

Councillor David Pugh – Shanklin South

Annual Report May 2011

During the past 12 months I have continued to represent the interests of local residents on a wide range of issues. Much of this I have done in conjunction with the neighbouring councillor, David Williams, with whom I work closely. I am also pleased to be working in positive partnership with my fellow members of Shanklin Town Council, who are all doing their bit for our community.

The challenging financial situation has led to a revised approach to how a number of services in the town are delivered. I have helped to facilitate the preparations for the transfer of Shanklin Theatre, which continues to go from strength to strength. Initial work has taken place in support of a community library in Shanklin, a Bay Beach Safety Team and a community bus scheme. I will continue to work with others to progress these initiatives over the coming months.

I have continued to speak out on a range of planning and licensing matters on behalf of local residents. Ensuring that any approvals do not have an adverse impact on the town remains a priority for me and my fellow councillors, and we monitor these closely.

Aside from my ward duties, I continue to be kept busy in my role as Leader of the Council and a Cabinet Member. The budget setting process identified many competing priorities, particularly with reduced funding. After much deliberation and consideration with colleagues, I worked to finalise a set of budget proposals that secured majority approval. Our task now is to ensure that these decisions are implemented in an effective, timely and sympathetic manner. Over the next year I will continue to work with all councillors to improve the quality of services on offer to residents and visitors to the Island, within the resources we have.

David Pugh  
18.5.11