

COUNTY COUNCILLOR
DAVID IVISON

The **local choice** for Heatherside and Parkside

*"I promise my continued efforts on behalf of the
whole Heatherside & Parkside community."*

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HEATHERSIDE & PARKSIDE DIVISION INCL. WELLINGTON ESTATE.

OVERVIEW

The electoral Division of over 12,000 inhabitants and 5,500 homes is a relatively new expansion of Camberley.

When I bought a house here in 1968 there were no Parkside, Warren, Wellington, Copped Hall, Heatherside estates - indeed there was no M3 motorway or Frimley Park Hospital.

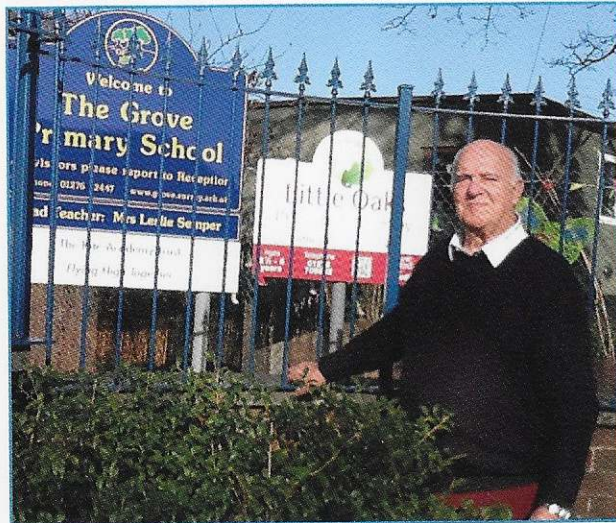
All of these were developed in the 1970's/80's. 91% of the houses are owner occupied. Over 50% of the age group 18-74 are in managerial positions with 91% driving to work with 2-3 cars per household. I have lots more interesting facts on our area but it does serve to illustrate why our local Vicar (*Larry*) has declared us the 'Least deprived Parish in the Country' - but there are still areas we can improve on.



WELLINGTON PARK

A unique development on the grounds of the former Women's Royal Army Corps Staff College (*where the Queen trained as an ambulance driver during World War 2*). It is also unique that for Borough elections it is part of **St. Paul's Ward** and for County elections it comes alongside the Heatherside and Parkside Division. This is a quirk of the Boundary Commission to give me an additional 400 houses and 800 residents to answer to!

So far I have only been asked to improve the road in **Picton Close** which became a lake whenever it rained! I managed to get the pavioir surface re-laid and now residents do not require Wellington boots to get to their car!



PARKSIDE

A more dispersed community with the larger estates of Parkside alongside our excellent hospital, the **Warren** estate and the pretty **Copped Hall** estate. Under recent Boundary Commission recommendations the **Copped Hall** estate will re-join Heatherside for future Borough elections. It is, in my opinion, lacking a community focus - but one could be established using one of the excellent schools (*the Grove or Prior Heath*) or **St. Francis Church**. The Borough Councillors could assist by encouraging a Residents Association along the lines of the Heatherside Association. Proximity to the excellent **Frimley Park Hospital** sometimes has its downside with anti-social parking spilling over into neighbouring streets and I am frequently meeting with the hospital CEO to provide more parking facilities on site.

The £600,000 construction of an additional traffic lane into the hospital has been partially successful in reducing congestion along the **Portsmouth Road** and we still need directional signs on the hospital roundabout and roads to better advise drivers on lane discipline. A number of other roads have been resurfaced including **Prior Road** and **Holly Hedge Road**, with **Longmeadow** footpaths being treated.

David Ivison - FROM the community, FOR the community.



HEATHERSIDE

Perhaps the most self-contained area with church, shopping centre, community centre, school, excellent pub and restaurant, pharmacy, medical centre, childrens playground, skate park and a large recreational ground.

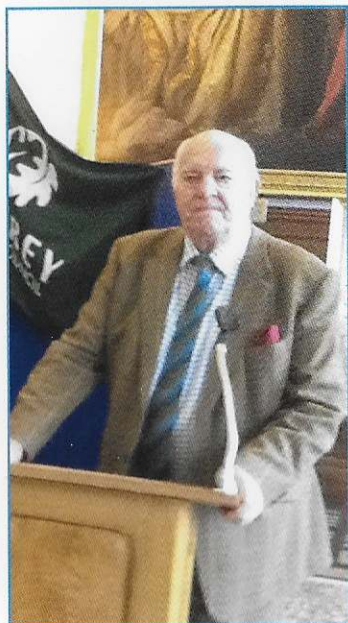
I have been happy to support the many community groups, from the senior citizens, scouts, pre-school etc.

There are improvements needed - **Inglewood Avenue** to be resurfaced, the Maultway and other potholes to be repaired, etc. I will try to obtain funding to transform our shopping arcade into an attractive, colourful Italian-style piazza (*not pizza!*).

In recent years I have managed to get a large number of our roads resurfaced - **Goldney Road, Cumberland Road, Roxburgh Close, Martindale, Wendover, Langdon, Old Bisley Road**, and others.

I have been delighted to encourage and support the **Heatherside Ward Residents Association**. I have attended all their meetings and listened to your opinions and suggestions - and exposed myself to your criticism!. I would encourage more residents to join the Residents Association and make Heatherside an even more active community.





MY POLITICAL OUTLOOK...

I have served the Heatherside & Parkside community for a number of years as a Conservative County Councillor - and I remain a member of the Conservative Party. However, I am completely disillusioned with the inept maladministration of the local Surrey Heath Conservative Association. The present management has failed miserably over the past 2 years to promote the aims and interests of the party and seem content to turn a once 'flagship' association into a 'rich boys' wining and dining club. Across the borough they have failed to follow rules laid down by Central Office and caused widespread discontent. Standing as an **independent** candidate gives me the opportunity to speak more freely on critical issues without being obliged to follow a Party whip.

As a Party we have not always made the right decisions - but I am convinced that the Tory Party policies are generally better than those of other Parties. I do not rule out returning to the Conservative benches at some stage - but only when the local Tory hierarchy is exposed and deposed! In an ideal world, local government should be less politicised and it's councillors judged more on their contribution to society and not by the colour of the rosette they wear. Central government, however, has yet to recognise the essential role that local authorities have in delivering vital services to the community. Many citizens are not aware of the differing responsibilities between the County Council and Borough Council, and I draw attention fact that **85% of services to our local community are the responsibility of Surrey County Council**. I therefore, as your sitting County Councillor, have to accept responsibility (*and criticism!*) for our performance in all these areas and overleaf I give examples of where I have been able to influence necessary action.

OTHER ISSUES FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Over the page in this electoral newsletter, I outline issues in my Division.

A. LOCAL COUNCILLORS

In Surrey Heath we have three tiers of local government - County (*6 Councillors*), and Borough (*40 Councillors*) (*plus four villages have 41 Parish Councillors*). Each has it's own sphere of responsibility. There is sometimes a clash of priorities between councils and I would urge voters to consider carefully the trend for elected councillors to be 'dual hatted' and serve as both County and Corough councillors.

Based on my observations it is often apparent that some 'dual-hatted' Councillors see their position as a useful way to top-up a pension or to fund a nice annual holiday! Not all - but quite a few. **Judge your elected representatives by their performance and not by their rhetoric!** Ask what they have actually achieved for their community? Ask where their loyalties as 'dual hatters' would lie when there are inevitable conflicts of interests or priorities between County and Borough? A 'dual hatter' also removes a second Councillor to represent the community. They just receive two or more sets of allowances! Believe me, experience is going to be very

WIDER AREAS ON NATIONAL INTEREST

It is only right that I declare my position on a number of issues:-

A. BREXIT

Having served in Brussels for 3 years and experienced the bureaucratic arrogance of EU institutions, I am strongly in favour of Brexit and have every confidence in the people of the United Kingdom to once again be an even more successful nation unshackled by EU dogma. I forecast the total collapse of the EU within 10 years!

B. EXPANSION OF HEATHROW

important over the next few difficult years.

B. LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Heatherside & Parkside residents are going to be widely affected by the development of 1200 new houses in neighbouring Deepcut. Will our local roads, schools, health provision, shops, public transport etc be able to cope with this massive influx? Your council and councillors will need to defend the interests of it's existing communities as well as providing for this massive expansion in our area. Only a councillor with local knowledge, experience and contacts can do this.

C. FRIMLEY PARK HOSPITAL

We are fortunate in having the sole nationally assessed 'outstanding' NHS hospital in our area. Since it was built in the 1970's it's catchment area has massively widened outside the Camberley area. Now, controlling hospitals in Ascot and Slough there are wide-ranging changes being planned. We need to be reassured that there will be no reduction in the excellent services we presently receive.

D. LAW AND ORDER

We live in one of the safest areas in the country but there are still pockets of crime and anti-social behaviour. We miss the previous daily presence of our own Neighbourhood Police support - usually a couple of dedicated and respected Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's). They had local knowledge and respect and I will campaign to get them back again.

E. LOCAL SCHOOLS

We are blessed with having 5 Outstanding schools in Heatherside & Parkside. I have been able to support all these schools in the past and have been most impressed with the dedicated teachers - and the happy pupils! I know that a number of families have chosen to live in our area because of the excellent schools we have.

“Realistically, as your County Councillor, I do not promise you a perfect Utopia! I fairly warn you of difficult times ahead. I do however promise you my continued efforts on behalf of the whole Heatherside and Parkside community. I do have the very useful experience of 'knowing my way around' the bureaucracy of local government and the benefit of being on first name terms with many of the decision-makers. Very useful to get thing done! Don't be fooled by other candidates promises of utopian changes! I have details of the County Budget for the next 4 years - and it does not promise a bed of roses!”

I support the long-overdue expansion of Heathrow as necessary for the substantial economic benefits it will bring not only to South East England, but to the whole country.

C. HS 2

I do not support spending £billions on a rail link which will save 10 mins travel time between London and Birmingham! Rather spend the money on rail improvements across the country - starting in Camberley where the rail service to London is worse now than it was in the 1930's! We need better and more frequent links to Central London and Heathrow.

D. OVERSEAS AID

I believe we should reduce our Overseas Aid budget and control it more closely. We need more funding to stay in this country to improve the NHS, our schools, our infrastructure, the care of our elderly and vulnerable and to properly support our Armed Forces and Police - not to line the pockets of corrupt dictators!

E. COUNCIL TAX 15% REFERENDUM

I voted that we should hold a referendum to decide on an increased level of Council Tax. Note, **I did not vote for a 15% increase** - only that the public should have their say. There was no way a hike would have been agreed! The 'threat' of a referendum in a strong Conservative Council was to alert Central Government to the critical state of local authority finances. We partially succeeded at the very last moment and obtained a 'gentlemans agreement' for future improvements in 2-3 years time. So jam tomorrow! We have to realise, however, that there will be inevitably deep cuts to public services during the coming year. For example, potholes will multiply.

The budget I have influence over has been reduced from £190,000 to £41,000 this year.

A RECORD OF ACTION, A PROMISE FOR MORE...