

Councillor Jonathan Bacon – Brading, St Helens and Bembridge Ward

Annual Report 2012

In the last year I have sought at all times to represent the views and interests of residents in my ward. In particular I have continued to oppose unnecessary and inappropriate cuts and propose and support investment and proposals that will benefit the Island and its residents, particularly in relation to supporting the Island's tourist economy and supporting its more vulnerable residents. I assisted in the creation and development of the recent Independent Group budget which showed, in our view how a much more creative and forward thinking approach is possible despite the current budgetary pressures.

I fought against the closure of Bembridge Library and am now Chairman of the Committee that is running the new Community Library. I have also sought to assist the retention of meaningful youth provision in Brading and am pleased to note that a commitment to maintaining youth services from a fixed physical base in Brading has been secured.

Further I have sought to represent residents views on planning applications that have arisen during the year, in particular the application in relation to 'Marsh Farm' in Brading which has attracted extensive opposition from residents.

I am a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Licensing and General Purposes Committee as well as the Chair of the Action Group looking to improving the experience of children in care on the Island. Within the ward I attend the meetings of St Helens Parish Council, Brading Town Council and Bembridge Parish Council and make myself available to deal with residents issues and concerns at all times. I am also the Chairman of St Helens Parish Council.

I continue to work to deal with the many issues raised by residents in my ward and hope to pursue all to a satisfactory conclusion.

Jonathan Bacon  
May 2012