

April 2023



Whitehill & Bordon
Community Party



Dear neighbour,

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and our leaflet as we put it together with our limited funds! Eight pages actually worked out cheaper than six! **The Whitehill & Bordon Community Party** is officially registered with the electoral commission and **is a local group** made up of volunteer members. To be 100% clear, all our election candidates live in **Bordon, Whitehill and Lindford** and we also have links to **Greatham**.

You do not have to stop supporting the national party of your choice to vote for us locally.

We work together and our objective is clear: be re-elected onto our town council to build upon our positive work to-date and also win the six **East Hampshire District Council (EHDC)** seats that cover Whitehill, Bordon Lindford and Greatham to better represent you at a higher level from the 'inside.' In February, the Conservatives and Lib Dems unanimously agreed an EHDC budget and council tax rise for 2023-24. It has been so frustrating to see issue after issue arise. We relish the opportunity to get on the inside and better represent you, working with the other parties to try and improve EHDC, but fighting your corner when things go wrong. Just before this election period began, the EHDC Conservatives announced a 'spring clean' and started cleaning Grayshott on the same day they hadn't managed to collect Whitehill & Bordon bins! I am sure I am not the only one who can see through this pre-election gimmick! We need to see consistent ongoing results from EHDC, not just in the run up to the local election!

For those who already support us, thank you - it means a lot and winning the town council election in 2019 **proves we can win when people vote for us!** For those who do not or are undecided, I hope to show you why we are asking you to place your faith in us. **We will always strive to push for what is best for our fellow residents**, not what's best for any political party. We were quick to financially support volunteer group '**Bordon Buddies**' during the pandemic, also approving grants to **Citizens Advice East Hampshire, Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre, Whitehill Village Hall, Forest Community Centre** and **Bordon Food Bank**. We worry that Lib Dems just want to attack Conservatives for the sake of it, to score points and Conservatives want to tell us everything is perfect and they have done a great job in charge. This is despite the damning EHDC 'conduct report' and how their 'Liz Truss budget' of autumn 2022 has negatively impacted our town centre development, with inflation soaring and borrowing rates (to build it) up.

We value our greenspaces. The town council under my leadership has made it our policy to protect all greenspaces under our control, which includes Bordon Inclosure and Deadwater Valley Nature Reserve. **I was described by the Bordon Herald as being in a 'fury'** over EHDC's proposed plan to build an additional 1300 houses in Whitehill & Bordon, which was a fairly accurate way of describing how I feel about this! I cannot contemplate this number, when infrastructure is already incredibly stretched, such as doctor's surgeries and dentists.

I am very concerned about local **Health Services** and **Chase Hospital**. As the local population grows, **we need a greater level of health services** – not less! When the proposed **Health Hub** proposals finally come forward we will scrutinise them heavily! One of our greatest disappointments with the Lib Dems is how their members on EHDC's overview and scrutiny committee (2021) did not even question the Conservatives policy to not give money to Chase Hospital and fund a new Health Hub instead. Regardless of whether they support it or not, they should have asked proper questions and scrutinised the proposals – **we would have done**, if on EHDC.

I personally fought for the **six-lane swimming pool** back in 2014, which finally opened in 2020. We support a **new town centre** and I told the regeneration company that only a **proper mainstream supermarket** would be acceptable in the new **Town Centre** (in addition to Tesco). We support **youth** and local **schools**, including grants and awards.

I meet with local **police** regularly to review **crime** and to strive to **make our community safe**. It's unacceptable that the Conservative Police & Crime Commissioner made a police front desk commitment to Petersfield, an aspiration to have one in Alton but nothing to add for Whitehill & Bordon, in her March statement.

I am particularly dismayed by a Lib Dem member from Liphook standing in Pinewood ward is saying he is an independent, which I feel misleads residents and defeats the object of genuine local representation. Our view is that **local people should be representing local people** and this is so vital when EHDC is the planning authority and made up primarily of Conservative councillors who do not live here either!

I can't do it alone. I need our strong team to be elected with me, all of whom I respect, support and value. I remain optimistic about the future of **Whitehill & Bordon, Lindford and Greatham** and we will do our bit to try and make a positive difference. If you support me and our local group then **please vote for us on Thursday 4 May**.

Yours faithfully,

Andy PS PLEASE VOTE FOR ALL MY RUNNING MATES
SO WE CAN WIN AS A GROUP!

ANDY TREE, Leader of the Whitehill & Bordon Community Party