

VOTE FOR ALL THREE CANDIDATES

Chris BASSETT
Peter DAMESICK
Catherine SAYER
OXTED & LIMPSFIELD RESIDENTS GROUP

May 2nd - Vote for all of us to keep your residents-run Council

This year, all 43 councillors on Tandridge District Council have to stand for election due to a Government ward boundary review. It means you will be voting for **THREE** candidates in Oxted North instead of one as in previous years. The Oxted & Limpsfield Residents Group (OLRG) candidates are Catherine Sayer, currently the Tandridge District Council leader and standing for re-election, Peter Damesick, also standing for re-election, and new OLRG candidate Chris Bassett.



Voting for all three of us is the only way to keep the council run by residents for residents, with an independent, non-political voice.

• **ADMINISTRATION:** If elected, we will be part of the Residents Alliance which has run the council since May 2021 when we took over from the Conservatives. Since then, we have got the finances back on track from a position close to bankruptcy which we inherited. At a time when many councils are struggling to stay solvent and a number have declared bankruptcy, we are pleased to say that we have been able to set a balanced budget for 2024/25 without cuts to services and we have been able to keep 2 hour free parking in Ellice Road car park. We are also really pleased to be the number two council in Surrey for recycling performance and number eleven in the whole of England.

We were delighted to receive a letter from the Government's Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities praising our successful efforts since becoming the administration:

“The department recognises and commends the Council’s effort to grip and manage its budget pressures, and the successful steps taken to deliver the transformation and savings programme in 2022/23 and in 2023/2024.”

Please do vote for all three of us on May 2nd in this crucial District Council election.

OXTED & LIMPSFIELD RESIDENTS GROUP

Independent • Non-Political

Your voice in Oxted North

Promoted by Jackie Wren, Gordons Way RH8 OLW on behalf of Chris Bassett, Woodland Court RH8 0NR, Peter Damesick, Chichele Road RH8 0AG and Catherine Sayer, Wheeler Avenue RH8 9LF. Printed by Inprint Digital Solutions Ltd, Stafford Studios, 129a Stafford Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 9BN



REPRESENTING RESIDENTS

RE-ELECT US ALL to fight for your interests on all important local issues including:

- **CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:** This year, as an OLRG community initiative, a CCTV system began operating in Oxted and Hurst Green aimed at deterring crime and anti-social behaviour. CCTV has been installed in Station Road East, Station Road West and Master Park with monitoring equipment in Tandridge District Council offices. This is a joint project led by Oxted Parish Council (which is chaired by Peter) and backed by Tandridge District Council, Oxted BID (Business Improvement District), Limpsfield Parish Council, and the Master Park Trustees. Oxted Parish Council is kindly providing the bulk of the funding with contributions from the BID and Limpsfield Parish Council.



- **CHICHELE FIELD AND CHALKPIT QUARRY HOUSING**

APPLICATIONS: The planning application for a housing development on the Chichele Road field has now been refused by Tandridge District Council. We fully support the refusal of this unsuitable application. The land is Green Belt and has been recommended to be made part of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), now called a National Landscape, which is the highest level of landscape protection. The Chalkpit Quarry where there is an application for 75 houses, is also Green Belt and is already part of the AONB. We believe the site should be restored to chalk grassland as set out in the original planning permission. We support the review of the AONB boundary which is currently taking place and its proposals to expand the AONB in our area. The Local Plan, submitted in 2019 by the previous administration, has now been found unsound. It was submitted without first securing funding for improvements to J6 of the M25 on which the Plan depended. Its failure means unsuitable planning applications are coming forward for Green Belt sites. OLRG's policy is to resist inappropriate development, where necessary defending at appeal, while also bringing forward suitable housing sites which deliver infrastructure improvements. We are working on completing a new Local Plan as soon as possible.



- **AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** We have started a new council house building programme for 200 homes over the next five years, mostly on council owned land though, where affordable, land is being bought for housing. We are also aiming to maximise the amount of affordable housing in new developments and to work with housing associations, developers and landowners to secure sites and funding for new affordable housing which includes rented and shared ownership homes.
- **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT:** We are committed to enforce against breaches of the planning rules. Examples of where we have pursued enforcement action are the Tanhouse Road caravan site and to end the use of the School Plantation site in Barrow Green Road for Gatwick parking.
- **STONEY FIELD FOOTPATHS:** An application has been made by OLRG to register the footpaths around Stoney Field (beside St Mary's Church in Oxted) as official Rights of Way. OLRG collected evidence from more than 100 residents about usage of the paths.

Independent • Non-Political

To keep your residents-run council, please vote for all three OLRG candidates

VOTE FOR Chris Bassett, Peter Damesick and Catherine Sayer
Your voice in Oxted North

PUTTING THE COMMUNITY FIRST

ELECT US ALL for prudent financial control and protection of frontline services.

One of the most difficult issues our administration faced has been keeping the council solvent. We inherited a £920,000 annual hole in the budget due to a pension costs error. At that time, the council was close to bankruptcy. We did not have the option of using reserves to balance the books because they had already been severely depleted. We were determined from the start to avoid major loss of services to residents. We have chosen instead to cut the council's costs and to reshape and slim down the council. We have also brought in strict accounting and reporting rules. We are working on sharing services with other councils, on digital innovation, and on commissioning at least some services from outside providers to achieve better value for money. We have had to make £5.5m of savings in three years and so are very pleased to say we have been able to set a balanced budget for 2024/25 and to do so without reducing services. Some fees are rising but increases for services to residents have been kept to a minimum and 2 hour free parking in Ellice Road has been retained. The Council Tax rise is 2.99% which is £7.11 per year for a Band D property (or 14p per week). Going forward, we realise it can't all be about savings and we are working on generating income, for example by investigating opportunities to sell the council's expertise in particular areas

ELECT US ALL for an Independent voice whose only allegiance is to the local community.



Chris Bassett: I am standing for election for the first time. I grew up in Caterham but have lived and socialised in and around Oxted for the majority of my adult life. Professionally, I am a Head of Procurement and undertake both UK based and global contract and commercial negotiations with suppliers. In my spare time, I perform and direct with The Oxted Players and am also their current Chair. I am delighted to have the opportunity to stand as an OLRG Councillor.

Peter Damesick: I am standing for re-election. I am currently vice chair of Tandridge District Council's Housing Committee and also chair of Oxted Parish Council. For many years, I was a research director for a major commercial property adviser. I was chair of the Trustees of TVA, a charity supporting the voluntary and community sector in Tandridge District, from 2015-2020 and I have been active as performer and director with local theatre groups.



Catherine Sayer: I am chair of OLRG and was first elected as a Tandridge District Councillor in 2018. I have been the Tandridge Council leader since May 2021 when we took over as the new administration and I am especially pleased with the progress made to stabilise the council's finances. I am also chair of the Planning Policy Committee. It has been a real pleasure working with residents and local businesses and, if re-elected, I would be delighted to continue doing so.

Independent • Non-Political

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Your voice in Oxted North

Independent • Non-Political • Working ONLY for you

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION

OXTED NORTH WARD

Thursday, May 2nd

Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm

Voting is at Oxted Community Hall in Church Lane RH8 9NB

Vote for all three OLRG candidates to keep your residents-run council



Vote

BASSETT



DAMESICK



SAYER



If you are voting in person, don't forget to bring your photo ID.

If there is anything you would like to chat about, please just get in touch at oxted.residents@btinternet.com or contact us at:

Chris: email: cjdbassett@me.com

or phone 07764 636539

Peter: email: pdamesick@gmail.com

or phone 07825 640947

Catherine: email: catherine.sayer@btinternet.com

or phone 07967 148557

If you would like to support in any way or would like to display an election board, please let us know.

To join OLRG, email oxted.residents@btinternet.com Website: www.oxtedlimpsfieldresidents.co.uk

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