

Election of Elmbridge Councillor for Molesey East



PETER POPE: My history and concerns:
I have been a resident in Molesey for 30 years and have 2 sons. during my youth my family lived in or near various military bases as my father was a Sergeant-Major in the Kings Royal Rifles, followed by a spell as a civilian support officer in the Metropolitan Police.
I trained in management at London Transport and then joined the civilian staff of the Metropolitan Police. Later, I moved to the RSPCA which allowed me time to train in steam engineering and take up the role of assistant Chief Engineer of the Flying Scotsman steam locomotive project.
I now run my own successful gardening business while still offering advice and doing stints on steam locomotives.

My Concerns:
AS A NEW BOY FOR COUNCIL: Clearly, I am allied to the concerns of the Molesey Residents Association. However, having noted the support and action on local matters which the MRA takes, I have long been interested in standing as an MRA councillor. Being in business, I have a strong interest in Councils taking action to help small local businesses survive and contribute to thriving community facilities. It is a case that if we thrive then the facilities for local people are maintained and increased, if we fail, then the local community loses out.

LOCAL FACILITIES: It upsets me that VINE HALL has come under threat. We absolutely must keep this historic amenity, either upgraded or rebuilt completely, not forgetting the long tenure which the Scouts have on the site, after all, they were there when the Council bought the hall from St.Paul's Church. Further, I am concerned that SCC are opting out of direct Youth Services. I will support the Rev. Alex Monro in his valiant work to keep the Molesey Youth Club going. Included in my concern here are the upkeep and standards of the Local Playground & Equipment for young children.

RIVER THAMES/RIVER MOLE/HURST POOL:
All brilliant leisure areas in Molesey. I support my MRA colleagues in the fight against illicit moorings on the Thames, in keeping the water in the Mole at a proper environmental level and getting rid of the pennywort. Also, yes, we do need an uprated Pool with modern facilities, the sooner the better.

ROADS & PAVEMENTS: Yes, of course, these are actually under the control of SCC but Elmbridge councillors are part of Surrey's Local Committee which largely controls the Highway function here, so I would be able to make direct representation on this issue if elected.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: I want to press Elmbridge Council to aid my Molesey colleagues in the pressure they are putting on Transport for London so that our Molesey bus service times co-relate to train times, thus giving time for passenger interchange.

Overall, I am a long-term Molesey resident, my concern is for facilities in Molesey to be kept and expanded and that our pleasant environment remains just that, a nice place to work and live,

Yours sincerely,
Peter Pope.

Peter POPE 
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.**

Vote for Peter Pope Because Molesey Matters



Molesey Matters to you: you want to live work and bring up a family in a great place that is home.

Molesey Matters to everyone: we need good local shops and reliable transport.

Molesey Matters to me: as your local councillor I will help keep Molesey clean and green.

My priorities are:

1. Supporting local businesses and local shops.
2. Making sure Molesey keeps its open spaces and leisure amenities
3. Retaining and improving clubs for young people and play areas for children.

I joined and support the Molesey Residents Association because I strongly believe that a local residents based Group will best represent residents at the local council.

The council deals with all sorts of aspects, most of which affect us all directly. The best way to influence these matters is to be where these decisions are made at the time.

The decisions being made need to have regard to the local situation and not depend on a Party Political view.

My promise to you is that MOLESEY will come first.



**VOTE FOR YOUR LOCAL
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
CANDIDATE
TO REPRESENT YOU
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT**



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 candidate



MOLESEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

POPE X

**Vote
for
PETER**

THURSDAY 6th MAY 2021

ELECTION FOR MOLESEY EAST on ELMBRIDGE COUNCIL





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.

VOTE FOR
**Peter
POPE**
for
**Molesey East
Elmbridge Council**
**MOLESEY MATTERS
and
HE CARES**



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 acre 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 A LOCAL CANDIDATE AND FOR LOCAL POLICIES