



Thames Ditton & Weston Green Residents' Association (Founded 1934)

Minutes of a meeting of Thames Ditton (TD) & Weston Green (WG) Residents' Association (RA) Open (Election) Meeting held via Virtual Video Conference on 20 April 2021 at 8pm.

Present: Chairman Graham Cooke (GC), Cllr Caroline James (CJ), Cllr Karen Randolph (KR), Cllr Tannia Shipley (TS), SCCLr Nick Darby (ND), Gill Coates (GCo), Alex Batchelor (AB), Peter Haynes (PHa), Libby MacIntyre (LMc), Christa Silverthorne (CS), Florian Traub (FT), Ruth Lyon (RL), Rhodri Richards (RR), Martin Wilberforce (MW), WG/HW Cllr Janet Turner and WG/HW Cllr Nigel Haig-Brown (NhB),

1. The Chairman welcomed the attendees to the meeting and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to introduce TDWGRA's candidates for the local elections on 6 May 2021 (and therefore the meeting did not follow the "usual" agenda of an open meeting). The Chairman provided background to the local elections for Elmbridge Borough and Surrey County Councils and briefly introduced the candidates.
 2. The candidates gave their presentations:
 - a. Nick Darby for Surrey County Council;
 - b. Alex Batchelor for Elmbridge County Council; and
 - c. Gill Coates for Elmbridge County Council.
 3. Residents had been asked to submit questions to the candidates ahead of the meeting which were read out either by the residents themselves (if present) or by the Hon. Secretary:
 - a. A resident asked the candidates about access to green spaces in the community as well as the litter problem. This was duly answered by AB.
 - b. A resident asked the candidates about the protection of the Green Belt. Related questions concerned the green belt area in Hinchley Wood / Long Ditton and the local plan. These were duly answered by all candidates.
 - c. A resident asked the candidates about the role of the council in the climate emergency. This was duly answered by ND and CJ.
 - d. A resident asked the candidates about the protection of our local shops and High Street. This was duly answered by ND and KR.
 - e. A resident asked about the group of independent candidates in SCC. This was duly answered by ND.
- During the debate, residents as well as RA official and officers made numerous contributions.

The Chairman brought the meeting to a close at 9:30 pm.

Date of Next Open Meeting: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 via Zoom

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Chairman