



InTouch

News from Weybridge St George's Hill

From your local Conservative candidate Colin McFarlane



Colin will be a strong voice for Weybridge

Local resident Colin McFarlane has been selected as your Conservative candidate for this year's local elections on Thursday 4 May.

He has lived in Weybridge with his family for more than 25 years and, having retired from a career in business development and project management, he volunteers with SECamb as a Community First Responder attending medical incidents.

Colin says: "I am standing to represent St George's Hill at Elmbridge Borough

Council to preserve and improve our splendid, unspoilt, and safe community, where we are all very fortunate to live.

"If elected to the Council I will be a strong voice for our community and help the Conservatives at Elmbridge to hold the Lib-Dems and their Resident Association allies who run the Council to account.

"A recent study commissioned by the Council found that it could raise £3m annually if it was better run. But instead of implementing the recommendations the

Lib Dems have chosen to put up the council tax and service charges.

"Instead of passing a Local Plan to protect our area from overdevelopment they are still talking about it after six years. Clearly it is time for a change of leadership at these elections."

Colin is also passionate about the restoration of the Weybridge Health Centre without any further delays and supports Dr Ben Spencer MP's campaign to fix the lifts at Weybridge Station.



Colin McFarlane is campaigning to be your next councillor



The local NHS shared plans for a new Weybridge Hospital at a recent public exhibition. Following feedback from residents the external look of the building will be revisited to make it more in keeping with the architecture of the town. A planning application will be submitted in the near future.

Ben raises railway concerns

Dr Ben Spencer MP writes: "I was pleased to meet with the Rail Minister recently to discuss South Western Railway and local maintenance and service standards.

Having raised concerns about the interchange at Weybridge and repeated issues with lifts and station access, the Minister shares my concern around disabled access at Weybridge where the lift has been out of action one day in every four for a year - causing severe disruption and stress to those who rely on it.

The Government is reforming the way our rail network operates and creating a new public body, Great British Railways, to bring together many of the current segmented elements.

This body will own the infrastructure, run and plan the network, organise the timetables, and set most fares.

I will continue to campaign for improvements to local services and connectivity and work with government to deliver for our residents in Weybridge."



Runnymede & Weybridge MP Dr Ben Spencer meeting Rail Minister Huw Merriman

Tim Oliver updates on town centre plans

County Councillor Tim Oliver writes: "My thanks to everyone who called in at the recent public exhibition about road and pavement improvements as well as an update on the library and hospital sites.

Surrey County Council is analysing responses, and I am aware of concerns about the partial closure of Elgin Road and Old Wharf.

I will look closely with Surrey

whether it is appropriate to continue with these schemes.

A planning application will be submitted to Elmbridge Council in the next few months for the upgrade of the library. The decision has been taken to retain the current building but to strip it back to its core and carry out a complete refurbishment.

This will create a state-of-the-art library, office, and community space to reopen in mid 2024.



Weybridge County Councillor and Surrey CC leader Cllr Tim Oliver

Conservatives oppose Mayor's ULEZ tax grab

Labour Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, is to charge Surrey residents who drive older or polluting cars £12.50 per day to drive into London boroughs from August.

His Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) is being massively expanded to Outer London boroughs which border Surrey.

Dr Ben Spencer, our MP, said: "This is desperately worrying for under pressure businesses and commuters who face a huge tax simply to get to work.

"Residents are wondering if they can afford to travel to see loved ones in care homes."

Ben is speaking out at Parliament and Surrey County Council has launched a legal challenge to force Mayor Khan to agree to mitigation talks.



London Mayor Sadiq Khan

NEWS IN BRIEF

Improving safety

Weybridge County Councillor Tim Oliver is delivering safety improvements including a crossing outside Manby Lodge School in Queens Road.

This will hopefully enable more parents to feel safer walking their children to school as well as residents accessing the cricket green.



Election changes

From May, voters will need to show a photo ID at polling stations. If you do not have ID you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate by 25 April. For details see www.elmbridge.gov.uk/elections/voter-photo-id/



Your Conservative team and Councillors

WEYBRIDGE ST GEORGE'S HILL

Colin McFarlane
Cllr Charu Sood
County Cllr Tim Oliver
MP Dr Ben Spencer



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Conservatives on your side

Conservatives believe in keeping your council tax as low as possible and delivering value for your money.

That's why we opposed the budget from Lib Dem and RA majority at Elmbridge Council in February which raised council tax and put up parking charges and garden waste subscriptions.

This was despite the council being told it could raise £3m per year if its assets were better managed. In a time of high inflation we need councillors who will support local families and our struggling high streets, not make things worse.

Vote for change on Thursday 4 May.