

VOTE Peter DAMESICK

OXTED & LIMPSFIELD RESIDENTS GROUP



May 4th - Vote to keep your residents-run Council

This is to introduce myself as your Oxted & Limpsfield Residents Group (OLRG) candidate for Oxted North and Tandridge in the Tandridge District Council elections being held on May 4th. I have lived in Oxted since 1986. For many years, I was a research director for a major commercial property adviser. I was chair of the Trustees of TVA, a charity supporting the voluntary and community sector in Tandridge District, from 2015-2020 and I have been active as performer and director with local theatre groups at the Miller Centre in Caterham and The Barn Theatre, Oxted. I have also been an Oxted Parish Councillor for the last four years.

● **ADMINISTRATION:** If elected, I would join the alliance of residents and Independent Councillors which has run the Council since May 2021 when we became the largest group and took over from the Conservatives. Since then, we have got the finances back on track from a position close to bankruptcy which we inherited. I am delighted to say it means we have been able to set a balanced budget for 2023/24 without major cuts to services or reducing the money available for grants to voluntary organisations. Crucially, we will not need to touch our reserves. We have also been able to keep 2 hour free parking in Ellice Road car park.



● **ELECTING ME** is a vote to keep the Council run by residents and for an independent, non-political voice who will represent you and who will listen. Working with my fellow ward Councillors, OLRG's Jackie Wren and Council leader Catherine Sayer, I will campaign for the interests of Oxted residents and businesses.

● **MY PRIORITIES** include tackling crime and anti-social behaviour (update on CCTV overleaf); preventing

inappropriate development and protecting the character and community feel of Oxted, taking planning enforcement action where necessary; and improving infrastructure, especially pressing for more health services locally.



Please do vote for me and the OLRG team on May 4th in this crucial District Council election.

OXTED & LIMPSFIELD RESIDENTS GROUP

Independent • Non-Political

Your voice in Oxted North and Tandridge

Promoted by Jackie Wren of 16 Gordons Way, Oxted RH8 0LW on behalf of Peter Damesick, Chichele Road, Oxted RH8 0AG
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REPRESENTING RESIDENTS

ELECT ME and I will push for your interests on all important local issues.

CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR: The tendering process is now underway for CCTV cameras to be installed in Oxted and Hurst Green. The proposal is to install CCTV first in Station Road East and West, with the shops in Hurst Green and Master Park following on as two subsequent phases. This is a joint project backed by Tandridge District Council, Oxted Parish Council, Limpsfield Parish Council, Oxted BID (Business Improvement District) and the Master Park Trustees. Oxted Parish Council is kindly considering providing the bulk of the funding with contributions from the BID and Limpsfield PC.



STONEY FIELD FOOTPATHS: An application has been made to register the footpaths around Stoney Field (beside

St Mary's Church in Oxted) as official Rights of Way. So far, OLRG has collected evidence from more than 100 residents about their usage of the paths. This followed the posting of notices around the field by the landowners/developers wanting to prevent any more public rights of way being registered. I am keen to preserve the footpaths, which have been used for many years.

CHALKPIT QUARRY HOUSING APPLICATION: No application has yet been submitted but one is expected in the summer. I will press to make sure it is decided by Tandridge District Council and not by Surrey County Council and to ensure that residents' views are properly taken into account.

SURREY HILLS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB): A review of the AONB boundary is currently taking place and I am delighted that the AONB may be expanded in our area, giving extra protection to our most beautiful and valued landscapes.

ELECT ME and I will fight against inappropriate development and for better infrastructure.

We are working hard to get a Local Plan approved for the District. The Plan was submitted for examination in 2019 by the previous administration and was not of our making. The Planning Inspector has expressed serious concerns about it, in particular about the delivery of the proposed South Godstone garden community and the capacity of junction 6 of the M25. We are now putting forward a new proposal to shorten the Plan period, omitting the garden community and other sites about which the Inspector has raised concerns, to acknowledge the Government's recent proposed changes to planning policy, and to improve infrastructure provision for those sites that go ahead. We hope the Inspector will accept our proposal because, without an up-to-date Plan, the district could be open to speculative planning applications on our Green Belt. Regardless of the Local Plan outcome, I will do my utmost to protect our area from inappropriate development and to secure much needed infrastructure improvements as OLRG has worked to do ever since we were formed.



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Peter Damesick and the OLRG team
Your voice in Oxted North and Tandridge

PUTTING THE COMMUNITY FIRST

ELECT ME for prudent financial control and protection of frontline services.

One of the most difficult issues our administration faced has been keeping the Council solvent. We inherited a £920,000 annual hole in the budget due to a pension costs error. At that time, the Council was close to issuing a section 114 notice – effectively bankruptcy. We did not have the option of using reserves to balance the books because they had already been severely depleted. We were determined from the start to



avoid major cuts to services. We have chosen instead to cut the Council's own costs and, to do that, have embarked on a root and branch review to reshape and slim down the Council to try to ensure expenditure no longer outstrips income. We have also brought in strict accounting and reporting rules. We are working on sharing services with other councils, on digital innovation to give better customer experience and efficiency, and on commissioning at least some services from outside providers to achieve better value for money. For the financial year 2023/24, we are having to find £1.7m of savings, a big challenge on an annual budget of £11.9m especially at a time of high inflation affecting our costs. So I am very pleased to say that we have been able to set a balanced budget and to do so

without major cuts to services or cuts to the amount of money available for grants to voluntary organisations. Some fees are rising but increases for services to residents have been kept to a minimum and 2 hour free parking in Ellice Road car park has been retained. We have also ring-fenced money for a "Cost of Living" fund to help residents in urgent need. The Council Tax rise is 2.99% which is £6.90 per year for an average property (or 13p per week). If elected, I will have very much in mind the need to focus available resources on the services that matter most to residents to provide you with the services you deserve as residents and for which you pay your Council Tax.

ELECT ME for an Independent voice whose only allegiance is to the local community.

I believe that independent Councillors - who are not told what to do by a political party - are the only way to ensure the community is always put first. My only allegiance is to the community and not to party politics.

If enough OLRG/Independents are elected on May 4th, we will be able to continue as a residents-run administration. If you want that to happen and for the community's voice to be heard strongly, please do vote for me and the OLRG team.



And if you are voting in person, don't forget to bring your photo ID. These are the first elections where photo ID is needed. Please contact me as overleaf if you need any more info about this.

Independent • Non-Political

Peter Damesick and the OLRG team
Your voice in Oxted North and Tandridge

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TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION

OXTED NORTH AND TANDRIDGE WARD

Thursday, May 4th

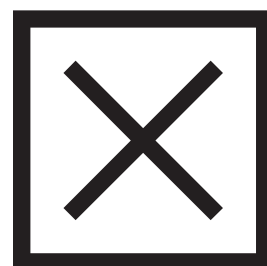
Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm

**Voting for residents of Oxted North is at
Oxted Community Hall in Church Lane RH8 9NB**

**Voting for residents of Tandridge is at
Tandridge Village Hall in Tandridge Lane RH8 9NN**



**Vote
DAMESICK**



If there is anything you would like to chat about, please just get in touch at:
pdamesick@gmail.com or phone **07825 640947**

*If you would like to support me in any way or would like to display an election board,
please contact me as above. Many thanks.*

Best Wishes

Peter Damesick

To join OLRG email: oxted.residents@btinternet.com

Website: www.oxtedlimpsfieldresidents.co.uk

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