



**BILL MOULAND.**

After 25 years in Liphook, I have been to many parish council meetings and committees as an observer or petitioner on planning applications and I sometimes wonder why anyone would go to the hassle of putting themselves up for election. The atmosphere is more Midsomer Murders than the Vicar of Dibley with so many hidden agendas they must be running out of places to hide them.

So why, you are entitled to ask, am I standing as a candidate?

The answer is that I think it is high time that councillors put all their negative same-old same-old animosities behind them and started to bury a few hatchets – preferably not in each other.

A clean sheet would give us the opportunity to take a fresh approach to the burning issues of the day like the future of land at Bohunt Manor, the pressure to find new housing, the development of our schools, and the impact of the South Downs National Park.

We also need to be boosting Station Road, supporting all our small shops and businesses and making sure that the big ones provide jobs for local people who must be given help to buy homes in the parish.

I think that councillors must work together with their staff to carry out the business in hand – whether it be a parish survey, some money for the Peak Centre or a new pitch for the football club.

I have spent 40 years in journalism, at both local and national level, and have always had to see both sides of an argument. I shall try to better communicate what is going on in our community. That would mean much more openness and greater liaison with the local media, including this website.

I have been a London commuter – both by wretched rail and the even more wretched A3 – but now work from home in Griggs Green and so have more time to devote to community matters. I am looking forward to walking through the Hindhead Tunnel next month.

On a personal level, I have been married to my wife Jenny for 30 years and we have brought up three children here – all of whom have been able to get the qualifications to go on to university.

We are fortunate to live at the foot of Weaver's Down, which remains a source of great pleasure every day and now has the added benefit of national park status.

As far as politics are concerned – and don't believe anyone who says there are none at parish level – they are conservative. I am not a member of any political party. I shall be voting No in the AV referendum.

Thanks.