

Wimbledon and Putney Commons: Election of Conservators 2018



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Why do you want to be a Conservator?

For the last eleven years I have had the privilege of walking my dog everyday around the Commons, chatting to fellow users and experiencing the seasonal changes, from people wrapped up in thick coats crunching around in the frosty grass, to grinning little children in flip flops proudly carrying their melting ice-cream. Over the years there have been changes, some of which I applaud, such as the amazing success of the Saturday Morning Park Run, and the numerous regeneration projects. However the increasing amount of litter (including dog bags) and shortage of bins leaves me saddened at the lack of respect for the Commons. So I took to walking around with black bags and a litter picker, but have come to realise the best way to have a lasting impact is to take a more active role as a Conservator.

What experience and skills do you feel you could bring to the role?

I served in the Army after which I built a career in finance. I understand what it takes to build and run a successful team, whilst operating in a highly regulated environment. If elected I would aim to draw on these experiences and skills to support implementation of the Commons' Vision and Strategy. Above all I would look to apply common sense to running the Commons.

How will you support implementation of the Commons' Vision and Strategy?

If elected I would look to help address such issues as the need for improved governance and better finances, both of which are the basic building blocks essential for any charity to operate effectively. I would encourage those that have campaigned for years regarding the Lower Putney Common issues to look to the future and lay this matter to rest so that all energy and resources can be channelled into those areas that they are most needed. I would look forward to working with the other Conservators and the dedicated staff of the Commons helping to preserve this wonderful natural environment for both current and future generations.