



News from your Bentswood Conservative Councillors and Sir Nicholas Soames MP



A COUNTRY THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE

A message from Theresa May

The referendum result in June was not just a vote to leave the EU - it was about something much broader. It was about a deep, justified sense that for many people the world works well for a privileged few but not for them.

Our society should work for everyone, but if you can't afford to get onto the property ladder, or your child is stuck in a bad school, it doesn't feel like it's working for you.

Our economy should work for everyone, but if your pay has stagnated for several years in a row and fixed items of spending keep going up, it doesn't feel like it's working for you.

Our democracy should work for everyone, but if you've been trying to say things need to change for years and your complaints fall on deaf ears, it doesn't feel like it's working for you.

We've achieved a lot over the last six years to tackle this: the deficit down, more people into work than ever before, the lowest paid taken out of income tax, a new National Living Wage, one and a half million more children in good or outstanding schools, 3 million new apprenticeships.

But more still needs to be done to put government at the service of ordinary working class people – focusing on the good that government can do.

While Labour remain divided and divisive, completely out of touch with the concerns of ordinary families, it is only the Conservatives who can make these changes happen. Political visions are not enough on their own - you need to put the hours and the effort in too. But if you do, great things can happen and great changes can occur.

Let's rise to this moment together.



Theresa May's plan to build a country that works for everyone

- A proper industrial strategy identifying the industries that are of strategic value to our economy and supporting and promoting them through trade, tax, infrastructure, skills, training, and research and development policies.
- **Bold new education reforms** so that every child has the chance to go to a good, local school and that they are not held back by where they live or how much money their parents have. The Government will end the ban on new grammar schools as well as a range of other reforms to create more good school places.
- **Continuing to invest in our NHS** £10 billion extra over this Parliament, which is only possible because of the strong economic foundations we have built. We believe in public service. We believe in investing in and supporting the institutions that make our country great.

- **Reforming corporations** to ensure all businesses are run accountably and with the long-term interest clearly in mind.
- **Building more houses** meaning that more people have the opportunity to buy a home of their own and that less of the monthly family budget is poured into accommodation costs.
- **Getting immigration under control** leaving the EU gives us an opportunity to control the numbers of people coming here from Europe and the Government will be consulting over the next few months on steps to reduce non-EU migration.
- **Strengthening workers' rights** we're going to review our laws to make sure that, in our modern and flexible economy, people are properly protected at work.
- **Protecting those who cannot work** we will end the mandatory retesting of work capability for those with chronic health conditions that only induces stress but does nothing at all to help.

YOUR CONSERVATIVE TEAM





David Dorking, Stephen Hillier, Ruth de Mierre and Julie Hayden are here to help

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TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Let us know if you have any issues of concern:

you about the issues you have raised:

Name Address

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MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR - IT'S GOOD TO TALK!

Your Bentswood Ward Councillors are looking forward to seeing you at our next 'Meet your Councillor' on Wednesday 9th November; this will, again, be in Barn Cottage Pavilion between 5.30 and 7.00 pm.

Come along and give us your thoughts and views on Bentswood's future - or anything else you'd like us to discuss!

AMERICA LANE INVESTMENT LOOKING LIKELY

Major enhancements to the area by the shops in America Lane are likely to go ahead in next Spring, pending confirmation of monies, thanks to work by County Councillor Stephen Hillier.

The intention is to block pave the area in front of the shops, resurface the raised speed surfaces in the road and resurface the whole road with a smart red finish. There will also be bicycle racks installed at either end of the parade and several planters along the parade.

Councillors have listened to feedback and arranged for bollards to protect the pavements at either end from cars parking on them. There will be two short raised speed-control humps near the allotments to address long-standing complaints about cars speeding down Westlands Road and into Bentswood.

Stephen says: "This is potentially a fantastic investment in our community and will give us a centre to our community that will look superb and be a source of pride".



LEISURE IMPROVEMENTS AT BARN COTTAGE

Bentswood Councillors have also been working on getting various improvements at Barn Cottage Green in conjunction with the District and the Town Councils. New hardstanding has been installed under the Green Gym which has smartened it up considerably but, more importantly, has meant residents can use it all year round without getting thoroughly muddy.

Cllr Ruth de Mierre says: "Additional picnic benches have also been installed around the playground so that families and groups of friends can enjoy the Green and keep a close eye on any children using the area".



ROYAL STONE UNVEILED

A commemorative stone to mark Her Majesty's 90th birthday and a bench to remember the late Cllr John de Mierre was unveiled during the opening of the regenerated Jubilee Gardens this summer by Sir Nicholas Soames MP. HHTC planted up the garden and will look after the site and it was supported by MSDC together with sponsors. "We're very grateful to all who made this happen," says Cllr David Dorking. "Jubilee Gardens is now a very beautiful and restful place in the middle of our town."

FUN DAY & TIDY UP

Hot on the heels of the Fun Day, which your Councillors were delighted to attend and to sponsor with a significant grant, the Town Council, in partnership with the District Council, provided freighters at the football club for people to dispose of clutter from their houses and gardens for free. In addition, thanks to the generosity of Neil Henry's Gardening Services in loaning his truck, you may have seen Cllr Stephen Hillier going around collecting huge amounts of rubbish from some of our less robust residents. Huge thanks also go to local resident, Chris Steer, for being such a great help to Stephen, and to Haywards Heath Town FC for opening their facilities to house the freighters. We know from the feedback from residents who benefited that this has become a hugely valued exercise and relieves the misery of rotting and accumulated rubbish from some homes.

ANTI-SOCIAL PARKING

Councillors have identified a number of areas of the ward where people are parking in dangerous places like junctions and sharp bends. These will be considered for parking restrictions. If you have any locations which you would like considered for parking restrictions, please contact Cllr Stephen Hillier