

Councillor Peter Bingham – Central Wight ward

### **Annual Report**

I have the Resources portfolio within the Council's Cabinet (Finance, Property, HR and IT). I am a member of the Reforming Social Care, Schools' Reorganisation and Transformation Member Review Boards and the Pension Investment Committee. As a Cabinet member I have been able to play a part in the development of all major policies but comment only on business transformation and the budget.

The Business Transformation programme involves modernising the way we work, realising savings of about £1.5 Million in 2010/11, rising to over £10 million annually from 2012/13. I have been taking a leading role in this programme.

The budget process has been extremely challenging. The aim has been to protect priorities identified in the Corporate Plan whilst minimising Council Tax rises. Taking difficult decisions now will put us in a good position to face a very austere future. The budget has been agreed but there are areas requiring additional work.

I have attended most meetings of Parish Councils in the Ward – Rookley, Gatcombe, Shorwell and Brighstone. I have supported local residents over planning applications in Shorwell, Brighstone and Gatcombe and an enforcement issue in Rookley. I represented the views of Brighstone and Shorwell Parish Councils regarding the Cheverton Wind Farm Planning Application. Complaints about potholes have topped the calls and e-mails I have received and response from the Highways Department has been variable with some requests acted upon very quickly and others subject to frustrating delays.

The Military Road is in danger of slipping into the sea near Brook. The Cabinet discussed the problem on 30<sup>th</sup> March but I was concerned that all the options did not appear to have been examined and that consultation had been inadequate. I was able to persuade my colleagues that more work needed to be done and this is taking place.

Peter Bingham  
19.05.10