

Belper, Duffield And Quarndon

Your Local Conservatives

Committed To Your Community Needs



OUR KEY POINTS

1. Committed to protecting the Green Belt around Duffield and Quarndon
2. Helping The Ecclesbourne School to remain independent
3. Continue to help prevent Anti-Social Behaviour
4. Supporting local businesses
5. Welcome Quarndon! Duffield and Quarndon form new ward



The Green Belt around Duffield and Quarndon

Through the Amber Valley Local Plan, the Conservative led Borough Council continue to protect the Green Belt with responsible development on brown field sites and sustainable development elsewhere.

Helping The Ecclesbourne School to remain independent

The Ecclesbourne School has thrived as an independent Single Academy Trust but the recent OFSTED assessment leaves it vulnerable to being absorbed by a Multi Academy Trust. Local Parent and Council Candidate Steve Knee continues to liaise with the school and the local community to help the school regain an OFSTED status befitting of its continued excellent academic performance. Local MP Pauline Latham is working hard at a national level to prevent the school being placed in a Multi Academy Trust.

Continue to help prevent Anti-Social Behaviour

Through local community initiatives, Steve continues to work to help prevent anti-social behaviour around the village as he has done for the last 5 year through the group that he set up.

Supporting local businesses

The Conservative team continues to support local businesses and are constantly looking at new ways, both on a local and national level, to support the thriving local business community.

Welcome Quarndon! Duffield and Quarndon form new ward

Duffield and Quarndon have now merged in to a new ward, with Duffield resident Steve Knee representing the Conservatives at the upcoming local elections.



Just some of your local Conservative Team...



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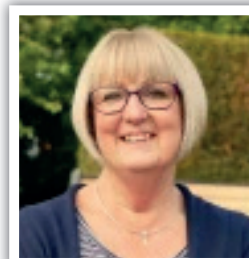
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Vote Conservative to protect the community you value...

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Action by your local Conservative team...

Supporting businesses and our high streets

We know our local businesses, High Streets and residents have been impacted during and since the pandemic. In helping the local economy, £43million of Government money was paid out to Amber Valley businesses via 24 different types of grants.

50,224 Energy Rebate Payments totalling £7.5million was paid out to local eligible council tax payers

Amber Valley Conservatives' commitment to you:

- On top of our existing free car parking periods and enhanced parking permit, we will commit to freezing car park prices for a 2 year period.
- Allocate £50k towards a shop front improvement fund.
- We will continue funding the Business Start-up and Business Support Grant Scheme to attract new businesses and support established businesses to grow.
- Complete an upgrade of Field Lane Car Park, Belper to accommodate additional parking spaces.
- Allocate £143k to an SME Business Support post, to assist businesses to expand.
- Provide £56k towards inward investment & tourism website & promotion.



Building a greener future

We will invest a further £1.2million on further green projects

- Fit Solar panels on our three Leisure Centre roofs aiming to cut 3,426 tonnes of CO² over the next 25 years.
- We will provide additional EV charging points to provide practical support to visitors and those who are unable to park off street.
- We will maintain our zero-tolerance stance for 'fly-tipping' and go for maximum fines.
- Continue tree planting of 16 hectares of council owned land and open space with new trees over the next 4 years to provide community woods and absorb carbon.
- We will continue to insulate homes to reduce heating bills and lower carbon emissions.



A message from Pauline Latham OBE MP

Railway Station

Pauline Latham OBE MP has supported East Midlands Railways' Access for All bid for improvements to be made for step-free access at Duffield station.

Access for All provides central government funding for

upgrades to local stations in order to ensure that they are accessible for people with reduced mobility.

Pauline wrote to the Rail Minister supporting the bid, which is so important in enabling all Duffield residents to use the station and to use public transport to get around instead of being forced to drive. This is better for the environment and helps to deliver on our legally-binding target to reach net zero by 2050.

Pauline also set out that the access improvements at Duffield are not just aimed at helping disabled people, but will be useful for everyone. Currently, the steep steps prevent those with less mobility, or even those with prams or heavy bags, from accessing the platforms. The conditions are even more difficult when bad weather makes them wet or icy.

The Transport Minister responded to Pauline to thank her for her support, noting that it would be taken into account and that the successful bids would be announced in 2023, ahead of the next round of works taking place in 2024.



Ecclesbourne School

Last year, Ecclesbourne School was inspected by Ofsted for the first time in 14 years, who identified some safeguarding issues for the school to deal with.

Pauline Latham OBE MP met with the Headteacher of the school immediately to highlight the importance of addressing these issues. However, Pauline has also been informed that the Department for Education intends to force Ecclesbourne, as a result of the Ofsted report, to join a Multi-Academy Trust.

Since this piece of information came to light, Pauline has written an article in the Duffield Scene, raised the issue on the floor of the House of Commons and, along with several interested members of the House of Lords, sought meetings with the Secretary of State for Education and the Schools Minister.

Multi-Academy Trusts are groups of schools who pool resources and expertise, and who have a centrally directed body organising individual funding. The Department wishes to force Ecclesbourne to join a MAT, and there is no mechanism for leaving a MAT. They significantly reduce the independence and autonomy of a school, and this is a permanent step. Ecclesbourne's independent leadership and unique circumstances are some of the reasons for its continued historic academic success, and they must be preserved.

Therefore, Pauline has been leading a campaign in Parliament to support the current governors of Ecclesbourne to lead the school through these difficulties and prevent them from being forced to join a MAT against the will of the school, parents and governors.

If you like what you see, then please vote. We're here to represent your needs.

