

Councillors Simon Bull and Chris Rigby



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Dear resident,

We are writing to ask for your support at the election on Thursday 4th May for Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Council. Here are some reasons why you might consider voting to re-elect us:

- **We care about the local community.** After all, this is the main reason we put ourselves forward for election, and we hope the last four years of our hard work in Winton East shows this. We made good on our promises to re-open Winton Library Gardens, declare a climate emergency and campaign for more improvements to Winton Rec. We still have a lot to do, and we want to continue to campaign for cleaner streets, an improved high street and keeping our local facilities open.
- **We work hard for Winton residents all year round.** No other party has worked as hard here or achieved as much as we have – Simon over the past eight years, Chris the past four. We've kept you informed in the regular newsletters we've delivered to you.
- **We've retained neighbourhood facilities and improved existing ones.** We used our local community infrastructure levy (CIL) money to fund new play equipment at Winton Rec and Pine Road Park; we've kept two sets of public toilets open (one in Winton Rec and the other just off Wimborne Road); we've installed even more cycle racks at Winton Rec. Winton residents deserve these small things which make life better for everyone, and we'll continue to fight for them.
- **We have tackled dozens of individual problems for local residents,** including with bins, parking, planning issues, and housing. We run a monthly surgery at Winton Library where any resident can come and talk to us about their issues, and many of you take us up on that offer. Together we get things done.
- **Simon has also channelled funding to a range of other great projects in Winton East,** including a new drinking water fountain, equipment for the Community Shed at Winton Recreation Ground, and £15,000 towards a disabled friendly viewing platform for the community garden so it can be enjoyed by all.
- **Only the Green Party can be trusted to oppose all future oil extraction.** We actively opposed in 2019 the new Bournemouth Beach drilling project (now aborted); now we're campaigning for the company responsible for the unacceptable oil spill in Poole Harbour in March to be held to account. We have always campaigned against future fossil fuel extraction. Chris proposed non-proliferation of fossil fuels to Full Council (sadly defeated by the Conservative majority), and seconded a successful motion to stop Dorset County Pension Fund investing in fossil fuels.

- **Unlike the Conservative candidates, we're free to vote for what's best for this area.** The Green Party never tells its councillors how to vote. So we can be independent-minded voices for Winton, putting residents first and not party politics.
- **We offer alternative voices and scrutiny on the Council, which are badly needed here.** Chris has been a part of the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Panel since he was elected, and has held leaders of both the Unity Alliance and Conservative administrations to account – acting as a critical friend and challenging decisions. He also called Wessex Water in to the scrutiny panel to challenge them on persistent sewage overflows into our sea. Both Simon and Chris have robustly challenged numerous policies in full Council meetings where they do not believe them to be in the best interests of residents. We declined to support Conservative Council bosses' recent debt-piling, we criticised their costly vanity projects – and as financial crisis has ensued in BCP, we voted against this year's budget with its cuts to the communities team and highway works.
- **We have the skills, experience and passion needed to achieve things for Winton.** Coming from a finance background, Simon now runs a locally based national charity, after setting up and running for 14 years an arts charity working with disadvantaged members of the Bournemouth community. Chris is the technical lead for a not-for-profit community energy development co-operative, developing solar projects for communities across the UK. He's also an active member of Greenpeace UK as well as local environmental groups.
- **Only we or the Conservative candidates can win.** At the last election we were humbled by your faith in us as you voted for us to represent Winton East, and we hope we've met your expectations. It's a straightforward choice in Winton between the Green Party or the Conservatives. Back us again to keep the Green Party's hard work going all year round. Votes for Labour or the other parties won't decide the outcome of this election.

For the last four years we have loved working with you and for you, finding out what matters to you, trying to find solutions to your problems and striving to make this area better – for the benefit of everyone here. That's why we're both standing again in this election.

We would be honoured to once again be your representatives on Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Council, to get even more done for you as a councillor team, and to keep Winton Green.



Councillor Simon Bull and Councillor Chris Rigby

Independently minded Green Party candidates
Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Council election

P.S. Don't forget – only we or the Conservative Party candidates can win in Winton East. Any other votes won't decide the outcome of this election.