



Winter 2017/18

ROBINA IS WORKING FOR CANALSIDE

Robina Shaheen stood for the Labour Party in Woking, including in the 2016 elections. She has now joined the Conservatives to get results for Canalside and tells her story here.

■ “I would like to tell you a little bit about myself and why I think I would make a strong local representative for us all.

“My family moved to Woking from Pakistan when I was one year old. I was brought up here and attended local schools.

“While still a teenager, I was married and had to move away; I had a baby in my teens. Due to personal circumstances I came back to Woking and single-handedly raised my four children.

“Being a single Muslim woman, I realised that it was very difficult to get recognition or support but I overcame those obstacles, persevered and worked hard.

“I have always made time to help others and ended up working first as a volunteer then as an advisor for Citizen’s Advice Woking.

“In that role, I dealt with people’s issues on housing, welfare, benefits, debt and family problems. I was advising people from all parts of the community and I was working one day each week at the Maybury Centre.

“One of the things that was

constantly being raised with me was how hard it was for Asian women to find a female bilingual driving instructor. It gave me the idea of training myself as a driving instructor and so since 2001, I have been running my own driving school, with many of my clients from the Asian community - but also from outside it.

“I find through this work that people talk to me about their issues and again I get to point them in the direction of people who can help.

“I was told by a friend that I would make a good Councillor and that I should find out more about being one if I wanted to do more to help people.

“I have become more convinced that it is Conservative values that can really make a difference to people; I want to help people help themselves and to empower them. So often the solution to people’s problems comes from within themselves.

“I am seeking your support so that I can get your voice heard at the heart of a team making decisions about the future of our town and community.”



Robina in Wheatsheaf Common

ROBINA : WHY I DECIDED TO STAND AS A CONSERVATIVE

■ “I discussed what Conservatives believe in and I think my own values are the same; freedom, family, enterprise, security and responsibility.

“The **freedom** to be independent - to be able to make choices in life and to be what we want to be on our own merits. **Family** because everything I have ever done, everything that we all do for our children and families is so important.

“**Enterprise** because I believe in hard work and reward from that work. Like many people in our community, I run my own business and see that hard work every day.

“**Security** because our society cannot function without law and order. **Responsibility** because I believe we must all take responsibility for ourselves and work hard so that we will be in a position to help other people.

“I think these values are values that are shared by many people in Canalside and are ones on which I am proud to stand.”

ROBINA SUPPORTS OUR GREEN BELT

Conservative candidate **Robina Shaheen** has said that she stands with residents in their attempts to make Woking Borough Council think again on the Green Belt Review.

Plans are being considered to remove a piece of land from the Green Belt that would give the potential for development on what is currently New Zealand Golf Club post-2027.

Robina said: "I know residents

are very unhappy at that idea. There is no way our area can support such a large site being earmarked for development and things are only going to get more crowded after 2027.

"We do need houses that people can afford but with the regeneration of Sheerwater and Victoria Square, as well as other development sites, I am sure that we can meet this need without Green Belt incursion."



Robina at the site that could be removed from the Green Belt

A CAUTIOUS WELCOME FOR SHEERWATER PROJECT

Robina has strong family links with the Sheerwater area and her father lived there for many years. She understands the networks of family and friends that people have and that the Sheerwater Regeneration Project may be unsettling to some residents.

"But there are positive things to come out of this as well," she said. "During the course of consulting with council tenants, Woking Borough Council has intervened to help many older and vulnerable people and offer them support.

"I know that Sheerwater Regeneration will never be accepted by some residents but I think it could be a good thing and inject new life into our area."



Robina at Sheerwater Recreation Ground

News **SNIPPETS**

TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND CRIME

Robina wants to work with Woking Borough Council and Surrey Police to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in Maybury and Sheerwater.

"Residents are telling me that they are seeing more and more crime and want someone to address it," she said. "Our current Councillors are not doing enough but I will work hard to be tough on crime."

WORKING WITH TAXIS

Our taxi drivers work hard to keep Woking moving late at night and early in the morning. Robina will work with **Cllr Rashid Mohammed** to ensure that they have a strong voice at the heart of the Woking Borough Council Conservative administration.

YOUR CONSERVATIVE TEAM FOR CANALSIDE



Cllr **Ben Carasco**

WRITE 25 Norfolk Farm Road, Woking GU22 8LH

CALL 07733 307525

EMAIL ben.carasco@surreycc.gov.uk



Jonathan Lord MP

WRITE House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

CALL 0207 219 6913

EMAIL jonathan.lord.mp@parliament.uk

YOUR CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE FOR CANALSIDE WARD



Robina Shaheen
07878 060098
robina.shaheen@wokingconservatives.org.uk