LOCAL



I am a local candidate, I grew up in Purbrook, saw the Crookhorn Estate being built while I was at Morelands Infants and have been with Crookhorn Surgery since it was on the corner of Shillinglee. Since becoming a Havant Borough Councillor I have been invited to cut the cake at the Deverell Hall 100 Year Celebration, and following that asked to become a Trustee. With my dad having enjoyed attending the Church of the Good Shepherd, particularly the Bus Stop Cafe, I am known there and find it a great place to meet and chat with local residents. I have also been invited to join coffee mornings at the local retirement housing, which has proved popular with residents. I am working with the local residents association (PAWARA), their environmental group and the Tree Wardens. I am a member of Purbrook Horticultural Society and working with the allotment holders to improve the way HBC work with them.

EDUCATION

With my two son's having attended Morelands and Purbrook Park I have been a local school governor since 2008. I am currently Vice Chair at Morelands and a governor at Purbrook Park. This gives me a solid understanding of the challenges around education and, with the two Resource Provisions at Morelands, experience of the problems with SEND support. I have recently been approached to get involved with some work to support parents on the waiting list for an EHCP (Education Health Care Plan). Once again my involvement helps with meeting local residents, and I have picked up casework simply walking into the school for a governor's meeting. It has also proved useful where casework has involved the schools as I already have a good working relationship with the Head Teachers.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

Having cared for my dad through his Alzheimer's and Prostate Cancer journey I have gained first hand experience of HCC Adult Social care, and the complications of the local Crookhorn Surgery being a Portsmouth based practice. This causes communications problems for residents being split between two health authorities (one for medical care and one for social care). My experience has proved useful helping local residents trying to cope with the change of HCC contract from Andover Mind to The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, which has removed specific dementia care and direct support for those living alone with dementia. I am involved with the newly formed Dementia Friendly Havant Borough charity, and have taken on running the Waterlooville Memory Cafe. This has proved popular with residents who already know me and those who have contacted me direct since my election to HBC, and allows me to keep in touch. Having attended the Memory Cafe with my dad I was in a good place to take this on as I was already well known, and I have been invited to become a Trustee of WACA (Waterlooville Area Community Association).

WIDER COMMUNITY

I am a founding member of Repair Cafe Havant, and have been on the Langstone Harbour Board for 10 years. With both of these I have gained experience of working with councillors from other parties, which will be a valuable skill on HCC. Working with people is better for our residents, and avoids poor press and social media coverage which does not prove popular with voters.

SUMMARY

In summary, I have experience in key areas of Hampshire County Council's responsibility, and the problems residents are facing. Having stood as the Liberal Democrat candidate in all the Purbrook (HBC) and Purbrook and Stakes South (HCC) elections since 2019 I have built both the Party's and my own profile to the point of being elected to HBC this year, and would like to continue building on that for HCC in 2025. I feel that my local experience and standing makes me the best placed candidate to win the Purbrook and South Stakes ward in next year's County elections.