



Alex BATCHELOR



YOUR RESIDENTS' CANDIDATE FOR ELMBRIDGE - 6th MAY 2021

A Message from Alex:

12 Hayward Road, Thames Ditton

I am very privileged to be representing the RA, and want to start by thanking Tricia Bland for all the excellent work she has done as Councillor. I believe strongly that national party politics should not dominate local government and what affects our local community. RA Councillors have a long tradition of defending our interests and protecting our Green Belt, and reducing the threat of over-development whilst ensuring that the right investments are made in schools, health and local services to support our community. I would welcome the opportunity to continue that work.

I have lived in Thames Ditton and Weston Green for 26 years – first in Chestnut Avenue, and for more than 20 years in Hayward Road. I'm the Chair of *Watch Me Think*, a market research agency, and a business consultant. My wife, Geraldine, and I have four children – all of whom started their education at Thames Ditton Infants School. As a family we have been very much part of our community and all it has to offer. I have served as a Governor at Thames Ditton Infants School, and Membership Secretary of our local Seymour Grange Residents' Association.

I want to help our area thrive and develop whilst preserving the sense of community that makes it special. To that end please vote for me to be your Residents' Association Councillor for Thames Ditton ward on 6th May.

Why vote Residents' Association?

Our Councillors are independent, not influenced by national party politics.

And they say :

- We all **live in Thames Ditton** and work solely for its interests.
- We **work as a team** providing comprehensive cover for the ward's residents.
- We **keep in contact with you** through regular open meetings, dedicated website, Twitter and Thames Ditton Today magazine.
- We are very hard-working and respond to residents' needs. **We get things done!**
- We always fight to **preserve our precious Green Belt**.
- We work together with other Councillors **in the Residents' Group - Independents** leading the Council efficiently - for residents.

Meet Alex and hear more about our policies at our **Zoom Election Meeting on 20th April, 8.00pm.**

See our website for details:

www.residents-association.com/election





Thames Ditton & Weston Green Residents' Association

Our Priorities for Elmbridge

- **Planning:** Support well-designed sustainable development, including more affordable housing. Resist excessive development and defend our Green Belt.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** Support and expand physical and mental health services for the vulnerable, especially those Covid-related.
- **Public Transport:** Fight to retain and improve the performance of our bus and train services.
- **Environment:** Maintain and enhance our outdoor spaces by clearing litter, adding plants and promoting recycling.
- **Local Shops and Businesses:** Promote and maintain our thriving retail community. Fight against loss of shop and business premises through changes to residential use.
- **Leisure:** Introduce and support projects that encourage the use of our outdoor spaces.

Examples of how your Residents' Association Councillors have worked for you



Setting up and leading the volunteer litter-picking group each month.

Setting up **Foodbank collection hubs** during the pandemic.



Successfully campaigned to **stop the closure of Molesey Hospital**.



Supported the setting up of the very popular monthly **Thames Ditton Farmers' Market**.



Spearheaded the publicity campaign that **saved our bus service** from closure.

The Residents' Group - Leading Elmbridge Borough Council by :

Environment: Protecting our **vital green spaces**. Making Elmbridge a greener and more sustainable borough by enacting policies to: achieve carbon neutrality, reduce plastic waste, and improve air quality and green infrastructure.

Financial Management: **Maintaining all our current services**, especially those for the elderly and vulnerable; investing in proper maintenance of community assets; running **prudent budgets** to keep any council tax increases to a minimum.

Planning and Housing: Providing **genuinely affordable homes**, particularly for young people and families, in places spread evenly across the borough. Pressing Surrey County Council to provide the **infrastructure improvements** and upgrades required for housing.

Continuing to **challenge the government** on its excessive and unrealistic housing target for Elmbridge.

COVID-19 Response: **Providing greatly expanded support** for those suffering health, welfare or financial issues during the pandemic.

For a strong Residents' voice, vote Alex Batchelor

