

June 2017

**Dear Resident,**

Please take the time to read this before voting in the forthcoming Seaford Town Council, East Ward by-election.

I had been involved with voluntary groups prior to 2015 and this opened my eyes to what a wonderful community we have here; the many groups and organisations within the town run by volunteers; the superb countryside that surrounds us and the seafront by turns wild or welcoming.

With my grown daughters bringing their families up in the Town, and finding I had the time and life knowledge to give something back, I threw myself into being more active and am involved with Seaford Bonfire Society, Seaford Community Events Committee, Seaford Residents Voice.

I had lived in Seaford for over 20 years and was just starting to realise that the Town Council should have been more open to the public, and that old style Party Politics was hindering progress with it's outdated practices.

In 2015 a group of residents formed ifS. I stood as an ifS candidate in the June 15 by-election in Seaford East Ward. Though not gaining a seat I was happy to have stood and gain over 200 votes in an exceedingly crowded election candidate wise and in 4 short weeks of campaigning!

At the time we were also fighting the Buckle development. IfS started a petition and gathered signatures through online and face to face promotion. The petition was submitted to LDC and together with SRV we raised the profile of the whole 'New Homes scheme', joining with residents around the district to march on Country Hall. During this time the dubious process of the scheme was unearthed and thanks to residents across the district working together the 'done deal' was shelved.

Since 2015 I have continued to be active in the community, hi-vis marshalling at events, providing administration support, assisting the Neighbourhood Plan groups, ensuring correct information is promoted, making cakes and being the 'tea lady' at many events and consultations.

In the background I have dealt with many questions and issues from residents: mostly it is knowing who is best placed to deal with a problem. I have asked questions of the Council at meetings on issues or to get official clarification on matters on the agenda that have been mis-quoted on social media. I have assisted residents with correct complaints processes, which I feel are woefully inadequate. I am currently working alongside residents on several ongoing issues.

**I am a realist;** I realise that improvements to the town cost money so it would be pointless promising I am going to deliver the undeliverable. However I promise I will fight to ensure proposed improvements include resident consultation and are economically viable and sustainable.

**I am an idealist;** I would love to see an independent Town Council unshackled by National Party Politics.

As a candidate for a Minor political party, if elected, I would be **accountable**, not only to the Town Council, but the registered constitution and members of ifS.

**I Promise:**

- To be truthful, to listen to residents and offer assistance or guidance on where assistance can be found, to work with the community to achieve our common goals. This I will do without fear, favour or expectation of reward.
- To campaign to ensure that Councillors can be held accountable for their actions through updating of the Code of Conduct and standing orders. I know this is an issue for many of the residents I have spoken to who have no faith in the current systems.

Fiona House, East Ward Candidate