

## **Message from Jim Donahue, Conservative County Council Candidate for the Goring and Woodcote Division**

I am pleased to announce that I am running as a candidate for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) elections on May 1<sup>st</sup>. I will be standing for the Goring & Woodcote Division which also includes Whitchurch, Goring Heath and the villages out to Gallowstree Common and Kidmore End. I know the area well from living here for over 20 years and more than a decade of work for the Parish Council. You may also be aware that I regularly frequent most of the remote bridleways and country lanes around here through my mountain biking and have worked to capture the beauty and community life of the area through my photography and books.



I have come to understand the concerns of residents across this division through my relationships with other Parish Councils and from my campaign for District Councillor in 2023. Many of the issues that residents care about in South Oxfordshire are the same issues that I have been focussing on as a Parish Councillor here in Whitchurch:

- The terrible state of our roads
- Growing traffic and congestion in our village
- Safety risks for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists
- The growing risks of flooding

These are all issues that are related to the core mission of Oxfordshire County Council. Many in Whitchurch will be aware of my work with OCC to address these kinds of issues in our village along with my fellow councillors and volunteer residents. I have fought to ensure we get more than our fair share of services from OCC Highway ranging from new pavements, a resurfaced High Street, the parking restrictions on the High Street, and support for clearing drains and flood risk prevention. They know me well at OCC and have commented on more than one occasion that our small village “gets more than its share of support from the County Council.” If elected to the County Council, I intend on remaining a member of the Whitchurch Parish Councillor and make the best use of my new role to ensure OCC continues to address these issues as a priority for Whitchurch and for all villages in this part of the county.

I am running as a member of the Conservative Party because the Oxfordshire Conservatives are clearly committed to making these types of issues a priority. The Lib Dem/Green coalition that has been running the County Council for the past 4 years clearly do not see these as their priority as evidenced by the woefully under-resourced Highways Department and the deteriorating state of our roads. Please

join our petition to declare a Pothole Emergency in  
Oxfordshire! <https://www.oxfordshireconservatives.com/campaigns/petition-time-declare-pothole-emergency>

My **election leaflet** is below.

Kind regards,  
Jim

# VOTE FOR JIM DONAHUE ON MAY 1ST FOR BETTER LOCAL SERVICES



**JIM DONAHUE**  
County Council candidate  
for Goring & Woodcote

Contact me if you would like to share any other local issues with me -  
**07557 668601**

Dear Resident,

I have been living in the Goring & Woodcote area for over 20 years, working in the mobile telecoms industry while volunteering for more than a decade as a local councillor for Whitchurch-on-Thames. Moving to this part of the world from America as an adult has given me a real appreciation of how fortunate we are to live here.

As a long-time resident and Chairman of our Parish Council, I understand the importance that our communities place on protecting our Chiltern villages and keeping the area such a special place to live, work and raise a family. In my experience, the issues that residents are most concerned about are the terrible state of the roads, growing traffic congestion in our villages, safety risks for cyclists and pedestrians, the increased risk of flooding and the pollution in our rivers making them unsafe for recreation.

The current Lib Dem & Green County Council is not making these type of local issues its priority. They are spending your money on things which are not residents priorities, such as climate change consultants and a bloated PR team. As you can see from the examples overleaf, I have experience addressing the issues residents really care about in my own village through my work with both the County and District Councils.

As your County Councillor, I would work hard to ensure that your Council delivers services that are most important to you and provides better value for taxpayer money, whilst not compromising on quality. Please reach out to contact me if you would like to share any other local issues.

Yours sincerely,

*Jim Donahue*

**Conservative County Council Candidate for Goring & Woodcote**

**PS. Don't forget that Conservative-led councils in England typically perform road maintenance on up to five times more miles of road than Lib Dem or Labour-led councils.**

## We're campaigning to...

-  prioritise better & safer roads
-  end the waste of your money on Lib Dem ideological projects
-  improve pedestrian & cycling safety
-  manage flood risk better plus improve emergency planning
-  ensure we have the infrastructure to support community plans

**Vote for Jim Donahue  
on May 1st for a better  
Goring & Woodcote**

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# my plan for a better Goring & Woodcote



1

## BETTER ROAD MAINTENANCE

Our roads are a mess. Maintenance of our roads is not a priority for this Llb Dem & Green Council but it will be for me! The council needs to allocate more resources from ideological projects to fixing potholes, resurfacing rural roads, clearing drains & maintaining verges.



2

## IMPROVED ROAD SAFETY

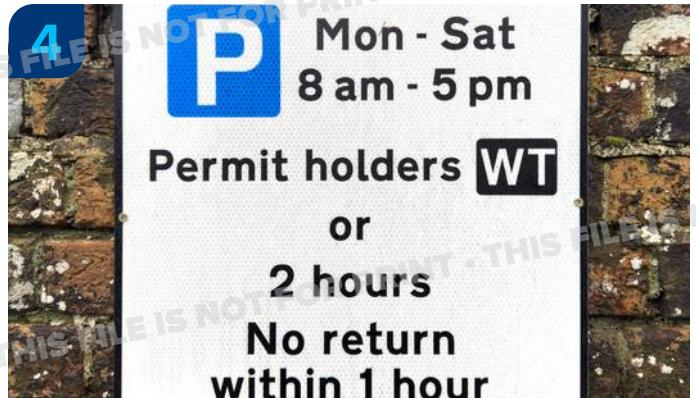
As Parish Council Chairman, I helped secure the 20mph scheme for our residential neighbourhood. I will work to prioritise improvements to roads which pose safety risks such as neglected rural roads and unsafe intersections, where speeds need to be reduced.



3

## ADDRESSING FLOOD RISKS

In January 2024, the River Thames reached record levels threatening many homes & businesses. Flash flooding from heavy rains is also an increasingly regular threat. I lead our village Emergency Team which works to address root causes of flooding & ensures that residents are prepared to mobilise if necessary. I want to roll this out to all residents.



4

## REDUCED CONGESTION & IMPROVED PARKING FOR RESIDENTS

My village was successful in getting a Residents' Parking Scheme implemented in 2024 - one of the first approved by the County Council in recent years. The new traffic scheme prioritises parking for residents & has reduced congestion by stopping cars parking at pinch points. Other areas can benefit from schemes like this too. I can help!



5

## SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS

Pubs, village shops & locally based estate agents are at the heart of our communities. We need to support them with policies that make it easy to do business such as streamlining licences or traffic policies that make it easy to access businesses by car. I will champion this!



6

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

I have made - and will continue to make - pedestrian safety a priority. In Whitchurch, visibility at busy road crossings was increased, speed limits were reduced when needed, pavements were resurfaced and footpaths used by families for the school run were maintained. Many other villages in our division can benefit from these kinds of improvements.