

# Thames Ditton & Weston Green Residents' Association

www.residents-association.com

@TDResidents



# Alex BATCHELOR



**YOUR RESIDENTS' CANDIDATE FOR ELMBRIDGE - 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2024**

*Remember to bring photo ID to your polling station*

## From Alex:

12 Hayward Road, Thames Ditton

It is and has been a privilege to represent the residents of Thames Ditton, helping residents and working to enhance our lovely area. The issues councillors have to deal with are often about trying to find an elusive balance – for example, between desperately needed new homes and preserving the green belt that make this a nice place to live, between positive change that improves our lives – and continuing to do things the way we have in the past, even when circumstances and local populations change. I have lived in Thames Ditton and Weston Green for 30 years, with Geraldine – and have been lucky to bring up 4 children here. I am proud of what the Residents' Association has done in that time and what it continues to do.

Some issues can be fraught when local opinion is divided - here the RA aims to find the majority view. The vast majority of you did not want a new Aldi store, or indeed any supermarket, on the Portsmouth Road, right next to the green – but crucially away from the high street and local parades of shops. In supporting your wishes and opposing that development at the Planning Committee and subsequent Appeal I have read many things that are not true on social media – and continue to read things that aren't true in relation to the Thames Ditton Community Centre. I am very happy to talk to people and to hear their views – but would encourage civility. I know we can all do better in finding ways to discuss the choices we make to ensure that our area thrives and develops, whilst preserving the sense of community that makes it special.

To enable me to continue with this, please vote for me as your RA Councillor on Thursday 2nd May.

## Why vote Residents' Association?

**RA Councillors are independent of national party politics. They work with fellow Elmbridge Residents Group Councillors to ensure the Council is run effectively and efficiently - for residents.**

- **We live in Thames Ditton ward** and work for the interests of all its residents and businesses.
- **We work as a team** providing comprehensive Residents' Association Councillor cover at both Borough and County Council levels.
- **We keep in contact with you** through regular open meetings, dedicated website, Twitter and Thames Ditton Today magazine.
- **We work hard and respond to residents' needs. We get things done!**
- **We fight to preserve our precious Green Belt.**



Alex with Thames Ditton ward Residents' Association Councillors Elaine Sesemann and Caroline James

Contact Alex on 020 8398 2915 or [alex.batchelor@btinternet.com](mailto:alex.batchelor@btinternet.com)



## Residents' Association Priorities



- **Housing & Green Belt:** Support well-designed sustainable development and more affordable housing. Defend our Green Belt, Green Spaces & Riverside. Resist inappropriate development.
- **Public Transport:** Fight to retain and improve the performance of our train and bus services.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** Support and expand physical and mental health services for all residents, especially those in greatest need.
- **Climate Change:** Encourage residents to address the impact we have on our climate, and the changes we can make in our community to help alleviate it.
- **Local Environment:** Maintain and enhance our outdoor spaces by clearing litter, adding greenery and promoting recycling.
- **High Street Shops & Businesses:** Promote and maintain our commercial community. Fight against loss of premises by changes to residential use.

### Some examples of how your Residents' Association has worked for you



Alexandra Road, February 2012

*TD Flood Resilience conference organised by RA's Flooding Group*



*Initiated and organised TD & WG's Nature & Climate Festivals*



*Successfully opposed Aldi's application for inappropriate supermarket in TD*

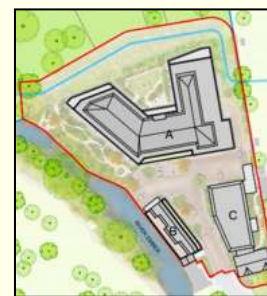


*Installing & regularly maintaining Christmas tree lights in the High Street*



*Responded to resident's appeal to provide emergency throwlines on popular Albany Reach*

*Supporting local residents in opposing the overbearing development on the Molesey Venture site*



### Elmbridge Residents Group: An ERG-Liberal Democrat coalition leads Elmbridge Borough Council. A vote for your local Residents' Association is never a wasted vote in Elmbridge. We believe local politics is for local people. Our Priorities:

**Prudent financial management** - Continuing to deliver a balanced budget, with affordable Council tax rises (2.8%) and targeting spending for greatest resident benefit.

**Community Support** - Helped 1500 vulnerable families with food vouchers; set up a £500,000 Cost of Living support fund; ensuring we have a sustainable service.

**Water safety** - set up a £30,000 fund to improve safety on our waterways, including more throwlines, training, free swimming lessons and subsidised lifeguard courses.

**An original, visionary draft Local Plan** which preserves our Green Belt and also provides housing that is more affordable and greener.

**Protecting our environment** - Aim to be carbon neutral by 2030; making council vehicles and buildings greener; more EV charging points.

**Preparing for the future** - Launched a new Vision 2030 for a sustainable, thriving, community-oriented Elmbridge.

**For a strong Residents' voice, vote Alex Batchelor**

