

## Annual Report 2019

### Councillor Ian Stephens – Ryde West Ward

2018-19 has been a challenging year with more cuts to council services. Opposing cuts and the amalgamation of the Fire Service with Hampshire, I have put forward areas where additional revenue can be made through new beach huts, and parking initiatives etc. Throughout, I have continued to represent the residents of Ryde West, Ryde, and the Isle of Wight.

Working in partnership with Environmental officers has led to dealing with fly tipping, rubbish, and dog fouling, with new signage erected. Island Roads support my regular rounds of the district assisting with the replacement of vandalised trees, attention given to abandoned vehicles, pot holes, etc.

I have taken responsibility of unlocking Ryde Cemetery gates, allowing through access which has proven so popular with residents.

The Housing Associations have supported me on various occasions, and we have solved numerous problems allaying the concerns of individual residents. I am pleased to report that the local 6<sup>th</sup> Form Military College has provided support to our community, assisting with the ongoing maintenance of the community nature area.

I am involved with the Respect Ryde Project, with beach cleaning, and attention to public realm, I am pleased that shortly Coronation Gardens will receive an upgrade.

I support Aspire, and the assistance given to those in need, however Island rough sleeping numbers continue to rise, and Ryde West have had incidents of people living in tents. Throughout the coming year I will continue to focus on rough sleeping in the area.

Due to route changes I am pleased that the number 37 bus continues to serve our district providing transport to the Health Centre at Pellhurst Road, whilst assisting access to Ryde town centre.

I continue to responsibly challenge both cuts and policies which impact on Ryde West and our Island.

Ian Stephens  
May 2019