

TOM O'HARA believes in...

- 1 **...Respecting** the wishes of local people and businesses by consulting and listening, ensuring your concerns are heard in the Council Chamber and beyond.
- 2 **...Good traffic management** during the (proposed) redevelopment of the Town Centre in order to avoid daily 'gridlock' and minimise polluting exhaust fumes by queuing traffic.
- 3 **...Value for money**, whether it's **our** hard earned cash paid through the council tax or funding from developers of future housing in and around the Town.
- 4 **...Being INDEPENDENT** – no national and local party dogma and dictat to bow to – bringing a vital neutral dimension to the Town Council and ensuring we are on the right wavelength with local voluntary organisations, business and residents by forging stronger links than are purported to exist currently.
- 5 **...COMMON SENSE DECISIONS!!!** – holding the ruling Conservatives to account with clear, transparent decisions.

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Tom O'HARA

X

BURGESS HILL TOWN COUNCIL BY ELECTION

MEEDS NORTH WARD

Vote at: **Cyprus Hall, Cyprus Road (Rear Entrance)**

Thursday 10th May 2012 – 7am to 10pm



Vote for *your* independent candidate:

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Tom O'HARA

X

TOM O'HARA: the only true INDEPENDENT for the job

Tom O'Hara has lived in Burgess Hill for 40 years and was first elected to the **Town Council in 2000 and served until 2007**. Prior to that he served as a **District Councillor from 1987 to 1999** where he was very involved in the then **Burgess Hill Local Plan** that was responsible for the building of the **Market Place** and **The Triangle Leisure complex**.

Tom is recently retired and married to **Sue** with three grown up children. Their eldest son **Ryan**, is getting married later in the summer; daughter, **Helen**, is due to move to the heart of Meeds North in the next few weeks and youngest son **Paul**, an electrician, is still at home!!!

Tom 'retired' in 2009 after 8 years as the **Parish Clerk to North Horsham Parish Council** (pop, 22,000), where he steered the Council to Quality Status in 2007. Prior to this, Tom worked for 20 years in the City of London as a **co-owner** of an insurance underwriting Management Company, where he was **Director/Company Secretary and Financial Administrator**. When he first left school, Tom worked for 6 years in the Finance Department at Epsom & Ewell Borough Council as a trainee accountant.

Although retired, **Tom** was called upon to act as 'locum' Town Clerk on two occasions at **Crowborough Town Council**, followed by 6 months at **Peacehaven Town Council**. Tom is also currently a non-executive **company director** for a Swedish owned marine & aviation insurance company based in London, **Suecia Re & Marine**.

April 2012
Dear Residents,

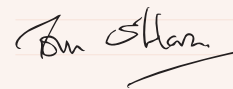
*On 10th May you have to choose between 7 candidates for the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Conservative elected just 8 months ago. **I wish to encourage you to vote for me** as the only candidate with a wealth of local government experience – uniquely as both a councillor and an Officer – and a wealth of commercial/financial experience working in the City of London, where I have dealt with actuaries, auditors, bankers, investment managers, pension advisors, UK & American lawyers and Government Departments.*

***Meeds North is at the very core of Burgess Hill** and with the proposed major redevelopment of the Town Centre over the coming years it is vital that residents and businesses have confidence in whoever is elected to represent them. Should it be someone from one of the many political parties standing – none of who have ever been a Burgess Hill or Mid Sussex District councillor before – **or an experienced Independent?** I know about political dogma and whimsy, as I was a Liberal Democrat for many years until I relinquished my membership in 2007 after becoming disillusioned.*

*Throughout my 40 years in Burgess Hill I have always been committed to the local community: 8 years as leader of **the 2nd Burgess Hill Boys' Brigade** to 1980 (London Road Methodist Church); 12 years a school governor: 7 years as **Chairman at Manor Field Primary School and 2 years at Southway Junior School** (1 year as Chairman); 14 years a member of the then **Burgess Hill CAB Management Committee** (1 yr as chairman). In the 1980's I was a founder member and subsequently **Chairman of a residents' action group** that, as a team, succeeded in beating off the threat of a huge rubbish tip on the Keymer Brick & Tile clay pit site.*

If you want an active campaigner with a record of 'getting things done' I would welcome your vote on Thursday 10th May.

Thank you,



Tom O'Hara

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