

County Councillor Annual Report for 2020/21

“Allen Walker”

Overview of my work for last year to: -

Alderton, Ashton, Cosgrove, Deanshanger, Grafton Regis, Old Stratford, Paulerspury, Potterspury, Wicken, Whittlebury and Yardley Gobion.

Well, the time has come for me to retire. In the words of the great Frank Sinatra “And now the end is here”

This will be my final Annual Report after 24 years as your County Councillor.

I do not intend to make a big fuss of this or go into any technical details of this last “God awful year” Suffice to say the COVID-19 thing has taken us all by surprise in our working lives. Will the future ever be the same again?? I ask myself.

As of the 1st of April Northamptonshire, County Council will be dissolved. Into two Unitary Authorities North & West. The Area of Northampton, Daventry and South Northants will now be the West Northamptonshire Unitary. The number of Councillors eventually will be 93 made up of 23 each from Daventry & South Northants and 47 Cllrs from Northampton. **“Make of that what you will”.**

As such there will be Elections on May 6th to determine who your new councillors will be. Instead of just one of me representing you in the Deanshanger Ward, you will have Three Councillors.

There is a substantial amount of money going from the County Council to the New Authority but there will be a Balanced Budget.

The New heads of Service have been determined. But there will be an interim one-year period whereby there will be a Shadow Board, determining Services. This is to give Officers & New Councillors a settling in period before the New Unitary officially kicks off in 2022.

Council Tax will increase by 3.99% comprising 1.99% in core Council Tax & 2% Social Care precept for a band “D” property.

As in my report last year “So where are we now”

I will be gone to Pastures new. But I have to say it has been a pleasure serving this my community. Even though I was a “Cockney” interloper originally. I would like to think that I have made a difference to your lives over the years. I can only gauge this by you Voting for me at six different elections since 1997.

I am not a believer in “Self-Deprecation” so will quietly sign off now and wish you all well in the future. If we meet in a pub, please say hello and I might go so far as to buy you a drink.....

As usual, my personal thanks go to the Clerks and PC Councillors, but mostly you the Residents for maintaining your support in me throughout the years and this difficult year.

I can still be contacted on: - allenwalker14@outlook.com

or Telephone: - 01908-260302

Until 6th May 2021

“Please all continue to stay safe throughout this crisis”