

Short Bio of Yolande Watson newly elected (Independent) County Councillor

Andrew and I moved to Howle Hill in 2013 where we have been growing our own food and living a low carbon lifestyle. I'm a country girl at heart and have lived in farming communities nearly all my life. My early career was in nursing, public health and community development/management with a speciality in rural communities (UK and abroad) but as you get to know me – you will learn that I have many other skills and experiences, e.g. I enjoy maintaining and laying hedges.

I look forward to being an active, dynamic and engaged representative of the Parish on the Herefordshire County Council. I will listen to your concerns and try my best to give regular feedback about work in progress and decisions made on your behalf. Being an Independent (unaffiliated to any particular party), I will work with all the other political groups to achieve agreements by consensus and not conflict.

My Report: May 2019

I was only asked to stand as an Independent Candidate on the 31st March so it has been a steep learning curve!

Since I was elected on the 3rd May, I have been getting to know my Alliance colleagues (Herefordshire Independents, Green Party and It's Our County), attending mandatory training about the role and responsibilities of a County Councillor and learning about the governance and legal issues that are involved in being a ward representative.

Over the next month, you will see me out and about in the Parish, e.g. revisiting the different parts of the ward and gathering information. I intend meeting the Clerk of the Parish Council to learn about Parish procedure and how best to share information, listening to the Lead of the Local Neighbourhood Development Plan, engaging in conversations with those I come into contact with within the Parish and following up outstanding projects that were being dealt with by my predecessor.

I am approachable so members of the public can contact me via my e-mail address: yolande.watson@herefordshire.gov.uk or sending me a letter to the Herefordshire County Council (HCC). I will receive my mobile phone on the 22nd May which you can find either via the HCC website or the Parish Clerk.

I look forward to making your acquaintance on Tuesday 14th May at 7.30pm.

Best wishes

Cllr Yolande Watson