

Meet Stewart Stone your Lib Dem candidate for the Rottingdean Coastal by-election on 5th May

"I was brought up in Brighton and went to Varndean School. After graduating I lived in London for over 20 years, then moved to Buckinghamshire, but now live locally. I relish the chance to fight for my fellow residents of this lovely ward that stretches from Brighton Marina via Rottingdean, Ovingdean to West Saltdean"



I joined the Party in High Wycombe in 2015, having attended a fundraiser and have campaigned at a local and national level. My background was initially in Finance and Human Resources, but the bulk of my career has been in and around the recruitment sector. I've run my own business for over a decade, and firmly believe that the skills I've developed in my career will allow me to become a very effective Councillor. I am passionate about fairness and equality in the workplace, education, effective social services, raising housing standards and



Photo: SwanAround Photography

improving the environment. There are major planning issues across the ward from housebuilding to major infrastructure projects.

Most importantly of all I aim to **listen and act** on what local people see as important issues in the community. I've recently met with traffic management specialists and discussed the congestion issues on the main coast road that plague us and are a major source of pollution.

Clearly there are no magic solutions, but what I can promise you is that I will work together with all the necessary bodies to ensure you are kept up to speed with every aspect of the Council's jurisdiction, in a transparent and proactive manner.

I love living in this ward, and am passionate about improving the quality of life for all who live here, making changes based on what **you** want.

I offer you energy, honesty, decades of experience, and a passion for getting things done!



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What does Stewart stand for?



Here are some of the questions I have been asked on the doorstep.

What is the way forward on congestion, parking and ever-increasing pollution levels?

At the heart of Rottingdean we have one of the worst traffic pollution hotspots in the country. The rapid increase in electric and hybrid vehicles appears to be the best hope for permanent improvement, but further research is needed. I will, meanwhile, be actively involved in getting more charging points and will consult with the residents on the best places to locate them. We need to work with traffic management specialists to identify other solutions that are quicker to implement

What about plans for footpaths in the ward?

As a keen walker myself, I strongly support a systematic approach to improving footpaths across the local authority area.

What about the gasworks redevelopment next to Marine Gate?

The original plans for the Gasworks as submitted, are a gross over-development. There will be a war of attrition between the planners and the developers with the ever-present threat of an appeal to the national authorities who could take the decision away from locally elected councillors. At the very least the Council should insist on the required 40% of social housing. There will be an impact on traffic flow as large numbers of people cross the A259 during rush hour causing further congestion and pollution.

How can the Marina be re-vitalised?

As I live at the Marina, I am very aware that more independent shops and small businesses need to be encouraged to open here. The current enhancements to the Black Rock area and the entrance to the Marina are to be welcomed and contribute to the overall regeneration of the area.

I support the proposed reorganisation of the Ward so that in the 2023 local elections, there will be a new Kempton and Marina Ward.

Local Authorities have been cowed by the threat of 'Right-to-Buy' into avoiding building council houses. Across the city (and in the ward) the Council owns land which could be used to build well designed mixed developments of flats and family homes. It is LibDem policy nationally to radically alter the Right-to-Buy system and I support this.

What will you do regarding poor planning decisions that impact local residents?

A wholesale review with representatives across the community needs to take place urgently to ensure that the concerns of residents are not only listened to but acted upon!



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We are actively listening to your views. If there are local issues that you would like to see resolved or if you would like to help with our campaign, please email us.



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