

Candidates for the Wanborough Parish Council Election – 6th May 2021

Richard Angwin

Wanborough is under threat like never before. The New Eastern Villages with their Southern Connector road will do nothing to enhance village life. Wasdell's proposed Industrial Estate would be an even greater threat to this village's survival. I would only support development that would be of direct benefit to residents.

Village life could be enhanced by supporting green initiatives. Greater reuse and recycling should be encouraged. I am particularly keen to improve the local environment with greater efforts to address dog fouling, litter and fly-tipping.

More needs to be done to encourage wildlife and there should be an integrated wildlife plan to build on the current initiatives.

My wife and I moved to the village in 2004. In the intervening 17 years there have been many changes, far too few have enhanced village life. This trend needs to be reversed. If elected, I would do my utmost to make that happen.

Richard Bellamy

I stand as an independent candidate, believing parish councillors should focus on local rather than party politics. I've relevant professional experience working on large governmental change programmes. I want to help those with quieter or less experienced village voices be heard at a time of significant change for Wanborough.

I have lived in the village for 50+ years and seen it grow from small farming-based village to larger semi-rural commuter zone. I fear we may accidentally risk losing some of the village character along with aspects of its tradition and history. Wanborough must evolve, but I would hope to help it do so sympathetically without seeking to become subsumed into Swindon

There is much we can learn from similar communities, facilitating better communication, involving residents meaningfully and better supporting less represented groups. (the young, the non-tech savvy older residents and those running small businesses from the village).

Bob Biggs

I have been on the Parish Council for 13 years and it has been an honour to serve as Chair for the last 3 years.

I have known Wanborough for over 70 years, in 1983 together with my wife we were heavily involved in setting up the local Scout Group and I held the position of Group Scout Leader for 20 years.

I have a love for Wanborough and a desire to see the village flourish. I like the community spirit and the friendly ethos that exists here. I strongly believe it is important to retain the village character and unique identity and oppose any development in the wrong place.

I believe that I still have something to offer and will continue to strive to improve the Parish facilities, with 3 generations in the Church yard I feel I know the Parish well.

Martin Costello

I am putting myself up to be a councillor with the primary objective to stop the proposed Science Park that is a serious threat to Wanborough and the surrounding area.

I also want to see the immediate end to lockdown restrictions that is damaging businesses, livelihoods, relationships, mental health and cancelling NHS operations. Vote independent for your independence.

John Emmins

I have lived in Wanborough since the mid-1980s and I am keen that our village life continues for all residents.

I have been on the Parish Council since 2017, I am a member of the footpath and village maintenance committee and have been keen to see improvements made to our village open spaces and footpaths.

I have chaired the committee looking to improve the facilities at The Hooper's Field sports ground. The new design has opportunities for new interest groups and the existing sports teams. I look forward to taking this project to completion with the help of the new project team.

I am keen to continue supporting our community and to help preserve the rural setting of this lovely village.

This is not official election literature and has been organised as a community initiative by Wanborough Parish Council as a guide for the Parish Council elections on 6th May 2021.

Kathleen Glanville

Living in Wanborough since 1995, I have come to assume that our lovely, peaceful way of life would be forever, something I'm sure all residents had also assumed. But on joining the SSPG to protect our village from a 'science park' development, I now understand that we must work hard to maintain all that we hold dear.

Supporting a CEO and working at Board level means that I'm a good team player, very well organised and not afraid to question or speak out. I'm a very good sounding board, calm, sensible (so I'm told), used to dealing with confidential information and I feel I could provide a balanced viewpoint.

My heart is in the village and I would strive to represent you all, to ensure your views are heard and that Wanborough is the village you want it to be, and call your home.

David Hayward

When I moved to Wanborough 30 years ago I was immediately struck by the strong sense of community and learned from residents who were born and brought up in the village. For many years I helped with the village Shows, serving several years as treasurer.

I have always supported the environment and in 1992 I helped plant the first trees at Warneage Wood, organised planting trees at Church Meadow for the Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and returned last year to help plant the Memorial Trees.

In 2008 I joined the Parish Council and have worked hard to preserve this sense of community and the environment. I speak regularly to residents and help with their issues, and also ensure that their concerns are raised and I will continue to oppose the Inlands Farm warehouse, raise concerns about the Traffic Calming Scheme and support the upgrade of Hooper's Field facilities.

Colin Offer

I have lived in the village with my wife since 1982. Our children grew up in Wanborough, enjoying its rural aspect and close community.

I have been a member of Wanborough Parish Council for 29 years (Vice chairperson, Chairperson and Councillor), and have taken part in some great projects, including the achievement of a grant of £303,000 for the initial development of Hooper's Field, as Project Leader.

I have and will continue to attend planning meetings, with SBC, to ensure the village maintains its character and residents enjoy open spaces; the Lower Rec now has a lease until 2144.

I believe in working together to maintain habitats and think it worthwhile to improve the pond at Hooper's Field, so that children/adults can take an interest in our local pond's ecosystem.

If elected, I would listen to your views and raise any concerns to the council.

Joe Smith

I have been fortunate to have lived in Wanborough for 50 of my 54 years, enjoying all aspects of village life including serving on the Parish Council for 21 years. I'm a third-generation farmer and know the land and watercourses well which proved invaluable when dealing with past flooding issues and the Wanborough Flood Report which at ten years is due for a revision.

Although I have recently moved up the road to Hinton Parva with my family, I'm still in Wanborough every day looking after my beef herd and involved in the Parish.

I have an innate interest in the rural and historical aspects of our village and have been particularly active in these areas over the years, serving on the allotments, planning and footpath committees (and clearing many a fallen tree).

I hope to be able to continue to use my experience and contribute to the community.

Donna Stalker

I have lived and worked in Wanborough since early 2011 and have been fortunate to be a member of the parish council for nine years.

Joining the parish council helped me learn, love, and appreciate the village, rather than just the small part where I live and work.

Other than the usual duties, my special interests over the years have been working as part of the flood mitigation group and improving the conditions at the allotments, which are used by many from our community.

Going forward, keeping Wanborough's separate rural identity is especially important to me, hence being strongly opposed to any development at inlands farm and also of importance is being a part of the team that continues to care and improve Wanborough which makes our village a place to be proud to call home.

Gary Sumner

I have lived in Wanborough for 20 years and walk around the village daily.

I spent 13 years on Wanborough Parish Council including 5 years as Chair before being elected as Ridgeway Borough Councillor. I was an active Parish member, assisting with a range of activities & committees and actively participating in village events.

Whilst I hope to be re-elected to the Borough role, I seek to re-join the Parish Council so we can work more closely together and to focus on how we can make our village better.

I am passionate about Wanborough and I still see our village just as I did 20 years ago - as a great place to live. Parishes across Swindon are delivering a higher standard of maintenance within their devolved responsibilities and this gives an opportunity to continue to improve our village and spend your money carefully.

John Warr

I have lived in the village with my extended family, for over four years and am the Chair of the South Swindon Protection Group and current holder of the Jack Smith Trophy for contributions to the village.

I believe our Parish Council should be run by local residents, be open and transparent and spend its money wisely. I am a keen runner and care deeply about our footpaths and preserving our green spaces and rural way of life.

Michael Webster

I am currently a councillor for the parish and the reason I joined and wanted to be involved is because I am keen to preserve the rural character of the village.

I have been extremely active on the Council since joining, Chair of the Footpaths and Village Maintenance committee, I have been looking into gaining a grant to refurbish the pond at Hooper's Field into a natural wildlife area. I am keen to help with the Hooper's Field project and strongly object to the proposed Science Park.

I am retired from work having previously been managing director of Hills waste for 30 years. I am a fellow of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, chartered environmentalist as well as a chartered waste manager and chartered planner so I believe I have the requisite qualifications and experience to play an active role in village life.

I am a family man and consequently hold strong views on family values and the importance of the family unit.