

Conservative candidate election leaflet for Whittlesey Town Council – St Mary's Ward South

1/ As I promised last week, here is my challenger election leaflet front side.

The candidate is a Ms Webb, who has lived in Whittlesey for a short period, she does not live in the Ward which is being contested – I have for 43 years.

WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION

2nd MAY 2019

ST. MARYS SOUTH WARD

Dear Elector,

At next month's Town Council elections, residents in St Marys South Ward have a choice between two candidates. We are writing to ask you to support the **Conservative Candidate Jayne Webb** for two main reasons.

1. On the reverse of this letter we have set out a challenging set of objectives for the next four years, including our intention to continue our policy for the next four years of gradually reducing your Whittlesey Parish Precept each year, as we've now done for two successive years. We can do this because of the Town Council's sound financial management. We'd ask you to read our manifesto overleaf and, if you agree with it, to give us your support.
2. Anyone who's honest has to admit that the way of politics, even at a local level, is that many decisions are really made in discussions before the formal public meetings, particularly in party political "Group" meetings. Because of a lack of opposition, Whittlesey Town Council is certain to continue to be run for the next four years by the Conservative Group. It's also mathematically certain that the spread of candidates means that there will be at least one Conservative member from all six Town Council wards contributing to those key Conservative "Group" decisions, with the possible exception of St Marys South ward. Here in St Marys South Ward, that representation from this ward depends upon how you and your neighbours vote. If you approve of our manifesto we'd ask that you ensure, on May 2nd, that St Marys South gets its voice heard in the key Conservative "Group" meetings by electing **Jayne Webb** to be your Town councillor for the next four years.

We are not trying to impress you with glossy literature and lots of photos – we just ask that you consider our policies and pledges and decide on that basis whether or not to support your **Conservative candidate, Jayne Webb**.

Thank You!

Printed & Promoted by Chris Boden on behalf of the Conservative candidates, all of 425 Wilsbech Road, Marsh, PE15 0AB

2/ What has Ms Webb done for Whittlesey in respect of supporting the community –

Nothing as far as I am aware – I am/have been involved in at least 10 community groups in the area, for many years, from being Chairman of Street-Pride for 6 years, Chairman of Neighbourhood Watch for 8 years, see my big list on my election pamphlet further on.

3/ You will see on the left – the complete and utter disregard to 'democracy' when the candidate states (I doubt if she wrote it herself) "*many decisions are really made in discussions **before** the formal public meeting*".

This statement has to be the worst insult to ALL the electorate as a whole – to admit there is little point in having Council meetings as 'The decisions have already been made'.

4/ Council precept – yes the amount of 'local tax' we have paid has reduced slightly – however – my local tax has increased by around 15% since 2015/16. The increases in the Conservative controlled Fenland, Cambs County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner and Social Services have all increased by substantial amounts.

5/ Saying No to Car Park charges – Ms Webb (or who-ever wrote the leaflet) states that Town Centre shops and services would suffer badly if charges were introduced – this subject was discussed in depth at The Whittlesey Business Forum in January of this year – I wrote an article that was presented – I did **NOT** say that parking charges **SHOULD** be introduced, but gave the Businesses a balanced history and alternatives – The Business Forum which represents a wide spectrum of shops and services made **NO** decision on whether it supported or rejected introducing Parking Charges.

6/ New Town Council Offices – Ms Webb states that the conversion work is underway – sorry NOT so – Since the contract for the work is planned to be signed **today** 23rd April – for the contractor to commence work – The cost of the whole project is beginning to run out of control. The building cost in the region of £275K, with the conversion, modification and remedial work, the total cost is somewhere in the region of £600K – of which over ½ is borrowed money and a substantial amount has come for the relatively small reserves the council has – these reserves have been greatly depleted.

7/ Whilst on the subject of money being out of control, many of the readers to this web-blog would have been following the progress (or lack of) The Kings Dyke crossing for the last 6 years, initially £13.2M and now somewhere !!! in the region of £30M - this is tax payers money, yes 'we/most' want the bridge to be built –

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there appears to be very little accountability in the 'free spending' of the Rate and Tax payers money. As stated I was one of the few from Whittlesey who attended the Combined Authorities meeting on them funding the KD bridge – I did not see Ms Webb at that meeting or any other meeting, in fact I don't think she has attended any of Whittlesey Town Council meetings (but she wants to be your councillor?)

8/ The Cambs Times© this week - **Fenland named by Electoral Reform Society as top of their 'rotten boroughs' on two counts - and candidate apathy is blamed for putting us there.**

<https://www.cambsimes.co.uk/news/top-of-the-rotten-boroughs-list-for-fenland-1-6007644>

It states the complete lack of candidates. Well I have done so in the past, I and 2 other Independents are standing for election to Whittlesey Town Council, Eamonn Dorling (Standing in the Bassenhally Ward) a local well respected financial advisor -who publishes articles in several local magazines -

<http://www.eamonndorling.co.uk/> and has been a councillor for the past 4 years, helping to steer the Town Council finances.

Mr Bob Wicks, also having been a councillor for the past 4 years is standing in Coates/Eastrea & Benwick Ward.

2 other Independents - Mr & Mrs Goldspink from Turves are standing as candidates for Fenland District Council in the Coates/Eastrea & Benwick Ward - <https://pleaseelectme.com/>

Maybe a search on 'Google'™ of your Councillor might bring up some very interesting information?

I will publish my complete election leaflet that was delivered to the residents of St Marys' Ward South shortly.

ROY GERSTNER
The only 'Real' Independent Voice for Whittlesey

Your only Community Activist who is
INDEPENDENT VOTE GERSTNER

My lobbying and holding council to account is very well known.

I have very actively campaigned to keep our Recycling Centre & Library open...

I stand as an Independent; I am not coerced by party elders. I do not have to toe the 'party line' or party whip.

INDEPENDENT
www.roygerstner.co.uk

WHAT HAVE I BEEN INVOLVED IN?
not for the past 4 years - but for 10+ Years

- Chairman - Whittlesey Neighbourhood Watch (2011-19)
- Committee Member - Cambs NHW Executive (2012-19)
- Treasurer - VMWG (Whittlesey Mud Walls Group) (2018-19)
- Member - New Queen Street Surgery Patients Participation Group (2013-19)
- Member - North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust (2010-19)
- Member - Rural Cambs Citizens Advice Bureau (2011-19)
- Member - Whittlesey Business Forum (2016-19)
- Member - Whittlesea Street Pride A Fenland Environmental Initiative (2008-19)
- Member - Whittlesey Society (2018-19)
- Independent Examiner of Accounts (2017-19)
- Member - Christmas Extravaganza (2018-19)
- Consultant/UKAS Engineer - (Electro-Tech) (2005-20)
- Committee Member - Friends of Whittlesey Library (2014-18) Group no longer active
- Supporter - Christmas Lights Group

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