

## Message from Gerry

I have lived in Ashtead for over 23 years and live with my partner Elaine. Now retired, my career in Management Consultancy spanned both the private and public sectors. I was elected as the Independent Councillor for Ashtead Park in 2023 and I have been working together with residents and local organisations on behalf of Ashtead

I am an active member of several community groups in Ashtead. I strongly believe it is important to protect and support Ashtead's voluntary organisations, businesses and shops which contribute to make Ashtead such a good place to live and work.

Since my election, I have been active in many local issues, particularly in protecting Ashtead's environment and green spaces. I have opposed the Liberal Democrats decision to retain Green Belt sites in the Local Plan for housing development, especially in Ermyn Way.

Together with our Ashtead Independents Surrey Councillor I have sought to find long term solutions to the parking problems in the local area, as well as implementing traffic calming measures around local schools. As Vice Chairman of the Council's Scrutiny Committee, I have been able to hold the Liberal Democrat Administration to account for their mismanagement of the Council's finances and their reckless spending plans.

I have very much valued the support and trust residents have given me over the past year. If re-elected, I will continue to work for Ashtead residents to ensure they are provided with the best possible Council Services for their Council Tax. I will, of course, continue to be available to assist residents with any Council matter.

Gerry Sevenoaks



### Reasons to vote for ASHTEAD INDEPENDENTS:

- **We are not a National political party and we put people before politics**
- **We keep National Party politics out of local affairs**
- **We think independently and are not 'whipped' to vote a Party line**
- **We will work with others to achieve the best for Ashtead**
- **We represent you not govern you**

MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION

ASHTEAD PARK WARD

**Thursday 2nd May 2024**

**Ashtead Independents**

**USE YOUR VOTE for  
Gerry Sevenoaks**



**Vote to keep Ashtead Independent**





### **THE GREEN BELT IS ONLY SAFE WITH ASHTEAD INDEPENDENTS**

In last year's local elections, the Liberal Democrats promised "we will seek to remove all Green Belt sites from the Local Plan". Did they? Of course they didn't!

At the Council meeting on 23rd January 2024, **Ashtead Independents** proposed that the Green Belt sites be removed from the Local Plan. This was opposed by the **Liberal Democrats who used their overwhelming majority to keep the Green Belt sites in the Local Plan, including the Ermyn Way site.** This meant no further examination of sites in wards South of the Borough, which just happen to be held by the Liberal Democrats, who, once again, have put politics before people.

I will continue to work with residents to preserve our Green Belt land and, through the planning process, fight to reduce the impact of any housing developments, particularly Ermyn Way (as shown in the photo above).

### **WASTING YOUR MONEY!**

Under the Liberal Democrats the Council's debt has risen to £112 million, yet the Council has only £83 million of assets. This is due to reckless investment in property developments outside of Mole Valley. The value of these properties is now going down and rental incomes reducing so how long will it be before Mole Valley joins Woking and Croydon – both of whom are bankrupt! I believe that Councils should be spending money on services for residents not using Tax Payers money to speculate on the property market. I will continue to oppose the wasting of Council Taxpayers money.

## **Vote for GERRY SEVENOAKS**

### **Working for ASHTEAD RESIDENTS**

### **PUTTING WORDS INTO ACTION**

#### **PARKING AND SPEED LIMITS**

Over the past year I have been working to improve on-street parking enforcement to reduce illegal and indiscriminate parking – mainly around local schools. On-street parking enforcement was transferred last April, from MVDC to Surrey CC, who appointed NSL Parking to provide the enforcement service. NSL use unmarked vehicles to catch offenders on camera. NSL have set up an Enforcement website which residents can contact:

**[surreyparkingenforcement@nslservices.co.uk](mailto:surreyparkingenforcement@nslservices.co.uk)**

Once contacted a team will be sent to investigate. I have also been working successfully with Ashtead parents and residents to finally get Surrey CC to provide 20 mph speed limits around local schools.

#### **IMPROVING ASHTEAD'S TOILETS**

Working with Ashtead Traders and local Groups, **Ashtead Independents** have secured agreement for a refurbishment of the toilets in the Peace Memorial Hall car park. Proposals are now being worked up together with a bid for additional funding. This should be approved by June and I will update residents when the works take place. Another example of Ashtead people working together.

#### **CONTACTING THE COUNCIL**

Despite continued complaints from residents, the Liberal Democrats still refuse to re-open Council Offices back to 5pm. Now over 70% of Council staff are working from home. This is an appalling situation – it is inefficient and causes needless delay and frustration for residents who cannot get information or speak to Council Staff. It fails people who cannot use technology and those who need help with complex or sensitive queries. So much for 'putting people first'. Over the past year, I have continually pursued this matter and will continue to do so until residents get improved services.



#### **ANOTHER FAILED CYCLE CORRIDOR?**

MVDC are spending £160,000 on designs for a Cycle Corridor to link Epsom and Leatherhead. The proposed route through Ashtead is along Barnett Wood Lane and Craddocks Avenue and would involve shared pavements, verge narrowing, pavement widening and removal of trees.

Given the failure of the Cycle Path along the A24 it is astounding that there was no consultation with residents and businesses as to whether there is any support from them. Evidence suggests that cyclists do not use dual use paths due to the dangers to both pedestrians and cyclists. The scheme will cause significant upheaval and have a detrimental impact on the local area. MVDC say they will consult people but I believe that residents should have been consulted BEFORE any design work is undertaken. I will support residents and businesses in responding to these unnecessary plans.

#### **RESTORING ASHTEAD PARK**

**Ashtead Independents** are working with dedicated volunteers and residents to improve and restore the Park by clearing brambles, scrub, and unwanted vegetation. We are helping the Council to formulate a long-term Management Plan to secure adequate funding so thereby enabling residents to enjoy the rich biodiversity of this wonderful park.

#### **FARM LANE FLOODING**

I have been working with our **Ashtead Independent SCC Councillor** to find a long-term solution to the ongoing flooding problems in Farm Lane. SCC Engineers will now undertake a drainage investigation to identify the problem, probably a blockage in the system. Once known it may be possible to put in a new scheme. I will inform residents when we have confirmation of the outcome.

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**Ashtead PARK Ward**

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