

Bourton Parish Council Elections – 4 May

Statement from David Swann

Hi – I'm David Swann and I'm standing in the Parish Council election. I've lived in Bourton for over twenty years, so I think I know the village well. I've found it a great community to live in and bring up our two kids: it's been friendly, peaceful and safe and I would like to help protect that for the next generation.

I've served on the parish council for the last ten years or so. During this time all councillors have prioritised the protection of the village from the worst effects arising from the Eastern expansion of Swindon and the growth of towns along the A420; for example, the focus on traffic calming in the village. We need that to continue.

Also, all councillors during my time on the PC have served the community quietly, selflessly and without seeking recognition, including litter picking and maintaining the paths, verges and green areas within the village. We've always found it difficult to get new councillors on board in the past – the role requires more time, patience and sitting in a cold village hall than many first realise – so it's a positive sign that we have an election this time round.

And the same goes for Maggie Brown, the council clerk, who works tirelessly on supporting the village and villagers. As one of the smallest parishes in the county, we have very little power to act or influence. It's also due to Maggie's patience and persistence that we have protected and enhanced the village to the extent that we have.

Finally, vote for me and there'll be chocolate biscuits at parish council meetings and a free trade deal with Brazil by the end of the year.

David

There are six candidates standing for five council positions:

*Carolyn Francis
Simon French
Fiona Ryan
Andy Knapp
Nial Ledingham
David Swann*