

# Independent Candidate for Old Bilton

# **Bringing Local Government Closer to the Residents**

The Town Council is the first tier of local government, focused on residents' interests. My vision is clear: the well-being of the people of Bilton and Harrogate will guide all my actions.

The new council must influence North Yorkshire Council and hold public bodies like the NYC, NHS and Police accountable, ensuring our community has a voice in shaping its future.

#### **About Me**

Married to Kath, we've lived in Bilton since 2006. We have two dogs, Charlie and Sidney, who I run with daily. I'm not a career politician – I'm a resident who cares deeply about Old Bilton and wants to make a difference. I've spent 11 years as a councillor for Bilton and Nidd Gorge in Harrogate, campaigning for improvement.

Previously a CEO, I'm now a Business Transformation Consultant, and Executive Coach focused on leadership and career development. I bring business acumen and a proven record of delivery, ensuring council spending benefits all.

### Old Bilton - A Fantastic Place to Live

Free from party dogma, my loyalty lies solely with the people of Old Bilton.

### I Will Listen to You ✓

I will hold regular community meetings to hear your concerns and ideas. My decisions will be based on what's best for Old Bilton

### I Will Be Your Voice ✓

I will be a strong, independent voice on the council, fighting for the resources and attention Old Bilton deserves.

### I Will Get Things Done ✓

I am committed to working tirelessly to address the issues facing our community. I will be a proactive and effective councillor.

# X Vote Paul Haslam on Thursday 1st May

Polling Station - Bilton Cricket Club - Bilton Lane

## Housing: Engaging with the Local Plan

- Ensuring the Harrogate Neighbourhood Plan is fully integrated into the Local Plan.
- Scrutinise sites included in the Local Plan, as these are likely to be approved for development. Locals must have their say.
- Local Plan must include strategies for transport, high-quality schools, youth facilities, healthcare and waste-water management.

### **Protecting the Environment**

- Fight for the eradication of raw sewage discharges into our rivers by collaborating with the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water.
- Preserving our green spaces especially Nidd Gorge & Bilton Triangle.
- Cleaner air, especially outside schools, by promoting green, affordable travel alternatives.

# Transport and Connectivity: Improving Local Infrastructure

- Ensure public transport is safe, frequent, reliable and affordable.
- Fix the No.2 bus.
- Safer speed limits including outside schools.
- Development of Park & Ride.
- A train station at Claro Road/Dene Park (with capacity for up to 400k journeys a year).
- Promoting safe cycle routes and storage to encourage active travel.

# **Supporting Local Business**

The visitor economy contributes around  $\pounds^{3}_{4}$  billion annually to Harrogate.

- Supporting the BID, Chamber of Commerce, and existing businesses is essential, while encouraging new businesses to drive economic growth.
- Support modernising Harrogate's town centre while maximising key assets like the Conference Centre (contributing £50 million annually to the local economy), Royal Hall, and Theatre as central development components.

## Crime: A safer place to live

Work with police and Safer Communities for our area to support initiatives to deter crime including:

- Tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- Burglary reduction increased police presence.
- Safeguarding young people, particularly from violence and exploitation.
- Combat violence against women and girls.

I am committed to fighting for Old Bilton and Harrogate's best interests.



Please get involved and consider supporting me on the 1st May.

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Paul Haslam
People before Party. Vote independent.

Questions? ask@votepaulhaslam.com | 07971 654703