

Philip Purvis

Résumé for Corfe Mullen Parish Council.

My name is Philip Purvis and I have been a resident in Corfe Mullen for 26 years, living at my current address 32 Henbury View Road since 1996. In that time I have gained a great understanding of the history and people in and around the village. I have seen and noted some significant changes in and around the local area, some beneficial, some to the detriment, to the overall well-being of the community.

I am 60 years old, married to Alison and have one grown up son. On reaching school age he attended Henbury View First School before moving up to Lockyers Middle School, and then Corfe Hills before going to Southampton University.

Until retiring in 2007 I was a police officer in Dorset Police completing 30 years' service. My career was predominantly as a traffic officer (now called Roads Policing) during which I covered all areas of the county. In this role I dealt with all categories of road user including pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, and large goods and passenger vehicles giving advice and where appropriate reporting offenders. Incidents and offences included road traffic collisions, parking, excess speed, careless driving (including inappropriate speed), inconsiderate driving and dangerous driving.

Being a traffic officer and responding to requests from local communities and councillors for increased attention and enforcement of the regulations I am acutely aware as to how the increase in vehicles on our roads can affect the quality of life for a community's residents.

From 1985 to the time of my retirement I was a qualified Forensic Collision Investigation expert. This involved the investigation of fatal, potential fatal, serious injury and unexplained collisions with a view to establishing causation. Over this period I investigated a number of collisions in and around the parish of Corfe Mullen. Within this role I frequently liaised with the Local Authority Highways Engineers to establish what, if any remedial works could be undertaken to mitigate any future incidents. Within these discussions Local Authority Engineers usually approached any problems from the viewpoint of what road users 'should do', whereas I would be approaching the issue from the viewpoint of what road users 'actually do'. To that end we introduced a number of traffic calming and road safety strategies that are still in existence today.

Part of my police service was spent in the Criminal Justice Department where my role was to scrutinize traffic related files and offence reports, ensuring that there was sufficient evidence before they were sent to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Since my retirement from the police I have retained my qualifications and worked as an Independent Forensic Collision Investigation Consultant taking instructions from insurance companies and solicitors.

Both collision investigation and file scrutiny roles involve the digesting of information without forming any preconceived ideas, assessing that information dispassionately, before arriving at an informed conclusion.

During my time in the police I was also a First Aid Instructor and since my retirement from the force I am retained by South West Ambulance Service Trust teaching First Aid at Work, Emergency First Aid at Work and Basic Life Support to members of the public, Doctors Surgery Staff and staff in Nursing Homes.

For several years I had a close involvement with the county's Special Schools who cater for those children who have special educational needs. The five schools, including Beaucroft School in Wimborne, combined for a week during the summer term each year taking up to seventy 12-14 year olds camping under canvas. Activities during the week included horse riding, sailing, and walking. I was invited each year as an additional member of staff. In this capacity I was able to arrange for police patrol cars, police patrol motorcycles and the dog section to attend at various times to meet and interact with the students. Given that many of the students came from deprived backgrounds and from families that had a relatively high incidence of contact with the police, this community style approach built a number of bridges.

Whilst living in the village I have undertaken a number of different roles. At the time my son attended Henbury View First School I was a Parent Governor. I have also been a Cub Scout Leader, and Group Scout Leader with 2nd Corfe Mullen Scouts. Being a scout leader involves setting appropriate activity programmes for young people. In my time with 2nd Corfe Mullen I also organised and held camps at both local and District level. Using the same sort of strategies as described above I was able to get various police departments to attend both local and district camps, including on one occasion, the force helicopter.

By liaising with one of the local GP's I was also able to hold camps for young cub scouts in a secure and safe environment within the village. This meant I could introduce them to areas of the village that they had not been to before including the woods at Stoney Down Plantation.

As Group Scout Leader I was an integral part of putting on productions of Corfe Capers (Scout Gang Shows) which were successfully held at Wimborne's Tivoli Theatre.

My ability to undertake these roles was greatly helped through my experience in gaining bronze, silver and gold awards in The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in my youth.

As a First Aid Instructor I have been able to provide instruction to both scouts and guides when requested.

I am a keen golfer and am currently on the management committee of Broadstone Golf Club having been Club Captain in 2017. From 2009 – 2015 I was also on the management committee at the club, for part of which I was Club Chairman. You will be aware that Broadstone Golf Club is ranked within the Top 100 Golf Clubs in the UK. In this capacity I have been the lead committee member in a number of major projects including the implementation of a new irrigation system, the redesign of the practice facility, and part of the team involved in the improvement of the golf course itself.

My wife and I own a field in Broadmoor Road, (adjacent to the new allotments that are under construction) where we keep her horse. As a consequence I regularly accompany her whilst she rides and walk with our German Shepherd around the local lanes. As a consequence I regularly see poor and inconsiderate road user behaviour on the part of all road users including cyclists and horse riders.

Alison is a receptionist at the Hadleigh Practice and is also an Aqua Aerobics and swimming teacher spending some of her time instructing at the BH Live Leisure Centre. Subsequent to the closing of Virgin Active .Alison liaised with two of the parish councillors prior to the opening of BH Live at the site.

I have a keen interest in what happens within the parish of Corfe Mullen and have some concerns as to various aspects of village life including traffic, road maintenance and infrastructure, crime and anti-social behaviour, and housing.

Having lived in Corfe Mullen for a significant period it is the right time to try and give something back to the wider community. I understand that due to unforeseen circumstances there is a vacancy within the Parish Council. I have no vested interest by gaining a position within Corfe Mullen Parish Council other than to gain a greater insight into my local area. Given the analytical nature of the work I have done in the past, my experience, and particularly my expertise in traffic matters, I believe I could assist the Corfe Mullen Parish Council if I were given the opportunity to fill this vacancy.