

PEOPLE AGAINST BUREAUCRACY GROUP

Prestbury Election Special

Thursday 12th October

Stan Smith – the man for Prestbury.....

The resignation of Cllr. John Payne for personal reasons was a blow to the PAB Management Committee and to the residents of Prestbury. John was a hard-working Councillor representing Prestbury for over nine years at Borough level and four years at the County Council. Messages of support from both fellow Councillors and residents are a testament to John's time as a Councillor.

Time moves on and the Management Committee are pleased to confirm that they have nominated a long-time resident of Prestbury to continue the valuable work that PAB have undertaken for residents for over 40 years.

Stanley Smith has lived in Prestbury for over 30 years and is now retired from a career in the aircraft industry, where he enjoyed both technical and managerial roles. Since retirement Stan has committed himself to working with local charities and helping the disadvantaged in society.



Prestbury is not unique, but it is a special place with its own characteristics and issues, features that PAB Councillors have over the years recognised and responded to from flooding to inappropriate development. Appropriate and sensitive development should be welcomed and supported. PAB Councillors were instrumental in the establishment of the

Starvehall Farm Residents Association with a grant from the County Council to promote a sense of community and belonging.

In common with every other Ward in Cheltenham, Prestbury has a range of issues, including potholes and road maintenance (a County Council responsibility), anti-social behaviour, poor maintenance of verges, and pollution associated with increased traffic through the village from Winchcombe. All issues that your Borough Councillors address on a regular basis.

There are however two issues of concern that have the potential to have a significant impact on Prestbury.

Idsall Drive Car Park. Following the refusal by Prestbury Parish Council to purchase the car park as an Asset of Community Value for the village, (at a large discount), the future of the car park now lies with the Liberal Democrat controlled Cabinet. Representations have been made by PAB, Green and Conservative Councillors, expressing their concern about the impact closure will have on the viability of the High Street businesses. The Council has yet to publish the promised Impact Statement, should the decision to sell at a market value be taken.

Green Belt. The Green Belt is vital to the setting of Prestbury, and every PAB Councillor has been committed to protecting it, and with the exception of the Hunting Butts that has now been redesignated as a Brown Field site have been successful. The Green Belt is under threat as never before, a situation not helped by a Planning Inspector granting planning permission for 250 houses on land adjacent to Harp Hill, in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In addition, delays in the granting of planning permission for Elm Park (along Tewkesbury Road) means that Cheltenham Borough Council are well behind in their building programme, and may well look for alternative sites, with a number of sites in Prestbury currently under consideration.



What is PAB? For residents new to Prestbury PAB may be an unknown quantity. PAB is a registered political party that has represented Prestbury for over 40 years. PAB has no manifesto and its Councillors are in effect independent but guided by the stated principles of the Group. When it comes to voting in Council, PAB Councillors have a free hand.

PRESTBURY AND PAB THE PROVEN PARTNERSHIP



www.pab.org.uk

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