

Ian Chittenden

Liberal Democrat Member for Maidstone North East Division



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

Kent County Council has 84 Members representing every part of the County. Ian has been serving the community of Maidstone North East as a Member since 2008.

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 Ian

Ian is 64 and retired in 2009 after 40 years as a senior manager with a major contractor in the construction industry. He has lived in Maidstone for nearly 40 years with his wife and has two grown up children and four grandchildren. He has been a County Councillor for the Maidstone North East Division since 2008 and is also a Maidstone Borough Councillor and a member of the Kent Police Authority, where he leads on roads policing, including road safety. He has previously been Chairman of the Vinters Park Residents Association and was a Bearsted Parish Councillor for twelve years.

Ian is a trustee of the Howard de Walden Centre in Bluett Street, providing community facilities for various local organisations and, as part of his police roll, was Chairman of the Strategic Committee of Kents Road Casualty Reduction

Partnership. He is the opposition Spokesperson on the Environment, Highways and Waste Cabinet Committee and, also sits on the Regulation and Planning Committees and the School Transport Appeals subcommittee.

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.

Ian has attended 8 out of 8 meetings of the Full Council.

Find out more about the meetings Ian 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 Ian:

By Post

2 Blakeney Close
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 4QF

By Telephone

01622 630867

By email

ian.chittenden@kent.gov.uk



Members of the Liberal Democrat group have a big role to play. Our job is to hold the Conservative administration to account, support it when we think it is right and challenge its policies when we believe they can be improved.

Trudy Dean
Liberal Democrat Group Leader



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 Ian spent his last year:

`Bite the Ballot TV – Youth Activities - £1,000
Statue appeal in recognition of the Gurkha Regiment based in Maidstone - £500
Brookbank Play area refurbishment and new equipment - £3,000
Improved litter bin provision in Sessions Square - £2,200
Early design work for new Community Hall for St Faith's Church – £1,000
Plumbing improvements at Howard de Walden Centre - £1,500
Supporting Maidstone MIND - £400
Supporting MENCAP locally – £400

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.

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...

Dropped safety kerbs in Snowdon Avenue and Maidstone East Station - £1,540
School 'Keep Clear' markings outside, Northborough, Invicta and Eastborough Schools - £4,521
Replacement of dead or damaged trees in Calder Road and various other roads in North and East Ward - £8,412
Yellow lining in Tudor Avenue, Heathfield Road and Emsworth Grove – £3,000
Improvements and maintenance to Public Rights of Way - £3,000
To support Road safety initiatives in Kent managed by the Casualty Reduction Partnership - £3,000
Improvements to the central reservation along Royal engineers way - £1,500
To improve safety on the approach to Fintonagh Drive following road layout change - £650

My achievements this year, and ambitions for next year

Working closely with the Borough Councillors, we have continued to ensure close communication with residents through regular newsletters and street letters on local issues. Casework has remained a major part of my work over the last 12 months, dealing with many and varied issues and problems raised by residents. I am also pleased with the ongoing work to ensure that in both the short and the long term, the local community facilities are available and being improved.

I have in particular been able to use some of my grants to support services and facilities for both the young and the elderly and my Highways budget, to improve road safety and the provision and replacement of dead trees in North and East ward, as there is no money for this latter work within the KCC budget.

For 2012/13, road improvements remain a priority with regard to my highway fund and the continuing push to provide and improve community facilities is still a major aim for me, but my number one priority remains the issues brought to my notice by residents.

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](#)



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