Sadly it is proven that as soon as you build a new road you encourage more traffic and so the congestion soon builds once more.

We believe this last-century idea should be replaced by new ways to reduce peak time traffic. Spending some of the budget on protected cycle ways and additional, reliable public transport that is affordable for all would offer an alternative to driving at rush hour for locals.

The Green Party plays a vital role in highlighting the importance of environmental concerns when the government has jumped on and off the green bandwagon as it suits them. Currently backpeddling on their own manifesto commitments to renewable energy, and rushing to promote fracking across Britain, they seem to have forgotten the important Climate Change Conference in Paris in November.

Here they will be held to account on targets for our part in keeping global climate temperature rise to a manageable level. An important part of keeping to these targets could be met by seriously tackling our

reliance on fossil fuels before it is too late.

By pressing on with these plans, so costly to both the budget and the earth, the government, strongly supported by our local MPs and councils, shows it is unconcerned about the citizens of the future and their quality of life. We will continue to oppose these plans, along with many other concerned local groups and residents.

**Sarah Sharp**

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Chichester and*

**Isabel Thurston**

*former Parliamentary Candidate for  
Arundel and the South Downs,  
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## Confusion over plans for Lyminster bypass

THIS year, West Sussex County Council is due to consider a planning application for a

limited section of the proposed Lyminster bypass, which was first mooted in 1992.

I wonder what sort of brief is given to private consultants when public authorities commission a report on a project that their own permanent staff feel unable to tackle.

Are they merely told the overall nature of the subject and given carte blanche to provide a maximum of supposed facts and theoretical figures, or are they given an idea of the total cost that the authority will stand?

We have a massive report of well over a hundred pages provided by consultants to West Sussex County Council on the Lyminster bypass, which contains lots and lots of real and extrapolated calculations for the design of the road and a host of theoretical figures based on those such as a number of surveys or traffic movements.

The whole looks to a layman like a statistical nightmare! The plan gives no indication of how the road will link up at its southern end with existing roads such as Toddington Lane, or with the Fitzalan Road extension.

It seems that the main reason for the bypass was to relieve congestion caused by the repeated closure of the Lyminster