

Ed Bassford

Biographical details:



Ed Bassford has lived in the ward since 1975 and knows it well. He has been a member of his local parish council for fifteen years and served for two years as its Chairman. His children attended primary school at Firle and Ringmer and then went on to Ringmer Community College. Ed is a former governor of Firle Primary School.

Ed worked as a public transport planner in local government for over 25 years and he now manages a community transport operation in Brighton and Hove, delivering accessible bus services that are a lifeline for older people, people with disabilities and many community groups.

He is a former advisor to the government on transport issues affecting disabled people and has also acted as an advisor to the Local Government Association on transport and social exclusion.

One of the founder members of The Seagulls Party, Ed has been a member of the Falmer For All campaign group that was set up by supporters to back Brighton and Hove Albion's plans for a community stadium for Sussex at Falmer. He attended every session of the 2005 Public Inquiry and wrote a daily diary of the proceedings that was published on the football club's website and in matchday programmes.

In December last year, Ed presented a petition to Lewes District Council, signed by over 5,000 residents of Lewes District, opposing the decision of the council's cabinet committee, taken behind closed doors, to challenge the government's decision to give planning permission for the stadium.

As well as following the Albion, Ed is well known locally for his involvement in bonfire. He has led the clog dancers in procession through Lewes on November the Fifth for thirty years. He performs regularly in a pub pantomime and enjoys walking his dog on the downs. 'It's all part of living in this delightful area', he says.

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