

## **Tony Walls: Candidate in Belfast Court**



### **Manipulating and Exploiting Young People**

**Efforts by community workers to disperse groups of young at Lanark Way and defuse recent tensions, have been welcomed by Tony Walls of the Workers Party.**

“Some of the scenes this week have been deeply disturbing”, he said, “but I know that they could have escalated into a much bigger issue but for positive community interventions,” Tony commented.

“The rioting has been classed as anti- social behaviour, and of course that is an element of it, but it is also a display of the ongoing sectarian division that many political parties here foster and benefit from. There can be no walking away from that”, he said.

For as long as parties like the DUP and Sinn Fein, in particular, base their political programme on *‘us and them’* then young people will translate those messages into stone throwing, rioting and worse. Lives will be ruined and communities torn apart while the political pariahs who benefit from it live comfortable lives at a comfortable distance”, Tony said

“If we are to see real and positive changes in our local communities, particularly for our young people, then the political parties that manipulate and exploit them must move over and make room for parties that unite not divide”, said Tony