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Hilperton Update

Spring 2013



The 'no political spin' newsletter from

Cllr. Ernie Clark.

Your **Independent** Wiltshire councillor.

Experience Competence Energy Action Results

Wiltshire Council election this May

It is approaching that time again when I need to ask you to help me to continue as your local councillor. I have had the honour, and pleasure, of representing you on local councils for over ten years now, and I hope that you feel, in that time, I have done all you could expect of me.

Even if you have not agreed with my stance on every issue, I have never ducked a decision and I have always been there to defend the outcome to you.

The most important part of a councillor's role is 'case work', which means solving people's problems. This is the part of the 'job' that I hope I do best; it is certainly the most satisfying.

During the election run-up the parties may spend more money on selling themselves to you, but I prefer to stand on my record!

If re-elected I promise to continue representing you to the best of my ability, taking all your views into account and always thinking about what is best for the people of Hilperton Division.

Grit Bins

Trying to get extra Wiltshire Council funded grit bins over the last few years has needed the patience of Job and had, until recently, met with little success. The problem was that the Conservative administration at County Hall would not sanction the number of new bins needed. Neither would they allow the Trowbridge Area Board to fund them!

However, things seem set to change at long last. At the February meeting of the Trowbridge Area Transport Group it was suggested that, subject to the Wiltshire Council cabinet not vetoing the idea, Wiltshire Council, Trowbridge Town Council and the various parish councils could all work together.

The suggestion is that funding for new grit bins will be split 50/50 between Trowbridge Area Board and the respective parish council. Trowbridge Town Council would then arrange for the new bins to be kept topped-up with grit. The labour cost would then be reimbursed by the parish council with Wiltshire Council providing the grit free of charge.

The Hilperton Relief Road

Many people ask me “What is happening about the road through Hilperton Gap?” The simple answer is “Nothing at the moment, but there should be some action soon”.

Planning permission for the road was granted to Persimmon Homes in 2006 and is linked to the legal agreement for the East of Trowbridge housing development which is now under construction.

The legal agreement stipulates that public access to the completed Hilperton Relief Road must be provided prior to the occupation of more than 225 of the 650 permitted dwellings and 50% of the gross floor area of any buildings permitted at the employment site. If no development commences on the employment site, the trigger is 450 dwellings. As a ‘backstop’, the agreement provides that the road will, in any case, be completed and open for use by the public before the fourth anniversary of the residential occupation of the first dwelling. The agreement has the same clauses for the East Trowbridge Distributor Road (the extension of Leapgate to join with West Ashton Road).

Are you registered to vote?

Unless your name appears on the current electoral register you will not be entitled to vote at the May election. You can check whether you are registered or not by contacting either myself or the Wiltshire Council election office.

Please note that if you have recently moved house you will not be automatically registered to vote. Some people presume that if they pay council tax then they will be registered as a voter - this is not the case. Unless you apply to be added to the register you will lose your right to vote.

Will you be here to vote on 2nd May?

If you will be away on the day of the election (holiday, business etc.) you are entitled to ask for either a postal or a proxy vote (when someone you nominate votes on your behalf).

There is a deadline for both types of request (17th April for postal, 24th April for proxy). Forms can be downloaded from www.wiltshire.gov.uk or you can write to/phone the council. If you need more information please contact me.

CARING AND CAMPAIGNING FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

How to contact me

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