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News from your local Conservatives in Upton Ward . Winter 2011 including Banbury Lane, Berrywood Road, St Crispin's, Upton & Upton Grange

NEWS FROM YOUR UPTON BOROUGH COUNCILLORS - ALAN BOTTWOOD & BRIAN SARGEANT

AN UPDATE FROM ALAN



That time of year is nearly upon us again and I would like to take this opportunity to wish every one of you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Since being elected in May, becoming a

local councillor has been quite a steep learning curve for me, especially due to being asked to take on the role of Cabinet Member for Finance. I consider it a great honour to be chosen to represent you and will do whatever I can to ensure that the area is brought up to the standard that it should be and will work with and for the residents whatever the cause.

AN UPDATE FROM BRIAN



After being elected your Northampton Borough Councillor in May this year, life has become very busy in particular with my responsibilities to represent your

interests on the ward, together with my additional involvement on various council committees and with local community organisations.

I discharge additional responsibilities on the Licensing Committee, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Diamond Jubilee and Olympic Committee. More recently I have been invited to become a Trustee at the Charles Rennie Mackintosh

House Trust, a local attraction that draws many arts and craft visitors to the town.

I have arranged an open meeting to discuss any local or crime issues affecting residents of Upton, to be held at the Elgar Centre on Thursday 8th December 2011 between 7pm and 9pm. I look forward to meeting as many residents as possible.

Despite my commitments, which I thoroughly enjoy, I continue to strive in my efforts to ensure that your lives on the ward are made that much better and I wish you and your family health and happiness for Christmas and into the New Year.

I thank you for your support so far and please remember I am only a phone call away (contact details overleaf) and remain committed to resolving your problems wherever I can.

GENERAL UPDATE

The Borough Conservative Group elected a new Leader in Councillor David Mackintosh. As a Group we have the strength and resilience to deliver the manifesto agenda as we laid out to the people of Northampton in May. Alan and Brian will give David their full support in his new role as Leader.

New town centre car parking charges came into effect from the end of October. You can now enjoy the first hour of parking and Sunday parking for free in all Northampton Borough Council operated Car Parks.

You will have no doubt seen that an area of central Northampton has been

designated an Enterprise Zone that will enable the town to attract additional business to come here and set up base. This will be a deduction from the usual distribution element and will be an area for high technology industries.

It is hoped L&G can also now move forward with the proposed re-development of the Grosvenor Centre. In addition proposals and funding for the new bus interchange have been announced. With a proposal for student accommodation and a hotel on the area behind the Deragate, it all adds up to an exciting future by generating a much more vibrant town for the residents of Northampton.

Whilst moving ahead with the town centre developments we are also working very closely with both the Saints and Cobblers management with a view to securing their development requirements.

STREET LIGHTING



There have been many problems and complaints to the County Council since they announced that they would be turning off many of the streetlights. However within Upton Ward we are fortunate that a relatively small number of streetlights have been turned off,

mainly due to the fact that the majority of roads, as yet, have not been adopted. Alan and Brian will continue to liaise with the Parish Council and the four Resident Associations within the Ward to ensure that we come up with a plan of action to recommend to the County Council which lights we consider critical and as such should be left on when adoption takes place. It is hoped that this proactive approach will avoid some of the problems that other areas have experienced.



WARD DEVELOPMENTS

Alan and Brian are pleased to advise that the developer on the St Crispin Estate has started to complete the roads and footpaths as they promised. Although this has caused even further parking/traffic problems, these are hopefully only short term.

It is also good to see that WN Developments started a sales campaign and have opened a show home on the Princess Marina Old Hospital site a couple of weeks ago. Let's hope sales go well so that they can continue to re-develop the site without lengthy delays.

Alan is still working to get Upton Grange area included within the Upton Parish and also the Banbury Lane area. We would welcome comments from residents of Banbury Lane as to their views on this.

On behalf of residents, Brian is currently pursuing the Northamptonshire County Council regarding the formal adoption of unfinished roads in the area.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTRY CENTRE

Alan is pleased to have been invited to become a Trustee of the Northamptonshire Country Centre in Berrywood Drive in Upton (almost opposite the entrance to Berrywood Hospital). This is a local centre working with adults with learning difficulties in the area of Agriculture and Horticulture. They have small amounts of produce available to purchase all year round so please call in sometime and give them your support.



Cllr Brian Sargeant, Andrea Leadsom MP & Cllr Alan Bottwood

CAN YOU HELP?

Can you spare a few hours occasionally or want to take a more active role to assist your local Conservative Group? We are looking for new members and also distributors of our leaflets as all of our local work is done without any cost to the taxpayer. We also very much welcome younger members of the community so that they can gain experience of the world of local politics.



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