

SANDGATE LET DOWN BY THE CONSERVATIVES

Published and promoted by Tim Prater on behalf of the Shepway Liberal Democrats, 82a Sandgate High Street, Sandgate, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3BX. Printed by Liberty at the same address.

1 District's Highest Council Tax

Sandgate residents pay MORE Council Tax than they would in Folkestone or Hythe. Lib Dem Folkestone just FROZE their Council Tax for the second year running - **Sandgate bills rose.**

2 Sandgate's "Town" Mayor Controversy

Conservative Sandgate Council has forced a change from "Parish" to "Town". The move has upset local residents who see our area as a village, and fear additional costs of a Mayor.

3 Shepway's New £35 Garden Tax

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Official: Sandgate Has Highest Tax in Shepway

Shepway Council figures reveal that Sandgate residents pay the HIGHEST Council Tax of the 30 Towns and Parishes in the area!

Band D Tax 2008/09		
1	Sandgate	£1,474.26
2	Folkestone	£1,472.24
3	Ivychurch	£1,466.44
4	New Romney	£1,453.99
5	Hythe	£1,451.50

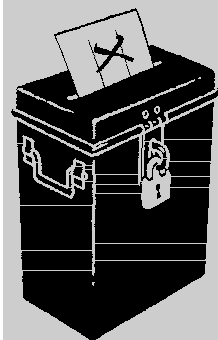
Source: www.shepway.gov.uk

In Folkestone and Sandgate the tax includes a special expense for Folkestone Parks and Pleasure Grounds Charity of £31.85. **Lib Dem controlled Folkestone Town Council froze its Council tax this year for the second year running.**

Conservative run Hythe saw its Town Council tax rise over 14%, one of the largest increases in the district.

Sandgate resident Season Prater says enough is enough.

"To learn that Conservative-run Sandgate has the highest tax in Shepway is quite shocking. Other Councils like nearby Folkestone have managed to freeze their tax this year. It's a shame Sandgate could not follow that example."



SANDGATE ELECTION NEWS

There will be a Sandgate Town Council by-election on 1st May in Sandgate Valley following the resignation of former Councillor Jenny Bailey.

To register for a postal vote, or to make sure you are on the register to vote, call the Shepway Council Election Hotline on 01303 853497 by 16th April or visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk

WHAT A WASTE!



1000's of Brown-top garden waste bins are going unused across Shepway as the introduction of a new £35 charge for their use saw take-up rates for the service almost HALF.

"Surely we should be encouraging recycling and composting measures, not putting people off." says local resident Season Prater.

"Shepway should be trying to boost recycling rates by organising recycling collections for all local homes including flats, not penalising those doing their bit."

Standing Up For Sandgate



Season Prater: Spend less on the Mayor, keep taxes low and keep in touch throughout the year.

Sandgate resident **Season Prater** offers a fresh voice for Sandgate.

"The recent move from 'Parish' to 'Town' was just wrong. Sandgate is a Village. It seems the only change is we now have a Mayor - why?"

"I would stand up against any new expenditure on the Mayor, civic regalia or functions."

"I believe Sandgate having the highest Council Tax in Shepway is a disgrace."

"I would fight for better value for tax payers and keep in touch with local residents throughout the year."

Sandgate Conservative Backs "Runaway" Councillors

Local Conservative Councillors John and Linda Oliver have **STILL** not resigned their council seats - despite having moved to Bath over **FOUR** months ago!

The runaway Councillors represent Hythe West, where local residents are disgusted at the ruling Conservatives failing to force by-elections.

"By not allowing local residents to choose new Councillors the Conservatives are showing they care nothing for Shepway residents." says Sandgate resident **Season Prater**.

"Sandgate Councillor Robert Bliss has given Councillor Linda Oliver his support saying 'There is no necessary reason for her to step down.' Councillor Bliss should know better - local Councillors should be local."

Councillor Linda Oliver sits as both a District and Town Councillor and has attended just **TWO** of the last 8 full Shepway and Hythe Council meetings (she also sits on Hythe Town Council), but still takes her allowance of £3,375 a year.

THE TORY COUNCILLOR RECORD OF SHAME

Shepway Council Meeting	12 Sep 2007	MISSING
Hythe Council Meeting	27 Sep 2007	MISSING
Shepway Council Meeting	31 Oct 2007	Present
Hythe Council Meeting	8 Nov 2007	MISSING
Shepway Council Meeting	19 Dec 2007	MISSING
Hythe Council Meeting	20 Dec 2007	MISSING
Shepway Council Meeting	23 Jan 2008	MISSING
Hythe Council Meeting	13 March 2008	Present

Source: Meeting minutes showing Linda Oliver attendance record at Shepway Council, and John and Linda Oliver at Hythe Council.

A Clear Choice For Sandgate

Con

Lib
Dem

Labour:
Under 2%

Lab

In the 2007 local elections, Labour got less than 2% of the vote across Shepway. There are **NO** Labour Councillors elected anywhere in Shepway.

Only the Lib Dems can beat the Conservatives here.

Working for You

www.shepwaylibdems.org.uk