



Annual Report for the Annual Meeting of Newport Parish Council 2018

Matthew Price IOW Councillor for Newport North Inc Whippingham South

I continue proudly to represent the residents of Newport North on both Newport Parish council and the IOW Council.

I had the incredible privilege of being re-elected in May 2017 and will do my very best to represent the ward to the best of my ability during this term.

The ward is a very busy area to represent and I am always dealing with multiple issues. The range of enquiries I get are extremely varied and often relate to Parking, Roads, Schools and Planning.

Roads, Pavements, Footpaths and Drainage: Many of the main roads in and around Newport North have now been resurfaced and the repairs and resurfacing of the pavements continues. I have surveyed most of the roads within my ward myself and have in particular reported loose drain covers and damaged kerbs, many of these have been repaired or are due to be. I am happy to say the much needed drainage works in Halberry lane are due to take place in early April after waiting for years for these works to be carried out I am also pleased to say further works have been agreed for Atkinson Drive and Fairlee Road as well, Both of which have suffered repeated standing water on the roads and became very dangerous as they froze in the coldest times of this winter. The resurfacing programme continues with new Pavements in Cooper Road, Atkinson Drive and Halberry and Cross Lane. The resurfacing of Halberry and Cross lane will see much inconvenience and I thank residents in advance of these works for their patience, although these works are desperately needed. Victoria Road and St Pauls View Road are both due for resurfacing and some elements may require full reconstruction, this is due to take place after the festival and is expected sometime between Jul-Sept. The old railway track from Halberry Lane through to Mews lane has had some major repair work carried out on the Victorian Railway drains and residents may have noticed some first layers of hardcore have been laid on the track with hopefully more work expected when the weather improves. This will help to make this route fit for use again.

I have campaigned for traffic calming or 20mph on many of the residential roads and the Staplers Estate has always been a rat run and I will work with residents to monitor traffic flow and speed throughout the estate as the road surfaces improve.

The council has secured significant funds from central government to help solve some of Newport's traffic issues. I am currently campaigning with all the other Newport IOW Councillors against the proposals at the St Mary Roundabout and we are all seeking to ensure that in fact Coppins Bridge and the roads leading to and from it are treated as the highest priority.

Festivals in Newport: The IOW Festival had increased security following the terror attacks throughout the UK last year, there was a huge increase in security presence and many residents and festival goers remarked on how much safer they felt with the visible armed Police in the community. I had an integral role in the security planning and felt very reassured by the large scale multi agency planning for this event.

The V-dub Festival was also great success again and has caused very little disruption for residents.

Planning: I am now Vice-Chairman of the planning committee and continue to try and bring common sense to planning and work with colleagues to try and help encourage more appropriate development. The relocation of Newport Football Club on to the site at the Racecourse has been very controversial. But after ensuring the access to and from the site was moved from East Cowes old Road back onto Whippingham Road and the exit from the site on to the Racecourse this has done much to help the residents in and around the site. This is great news for Newport football Club. I hope to see this bring the much needed speed reduction in this area which I have been working hard for which regretfully continues to see regular serious accidents.



Other news: I fought very hard to secure the controlled junction, crossing and footpaths to the junction of Mill Lane and Fairlee Road as part of the ongoing island Harbour development. This will see the construction of new pavements, a pedestrian crossing and will connect Bus Stops with existing pavements and the East Cowes old Road. This will be a significant improvement.

I also sit on various committees and help with many local groups in and around Newport, I continue to serve as a Governor at Barton Primary School and I also have various roles and help at other local Schools.

It has now been agreed that the lifting bridge at Newport Quay will be repaired and returned to service, this ongoing issue causes much inconvenience and creates even more unwanted traffic flow onto Fairlee Road, this work is due to take place in the summer although I am still waiting for confirmation of exactly when these works will commence.

I often meet residents at the John Cheverton Centre at the Earl Mountbatten hospice and regularly go there for coffee, please let me know if you would like to meet me.

Please feel free to get in touch regarding anything I may be able to help with.

Best wishes

Matthew Price

07833 537 668 Mobile, 524320 (work)

matthewpriceisleofwight@gmail.com or Matthew.Price@iow.gov.uk

6 Whitesmith Road, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 5HY