

Annual Report 2015

Councillor Graham Perks – Ventnor East Ward

I have to say that I have found this, my second year, quite depressing, in so much that I had great difficulty in actually managing to get many what I would call good results.

On the home front, local issues, I have had more success and managed to help local residents with issues on housing, health, education, road safety, licensing issues, planning advice and many other localised issues.

My main disappointments would be:

Not managing to stop the final handing over of The Winter Gardens which I still maintain should have been more eagerly scrutinised as far as the contract was concerned and taken back by the Isle of Wight Council. I have still to find out what happened and who was ultimately responsible for the present scenario regarding the Grand Piano that was purchased under a special arrangement by two kind hearted ladies for the town?

I feel that the selling off of the Market Street toilets and the keeping of the very old Marlborough Street, antiquated and in my view not fit for purpose toilets was a travesty and again should have been looked into more carefully.

Along with a large number of local residents and our MP, we managed to collect over 600 signatures to get the speed limit reduced from 40mph to 30 mph this is still ongoing with council officers and Island Roads.

Lastly, I am quite surprised that the council are still thinking about selling off car parks when we are at present paying 30 / 40K in consultancy fees, but there you go?

I will carry on and see what happens in year three, onwards and upwards.

Graham Perks
May 2015