

IN TOUCH WITH NORTH NAILBOURNE CONSERVATIVES



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FLOODING

Councillor Bill Oakey writes:- the River Nailbourne has brought the worst flooding to Bishopsbourne and Patixbourne in living memory and my heartfelt sympathies go to all our residents who are suffering. I have taken up, in the strongest terms, the need for a better co-ordinated response team from the City Council. Tributes must be paid, in particular to Malcolm Mitchell the Chairman of Bishopsbourne Parish Council and to Viv Pritchard the head of Transportation and Engineering of the City Council, for their unstinting work during the worst of the emergency. Once again, it is the Conservative Members of the Rural Members Panel who have taken the lead in putting together a long-term plan to combat the effects of such natural disasters.

TRAFFIC CALMING

We are well on our way to having two Crossings in Bridge and a series of other measures to calm traffic in the village. We must thank the Parish Council and Canterbury City Council for their support in helping me get these long overdue measures in hand.

Relief is also coming to Bekesbourne in the form of extending speed restrictions. However, I will not rest until I achieve a 20 mph speed limit throughout all of our villages.

MOBILE PHONE MASTS

The Conservative majority on the Rural Members Panel of the City Council is determined to stop the spread of these ugly, and potentially dangerous monstrosities from destroying our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Well done to the Bridge group of residents who have effectively mounted a campaign against the One2One proposal of Dering Close.

Kent County Report - *Your County Council*

Since taking over the running of the County Council, the Conservatives have had to clean up after the previous Lib Dem/Lab coalition. But, time and again since then Kent County Council and the local taxpayer have suffered because the Government continues to reduce the grants and other funds. These should have been made available to Kent, but were withdrawn, mainly without informing the County beforehand! Here are some examples where funding has been withdrawn:

- £5 Million per year that Kent should have received for running Nursing and Residential Care Homes.
- £1 Million per year when it was said by the Government that Traffic on Kent's Roads had fallen!
- £8.7 Million per year because they are threatening to ignore technical adjustments tied to the cost of living. This is equivalent to a 3% rise in Council Tax.
- £63 Million per year (compared to 1997) for repairs and building of roads.

We do know where this money is going - northwards to the Labour heartlands!

Despite this, the Conservative led County Council has made significant progress in the past 3 years, since inheriting a burden of escalating debt from the incompetent and bureaucratic previous Lib Dem/Lab coalition at County Hall.

- £50 Million per year in bureaucratic, efficiency and administrative savings.
- We have restored the Lib Dem/Lab cut in Libraries, Adult Education and the Youth Services as promised.
- We have trebled spending on crime reduction and community safety.

Even with the cuts in Government grant money, your Conservative-led Council has dramatically improved efficiency and performance measured against the Audit Commission's performance indicators.

***MAY WE WISH ALL OF THE RESIDENTS OF BRIDGE,
BISHOPSBOURNE, PATRIBOURNE AND BEKESBOURNE,
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A DRIER AND BRIGHTER 2001***

