



TIME FOR A CHANGE

**THE PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION IS ON THUR. 2 MAY 2019
YOU HAVE SEVEN VOTES • MAKE THEM COUNT • VOTE FOR US**

We are a group of independent candidates, stepping forward for election for Debden Parish Council. We all have individual views, we are not a party, just collectively fed up with the way Debden Parish Council has been run over the last 4 years.

Tired, entrenched in personal feuds and disinterested in the community it represents, the current PC has created one crisis after another with no positive outcome and an evident lack of progress.

In the last 12 months Debden has lost its pre-school, and the village shop closed. Residents who care for this vital facility are working towards keeping the shop open.

The Debden New Village Hall Project has been prevented from moving forward over the last 4 years with a land swap agreement, still unsigned, despite being given the go ahead by the Charity Commission.

We want to stand as Parish Councillors and get this community back on its feet.

This leaflet will introduce you to those who want to represent you and the measures we will support if elected.

We want to make a difference, and you can help us make that difference by voting for us. It's **TIME FOR A CHANGE.**

Charlotte Diggins • Married with three children • PR and Marketing Communications
• Lived in Debden over 10 years...

which is sadly long enough to witness a decline in community spirit, village facilities and multigenerational social events, aspects which originally drew us here.

I am very community minded (member of Debden School PTA, previous chair of Debden Pre-School, founder and moderator of Debden Residents Facebook group) and would bring a fresh perspective and energy to a new Parish Council.



I have a track record of getting jobs done and want to change the current inertia in Debden. Keen to create a cohesive, effective and progressive parish council, I would apply my experience in communications to encourage open, balanced and transparent communication between the PC and the community it serves and ensure opinions are represented and respected.
Let's make Debden Outstanding again!



Jeanette O'Brien • Solicitor
• Lived in Debden since 2000

Previously a Parish Councillor for Debden (2013-15) During that time I contributed to challenging the proposed boundary change, and a large planning application - both would have adversely affected Debden. I have continued to take an interest in the working of the PC, attending most of the meetings as a member of the public.

I have assisted voluntarily with legal aspects of the Recreation Ground, Village Hall and the Village Shop.

I would like the community spirit to be re-ignited, with all facets of village life coming together. With the growth of nearby Saffron Walden it is important that the village has transport, educational and community facilities.

I am not affiliated to any political party; I prefer being independent, to have the freedom to consider each matter on its merits, taking into account all the circumstances, and should I be elected, will follow this practice in respect of any matter arising for the Parish Council.

I will represent and voice the views of all parishioners.



Brian Lindsell • Married with four children
• Railway Engineer • Lived in Debden since 1975

Previously trained as an Aircraft Engineer at Stansted.

Launched DebdenCycle in 2014, to support The Royal Engineer's charity. It's a way of bringing the village together to say thank you to the Royal Engineers at Carver Barracks for everything they do for us. These events have raised over £6000.

DebdenCycle takes a lot of time: form filling, approaching sponsors, organising volunteers, advertising and press releases, updates on social media. I know how to organise and motivate, and would apply these skills as a parish councillor.

I am passionate about having the Byways around Debden reclassified and for two years I have built a compelling case. No more 4x4's, or scramble bikes. ***That's the goal.***

I would like to see a New Village Hall for Debden. Four years have been wasted with various factions on the parish council entrenched with their positions, that nearly saw the loss of the MoD Community Covenant Grant. ***Let's pull together and get it built!***

Clive Bunting • Married with two children and two grandchildren • Landowner and Farmer
• Born and lives in Debden

3 years ago I returned to Debden to help run the family farm when my father died.

I have been Scout leader for Newport for 30 years.

I feel very strongly that Debden needs to retain its community spirit for future generations. I would love to see the return of the Debden Village Fete which was always great fun! A new village hall would open up new opportunities for the community and future generations. It is so important to support the village shop and post office, a fantastic facility to have in the village.



A good, open and strong relationship between the Parish Council and local residents of Debden would be my goal.



April Gardner • Married with two children
• Graphic Designer • Lived in Debden since 1998

Previously a Parish Councillor for Debden (2009-13). During my time on the council I raised £84,000 and project managed the build of Debden playground which opened in May 2011. Since then I have focused on funding the new village hall project, something I am committed to and will continue, until all funds are raised.

I care very much about Debden and the surrounding area and would like to see the Village Shop successfully running, once again. ***We need more events organised to continue the community spirit*** such as an annual summer fete, events for the elderly, Best Kept Village and Open Gardens.

As a parish Councillor, I feel it would be my duty to protect Debden by implementing a village plan so we are not vulnerable to over development, and to ***keep the community spirit and energy of the village thriving.***

If I am elected one of the first things I will do is set up a modern, user friendly and efficient Parish Council website, where people can easily access the full monthly minutes, parish council accounts and general public information which should be available to them at all times. This would be useful to those who cannot attend meetings and would provide a contact to all parish councillors and the parish clerk, ensuring transparency of the council to its members and the public it represents.

Stephanie Watson • Married
• Lived in Debden since 1987

Co-opted onto the PC in Oct. 2012 and decided to stand for election in May 2015 as I had not completed a full term. I felt I was in a good position to deliver on issues which were of interest to the village.

My support for a new village hall is no secret. I have a long association with the various campaigns to build a much needed new hall.

I want to see a united village, positive again with a 'Can Do' attitude which is inclusive of all those who enjoy village life and who want to be part of a modern and forward thinking environment whilst ensuring that countryside traditions and values are maintained.





Stuart Walsh • Business Consultant

• Married and Lives in Debden Green

I moved to Debden Green in 2007 and feel very fortunate to live in such a beautiful village.

Since moving here, I have been involved in a number of projects that help support the community. Like many people, I have been involved in a previous village hall project, seeing much community support at that time. I was also Editor of our Parish Pump magazine. During that time I re-designed the layout and front cover, introducing new features such as colour, with a view to increasing readership and engagement. Currently, I am working on a plan to re-establish Debden Village Shop, ensuring that this vital resource remains a part of our village for many years to come.

"We need a new team, with new energy to bring life back to our very special village"

I care deeply about our village and our surroundings.

We are fortunate in Debden to have wonderful facilities that in many local villages, have been lost. However, we sadly lost our Pre-School, and the village shop closed in December 2018. Our ability to build a new village hall has been jeopardised and is still at risk.

Our Parish Council has been consumed, for four years, by in-fighting and legal disputes, paid for by us. They have lost both focus and our trust, and now our village is suffering for it. ***This desperately needs to change.***

I help large and small businesses, innovate and succeed in achieving new goals. My experience as a business consultant with a 'can do' attitude, competent thinking and passion for doing the right thing will help to bring much needed skills to the Parish Council and to Debden.

WHAT MEASURES CAN WE TAKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

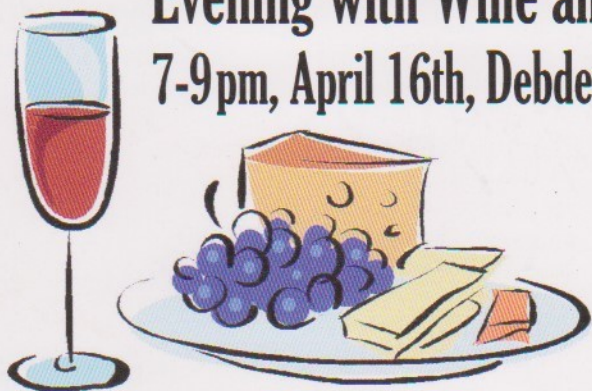
- A Community Plan to improve our environment and protect us from unwanted development and vulnerability.
- Proactively support community projects: the New Village Hall, Shop, Debden Primary school, village events, encourage more sports on the recreation ground.
- Eradicate conflict of interest between the Parish Council and the Recreation Ground Trust.
- Make meetings relevant, enjoyable and transparent so residents want to and are encouraged to attend.

Contact us on email: debdecandidatesforchange@gmail.com

COME AND MEET US...

two events are being held this month in the village hall. This is a chance for you to pop in for an informal chat over a cup of tea or a glass of wine, to put a face to a name, get to know us and to talk about what changes you would like to see in the village, or any concerns you may have. **The Local Elections are on May 2nd 2019** and we feel it is important to actively seek and take on board the views of the local community we will represent, if elected.

Evening with Wine and Cheese 7-9pm, April 16th, Debden Village Hall



Morning Cuppa 9.30 -11.30am

April 18th, Debden Village Hall

Both events include complimentary refreshments



If you are unable to make your way to either event and would like to come along, please call: **01799 542288** and someone in the village will come and collect you and take you home.