



COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

How the Conservatives have invested in local facilities for all of us ...p3

YOUR CONSERVATIVE TEAMS			
HARRY BURROWS Woking & West Weyleet	GARY ELSON Woking & West Weyleet	RICHARD WILSON Woking & West Weyleet	ALISON TAYLOR Woking & West Weyleet
PAULA MARCUS Woking & West Weyleet	COLIN SCOTT Woking & West Weyleet	RICHARD SMITH Woking & West Weyleet	JOHN KINGSBURY Woking & West Weyleet
LAURA ASHALL Woking & West Weyleet	CHITRA BANI Woking & West Weyleet	KEVIN DAVIS Woking & West Weyleet	JOHN LAWRENCE Woking & West Weyleet
AYESHA AZAD Woking & West Weyleet	NATALIE BOURNE Woking & West Weyleet	BERYL HUNWICKS Woking & West Weyleet	COLIN KEMP Woking & West Weyleet
DARYL SMITH Woking & West Weyleet	ANNE MURRAY Woking & West Weyleet		

CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES

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SPRING 2016

CAR PARKING CHARGES FROZEN IN WOKING

Car parking charges in Woking will not be increased during 2016 under the Conservatives and will remain at their current levels despite the tough economic conditions and reductions in government grants.

Charges in town centre car parks were last fixed in October 2014 and the Conservative administration is pleased that through careful financial management it can avoid increasing parking costs for residents and visitors to the town.

The vibrant town centre, with its many new restaurants, shops, and the continuing attraction of the Ambassadors

“Keeping car parking charges as low as possible helps make the town centre more accessible to more people...this can only be a good thing and a boost to our local economy”

Theatre complex, is bringing thousands of visitors to Woking to enjoy all that it now has to offer.

Special events such as the Food Festival, which has become an annual autumn feature, attracted more than 90,000 people during the three-day festival in September last year.

Former Councillor **Colin Scott**, now a campaigner in the new Canalside ward, said: “Keeping car parking charges as low as possible helps make the town centre more accessible to more people. With all the work this Council has done to improve the town, this can only be a good thing and a boost to our local economy.”



■ Canalside campaigners Colin Scott and Paula Marcus are delighted that car parking charges will be frozen this year

AL FRESCO IN COMMERCIAL WAY Town Centre change continues as Tante Marie moves in



■ The development of Commercial Way has brought more choice for diners and a continental atmosphere to the town's main thoroughfare

The transformation of Woking Town Centre has been a priority for the Conservatives in Woking during the past five years.

First the Peacocks and Wolsey Place Shopping Centres were improved along with the remodelling of Jubilee Square.

Then Woking Market was completely refurbished and moved under cover, followed by the work in Commercial Way to make one of the town's thoroughfares more attractive and accessible.

Council Leader **John Kingsbury** said: “Now instead of empty shops and declining trade we have a thriving town centre, which is a pleasure to visit.

“Woking has been transformed to give residents and visitors a much-improved shopping and working experience.”

The latest additions to the town centre include Tante Marie, Bill's, Carluccio's, Las Iguanas and soon Côte Brasserie, a new restaurant opening shortly.

JONATHAN LORD MP — REPORTING BACK TO US FROM WESTMINSTER



Parliament is very busy at the moment with a united and purposeful Conservative team delivering on our manifesto promises.

I am particularly delighted that we are protecting Police funding and providing a £10 billion boost for our NHS.

Here in Woking we now have the lowest unemployment for many years. The number of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance has fallen by a huge 70% since 2010 and we have one of the best economic growth rates of any town in the UK. I am looking forward to the arrival of Côte Brasserie on Commercial Way in the late Spring, joining all the other terrific new restaurants that have opened up during the past two years.

We've witnessed a real transformation in our town centre in recent times and I know that the Council has further improvements planned. I am also looking forward to the official opening of a new service at **Woking**

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Community Hospital at the end of February. I have been advocating for some time that better care for our elderly could be co-ordinated out of our excellent local hospital, with the aim of keeping people healthy, happy and supported in their own homes.

I am thrilled that innovative new provision is shortly going to be in place - Woking leading the way once again!

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRIORITY IN WOKING

Helping people onto the ladder



■ (L to R) David Bittleston, Mark Pengelly and Carl Thomson outside the New Central development

The Conservative Council in Woking has prioritised the delivery of affordable housing to buy or rent in the Borough to help hardworking families get onto the housing ladder and ease prices for those needing to move.

Initiatives by the Conservatives, led by Deputy Council Leader **David Bittleston**, include building 154 new homes as part of the Hoe Valley Scheme and bringing 250 street properties back into use.

The Conservatives have also taken forward the Moor Lane development, where 371 homes are being built with 60 percent at social rents. Another 350 homes are being delivered through Woking Borough Council's arm's-length housing company Thamesway Housing.

Elsewhere in the Borough, a disused office block has been converted into 45 affordable apartments with 34 low-cost flats being built

above the new Fire Station.

If agreed, the Sheerwater Regeneration scheme would also provide a further 400 homes and transform the surrounding area, while the Victoria Square development that includes the return of Marks and Spencer to Woking will also deliver 392 new apartments.

David said: "With so many people waiting for decent, affordable homes, and families across Woking unable to get on the property ladder, we hope to be able to continue prioritising the delivery of new, high-quality homes in Woking."

Mount Hermon Conservative Councillor **Carl Thomson** said: "I'm really pleased that we've been able to deliver this kind of housing around the Borough and in our area that will allow people to remain in Woking with their families and attract people with the skills we need to live here."



■ (L to R) Anne Murray, Beryl Hunwicks and Colin Kemp at Horsell Scout and Guide HQ

Woking focusing on projects for young people

Conservatives understand the importance of investing in and supporting our young people. Alongside the youth clubs run by Surrey County Council, the Conservative-led Borough Council supports a local charity to run additional youth clubs in Barnsbury and Lakeview.

Today's youth clubs are not just about having fun — they also provide a vital support network as well as supply training to help young people build a better future. In addition to the clubs, Woking Youth Council is open to those aged between 13 and 19 from all backgrounds.

The Youth Council has engaged in debates with Councillors on topics that affect the young people of Woking. It has debated the Local Development Framework, put its own recommendations to Full Council and discussed the Borough Council's environment and climate change plan, both topics that affect the Woking of tomorrow — their Woking.

Horsell councillor **Colin Kemp**, who is active in supporting youth projects and with **Beryl Hunwicks** helped bring improved youth facilities to Horsell, said: "We understand the importance of investing in tomorrow's leaders and engaging our young people in the political process." Horsell Councillor **Anne Murray** added: "If we are to continue prospering as an area, we need to ensure that our young people have the opportunity to reach their full potential."



■ (L to R) Harry Briggs, Richard Wilson and Gary Elson outside the new Byfleet Scout Hut

COMMUNITY FACILITIES SPRINGING UP ALL OVER WOKING SINCE 2010

Conservatives have delivered them

While the Conservatives on Woking Borough Council have worked hard to stimulate the local economy and create the environment for new jobs for local people, they have not forgotten village communities.

In the past five years, the Council has provided more than £5m to support local projects and facilities all around the Borough. These include a new Scout Hut in Byfleet after appeals from local people that the previous Scout Hut was falling down and simply not up to the job.

Similar appeals in Horsell led to an improved Village Hall, Institute and new Scout and Guide Headquarters, with Conservative Councillors **Beryl Hunwicks** and **Tony Branagan** helping local residents make those projects happen.

A replacement Memorial Hall in St John's had been talked about for nearly 10 years before the Council stepped in to help. The new Memorial Hall now boasts a crèche for local families, as well as a meeting place for groups in the area.

New sports and play facilities have also been made a reality. The Lakeview Centre in **Sythwood** is being rebuilt and **Goldwater Lodge** in Goldsworth Park has reopened after serious fire damage.

Byfleet Councillor **Harry Briggs** said: "Everywhere you look across Woking, Conservatives are delivering facilities for local people because we understand how important they are in the life of a community. They are not just bricks and mortar; they are places of meeting, of learning and of fun."

FLOODING DEFENCES IN WOKING FUNDED

As we have seen recently, none of us are immune from the risk of flooding – but the Conservatives are committed to doing all they can to reduce the risks in Woking.

Some 40 homes, which flooded in 2013 and 2014 in Old Woking and Byfleet, have already been helped to install and test individual property protection so they will have a lower risk of flooding while wider flood prevention proposals are being developed.

Working with the Environment Agency, plans for the Hoe Stream from Mayford to Old Woking are being prepared. Subject to approvals, work should start next year.

In Byfleet, the Council is working with Thames Water to install equipment in Sanway Road to stop water flowing back from the river. Drains in Brewery Lane are being upgraded to reduce surface water flooding.

Old Woking Councillor **John Lawrence** said: "Conservatives are committed to reducing the risk of flooding, which is a key priority. The devastation flooding causes residents and businesses is an issue we take very seriously."



■ (L to R) John Lawrence, Natalie Bourne and Daryl Smith visit flood defences near Woking Leisure Centre

CARING ABOUT VOLUNTARY GROUPS

Conservatives keep up their support for those people who make a difference



■ Rizwan Shah (far left) joins Jonathan Lord (centre) and Hilary Addison to support groups at the rebuilt Goldwater Lodge

The charitable and voluntary sector plays a huge part in the life of Woking and its residents and it has been a long-term objective of the Conservative-run Council to support and help it as much as possible.

Through prudent management of the Council's finances, Woking has managed to maintain the £1.5m it makes available through grants, service contracts and other support to local groups.

From Woking Citizens' Advice Bureau and Woking Community Transport to projects such as Street Angels, the important work done by people supporting and helping others is recognised and appreciated by everyone who lives in the Borough.

Rizwan Shah, Councillor for **Goldsworth Park**, said: "There are people in my area who rely on help and advice from groups that are run voluntarily and open to everyone. For many of them, private legal advice or transport is simply not realistic and when they have a problem, a local organisation is their first stop.

"It is so important that whether it is getting to St Peter's for an appointment or help with tackling a legal issue – or even something more fun like organising social situations for people who would otherwise be on their own – our local voluntary sector is in good shape.

"I'm really proud that the Conservatives in Woking have upheld our commitment to fund these groups for the benefit of everyone."

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REMEMBER—YOU HAVE THREE VOTES

In the Borough elections on May 5, you have THREE votes instead of the usual ONE. Use them to get action for your area and choose three Conservative councillors. To get involved in your local campaign, please call 01483 773384.



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