

Bollocktics! Why should colour matter?

Hi, I'm Karsten Evans. You might remember me from previous local elections standing for the Swindon Org UK party, the Green party and now as an Independent.

Fed up of expense scandals, secret deals, rising Residential parking fees?
Do you like me feel that politics is mainly a load of obfuscated bollocks and excuses?
You don't trust the 'system' where a party can be 3rd according to the number of votes they receive, but get the most seats in Parliament, or where residents views on parking are ignored by ruling councillors.
Want to express your frustration, but believe there is no point in voting?
I did too!

I am standing in Central locally and in South Swindon in the General Election, so that every vote for me can be counted as a **protest!**
In Central, it is a protest against rise in the Parking permit fees and a vote of **no confidence in the parking Dept. of SBC.**
In the General Election, it is a **protest** about the low standards of Members of Parliament and the government civil service that should have been checking them.

Remember the TV sitcom *'Yes, Minister!'*?
Supposedly a satirical spoof, but recently seems more like a documentary! ☺

I'm fed up of obfuscating Bollockticians and the 'Humphrey's and 'Bernard's that pull the bollocktician's strings. I am fed up of Resident's Parking being used as a Cash Cow, fed up that vital charities funding is cut while there are local civil servants in SBC that earn more than the Prime Minister! Fed up of 'secret' deals like the Digital City WiFi 'scandal' (remember Springfield's MonoRail? ;-). Fed up of SBC not acting to save the Mechanics. Fed up of Swindon buildings being demolished by a "New Swindon" company without clear plans for using the free space.

No matter what colour bollocktics presides, it always ends up the same with 'Promises, promises'!
Will your vote mean more as a protest or if you use it to support a colourful bollocktician?
This is your chance to tell them what you really think. Let them know they are accountable to the public by protesting and not simply voting.
Don't abstain from your right to vote and stick your head in the sand. *"The accomplice to the crime of corruption is frequently our own indifference"*.

My main reason for standing in Central is to protest about Resident's parking fees and to get them back to what they should be (for the residents) and to revoke last year's increases. I want SBC to cut costs in 'Parking' by reducing the ten Parking Attendants allocated to residential zones and not by increasing permit costs. I want to find out the 'real' income from parking fines as I don't believe SBC gets only £163,000 from parking fines. Milton Keynes get over £5million a year in income from parking fines. I am against the unfair parking fees at the hospital (another SBC cash cow) and will fight for fairer fees for patients and visitors.

Election Communication, Karsten Evans for South Swindon constituency

What might we have in common?

Well, I have been fined for parking in front of my house; I don't own a **duck house** or have a **second home**, I own a house in Central Swindon. I was made redundant after the Credit Crunch hit and I am a single parent. I was born in Cardiff, and first moved to Swindon in '89. I have lived in Ford street since '95 and I know most of my neighbours. I have never spoken to or met my local councillor or MP. Personally, I admire Clegg and Joanna Lumley for getting long overdue justice for Ghurkhas, but wonder how and why the Government blocked it twice. I do **not** admire Bliar or respect Brown for 'rescuing us' from the banking crisis as Brown gave free reign to the w bankers in the first place.

What can I promise:

Unlike professional bollockticians, I can't promise anything, except to fight to get Residential Parking back to what it was, to dig and expose anything I find that is not right in SBC, to oppose new house building on greenfield sites just for the sake of it, to regularly litter pick somewhere in Swindon and to be available to help any one in Swindon with a real problem to get their voice heard.
I can promise that every vote I get is not wasted. Every one will be a vote of no confidence in the existing system and will make both local and national bollockticians nervous. Current polls and voting quotas will put Labour 3rd, but they will get most seats and still be in majority. Is that fair, democratic? Maybe to an MP, but not to me!

The council is mainly answerable to the public only via elections. That was the gist of the reply to Anne Snelgrove's question about the 'secret' Digital City deal to a near-empty House of Commons. I have nothing against Anne, but will supporting Labour or the Conservative really change anything? Show the House of Commons and SBC that your vote DOES count. Help me persuade SBC to make Residential Parking fair and do not tolerate bollocks (old English meaning "nonsense") ☺

Some good URLs to visit:

- www.talkswindon.org
- www.trafficpenaltytribunal.gov.uk
- <http://swindoncentric.blogspot.com/>
- www.protestvote.co.uk
- www.protestvote.org.uk
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protest_vote

- Place to talk about Swindon issues
- Where to appeal against fines
- Swindon 's best blogger?
- 'Sing a song of sixpence' rewritten
- Protest site
- Ways to make your vote a protest.

Ever wondered where your recycling ends up? SBC sell it on... so it is most probably being shipped to China or India! That's Carbon neutral, isn't it?

www.climatechangecorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=6132

If you feel there is no point in voting, may I please ask for your 'Protest' vote?
I put up my own money for my own election deposit and your vote could help me get it back? :-D

Read more about my views on www.Swindon.Org.UK

If you are interested in finding out more me and Residents Parking, visit www.Swindon.Org.UK.
The residents of Ford and Nelson street protested last year with a street petition.
Result? Ignored.
Could your street do the same and add weight to the petition? Below is scan of the Ford street petition and a similar generic petition is available.

To the management of Residence Parking and Swindon Borough Council,

We, the residents of Ford Street (SN1 5EY) no longer have trust that the residents parking scheme is being run for the residents and instead is being run as a profit base for SBC.
This is due to the new excessive fees, expensive guest permits that expire ever year and the number of residents being fined for minor permit offences while parking outside their houses.
The 'human face' and tolerance of the parking department prior to the 2003 decriminalisation of parking, seems to have vanished. There are no longer any warnings or reminders, just parking offences and fines.

We formally request to leave the scheme which we understand is supposed to be voluntary and non profit making. If the new fees are scrapped and a referendum asking for residents views is organised we would remain in the scheme.

Signed by the residents of Ford Street.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 14 Ford st. <i>Abbas</i> | 1 Ford st. <i>Hogben</i> |
| 15 Ford st. <i>Abble</i> | 2 Ford st. <i>L. Paterson</i> |
| 16 Ford st. <i>J.D. [Signature]</i> | 3 Ford st. <i>M. Russell</i> |
| 17 Ford st. Vacant - To Let | 4 Ford st. <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 18 Ford st. <i>Hoyd Rodrigues</i> | 5 Ford st. <i>Steve Daulton</i> |
| 19 Ford st. Vacant - Sold | 6 Ford st. <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 20 Ford st. <i>Kate Brown</i> | 7 Ford st. <i>[Signature] [ANDY DUGGAN]</i> |
| 21 Ford st. <i>C. Stoddart</i> | 8 Ford st. <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 22 Ford st. <i>Chantayaway</i> | 9 Ford st. <i>In oblige name</i> |
| 23 Ford st. <i>SI SHAPPADE 55 [Signature]</i> Vacant Marijuana factory | 10 Ford st. <i>I. Frost</i> |
| 24 Ford st. <i>D. Lewis B. Wilson</i> | 11 Ford st. <i>Thyne</i> |
| 25 Ford st. <i>H. Ayre</i> | 12 Ford st. <i>[Signature] garage</i> |
| 26 Ford st. <i>[Signature]</i> | 13 Ford st. <i>Shawrence</i> |