

## **Isle of Wight Councillor Report for Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish – July 2021.**

The period since the election has been incredibly busy with many induction sessions, meetings, and briefings for all newly elected members. Much of this has had to be online due to continuing restrictions, and I applaud the IWC Officers ability to deliver such a wealth of information in often challenging circumstances – I have certainly learned a lot and feel that I have hit the ground running!

There was some confusion at Full Council over committee appointments, and currently I have been appointed to the Audit Committee and have been elected to The Corporate Parenting Board. Changes will be made at the next Full Council meeting on Wednesday 21 July, and whilst I will remain on the CPB, my committee memberships will change and I will come off Audit Committee and will join Policy and Scrutiny for Neighbourhoods and Regeneration and Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Children’s Services, Education and Skills. I will also be a substitute for Pensions and Planning and have completed the additional training needed to sit on the Planning Committee.

I have been appointed to the Shadow Cabinet as Conservative Spokesperson for Environment, Heritage and Waste management, and as such will be in regular touch with officers on matters and issues relating to this portfolio and have been asked to join the task and finish group on Fly Tipping.

I have been busy with ward work and helping residents on issues around the ferries and availability for NHS patients, planning, planning enforcement, housing, fly tipping, unkempt verges, bins, speeding and parking.

I have kept up to date with the Chillerton and Rookley School consultation, speaking both with members of the SOS group, the Governing Body and Officers. You will have seen that the school will re-open in September, and Cllr Debbie Andre, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills, will make her decision once she has received the Officer’s report covering all the options available.

I have met with a Central Rural resident and Cllr Claire Critchison to discuss retrospective planning and planning enforcement issues and we hope to work together on this going forward.

I have a meeting next week with planning officers to discuss the UKOG application to drill at Arreton, to ensure I am fully up to speed with all details of this. I have also drafted my comment to object to their application to the Environment Agency for an environmental permit, and will be submitting this by the 9<sup>th</sup> July deadline.

Many residents have raised concerns with me about large tractors travelling to and from the Anaerobic Digester Plant in Arreton down lanes for which they are too wide. I have spoken with the local police who suggest reporting specific incidents to them via their [website](#) but do stress that tractors are exempt from width restrictions when directly accessing their land. I have also spoken with Neville Peachey, works manager at the AD plant, who has confirmed that the original planning conditions specified certain routes for the farms involved at the time. The other (two) farmers that supply the AD plant currently do not have agreed routes, and are asked to take the quickest legal route available, Mr Peachey has stressed that if they do not do this – ie they go down a 6’ 6” in a too wide tractor – they are breaking the law, and this should be reported to the police via their website. Rude or unthoughtful driving can be reported to Mr Peachey directly, with a registration number, date and time, and he will investigate and deal with it. Email is [neville.peachey@wfenergy.co.uk](mailto:neville.peachey@wfenergy.co.uk)

**Cllr Suzie Ellis**

**Elected Member for Central Rural**

**Conservative Spokesperson for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management**

**Email: [suzie.ellis@iow.gov.uk](mailto:suzie.ellis@iow.gov.uk)**

**Tel: 07943 963175**