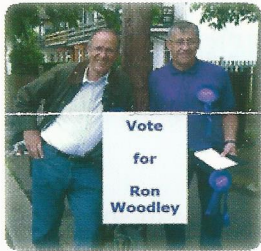


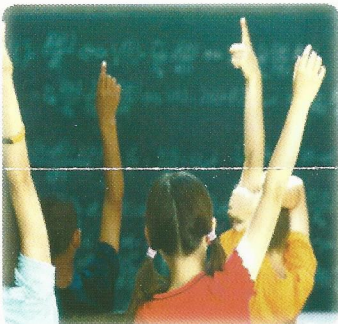
**On capital projects,** a further £2.65 million will be invested in the pier, £17.5 million on improvements to the A127 and a significant investment in road maintenance and improvements. This includes carriageway resurfacing, footway repairs and street light replacements and digital technology across all our transport and traffic management systems. Approximately £1.3million is to be invested into the cliff slip, the Cliffs Pavilion and work to refurbish the toilet block at Thorpe Hall Avenue.

Therefore, these and other projects, including a new Southchurch Library, mean that over the next 4 years over £155million will be invested and spent on projects within the town, which in turn will bring private investment, regeneration and redevelopment. I am very clear that as a town we must remain forward thinking and ambitious and I will continue to seek external funding to improve the town. Despite the difficult times, this gives Southend-on-Sea an impressive capital spend to make a difference to important local facilities, job creation and infrastructure, showing that our town is open for business and here to do the very best for local people and local businesses.

Our Independent Battle Bikes will be out in force on May 7<sup>th</sup> and with your support and votes we will hopefully Re-Elect Ron Woodley to continue to serve not only the residents of Thorpe Ward but the whole of Southend-on-Sea as Leader of the Council.



**On other local issues,** Southchurch Park is to have a new drainage system installed to help prevent the waterlogged conditions on the playing fields and pathways. The lighting along from Kensington Road to Shaftesbury Avenue will be extended during 2016/17 and we are pleased to say that the disabled platform at the lake has been completed. Further parking provision in Southchurch Park East including CCTV and lighting for the cars belonging to the school staff, and an increase of parent parking should be completed by Easter. Again in 2016/17 there will be major permanent car parking improvements taking place for parents. Our lights, roads and pavements will also benefit as part of the investment into the town's infrastructure. Martin, Mike and I have together always believed that councillors and officers have to re-think the way they operate to ensure that our service delivery is based on resident's priorities. This may mean devolving decision-making to a neighbourhood level.



**Grammar Schools -** There are 608 grammar school places of which the majority are filled by children from outside the Borough. This is disproportionate and shows the need for an effective transition of pupils from Southend's primary schools to secondary school. We will continue to be leaders in addressing this issue; creating an education system that will help drive out poverty, increasing skills, earning potential and employability. Our intention is to drive up improvements.

**Meet your local Independent Councillors** at **Christchurch Church Hall**, Colbert Avenue, and discuss any concerns you have on the 3rd Friday each month between 1pm and 2pm and on the 1st Friday each month at **Thorpedene Library** between 1pm and 2pm. or just phone us on the numbers below.

If you require a top up of Pink, White or Food Sacks we will deliver to your door.

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