COUNCILLOR MIKE SOLE **ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23**

BRIEF UPDATE

I've had another busy year as Kent County Councillor for Canterbury South and Canterbury City Councillor for Nailbourne ward.

Through my monthly updates to parish councils and residents I keep everyone informed about my activities and work for the local area.

I'm always keen to get involved in issues and help out where I can. I've highlighted just a few things in this annual report.

Working for you all year round

By working with parish councils, residents and KCC I am very pleased that we have been able to improve road safety locally with reductions on speed limits. A 40mph limit is now in place in Bramling and a new 30mph limit is on its way in Woolage Village, and a 40mph at Petham Stone Street.

I am able to support highway improvement projects like these with the grants that I have access to from KCC, although the grants available have now been reduced by KCC to just £3,600 a year, and this also includes grants for community groups and other projects in my county division. I opposed these cuts.

I am currently working with residents and meeting with Stagecoach to see if there is anything that can be done about the loss of the 17 bus evening service, following the removal of KCC funding. Last year I was very pleased though to have played a part in saving the 11 bus route when my petition achieved over 1,000 signatures in just a few days.

The Canterbury Local Plan is extremely controversial, and I continue to work with residents, parish council and community groups to oppose the Adisham new town and the expansion of Aylesham into Womenswold.

I continue to work to get litter and fly-tipping cleared and was very pleased to see the proper deep clean of the Ropersole lay-by take place that I have campaigned for.

With cuts in pothole funding I am in touch regularly with KCC Highways to keep pushing for repairs to our roads.

At KCC I have regulary questioned Southern Water about the dumping of sewerage in the sea.

I have been working through the bureaucracy to try to get changes to the unpopular Wincheap gyratory scheme that is due to start this year.

With my (now much reduced) KCC Combined Members Grant, and Canterbury City Council Opportunities Fund I have been able to support many local projects including, Littlebourne warm room project, Barham Bowls Club, Wickhambreaux playing field, Thanington Resource Centre, Lower Hardres Speedwatch, Barham Primary School, Bridge Village Playgroup and Barham Football Club.

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