

Statement of Support for nominating Cllr Knickerbocker for Chair of Council 2023-24, put forward by Cllr Shearer, in their own words, at the Annual Council Meeting on 16th May 2023.

We councillors are here to set the direction for Street PC and we need a chair who will help us to that and all the while remembering that they are no more powerful than any other councillor.

Of course we need a chair who can act with integrity, have a passion for Street, someone who is organised and conscientious.

But more importantly they need to be able to influence others without dominating, to have self-awareness and to be calm and decisive in times of conflict. We cannot please everyone or keep everyone onside. There will always be differing views and we need that healthy tension and mix of ideas. But we also need diplomacy and leadership skills to get through any conflict.

A key attribute of an effective council is to have a clear 3-5 year plan for our village. We really need to do this now and the chair will need to help us to find that clear vision and keep us all focussed on achieving this through the action plans we create.

I have seen these attributes in Bryan. He has been a constant but considered contributor to the Council. He has taken on responsibilities, given his time, and also attended many courses to add relevant skills and knowledge to his previous work and volunteer experience.

Bryan has not pushed himself forward for this role but has been seen by many of us as having the right skills and attitude to do this job.

I have no hesitation in nominating him.