



Four years ago, at the last District elections, the people of New Romney elected David Wimble, a local man who stood for local issues.

He argued that the Romney Marsh should not have its future dictated by national parties and controlled by Westminster.

In the last 4 years he has delivered on every one of his promises, the main one being that he would make himself available for the people of the town, to help them.

David was given a cabinet position with a portfolio of economic development, tourism, planning and communications.

He stated in his manifesto that he wanted to set up a local business support and mentoring hub. This was built and delivered on budget and on time.

He put a £3 million pound High Street support and improvement scheme for the whole district, something that has helped many businesses across the district and particularly in New Romney.

As other councillors saw what you could achieve by not having the constraints of a national party with country wide policy, he had 4 other councillors join him and as a result the group became a major part of the decision making for the whole district.

The group fought against green field planning applications and overturned the proposed building of 28 houses in the coastal car park in Greatstone.

It stood firm against developers who have been trying to build more than 80 homes on a known flood plain field behind Victoria and Queens Road in New Romney, despite it having outline planning permission.

The Group have secured over £6 million pounds worth of investment into Mountfield Road Industrial Estate, which in term is set to create over 200 local jobs in the next 5 years.

He put emergency finance from the district budget into what is now the Community Hub during the pandemic, and helped secure much needed support for local residents during this period.

And he has continued to support the vision of not only a Dungeness C but also D Nuclear power station and to fast track the decommissioning of the current site to maintain both employment and economic growth for the whole of the district, but particularly the Romney Marsh.

Our Group Vision

We have highlighted several key areas that as a group we feel are needed for the Romney Marsh.

Health. We will fight to build a new 'Health Hub' which would serve the whole of the Romney Marsh. A centre that would enable multiple doctors to be able to hold surgeries serving the whole of the Marsh. This should ensure that you can always see a doctor when you need to, in a fit for purpose modern building. We also want to enable home visits from Doctors and Nurses.

Waste Collection. Currently the district uses the services of Veolia, a French owned company that works on a 40%+ profit margin. We would look at bringing the waste collection service 'in house' and investing the money that had previously gone in share profits instead used to pay for street cleaning and town sprucing.

One Stop Shops. Currently there is no local interaction for Marsh residents. If you want to contact the Council, and you do not have access to the internet, you have to travel to the civic centre in Folkestone. We propose to re introduce local one stop shops where you can meet face to face with council officers to pay your bills or enquire about any council service.

Transport. We would look to introduce a local bus service for the Marsh which would enable people to get to Ashford and Folkestone in the morning and afternoon. This would make it possible for people to be able to get to the William Harvey Hospital, for example. The proposed two buses would also do a 'round robin' service to Marsh Villages.

Tourism. We would reverse the Conservative decision to scrap a tourism budget and invest in a local tourism strategy to enhance our local businesses and encourage Green Cycling Tourism.

Parking. We would look at local Free Pass parking vouchers, enabling people to park up to one hour free in district car parks. This would enable people to do local shopping without the added cost of parking, and free up high street parking spaces.

Planning. We would fight green field developments across the Marsh and ensure that brown field development would include both affordable housing and new council housing. We intend to instruct council officers to devise a new Local Plan that puts the emphasis on local views in planning policy.

Business. We would support local businesses by reducing business rates or re-introducing free business rates for small and start up businesses.

Common Sense. We don't need political parties - just policies based on common sense.

Vote For Local Candidates Who Stand Up For and Speak For Local People.

A Marsh Project

As a group of local people we are all standing on our own personal visions for our district, but we agree on all of the policies listed on this page.

Over the past 2 years New Romney candidates David Wimble and John Houston have been working on a district wide project that as a group, we all support.

The Romney Marsh Up Cycling Centre.

We propose that an eco friendly up-cycling centre would be constructed on the former waste site between the New Romney Visitor Centre on the A259 between New Romney and St Mary's Bay.

This would be constructed by utilising 40 foot shipping containers which would be arranged in a horseshoe shape and back filled with earth to landscape the site. People would be able to donate items to the centre instead of taking them to the Council waste site. Local people could then up-cycle the items, repair them and make them fit for purpose. Items would then be made available to buy. The centre would also be a site that utilised its own power supply, by generating power from photovoltaic solar panels and micro wind turbines.

The site would offer crafting courses so that visitors of all ages can learn how to recycle items, and also a cafe which we would hope would become its own tourism destination. We would also look into creating garden allotments that would be made available to Marsh residents.

As the buildings would all be temporary, they would therefore not need foundations, which would speed up the build process. We would like to achieve this within the next term of the Council.



A centre such as this would benefit the whole Marsh, and would be a good demonstration of what can be achieved when a community pulls together. We have already suggested this idea to FHDC officers and even have a supply of containers available to us to make this a reality. INVESTING IN ROMNEY MARSH

Our vision for a brighter greener future for the Romney Marsh.