

A BETTER FUTURE FOR OUR ROYAL TOWN

**The Conservative Party Manifesto
Parish Council Elections 2016**



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A firm sense of purpose and the drive to achieve our objectives

As Conservatives we have significant expertise in local government and finance, and a reputation for strong business and management experience. This manifesto sets out clearly what we would seek to achieve within the budget. We are putting forward candidates in all Sutton's wards - and intend to continue working with residents and community groups for the good of all in the Royal Town.

The Keys to Success

- **Elected members having either suitable experience of local government or being provided with adequate training to support them in their role.**
- **Engaging fully with residents groups and neighbourhood forums.**
- **Facilitating local debate on issues affecting Sutton**
- **Promoting good partnership working, including Birmingham City Council and within new District and Ward Arrangements to ensure effective delivery of schemes within Royal Sutton Coldfield.**

We have good candidates; honestly presented who would be well supported in their roles.

Conservative members are already involved in all aspects of Sutton life such as charities and other voluntary groups and thus they can give specific support and advice on a wide range of matters.

We will give our new Parish Councillors any support and advice they need. We also have a hard working MP in Andrew Mitchell - who can take up national issues on our behalf. We will have a strong team - from the "grass roots" all the way to Westminster. We will work together as a team with the MP and the City Councillors to cut down on bureaucracy, have joint meetings and ensure that there is no duplication between services.

What a Conservative Parish Council will do for you and our Royal Town:

Our five key pledges:

- 1 Running Costs:** We will keep down administration costs to ensure that money is spent in Royal Sutton Coldfield on the things that matter to its citizens.
- 2 Cleaner Sutton:** We will identify and sort out those persistent 'grot spots' which existing resources do not tackle - not just in busy shopping areas but in your road as well.
- 3 Better shopping:** We will aim to advertise and promote all of Sutton's high streets and provide greater access to free WIFI in shopping areas as well as producing a guide to shopping in Sutton. We will also look to support the 'Sutton Heartbeat Campaign' to have defibrillators installed in these areas.
- 4 Lights and flowers:** We will maintain and wherever possible improve our festive lights and floral displays. We would support traders groups and the Business Improvement District recognising their impact in increasing trade on local high streets.
- 5 Town Hall.** We recognize the importance of this heritage asset. We undertake to support any group or trust who can demonstrate a sustainable business plan for the Town Hall. We will not, however, support capital expenditure, nor make open ended commitments on funding.

And we will also support:

- **Active Parks:** Parks and our open green spaces are a vital part of Sutton's life and we will seek to enhance them by supporting 'Friends' groups and providing additional facilities wherever possible.
- **Planning:** We will seek greater influence over local planning matters.
- **Community grants and awards:** We will introduce grants to encourage community projects of up to £25,000 as well as formally recognising local citizens who make real contributions to their communities with special awards. On top of this we will provide funding for Neighbourhood Forums, where appropriate, to cover administrative expenses.
- **Bring democracy to you:** We will aim to provide live streaming facilities at local community halls and libraries for public meetings. We would also look at rotating meetings around the constituency and establish an official website with all records, reports and notices of meetings.

**Contact us at our campaign headquarters:
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