



## **Wootton Wawen Ward District & Arden Division County**

**Cllr. Ian Shenton**

Proud to represent

Bearley, Claverdon, Earlswood, Henley in Arden, Langley, Mappleborough Green, Preston Bagot, Tanworth in Arden, Ullenhall, Wolverton, Wootton Wawen

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It seems a long time ago now but the district council elections in May still loom large in my mind, not least because it "marked the changing of the guard" with many wards voting for other candidates rather than the one they had.

I am incredibly grateful to the residents of Wootton Wawen ward who voted for me for a second term, I thank you sincerely for your support.

With the background of turmoil and depth of feeling nationally and more locally with our MP I never took anything for granted and I will continue to serve residents to the absolute best of my ability, with honesty and directness as I have done for the last four years.

I love local events, fetes and garden parties and so on the 12<sup>th</sup> June Christine (my lovely wife) and myself went to Ullenhall fete on what was a scorcher of a day. What a fantastic couple of hours we had. Unfortunately, we missed the dog show, always a favourite of ours, but there were classic cars, stalls selling new and previously used items, a terrific book stall selling paperbacks at 50p plus, refreshments, ice cream, tombola's, a raffle and lots more. I love classic cars so to see the range of classic cars at Ullenhall kept me occupied whilst my wife raided the book stall (as she is an avid reader of all genres of writing). To cap it all we won a bottle of wine in the tombola. We had a great time, well supported by local residents and those from further afield and it is a great chance to have a bit of fun with friends and talk to anyone and everyone. I would like to say a big thank you to the organisers, stall holders and everyone else involved in setting the fete up and in particular one person, whose name came up a few times Malcolm Aldridge, who I know well as we were both Community First Responders in Henley for some time (Malcolm was an inspiration to newbies like me in the CFR group). Thank you Malcolm.

Moving on a week to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June Henley in Arden hosted a pop-up Climate Change event in the High Street opposite the Co Op and having set the objectives for the district council to help address climate change within the district I thought I would go along on what was another hot and sunny day. The first person I was greeted by was Henley Parish Councillor Bryn Turner. Bryn is extremely interested in and knowledgeable about Climate change and we share our views at Parish Council meetings so it was good to see Bryn and the team of volunteers plus the newly appointed Climate Change Officer for Stratford District Council seeking resident's views on what they thought priorities should be. It is essential that we do as much as we can to limit the effects and also to adapt to climate change so events such as these are key to bring local residents views together to find common grounds and priorities that can be put into action.

Don't forget though that one of the best ways of helping the environment that does not cost you anything is to recycle as much as you can, put waste into the correct bins, reduce waste, use the food caddies and put them out each week. Food waste is a massive issue and whilst the introduction of the food caddies has been successful there are still many residents who don't use them. If you are using your caddy, a big thank you from me and if not please try and use them because as we all know As a well known supermarket chain says, "every little helps" and never has a saying being more appropriate to climate change.

Coming back to Parish Councillor Bryn Turner, if any Henley resident wants to share their thoughts on climate change contact him, he will be very interested to hear your views, as I will, because whilst I am no longer the portfolio holder for Climate Change at Stratford I retain my passionate interest in the issue and share my views with the Climate change portfolio holder at the County Council.



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One of my current roles is to visit schools within the County to look at how they are tackling educational achievement for underprivileged or disadvantaged children (known as **S**pecial **E**ducational **N**eeds and **D**isabilities or SEND for short). The first of those visits was on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June where I met the incredibly inspirational Head Teacher of a school to find out what strategies they use to deal with absences, lower grades, self-esteem, teaching issues associated with SEND pupils. In future articles I will write more about this important subject.

**Finally, don't forget the Wootton Wawen Festival of Fun on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>h</sup> July. It promises to be a fun filled weekend open to everyone.**

As always feel free to contact me at any time to discuss any issues that you feel I can help with and I will do my absolute best to help.