

OXTED SOUTH WARD - TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Deb SHINER

OXTED & LIMPSFIELD RESIDENTS GROUP



This is to introduce myself as your Oxted & Limpsfield Residents Group (OLRG) candidate for the Oxted South Ward in the Tandridge District Council elections currently due to be held on 6 May.

## About Me

I have lived in Hurst Green for ten years and in that time have become increasingly aware of the matters that concern residents, especially crime, housing, and planning. Also, there is a need for transparency and accountability from the District Council and I feel it is important that elected Councillors strive to achieve this. After all, it is our council tax payment and it needs to be spent wisely. I have worked in various businesses during my career, primarily customer services. In 2019, I was elected as an Oxted Parish Councillor which has given me a good understanding of residents' priorities.

## **YOUR VOTE IS CRUCIAL. THIS IS WHY...**

Never has it been more important to elect to Tandridge District Council someone who will represent you, who will listen, and who is independent and non-political. I have seen the change for the better that OLRG and associated Independent Councillors are making and I want to build on what they have started.

● **FIGHTING FOR BETTER SERVICES FOR HURST GREEN RESIDENTS**, working with local health care providers to bring better facilities to our area, pushing to ease the commuter parking problem, opposing inappropriate development, working with the police over crime and most importantly, putting residents first. OLRG Councillors took part throughout the Local Plan Examination. Working with our top planning QC funded by residents' donations, we are fighting for a new primary school in Hurst Green instead of a housing development, to protect the Green Belt, and to provide higher numbers of affordable housing.

● **CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**: I very much share your concerns about the amount of crime, especially overt drugs use, about the fear of crime, and about police response times. I am keen to work with the police and the community to try to improve the situation and to encourage and help residents to set up Neighbourhood Watch schemes in their roads.



● **TOGETHER WITH** my fellow OLRG Ward Councillors, Lynn Mills and Chris Langton, I will work for the interests of residents and local businesses - as OLRG did to achieve 2 hour free parking in Ellice Road car park after the Conservative administration cut it down to only 1 hour. We also fought, and defeated, a large increase in business permit parking charges being proposed for Oxted.

*This leaflet has been delivered in accordance with the latest safe Covid guidance*

**Independent • Non-Political**

**Deb Shiner and the OLRG team**

**Working ONLY for you, for residents, for Oxted South...**



## Representing residents . . . Putting the community first

### • BETTER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY:



The Council now has severe financial difficulties. These were triggered by a failed change project called Customer First brought in by the Conservative administration. It was supposed to save money but has gone millions over budget, with the loss of many experienced staff. In addition, the administration has so far spent around £3 million on its Local Plan, the centrepiece of which is a proposal for 4,000 homes on the Green Belt at South Godstone. The Planning Inspector who is deciding on the Local Plan has now said he has “significant concerns” about this proposal and about the soundness of other key parts of the Plan. He has given the Council two options - to continue with its Plan or to withdraw it - either will cost a lot more money.

To try to balance the books, other political groups approved a borrowing facility of a massive £200m to buy commercial investment properties - together they outvoted our group of Councillors. In May last year, in the wake of the pandemic, they voted to buy another property for £20m but this time our Councillors managed to halt the purchase after Government warnings about the risk involved. The Council has low financial reserves and buying properties with large loans is risky. I am concerned that these huge loans are underwritten by Council taxpayers who will face cuts to services and/or raised taxes if things go wrong. **If elected, I will press instead for shared services with other Councils as a way to cut costs and to get better services for residents.**

### • AN INDEPENDENT VOICE WHO WILL PUT THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY FIRST:

OLRG has 7 Councillors who are linked in the Council with 6 other Independents from around Tandridge District. I strongly believe that Independent Councillors - who are not told what to do by a political party - are the only way to ensure the community is always put first. My only allegiance is to the community and not to party politics. Tandridge is now a “hung” Council with no group in overall control. **If just a few more OLRG/Independents are elected on May 6, we could become the largest group and be able to have a much stronger voice for residents.** If you want the community’s voice to be heard strongly, please do vote for me and the OLRG team.

With worries about Covid-19, you may wish to apply for a postal vote which you can do by emailing: [customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk) or by completing the form on this link: <https://www.tandridge.gov.uk/Your-council/Voting-and-elections/Register-to-vote>

If there is any matter you would like to chat about, please just get in touch at [debshiner58@hotmail.com](mailto:debshiner58@hotmail.com) or phone 07592 610449 or send me a message at the Oxted & Limpsfield Residents Group Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/oxtedresidents>

Best Wishes

Deb Shiner

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deb".



**Independent • Non-Political**  
**Your voice in Oxted South. Working ONLY for you**