

Councillor David Stewart – Chale, Niton and Whitwell

Annual Report May 2012

This report provides a brief review of progress over the last 12 months including: sustainability of our local library, support for local community transport, successful bids for economic improvement funding and work with both parish and county councils.

**Library** - Through an excellent team of volunteers and a committed management team, a sound position has now been achieved for the Edward Edwards Community library at Niton, with fund raising now being the priority.

**Community transport** - After some excellent work by a number of interested individuals, improved community busses now operate across the ward, also servicing the undercliff and St Lawrence. To maintain this service, we now need to identify more volunteer drivers.

**Economic Improvement Fund** - Successful bids were made for a number of local initiatives including repairing skateboard facilities and the 'tunnels' footpath wall in Niton, introduction of internet facilities for use by local resident in Chale and support for Diamond Jubilee celebrations for residents in Whitwell.

**Parish and County Councils** - I attend meetings of our local parish councils and I have seen some excellent work being undertaken on your behalf. At county council level I attend full council meetings where key achievement this year include introduction of a new waste disposal arrangement, effective budget management and approval of the Island Core Strategy.

**Looking Ahead** - I will continue to focus on preserving local community assets and as a scrutiny panel member focus on ensuring improvements in education standards and performance, as well as ensuring the IW Council support improvements in Tourism, Education, the Economy and the Environment for the benefit of our Island Community.

David Stewart  
May 2012