

Andrew Wickham

Conservative Member for Ashford Rural East Division



A year at County Hall. Serving Kent. Serving You.

Kent County Council has 84 Members representing every part of the County. Andrew has been serving the community of Ashford Rural East as a Member since 2009. He was last elected in 2009 and, like all KCC Members, serves for a four year term of office. The next KCC elections take place on 2 May 2013.

About Andrew

Andrew was born in 1962, has lived in Kent the majority of his life and is married with two children aged 19 and 17.

Andrew was elected to Kent County Council in 2009 to represent Ashford Rural East. Prior to this he had run his own business employing 15 people whilst also being a retained firefighter. He was a soldier in the Territorial Army whilst a student at agricultural college where he qualified as a rural practice Chartered Surveyor. He has been a magistrate for 14 years on the E Kent bench. On arrival at County Hall, he was appointed Deputy Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Development with particular responsibility for rural matters. He Chairs the Cabinet Committee and the Kent Rural Board as well as representing KCC on various regeneration boards throughout the county. He is also the Ashford lead member on the Kent Police

Authority and is Kent's Older Persons Champion on KCC.

Andrew is also Vice Chairman of Pluckley Parish Council where he lives and on the board of Kent Crimestoppers and Weald of Kent Protection Society.

Andrew enjoys skiing, sailing, tennis, shooting, theatre, food and wine and lots of other things.

Work at County Hall

Attending meetings isn't all councillors do, in fact most of their time is spent out and about meeting people in their community, doing their best to help solve problems and finding out what matters most to them. However, when decisions are taken by the council, their job is to be there and put across the views of their constituents.

Andrew has attended 7 out of 8 meetings of the Full Council.

Find out more about the meetings Andrew has attended.

http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council.aspx

Contacting Your Councillor

Elected Members are here to help residents, organisations and businesses with enquiries about KCC services. They are probably a good starting point for other enquiries too.

To contact Andrew:

By Post

Pevington Farm
Pluckley
Ashford
Kent
TN27 0PF

By Telephone

01233 840902

By email

andrew.wickham@kent.gov.uk

Member's Community Grant KCC has found a great way to help fund local community groups and organisations without fuss or too much bureaucracy. Every year, each KCC Member may allocate £10,000 to worthwhile causes within their community.

Here's how Andrew spent his last year:

- Allotments – Brabourne PC - £500
- Restoration of Beacons – Mersham & Sevington PC - £500
- Wye Food Festival 2011 – Wye Business Association - £500
- Holiday at Home – Brabourne Baptists - £600
- The Pond – Hastingleigh PC - £647
- Car Park – Aldington Hall - £990
- Flower Festival – Sevington - £350
- New Courts – Wye Tennis - £2,000
- Hall maintenance – Old Wives Village - £1,200
- Community Social Club – Mike Monday Club - £1,000
- Coaches – Kennington Cricket Club - £400
- Equipment – Wye Junior Football Club - £500
- Kent Crimestoppers - £813

If you want to suggest a local group which could benefit from the Member's Community Grant then you'll find your local Councillor's contact details on the front page.

Allowances Each Member of KCC receives a basic allowance (salary) to compensate them for the time spent on their duties and to meet many of the day-to-day expenses of being a Councillor.

Some Members also receive a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) when they take on extra duties such as serving as a member of the Cabinet, Leader of the Opposition or Chairman of a committee.

County Councillors can only claim the usual expenses that most businesses would pay for.

These are for actual costs for example reimbursement for fuel and travel which they have incurred whilst carrying out their duties as County Councillor.

[View Members allowances and expenses](#)

Member's Highway Fund KCC recognises that local Members are well placed to decide which small transport and highways schemes would be most useful to their communities. That's why each Member is allocated £25,000 to spend on local schemes. It's called the Members Highway Fund and here's how it was spent last year...

- Installation of school 'keep clear' markings - £3,000
- Installation of dual legend vehicle activated sign - £5,500
- Traffic management – Aldington Village - £3,500
- Enhancement and addition of warning signs and installation of vehicular activated electronic warning signs - £14,500

My achievements this year, and ambitions for next year

Andrew keeps in close contact with the Parish Councils and Kennington Forum and is always available to discuss problems brought to his attention. He has been actively involved as Chairman of the Ashford Joint Transportation Board in setting up a sub group to find a solution to the problem of overnight lorry parking, championing the reasons not to have a massive operation stack lorry park. He has worked with Chilham to help with their consultation exercise to change the parking arrangements in their historic village square. He has liaised with Highways to try to help with speed and access issues in Kennington. Molash now has speed measures to control a problem identified to him. Similarly, Smeeth has an interactive sign and Aldington and Wye village gateways.

Andrew's aim is to maintain close links with the communities he serves and to remain available to help when required.



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