

# NEWSLETTER



# INDEPENDENT ALLIANCE (KENT)

## YOUR VOICE ON LOCAL ISSUES IN HADLOW, PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE

HADLOW, SHIPBOURNE &  
PLAXTOL, BOURNE WARD

WROTHAM, IGHTHAM, STANSTED, ADDINGTON &  
TROTTSCLIFFE *PILGRIM'S WARD*

BOROUGH GREEN & PLATT WARD



**SUE BUTTERFILL **\*\*NEW\*\*****

Borough Green Parish Council  
Organiser Platinum Jubilee  
Festival & Beacon 2022  
38 years Manager London  
Borough Greenwich, 11 years  
Borough & Town Councillor  
Dartford. Trustee NW Kent  
Volunteers, Secretary Platt  
Parochial Church Council

**BOURNE WARD NEW CANDIDATE**



**SCOTT MILLENER **\*\*NEW\*\*****

Borough Green Parish Council 11  
years  
Past Candidate Wrotham,  
Ightham & Stansted - came  
within 17 votes of being elected.  
Dedicated Traffic campaigner.  
Scott is our Solar Powered,  
Carbon Neutral Eco-Warrior, and  
designed and implemented the  
Renewable Energy Systems at  
Potters Mede

**PILGRIM WARD NEW CANDIDATE**



**TIM SHAW**

Elected BG Parish Council  
2009, Vice Chairman BG  
Parish Council  
TMBC Member BG & Longmill  
8 years  
Executive Member KALC  
Founder J5 Slips Campaign,  
Leader STOP BGGC  
Campaign  
Leader BG - Traffic Action  
Group

**PILGRIM WARD CANDIDATE**



**WENDY PALMER**

Platt Parish Council for 9 yrs,  
now Chair.  
Executive Committee Kent  
Assn Local Councils, KALC  
Appointee to Joint  
Transportation Board.  
Deputy Leader STOP BGGC  
Campaign, Lead  
Campaigner J5 Slips  
Campaign. Member T&M  
Branch CPRE



**MIKE TAYLOR**

Borough Green Parish  
Council since 2000  
Chair BG Parish Council  
since 2011  
TMBC Member BG &  
Longmill 9 years  
Past Vice Chair TM KALC  
Chair T&M Branch CPRE

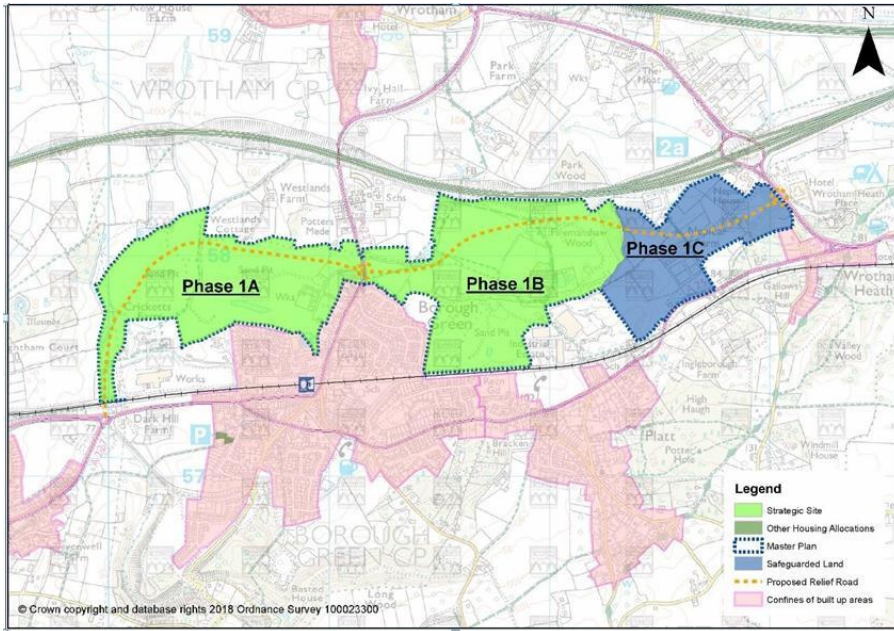
### THE INDEPENDENT ALLIANCE - WHAT WE STAND FOR.....

We are all long serving Borough and Parish Councillors, and we spend a great deal of time talking to people, attending Parish meetings and coffee mornings, for one single reason: because our job is to find the local consensus on important issues and develop that into policies. We do not have policies handed down by Government or a Party Machine - **you** draft the policies we fight, we are **your** representatives at Tonbridge & Malling.

### THE PARISH ALLIANCE

One of our proudest achievements has been to develop the alliance of local parishes. Our Parishes are all unique with different needs, but a Parish on its own is weak. However, a loose Alliance of up to 8 Parishes is hugely powerful politically and financially We "mix and match" to challenge different issues, such as **J5 SLIPS, Traffic, Air Pollution and Climate Change, Moto** and **Borough Green Garden City** We have our own team of Planners and Legal Advisers on standby funded by Parish contributions

## BIG ISSUES HADLOW, PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ..... NOW.....



**BOROUGH GREEN GARDEN CITY** (see map left) is a proposed development of 3000 houses across Greenbelt from H+H Celcon at Ightham to Nepicar on the A20. This development will destroy the rural way of life in our unique and precious villages, turning the area into a conurbation larger than Tonbridge itself, with the impact felt far beyond the immediate villages. And its traffic impact will spread south, you all have to get past BGGC to get anywhere else in the Country

**TMBC PLANNER'S** first go at a Local Plan failed, but they do not appear to have learnt any lessons. We all accept we need housing -5% for genuine refugees, 45% for our own population growth, getting people onto the housing ladder, or out of sub-standard rental properties, so why are they planning a further 50% for "internal migration", attracting people into our already bursting South East corner, and leaving swathes of empty houses across the country. And TMBC are concentrating on BIG DEVELOPMENT, less paperwork, whereas what we need is small equitable amounts of houses for our community needs in every corner of our towns and villages, generating local work and economic growth



**BULK FREIGHTER WASTE COLLECTION.** This used to be a FREE monthly collection around the villages that collected big items of rubbish, and was initially suspended by Covid and driver shortages. But TMBC are now refusing to fund it on the grounds that the new Household Waste Facility at Maidstone will fulfil the need. So now we have to pay to get it to Maidstone, or pay for a private collection. This hits the most vulnerable AGAIN, and has led to an increase in fly-tipping. The two ironies are that TMBC then have to pay the same contractor to collect the same rubbish, and encouraging people to use their own cars contradicts their own Climate Change Strategy. We will re-introduce the Bulk Freighter Service



**KCC BUS SUBSIDY CUTS** will remove some routes completely, and cut others so drastically that Bus Companies will be unable to keep them viable. A recent countywide consultation resulted in huge numbers of School Parents, and other residents who depend on public transport, demanding KCC abandoned their cuts. KCC flatly refused, despite the impact on the Climate Change Strategy forcing all these extra cars onto the road. The Alliance is working with the Parishes, Kent Association of Local Councils, and Tom Tugendhat MP, to take the matter over their heads direct to Central Government.

**OUR RURAL BUS NETWORK IS ESSENTIAL AND MUST BE MAINTAINED**