

Ramsey Town Commissioners North Ward Election

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As I am now retired, I can put myself forward to represent you as a Ramsey Town Commissioner. My expertise is in working in the Community with various voluntary and statutory service providers and for the last 27 years as Resident Warden for Northern Parishes Sheltered Housing in Ramsey. I am Ramsey born and bred and have lived and worked here most of my life. I have seen the Town expand into the countryside. However, it is still a Market Town with a working harbour for fishing boats, cargo boats and pleasure crafts. I will do my best to keep it that way. One of the problems affecting the Town is the lack of effective consultation between Local and Central Government Departments. Central Government have responsibility to repair all Roads and footpaths on public roads within the Town boundaries. Their remit is to manage traffic flow and parking and so far this obligation is not being met. The traffic speed is far too fast in certain parts. Some footpaths are neglected and badly laid out and smaller roads are full of potholes.

Pressure from the public forced Ramsey Commissioners to hold a Special meeting which resulted in the Board objecting to the plans to alter the Quayside. The objection was on the basis that the whole scheme is not needed and the loss of over 60 parking spaces is not acceptable. Yes we need to prepare for the predicted rise in sea levels and a small wall along the whole length of the harbour side in place of the chains will be much more in keeping with the conservation of the area.

I will work with the Commissioners to get best value to keep your rates as low as possible. This is more important now with the predicted rise in the cost of living.

The Court House is in the heart of the Town and is ideally placed to serve as a Community Centre, where organisations and groups will welcome the opportunity to hold events. The advantage is level access on the ground floor with the possibility of small storage rooms to store their equipment. There is also an upper floor to be utilised.

The lack of public toilets in the Northward, now that the block in Shoprite Car Park has closed is not acceptable for locals and visitors, a temporary solution could be a port-aloo until something more permanent could be made available, this is especially important to attract more shoppers.

Ramsey Town Commissioners own two sites, one at rear of the Commissioners Yard in Gladstone Avenue and one on Old River Road. These sites should be used to build Commissioners housing with one and two bedroom units, and should be built to utilise renewable energy. The sites may be suitable for shared equity housing for people to buy into and give homeowners the opportunity to downsize and be nearer the town centre.

The newly built Northern Parishes Sheltered Housing in Town will go some way to help people downsize and free up much needed family homes. There are brown field sites on the level in Town in private ownership which need also need to be developed for housing or other industry. The outskirts of Town within the boundaries are very poorly lit with not enough street lighting and the problem needs to be addressed. The Commissioners are responsible to provide adequate lighting and I will bring the matter to the attention of the Board. I do not agree with extending the Town boundaries until the roads and foot paths within the boundaries are repaired and resurfaced and provision is made to accommodate the predicted rise in traffic if new estates are built on the outskirts. Electric car charging points at the Mooragh Car Park would be beneficial to people wishing to use the Park facilities.

Various voluntary organisations are working hard to keep Ramsey attractive and alive for everyone to enjoy.

Save the Bay group have generated a petition of over 60,000 people to lobby Central Government to halt the sale of the South shore to developers. The shore is presently being cleared of gravel to return it to sandy beach at no cost to the Rate payers.

The Queens's Pier is progressing well with the restoration work. The open day attracted a lot of interested people from all over the Island.

I look forward to hopefully serving you as Ramsey Town Commissioner.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISIONERS NORTH WARD ELECTION
POLLING STATION IS RAMSEY TOWN HALL ON 25TH NOVEMBER
2021 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8AM TO 8 PM.**