

Annual Report 2019

Councillor Barry Abraham - Wootton Bridge Ward

This year has seen some major developments in my planning and housing cabinet role. Firstly, the local plan review has been put together along with all the potential housing sites. The whole local plan has been consulted on and a large number of observations and objections are now in the process of being read through and the views taken into account for the final draft which will again be consulted on by the public.

There is no doubt having to deliver 641 residential properties according to government statistics per year is a difficult task and it is fair to say that it is not popular in some parts of the Island.

In my last report I wrote about the lack of affordable housing on the Island. In November I took a paper to the cabinet with a recommendation that the council establishes its own housing company and builds homes that at present are not being built by the open market, I am pleased to say that this was passed unanimously by the cabinet and in April the council will set out how this will work.

Locally I continue to work with Wootton Bridge Parish Council on issues that affect the village. It was particularly good to see the top half of New Road being almost rebuilt after many years of suffering so many pot holes. I will continue to make the case for the 5 mph section to be upgraded.

Whilst I do not hold regular clinics I can be contacted by telephone and as I live and work in the village I can pop round and see you or if you prefer, meet you in the parish office in Brannon Way.

Barry Abraham
May 2019