

Green View Summer 2016

Cllr Duncan Kerr



Hi, I am the Oswestry Town Councillor for Castle Ward and the **Shropshire Unitary Councillor for Oswestry South**. I write, print, and distribute this newsletter at my own expense to keep you informed about some of the important local decisions. I hope you find it interesting. You can contact me about any local issue on duncan.kerr@shropshire.gov.uk or come and talk to me at one of my surgeries which run from 5pm to 6pm in the library on the first Monday of each month. When you have finished with this newsletter please recycle it or pass it to someone else to read.

Time for some Common Sense

You may have noticed that Shropshire Council is running out of money. It is a very worrying situation and we have to make every penny count. I could fill this newsletter explaining why the decisions made in the Shirehall have meant our situation is much worse than other Councils but that won't help us now. However if my fellow Councillors had accepted the proposal I made in March for an immediate 10% cut in all Councillor allowances we would be saving £100K this year alone. To put that in perspective it is four times the budget for youth services in the whole of Oswestry. Even after such a cut Councillors in Shropshire would be paid a lot more than their colleagues in Staffordshire, Herefordshire and Telford. As I went on to point out, Shropshire could save even more money if it adopted Government advice to share functions like IT, HR and Finance with other authorities as well as tightening up on the management of some of its contractors. Rest assured I will continue to advocate for savings in these areas before we cut any services. It is simple common sense.

Protecting our NHS

Unfortunately we are still having to work hard to protect our existing NHS services. We were promised an Urgent Care Centre in Oswestry but this is now looking less and less likely and the threat to close the A+E at the RSH still looms large. As your councillor I am continuing to advocate for the retention of this facility, Telford is simply too far away and would mean many more residents going over the border to Wrexham. Fortunately our campaigning in Shropshire led to a reprieve for the Shropdoc service so lets see if we can achieve the same result for A+E services.



Got a problem? Contact Cllr Duncan Kerr

Don't suffer in silence, get in touch. You can email me about any issue on duncan.kerr@shropshire.gov.uk

GREEN PARTY COUNCILLORS WORK FOR YOU ALL YEAR ROUND



Want to help the Town Council?

With 900 new houses being built in East Oswestry our town is facing some changes. If you have the vision, passion and commitment needed to help the town make the most of these opportunities then maybe you should become a Town Councillor. The elections are next spring and the local Green Party is looking for candidates to stand in all 18 wards. No experience is necessary just a passion to improve and get the best from our great town.

Protecting our Parks

Shropshire Council says that it will be cutting all expenditure on parks in Oswestry and has given us just 5 months to save them! Local amenities like Brynhafod Field, Shelf Bank and Wilfred Owen Green are great community assets and campaign groups have been formed to protect them so future generations can enjoy them. Contact me if you want to lend your support to this worthwhile cause.



Shropshire Council: What are your issues?



For me, being a Shropshire Councillor is all about serving people and helping them with their problems. The Council provides literally hundreds of different services and many residents depend on these. If you have any concerns about the future, or issues with any service that the Council has, or you feel should, be providing then get in touch with me and I will see what I can do. Already I have helped many local residents with a wide range of issues, so don't miss out!

333 miles, 3 countries, 3 days, 2 wheels = 1 tired cyclist!

I never cease to be amazed by the people of Oswestry. As a Councillor I want to do all I can to assist them whenever I can which is why on the 13th to 15th May I'll be putting down my lap-top, and donning my cycle clips, to cycle 333 miles in 3 days to raise money for Chalk a Community Interest Company in Leg St. Chalk does amazing work up-cycling furniture and distributing it to disadvantaged families. If you want to sponsor me you can pop into Chalk on Leg Street.

