

Election of Elmbridge Councillor for Molesey West



MIKE AXTON: My history and concerns:

I am a lifelong resident of Molesey. My wife Fiona is a teacher and manager at a Molesey nursery school and is a Scout Leader and Secretary of the 1st Molesey Scout Group. Our three children all attended local schools. I have been a Molesey Residents Councillor for 21 years, and throughout that time I have also held the position of Secretary of the Molesey Residents Association, often being residents' first point of contact for any local issues. I previously worked for Thames Water and then for Carbocraft, an internationally famous local boatbuilding company which constructed the Oxford University boats used in the famous annual Boat Race. I also studied law before taking up a career in the Civil Service. I am now retired but like to keep busy.

As well as being very active as a local Councillor I am also a member of the Molesey Local History Society, the Friends of Bushy and Home Parks, and Historic Royal Palaces. I am also a regular participant at the famous Bushy Park run and managed to complete my 200th run, just before the event was put on hold by the Coronavirus lockdown.

My concerns are clearly those of the Molesey Residents Association as Listed overleaf but to these I would add:

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: The local bus service has historically been poorly co-ordinated with the arrival of trains at Hampton Court Station, and although they have made some improvements, I am continually pressing SW Trains and Transport for London to improve the coordination of their timetables. Following a long campaign, I managed to get some agreement on bus times and the evening train service extended to half hourly. I am now pressing for a later last train back from London than the present 11.36pm.

MOLESEY LIBRARY: I joined local residents fighting to save our Molesey Library. Together we got SurreyCC to reverse its decision to close the library. Now the many local volunteers are keeping it open and making the savings which Surrey demanded. However, I know that Surrey are looking to save even more money on the library service, so we must remain vigilant.

YOUNG PEOPLE: At Elmbridge Council, I am pressing for updating and improvement of the Molesey play equipment areas. New facilities have been obtained at Graburn Way and Grovelands, but we need attention at The Wilderness and we need the equipment to be exciting. We desperately need more facilities for older children and teenagers. The Youth Services are controlled by Surrey, but I support the efforts of the Rev. Alex Monro of St. Peter's Church and Cty.Cllr. Ernest Mallett, to keep the Youth facilities in the County buildings in West Molesey going. I also have been party to the MRA making grants to the various Scout Groups.

Mike Axton 
for Elmbridge Council

THE MOLESEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

- The Residents' Association has fought since 1965 to enhance Molesey's character & amenities.
- The Residents' Association is for every local resident.
- We hold open meetings on major topics. All are welcome.
- We deliver regular Newsletters to every house in Molesey.
- We hold Social Events.
- We keep contact with you all the Year round - **not just at Election time.**

Election of Surrey County Council Councillor for West Molesey



ERNEST MALLET: My history and concerns:

I and my wife, Brenda, have lived in Molesey since 1965. Our 5 children went to Molesey schools and we have both served as school governors. Brenda, a qualified teacher, ran a Nursery school for Molesey children and as an electronics engineer, I ran a business for 17 years in Molesey manufacturing electronic equipment. One of our main interests has always been education and we did major work to change the Esher Grammar school into the Sixth Form College it now is, for the benefit of all Molesey children.

AS AN ELMBRIDGE COUNCILLOR: I twice led Elmbridge Council, brought in Computers at Council, oversaw the establishment of Painshill Park and Brooklands Museum, was Housing Chairman and served on the Planning Committees and was the Mayor who organised the Councils VE/VJ 50 year celebrations.

AS A COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Over 16 years as your West Molesey Residents councillor, I have worked to improve County policies on Elderly and Children's care as well as serving on the County Planning Committee and doing 3 years on the Surrey Police Authority. I have secured over £200,000 of County grants for almost all of Molesey community groups, scouts and churches.

AS A MOLESEY RESIDENT: I have worked on Molesey problems for many community Groups and whether it is the Molesey Carnival, the Hospital Fete or planting up Molesey with trees, daffodils, snow drops and the like or putting up public Christmas trees, I am 'Hands On' in these projects. I set up the War Memorial Committee and we successfully completed the need to get all of the 219 missing service men and women and civilians, listed on the West Molesey War Memorial.

WHY AM I STANDING AGAIN AS A COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE:

I believe that you have to be at the decision table if you want to get things done. I have the experience and Molesey seems to always have problems to deal with. Specifically, the County runs a Local Committee for each area and it is here that many decisions start. I can combine with other politically independent Resident councillors at this Committee and again at County Council to put real force onto issues. I hope you will vote for me and I will do my best for you.

Ernest Mallett 
for
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
BECAUSE MOLESEY MATTERS TO YOU TOO

OUR AIMS

- TO PROMOTE** the interests of all Molesey residents.
- TO TAKE ACTION** on matters of interest to Molesey people.
- TO GIVE PLANNING INFORMATION** to affected residents.
- TO PRODUCE A REGULAR NEWSLETTER**

VOTE FOR YOUR LOCAL candidates

MOLESEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

(IN AFFILIATION WITH HURST PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AND FRIENDS OF FLEETSIDE)



Vote for **ERNEST**  **MALLET** on **SURREY**



Vote for **MIKE**  **AXTON** on **ELMBRIDGE**

ELECTION FOR MOLESEY WEST on ELMBRIDGE COUNCIL **THURSDAY 6th MAY 2021** ELECTION FOR WEST MOLESEY on SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

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LOCAL ELECTIONS ARE ABOUT CHOOSING COUNCILLORS TO REPRESENT LOCAL INTERESTS AND CONCERNS, NOT ABOUT CHOOSING A PARTY TO GOVERN THE COUNTRY

ELMBRIDGE RESIDENTS' GROUP POLICIES

MOLESEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION IS ABOUT ACTION

- DIRECT ACTION TO GET MOLESEY FACILITIES, SUCH AS OPEN SPACE, SWIMMING POOL & MOLE HALL. SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGNS ON KEEPING POST OFFICES, LIBRARY, CLINIC, HENRIETTA PARKER CENTRE & YOUTH CENTRE.
- DIRECT ACTION TO ESTABLISH MOLESEY HEATH AND CONTINUOUS HELP TO LOCAL WORKING PARTIES TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE IT FOR LOCAL USE.
- DIRECT ACTION ON CHRISTMAS TREE PLANTING AND LIGHTING FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.
- DIRECT ACTION ON SPRING CLEANING OF AMENITY AREAS, ABANDONED CAR REMOVAL & CLEARING GRAFFITI.
- HELP IN FUNDING MANY MOLESEY PROJECTS & APPEALS INCLUDING: ST. PETER'S CLOCK & TOWER, TRADER'S FLOWERS & LIGHTS, MOLESEY CARNIVAL, MOLESEY HOSPITAL, THE BARN THEATRE, MOLESEY FOOTBALL JUNIORS, RIVERSIDE HERITAGE SUNDIAL, WAR MEMORIAL & MOLESEY FOOD BANK.
- CONTINUOUS CARE & ACTION ON ALL MOLESEY COMMUNITY ISSUES, PARTICULARLY ON PLANNING.

MAIN CURRENT MOLESEY/LOCAL ISSUES

MOLESEY HOSPITAL: This is high on our agenda. We won the fight to keep the hospital in Molesey. We are aware that once again, the way Health arrangements are changing so nothing is secure. However, we will continue to press for modern hospital facilities on the Molesey site either by redevelopment or by new build hospital. We continue to align ourselves with the Friends of Molesey Hospital in all ideas we put forward.

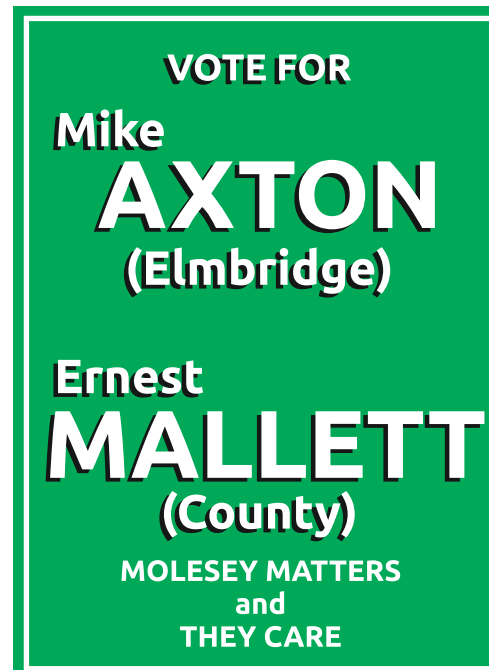
JOLLY BOATMAN/HAMPTON COURT STATION: Of course, we want to keep a fully operational railway station, but we campaigned against the high density hotel & housing scheme which the Conservative councillors voted through. Since then, we have also opposed the awful looking and still high density second scheme which was withdrawn. Now we are waiting to get details of a new scheme which we shall consider carefully with the members of the Hampton Court Rescue Campaign.

VINE HALL: Our view is entirely single purpose on this. The site must continue to provide a Community Hall and provision for the Scouts. This can be by refurbishment of the present structure or a new building. Under no circumstances can the Elmbridge officers' proposal to close and dispose of the site be allowed.

RIVER MOLE/RIVER THAMES: The Environmental Agency, under pressure from residents and us, have abandoned their autocratic intention to cease water control on the R.Mole and have now put out various schemes for consultation which you can access on their web site. They have also cleared the pennywort weed on some parts and the Fleetside Residents Group are working on the remainder. Surrey has agreed some £270m to push forward flood alleviation on the R.Thames. The MRA have continually pushed for action and legal ways to control unauthorised moorings and we are able to report some success as of now.

LOCAL GREEN AREAS & HURST POOL: We are pressing for a special 'Green' category for Molesey Open Spaces. which do not have 'Green Belt Protection'. these are Cigarette Island, Hurst Park Riverside, Grovelands Recreation Ground and the old 18 acre Molesey Sewage Farm. Also Hurst Pool which was built by pressure from MRA councillors, is now outdated and planned for replacement. We want the previously deleted gym and catering areas to be included in the new design to better serve Molesey residents.

HOUSING: We are constantly aware of housing need and its conflict with keeping open spaces. We do oppose building on our green spaces but we must and do work to get more affordable houses for rent. Sometimes residents do not like the intensification of sites which are redeveloped, but this is the policy which gives the best protection of our open spaces and avoids the government forcing on us high rise blocks of flats. The council does have to meet government imposed housing numbers and in any case, we do support an equitable house build policy for all residents.



JOLLY BOATMAN/STATION PROPOSAL



SHOULD FIND PROPER MOORING

The Elmbridge Residents Group, of which our MRA councillors are influential members, covers the areas of Esher, Hersham, Hinchley Wood, Molesey, Thames Ditton, Walton, Weston Green & Weybridge. This Group have had intermittent control or led Elmbridge council in 17 years over the last 28 years period.

PLANNING:

The new Elmbridge Local Plan, which will decide the scale of future development, is still in revision. In response to the government's attempt to increase our local housing target to 774 units per year, the Elmbridge Residents Group mounted fierce opposition and the government then reduced the target to 633. We are still totally opposed to such centrally set targets as in Elmbridge, these do not take account of present density and the physical constraint on the availability of land. Such imposed target levels are also likely to result in unwelcome urban intensification across the Borough. We have also made many representations to the government about the outdated and unreliable data used to calculate the Elmbridge housing target.

The Groups policies are to defend the 'Green Belt' and our Open Spaces. We are pressing for a new designation of 'Local Green Spaces' which do not have 'Green Belt' protection. In Molesey these include the Bishop Fox Green Area, Cigarette Island, Hurst Park Open Space, Grovelands Recreation Ground and the old 18 ace Molesey Sewage Farm which adjoins Molesey Heath.

We certainly oppose high-rise blocks of flats and we are looking for new infrastructure in the Local Plan, e.g. roads improvement, leisure places, parking places, schools and medical centres.

HOUSING:

The Residents Group, as having the major control over the last two years, have seen the delivery of 219 affordable homes for rent. We are looking for advanced design and quality of build and a more evenly share of new housing across the Borough. As stated above, new infrastructure is also important to support new housing and the resultant increase in population.

ENVIRONMENT:

The Elmbridge Residents Group have already declared a Climate Emergency Plan. Action will continue to align Elmbridge with national targets and action on Council buildings and Council vehicles to achieve a carbon neutral position by 2030. Therefore, insulation and reduction of energy use will figure highly whilst schemes to reduce single plastic use and plastic waste will also have priority, particularly by the promotion of reusable bags and alternative paper bags. We will add to the County scheme of tree planting with a programme of selecting green areas and road verges which meet the national width regulations. All of the agencies, suppliers and contractors which the council works with, will be required to demonstrate their actions to reduce the carbon footprint in our Borough.

COVID 19 VIRUS/FINANCES:

Over 200 Elmbridge residents have sadly died from the Virus pandemic. The financial cost at the Council has been very high, with over £8million of extra costs and lost income. Only half of this has been covered by central Government. Nevertheless, we have maintained and expanded the vital services at Council, such as Meals on Wheels and Community Transport for our elderly and those in need. We at Elmbridge, like many other Councils, are using significant reserves to cover these costs. Through careful budgeting we are looking to maintain the working reserves at the Council..

VOTE FOR LOCAL CANDIDATES AND FOR LOCAL POLICIES