

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION 6th MAY 2021

Chris BODEN

CONSERVATIVE For WHITTLESEY NORTH

RE-ELECT CHRIS FOR WHITTLESEY ON MAY 6th



For the whole of Whittlesey, the most important issues (and certainly the most expensive ones!) which I've dealt with have been to do with major improvements to the local road network. For over 40 years there had been calls for a bridge to be built at the Kings Dyke rail crossing. When I was first elected, I said that this would be my main priority. It's been a bumpy ride over the last six years, and at times it looked as though we'd not manage to get the funding package together to get the bridge built. In my first year, there was even a formal motion from the Cambridgeshire Liberal Democrats to remove all funding from the Kings Dyke Bridge and to allocate it instead to a new rail station in Cambridge! But, as everyone can now see, we eventually were able to pull everything together and get the project off the ground. I worked behind the scenes to get the various funding parties to work together, with that work on occasion going public when things were particularly tough, but thanks to both Steve Count (the Conservative County Council Leader) and James Palmer (the Conservative Mayor of the Combined Authority) we overcame all of the obstacles and are now delivering what we promised.

Chris is well-known for his high profile work as a Whittlesey Councillor, serving as he does on the Town Council, on the County Council, as Leader of Fenland District Council and as one of the six full Board members of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority. He uses these positions to ensure that Whittlesey not only receives its fair share of Council spending, but also that we get additional investment to make up for ours being the "forgotten town" for too many decades.

Chris Says:

"Things don't happen overnight in Local Government. It takes months of lobbying, and sometimes years, for things to change and for improvements to be achieved. I'm always frustrated at the time it takes to get results, but I'm pleased that many of the initiatives I've pushed for over the last six years are now in the process of being implemented.

The hundreds of hours of delay experienced by drivers every day at the level crossing will, by next year, just be a memory - a thing of the past. But the Kings Dyke Bridge alone won't solve our biggest road infrastructure problem - for that, we need a proper by-pass. These days, by-passes are called "relief roads", but it comes to the same thing. The level of traffic on the A605 has already reached peak hour capacity in some areas, and will be well over capacity by the end of the decade, leading to morning and evening town centre gridlock in Whittlesey. That's why I took the initiative, as soon as delivery of the Kings Dyke Bridge was safely secured, to start getting the Cardea to Coates "Whittlesey South Relief Road" onto the political and planning agendas. I'm very pleased that we've successfully achieved the first stage of the seven stage process to get this built (a positive "Inception Report") - I've included more details about future progress on the inside pages of this leaflet.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 6TH MAY 2021

PROMOTED BY SAMANTHA HOY ON BEHALF OF CHRIS BODEN BOTH OF M5 HOUSE, 425 WEBB ROAD, MARCH, CAMBS. PRINTED BY CPO, STATION ROAD, GLENFELD LEEKS, LE3 8BT.

WHITTLESEY NORTH

CHRIS BODEN

As far as Whittlesey and its growing population is concerned, I was pleased to support the expansion of New Road School, and more recently I was involved in the decision to expand Sir Harry Smith's by an additional two form entry (rather than merely the one which had been suggested) starting in 2023. This should ensure, for the foreseeable future, that no Whittlesey children will be forced to travel outside Whittlesey for school, subject to Government approval.

At County Council my main Committee duties are as Vice-Chairman of the Commercial & Investment Committee, where we seek to generate millions of pounds of additional income every year to support front-line County Council services as opposed to relying solely on Council Tax increases to fund those services. I retain my commitment to keeping your Council Taxes as low as possible. I've also served on the Adults (Social Services) Committee and on the Health Committee, where I was also Vice-Chairman.


During my time as your County Councillor I've always been available to help with any problems that have arisen, whether they be education issues, roads, social services, opposing inappropriate development proposals or anything else related to local government. I haven't won every battle I've fought, but I always try my hardest to get the best for Whittlesey as a whole and for every person who lives in our town.



I ask for your support on May 6th so that I can continue to promote Whittlesey's interests at New Shire Hall, and to give me the opportunity to continue to assist any of the area's residents who need help in dealing with Local Government issues at whatever level."

- Chris Boden



 **Conservatives**

RE-ELECT CHRIS BODEN FOR

CHRIS' FIVE PRIORITIES:

1 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

Whittlesey has too much residential growth without adequate supporting infrastructure. That's why I've pushed hard for increased school places in the town, the Kings Dyke Bridge, the Southern Relief Road and Rail Station improvements. I welcome our new Aldi supermarket planning application. I've continued to oppose new residential development north of the existing property line because of the flood risk. **FIGHTING FOR NEW FACILITIES TO MATCH THE ADDITIONAL HOUSING IN WHITTLESEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE AT THE TOP OF MY SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM AGENDA.**

2 SOUTHERN RELIEF ROAD

Last month, we passed the first hurdle for getting a relief road with our positive "Inception Report", which stated that "there is a sound strategic case for a Whittlesey Relief Road proposal". If you'd like to see the report, please just drop me an email. The next stage is to get an "Outline Business Case" sponsored and completed. It's excellent that Combined Authority Mayor James Palmer has already agreed to support us fully on this, and I'll be seeking a similar pledge from the other Mayoral candidates as well. Without a Cardea to Coates relief road, Whittlesey will increasingly grind into gridlock at peak hours. But more than the inconvenience of traffic jams, our quality of life and pollution levels suffer by having so many Heavy Commercial Vehicles running straight through our town. **I'M DETERMINED TO PUSH THE RELIEF ROAD FORWARD SO THAT THE NEXT GENERATION CAN ENJOY A BETTER WHITTLESEY.**

3 YOUR COUNCIL TAX

I'll keep this very simple: I will continue to call on all levels of local government to improve efficiency, eliminate waste and **KEEP OUR COUNCIL TAX BILLS DOWN.** I abhor waste and inefficiency, and I'll continue at all local government levels to argue against those who think it's so easy just to raise your taxes rather than manage council spending properly.

4 PUBLIC TRANSPORT LINKS

It's ridiculous that we are so close to Peterborough, but we don't have an early morning bus service nor do we have any service from Peterborough after 7pm. There's the prospect of real change very soon as we move to a new franchising system, promising to deliver services more connected to people's needs. Cardea and Stanground get a regular bus service until around 11pm, why should ours stop four hours earlier? James Palmer has promised a new bus service running to Whittlesea Rail Station; I'll continue to press him to reinstate our evening services.

5 FUNDING FOR WHITTLESEY

The last four years have seen more public investment in Whittlesey than we've ever seen before - and it's not before time! Kings Dyke bridge, Whittlesea Station improvements, improved cycling facilities on the way, the soon to be built Whittlesey Heritage Centre, Interactive real-time flood warning road signage about to be installed on the A605 and the B1040, the building programme at New Road School and the significant expansion to come at Sir Harry Smith's. Most recently, I came up with an initiative to use £124,331 of Combined Authority funding to make small business capital grants available to Whittlesey businesses struggling to recover (see <https://www.fenland.gov.uk/BCGS> if you want to apply). But all this spending only partially makes up for decades of our town being all too often forgotten. **I'LL CONTINUE TO USE ALL AVAILABLE ROUTES TO GET MORE INVESTMENT INTO OUR TOWN AND ITS INFRASTRUCTURE.**

**If you would like to raise an issue of concern, please contact me:
tel 07860 783969 or
email chris.boden@whittlesey.town
or write to me at:
134 Peterborough Road, Whittlesey, PE7 1PD**

R WHITTLESEY ON MAY 6TH