



Your SWANAGE

ELECTIONS 2007

Vote for the Swanage you want on **Thursday 3rd May 2007**

Election of 12 councillors for Swanage Town Council and 2 for Purbeck District Council



Will you help us build a better future for Swanage?

The world is changing, and we face many important local and global issues, from housing and employment to climate change. Swanage needs a new approach, if it is to have a sustainable future for ourselves and our children. We need a better standard of management and real solutions to keep our town and countryside the place where we want to live and work, and that others want to visit.

The Swanage & Isle of Purbeck Lib Dems have a clear vision for the future. Our positive plans include a variety of measures, which range from easily achievable points of detail to more ambitious long-term proposals. You can see more on our website: www.isleofpurbecklibdems.org.uk

Our economy:

We propose there should be a Business Committee on the Town and District Councils

Our young people:

We propose that there should be a special Youth Committee on the Town Council

Our environment:

We must work harder to protect our stone heritage and make sure our town is a pleasant place to live or visit.

Our Town Council:

It is critical that the town manages its finances properly.

We propose more evening meetings so that working people may stand as councillors or may attend meetings.

Our services:

We must make sure our essential amenities are kept in good order, for the benefit of visitors and locals alike.



Postal votes

Voting is even easier now that anyone may have a postal vote. Just let us know and we can give you the right form. Call Wendy Clark on 422118 before 9 pm on Tuesday 17th April.

Would you like to help?

Please get in touch if you would like to help in any way, for example with the delivery of leaflets, or if you would like to join the Liberal Democrats. Call Peter Clark on 422118.

Purbeck District Council

South ward



Mike Hadley

North ward



Anita Chennell

Swanage Town Council

North ward



Peter Clark

John Leach



South ward



Mike Hadley



Ian Mackenzie

Eddie Bennett



John Page





“Make business better in Swanage”

Vote Lib Dem to develop our economy

We must promote Swanage as a lovely place to live, and a great place to have a business. We need a vision and a diversified economy to attract and keep people here, or we'll lose what we have already.

- The Town Council must strengthen links with the Chamber of Trade and with other organisations, such as Business Link. We propose a Business Committee on the Town Council.

- We would like to seek funding for the appointment of a “Town Manager” with responsibility to drive investment, seek funding and partnership opportunities.

Our economy:

There needs to be close communication between the Council and local businesses. We propose there should be a Business Committee on the Town Council.

- Integrate all initiatives such as Town Partnership, Purbeck Plan, Dorset Plan, Local Development Framework

- We must take advantage of our world-class position on the Jurassic coast, to bring business to Swanage. Can we do something to help more commercial boats operate for longer in the year?

- The Council must focus effort to ensure we benefit from the 2012 Olympics: there may be grants available to accelerate development.

- We must address the decline of hotels and b&bs, and see if we can incentivise and help owners in some way.

- We must progress existing initiatives, such as the multi-function centre, and keep a watching brief on the Grammar School site and the Pier Head.

Our young people:

Young people need to enjoy life and see a future here. We propose that there should be a special Youth Committee on the Town Council.

Vote Lib Dem to keep things working

Although different councils have different responsibilities, we must ensure ‘joined-up thinking’ to keep things working. Public amenities are at risk. This is no idle threat. Dorset County Council plans cuts of £20 million by 2010. Our schools, library and youth club will all be put under the microscope. Amenities may be cut or moved to Wareham. The Day Centre, for example, is under extreme threat of closure.

- We must fight to keep our schools, libraries, medical facilities and social services. This will be difficult unless we attract more working people to live here.

Our services:

We must make sure our essential amenities are kept in good order, for the benefit of visitors and locals alike.

- We need to address the housing problem and see how we can act locally to make the situation better.

- We must explore alternative transport options (perhaps find subsidies to provide a circular mini-bus service to link Swanage facilities).

- Can we improve our loos? Could we find a way to make them free and vandal-proof?

“Make things work better in Swanage”



Vote Lib Dem to help young people

The young people of Swanage are one of the most important groups of all. Without decent schools and facilities for them, families won't come here. And without transport and access to jobs, young people won't stay. We must help them see a future in Swanage.

- The Town and District Councillors must work harder to influence Purbeck District Council and the County Council, to fight off constant threats to services and facilities such as the Youth Club, schools and transport to college, to jobs or just for fun.

- It's important to involve young people more, so they can have greater influence over what they need. At the least, we propose a dedicated Youth Committee on the council.

Vote Lib Dem for a better Town Council

Our councils have two key components. The paid officers who do the day-to-day work that ensures that everything runs more or less smoothly. And the elected, unpaid, councillors

Our Town Council:

It is critical that the town manages its finances properly.

who are not necessarily experts but do their best for the town. We need to ensure that both are up to challenge.

In February, the council finances were in a mess and councillors agreed a 22% rise in the town's share of the council tax. All capital spending was also stopped. One week later, this was overturned by the Tories. It seems that more money was suddenly found! Or there had been an error in the accounting. Either way, it's very worrying. Council finances are still in a mess.

- It is critical that the town manages its finances properly. Until the situation is stabilised, we fear that little can be achieved. We call for more transparency about the council's activities. After all, it is OUR money at stake.

Communication must be improved. We will continue to campaign for up-to-date minutes and agendas.

- The expensive chaos at the Bayview caravan park must end.

- We must improve communication, and will campaign to get agendas and minutes published promptly.

- More Town council meetings should be held in the evening to enable working people to stand as councillors or to attend meetings. We must also ensure that the Town Hall is made accessible to physically disabled people. We should consider the need for more councillors, given the workload.

- We should explore other sources of funding, to seek grants or consider sponsorship.

- Councillors should attend the majority of meetings, unlike some at the moment.

- The Town, District and County councils all have different functions and obligations. With the right Councillors, the Town Council can have a huge influence on the other councils.

We propose more evening meetings (like most other councils) to enable more people to be involved.



"Help us look after the world"

Vote Lib Dem to protect our environment

We must take positive action to protect our natural environment (the sea, our beaches, the Downs), our built environment (our pavements, our streets and our buildings, old and new) and of course our global environment (how we can play our part to stop climate change). The Town and District Councils should take the lead in setting an example and providing advice.

- The Lib Dems have already persuaded DCC to re-open the sales service at the Panorama Road recycling centre.

- We will help encourage energy conservation and promote alternative energy sources, starting with council property wherever possible.

- We should stop the spread of unnecessary signs.

- We should encourage environmentally-friendly transport links.

- We should record and protect our unique stone and architectural heritage.

- We should make sure we keep our pavements clear and our roads uncongested. Any road closure (such as Shore Road) should be subject to proper consultation.

- We need to look at long-term sustainability and coastal protection. We must protect our valuable Jurassic coast.

Our environment:

The Council must have a policy to protect our natural environment and set an example to avoid climate change. We must work harder to protect our stone heritage and make sure our town is a pleasant place to live and visit.

Vote Lib Dem for a better District Council

- We will support the District Council's efforts to reduce climate change.

- We will campaign against Post Office closures.

- We will press the District Council to pursue more affordable housing.

"We need better communication"



Your Lib Dem candidates

Most of the work on Swanage Town Council and Purbeck District Council is not party-political. We promise that people elected under the Lib Dem banner can speak their mind and vote as they wish, not as they are told.



SWANAGE
& ISLE OF PURBECK
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

www.southdorsetlibdems.org.uk

www.isleofpurbecklibdems.org.uk

Peter Clark: 422118 Mike Hadley: 477171

Swanage Town Council

North ward

Peter Clark spent three years in engineering before becoming a Physics teacher in Hertfordshire. He moved to Swanage Grammar School in 1972 and two years later became head of Physics at the new Purbeck School. During his 25 years there, he also served for 13 years as a Teacher Member of the Education Committee. Peter is married with two sons. He is a member of All Saints Church, the May Day singers and Swanage Cricket Club. He would like to see Swanage move ahead through the Market and Coastal Towns Initiative (MCTI) and will fight to keep existing facilities.



Dr John Leach left Swanage in 1969 to study at London University and then spent 30 years working in agricultural research. Every year he has always enjoyed long family holidays in Swanage. In 2003 he returned to live again in the town he loves. He is Chairman of the

Swanage Residents Association and attends many meetings of the Town Council, Town Partnership, MCTI, and Beach Committee. His interests include natural history and the natural environment, architectural heritage, photography, golf, walking and hairy dogs.

Purbeck District Council

North ward



Anita Chennell has known Purbeck all her life, and lived in Dorset for most of it. She is a qualified nursing sister who used to run her own contracting agency and now works as a volunteer for a number of organisations including Communicare and the Pier Trust. Anita

is tenacious and has a reputation for getting things done. She hopes to be elected so that she may help improve life for everyone who lives and visits Purbeck.

South ward

Mike Hadley has worked hard on Swanage Town Council and is pleased to offer his services to represent the people of Swanage at Purbeck District Council, as well as on the Town Council.



Swanage Town Council

South ward

Mike Hadley has been coming to Swanage since childhood. Self-employed, with a young family, he narrowly lost a previous election by 5 votes and was co-opted to the Town Council after the untimely death of Hilary O'Donovan. He set up the independent forum www.swanageview.co.uk. He is a mentor with the Prince's Trust, is on the committee of the Residents' Association and the Swanage Bay Users Association as well as many Council committees (but has never been involved with the Bayview caravan park). He likes walking, rowing, sailing and most of the other things we can enjoy in Purbeck.



John Page has lived in Swanage for 20 years and now works with the Swanage Pier Trust, after a career in education and social work. He has done voluntary work for 35 years, including with Community Action Groups, and is Chairman of Swanage Museum and Secretary of Swanage Buildings Preservation Group. He is interested in encouraging new development in local economy and wants to see the town retain and develop its facilities for local families and young people.



Ian Mackenzie retired to Swanage with his wife Tessa after 35 years teaching Science and Engineering in Birmingham and Reading. He is very active locally as a lay preacher, footpath patroller for the Ramblers, cycling with the U3A and playing trombone in the Town Band. His local concerns include health issues for the elderly, affordable housing, integration of local public transport and facilities for the youth in the town.



Eddie Bennett has lived in the town for many years and brought up his family here. He has had much experience of working in public services — air/sea rescue, the Army fire service, the Royal Navy Reserve and the Auxiliary Coastguard Service. Eddie is a volunteer hospital driver and is particularly concerned about housing for young people and the cleanliness of the town.

