

Councillor Edward Giles – Whippingham and Osborne Ward

Annual Report May 2011

During the year there have been two major planning issues affecting the ward. The first was a further application for a concrete batching plant off Saunders Way. With the assistance of many local residents we were successful in persuading the planning committee to reject the application. The other was to vary the planning agreement affecting the number of park homes allowed at Medina Park in Folly Lane. I have been backing the residents in their endeavours to ensure that there is a new agreement in place that will protect the remaining amenity areas on site. At the time of writing, negotiations are continuing.

Since September 2010 we have a new bus service which is particularly important for residents in Hawthorn Meadows, Beatrice Avenue and Medina Park. It is at present being subsidised by money paid under planning agreements but if it is to continue in the longer term it will probably need to become self-supporting.

I hope the new road from Saunders Way to Kingston Road will shortly be completed. I have been pressing on this for the last 18 months. When finished it should mean that all traffic to and from the industrial premises alongside the river will cease travelling along Victoria Grove.

With my colleague, Councillor Margaret Webster, I was able to persuade colleagues to drop the proposal to charge foot passengers and cyclists on the floating bridge.

In May 2010 I was elected Chairman of Whippingham Parish Council. I also attend meetings of East Cowes Town Council as well as meetings of a number of local community groups.

I have had meetings and correspondence with many residents of the ward in the last year. I am always happy to meet residents who have issues they wish to discuss relating to the council or the local community.

Edward Giles
18.05.11