

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION  
LEATHERHEAD & FETCHAM EAST**

**Thursday, 5th May 2005**

**PAULA SABINE**

**I N D E P E N D E N T**



**KEEP PARTY POLITICS OUT OF LOCAL ISSUES**

**VOTE INDEPENDENT**

Published by Paula Sabine, 11 St Mary's Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8HB  
Printed by Kall Kwik, 9 Bridge Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8BL

## **COUNCIL TAX**

The current publicity from Surrey County Council on Council Tax is that it is the lowest in 10 years but it is still above inflation. Residents will remember double figure rises since 2000, especially in 2003/4 when the rise was 17.9%. The Conservative-led County Council has often wasted your money on ill-conceived schemes (e.g. proposed waste incinerator at Capel – the lost court decision cost council tax payers thousands of pounds). I shall strive to ensure that Surrey County Council spends your money on the right projects and services in Leatherhead and Fetcham East, and elsewhere.

## **EPSOM & ST. HELIER HOSPITAL TRUST**

The decision on the site for the Critical Care Hospital has now been made – Sutton, alongside the Marsden Hospital. This is not good for Leatherhead & Fetcham as public transport is particularly poor to that site. I will support the local MPs and other councillors in their efforts to ensure that the health provision for the north of Mole Valley is appropriate to our needs.

## **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

I have particular knowledge and experience of Special Educational Needs. I believe that integration for Special Needs children will only work in certain cases, and that the majority of these children are best served by special schools which can tailor education to their individual needs. All children need to be educated in classes suited to their particular abilities where a child's individual talents can be allowed to shine.

More school bus transport is essential and I will press too for additional leisure facilities for families in the area (eg ten-pin bowling).

## **SOUTH EAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

This assembly is an UNELECTED body. It now has powers affecting where we live and our immediate environment - eg the proposed vast increases in new housing do not appear to take into consideration the infrastructure needed such as new roads, drainage and schools. Given the opportunity, I would vote for the abolition of this Assembly, thus ensuring that local issues remain the responsibility of local government.

## **PUT LEATHERHEAD & FETCHAM EAST FIRST**

**VOTE INDEPENDENT**

## **HIGHWAYS**

Surrey CC regularly tells us that £millions are being spent on our roads. However, driving around Leatherhead and Fetcham East, as I do regularly, there seem to be many roads (eg. Poplar Road, Garlands Road, Grove Road and Lower Road), which need attention. As I drive around the area taking my children to school and to friends, I am perfectly placed to notice where roads need improvements and where road junctions and markings are not working effectively. Apparently there is a 'Community Gang' which works in each area for a number of days every so many weeks, addressing issues that the public have highlighted. I will look into this, and push for more time to be allocated for Leatherhead and Fetcham East, so issues are dealt with more quickly.

Lack of funds is often quoted as a reason for not carrying out maintenance and other works needed. However, SCC seemed to have been able to find the money for at least an extra £300,000 to complete the Phase 2 works!

## **LEATHERHEAD HIGH STREET**

Some people would like the High Street open completely to traffic, and some would like to see the return to total pedestrianisation. At present the High Street is open part-time, and this has undoubtedly been a major reason for the increase in shop occupancy and therefore in trade. It has been claimed that I would like the High Street to go back to two-way traffic, which is totally untrue. I believe that allowing one-way traffic, part-time, into the High Street is of benefit to Leatherhead - however, undoubtedly traffic management at present is a mess, and if elected I will be in a better position to push for the High Street to be a safer and better organised environment.

## **ON-STREET PARKING**

There are many residents who are concerned about the many town workers who park in the residential streets. I understand these issues very well having suffered uncontrolled commuter parking in the past. I have also lived for 7 years in West London with controlled residents parking, also not an ideal situation. There obviously needs to be more long-term parking in Leatherhead, provided at a reasonable cost. A District-wide parking survey is currently taking place. If elected, I will work with the District councillors to ensure that the results of the survey are used in a sensible way.

## **AREA OUTSIDE THE THEATRE**

This area outside The Theatre has in the past been referred to as 'Phase 3'. The area needs to be revamped to possibly include an attractive open space as well as extra 30-minute car parking. If elected I will make sure that the public is properly consulted as to what should be put in this area, to avoid the 'fiasco' of the 'Phase 2' works.

## **THE ‘PINCH POINT’**

The ‘Pinchpoint’ in North Street creates a bottle-neck for traffic and should be replaced with a better crossing such as they have by the church in Bookham. ie there is a raised pavement across the road with bollards in the middle, thereby allowing the disabled and elderly to cross safely. The raised element would also act as a speed bump reducing traffic speed whilst allowing the traffic to flow as it should do.

## **PHASE 2 WORKS – PUTTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT**

Leatherhead *Ahead* believed that the public had the right to know exactly how much money was spent - £1,156,237 – on a project which has contributed nothing to the prosperity of Leatherhead. The claim by some that the success of The Theatre, Sainsbury’s, Argos, Travelodge and new restaurants is directly related to the Phase 2 investment is fatuous in the extreme.

It has also been claimed recently that some of the extra costs were “incurred by the lengthy consultation and delays caused by dealing with objections to the scheme”. The reality is that work on the project continued to take place during the ‘additional consultation’. It was the discovery, by Surrey County Council, that the water feature was not technically feasible that meant that the project had to be re-designed which led to most of the increased cost.

## **INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATION**

In recent years the Conservatives have had control of Surrey County Council and the majority on the MVDC committees.

The Conservatives currently have 6 out of 12 members on the Local Committee, and in December 2002, they voted, against strong public opposition, for the Phase 2 project to go ahead, ie to complete the ramps without the water feature, without knowing the final design, cost or finish date. They also voted against the proposal to delay the project until further consultation with stakeholder groups had taken place.

Recently the MVDC Conservatives voted to increase parking charges in Leatherhead, and tried to close the toilets in the Leatherhead Swan Centre.

If elected, I would not vote against the wishes of the majority of my electorate.

By voting for me as an Independent, you can be sure that party politics will play no part in my decisions or voting on services and budgets, particularly those that affect Leatherhead and Fetcham East. A strong Independent voice will ensure that your views are heard and I will make every effort to represent all the residents of Leatherhead and Fetcham East and improve the services that we require and deserve.

# From your **INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE**

11 St Mary's Road  
Leatherhead KT22 8HB

Dear Fellow Resident

I am writing to ask for your support as an Independent Candidate representing 'Leatherhead and Fetcham East', an area we all know and care for.

I was brought up in Leatherhead and went to St Andrews School (when it was a Convent) and then went on to Therfield. After school, I went to work in London in the I.T. Industry, working my way up from computer programmer to project manager.

I married and moved back to this area 16 years ago, firstly to Ashted and then back to Leatherhead. I have two children aged 11 and 14.

I first became involved in local politics three years ago, when I protested at the amount of money being spent on the Phase 2 works at the centre of the crossroads in Leatherhead. I felt strongly that our money should be put to better use, and that the works did not address the main problems influencing the prosperity of our much loved town, namely lack of access and parking. A great many other residents felt the same way and Leatherhead *Ahead* was born.

As well as being the Chairman of Leatherhead *Ahead*, I am also involved in the following: Leatherhead Town Centre Forum; Leatherhead Town Centre Forum Parking Working Group; Leatherhead Christmas Festival Committee; and the new 'Leatherhead *Tomorrow*' (our market town healthcheck).

I am also a member of The Leatherhead Society and the Leatherhead Community Association.

I am asking you to vote for me as an **Independent** Candidate at the forthcoming Surrey County Council election on Thursday, 5 May. I ask you to vote for me, as someone with integrity who has our community at heart and who does not have to toe a party line. If elected, I assure you that I will challenge any policy I consider not to be in the residents' interest.

Yours sincerely,

PAULA SABINE

**PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY VOTING**

**PAULA SABINE**

**THURSDAY, 5TH MAY 2005**

<b>SABINE</b>
---------------

<b>X</b>
----------

**I N D E P E N D E N T**

**KEEP PARTY POLITICS OUT OF LOCAL ISSUES**

Published by Paula Sabine, 11 St Mary's Road, Leatherhead KT22 8HB  
Printed by Kall Kwik, 9 Bridge Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8BL