

FOCUS on SOUTH PORTSLADE BY-ELECTION EDITION



Meet Ken Rist

Your Liberal Democrat candidate standing for South Portslade on January 11th

Hello, I'm Ken Rist your Lib Dem candidate for the upcoming South Portslade local election. I was born, bred and educated in Portslade, as was my father and his father before him. I have a lifetime of experience living in our neighbourhood and the seeing first-hand the issues affecting our residents. I went to St Nicolas Infants, Benfield Juniors and then Portslade Secondary Modern at the top of the High Street, where I was Head Prefect. When I left school, I apprenticed at the Dudley Hotel in Hove followed by many years working as a commis chef in London and along the south coast.

From 2000, I was a Kitchen Supervisor at a Hove facility for seniors with mental health issues, for 13 years before I retired. Now I am the sacristan at St Nicolas Church in Portslade Village, where in the I'm working hard to get the historic church bells ringing again!



Photo: Ian Churchill



Thanks Les, for being our councillor for 51 years

This by-election has been caused by the resignation of Labour Councillor Les Hamilton. Here is **Ken Rist's** tribute to our long-serving representative. *Les started as a councillor for Portslade UDC and became well respected, as was his father who was our local Co-op insurance agent in the 50s and 60s. Les's mother was organist at church of Good Shepherd, Mile Oak until she was 98 years old.*

In the late 1960's, he was an excellent Math's teacher at Portslade Secondary Modern school (after my time!) and he taught my sister's children very well and helped them to get great GCE and CSE results.

He has always been a hard working councillor for the local community of Portslade and will no doubt remain active in the community. I wish him a happy retirement.

SAVE OUR SCHOOL

The announcement of the proposed closure of St Peter's school is shocking and saddening for parents and residents. The decision seems to have been rushed through, ignoring the important and unique characteristics of the school. Under the proposed new plans, many of the children would be forced to attend Mile Oak, which is over 40 minutes' walk away. This decision may increase car journeys across Portslade, with negative consequences for traffic and environment.

St Peter's closure would also result in the loss of nursery-age classes, and could lead to dereliction of a much-loved, community asset. If elected, Ken will make it a priority on the Council to fight against the closure of St Peter's and other similar short-sighted proposals in the future.



From Portslade for Portslade



Here are some local LibDem policies. We will:

- ◆ Listen to residents by having regular surgeries in the ward
- ◆ Clear overgrown pavements with environmentally friendly materials
- ◆ Encourage business to return to empty shops, pubs and restaurants
- ◆ Bring back a local Bobby on a bike.
- ◆ Keep all the City's public toilets open
- ◆ Campaign to increase Portslade's share of the local road mending budget



Is Portslade getting its fair share?

Together with **Michael Wang**, the LibDem prospective parliamentary candidate for Hove and Portslade, Ken embarked on a local tour to scrutinise the Council's maintenance shortcomings. They observed the neglected state of Manor Road, where the middle reservation has been damaged, presumably by a speeding vehicle and yet remains unrepaired. Together, they call for the Council to break away from the habit of focusing on expensive vanity projects and get the basics right, while Michael further notes the need for a fundamental rethink of the local authority funding process at Westminster.

Michael says: *"Ken's knowledge and passion for South Portslade is impressive and infectious. He will be a champion for the local area."*



Ken added: *"Once again Portslade is the forgotten part of Brighton and Hove, if elected I will become a active campaigner for our part of the City. For example, the memorial of the Portslade Gassie has been totally neglected. It was an important Ferry service across the canal and should be restored"*



Please remember:

You must bring photo ID to vote on January 11th. To find out more about voter ID, including what forms of identification are accepted, go to

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/voterid

If you do not have any photo ID then you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate at: www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-to-vote before 5pm on 3rd of January.

Send a message to Labour at our City Council on January 11th

VOTE

KEN RIST		
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We are actively listening to your views. If there are ward issues that you would like to see resolved or if you would like to help, please email us on Portslade@liberalbrighton.org

To join the Liberal Democrats or become a supporter or make a donation, visit: www.liberalbrighton.uk



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