

## Co-option Candidate statements

December 2014

### **Ruth Betson**

I have lived in Upper Cambourne since December 2012.

Born in the UK, I actually lived in Switzerland for over 20 years which made me bilingual English and French. I have a Marketing degree and have worked in Communication for the last 15 years. I would describe myself as a creative, forthright problem solver and a positive and naturally enthusiastic person. I also run my own business in network marketing that helps individuals become financially secure within 2 to 5 years by working part-time from home.

In my day job as an internal communications specialist, I am very passionate about ensuring employees get the right message at the right time and that they understand what the company is trying to do. I believe that this is the reason I started organising the Cambourne Residents Meetings and certainly what I would see myself bringing to the table, should I become a Parish Councillor for Cambourne.

The first Cambourne Residents Meeting in September had quite a good turnout and several interesting issues were addressed (yellow lines, parking, MUGAs, shops, etc). The attendees agreed that these meetings should be quarterly, so I'm now organising and looking forward to the second Cambourne Residents Meeting on 10th December. I'm also speaking to several neighbours and residents to come up with ideas to ensure the flow of information around the village, bearing in mind that some people prefer printed news and others digital.

Getting people talking to each other about community news and issues is what I love to do and I hope to continue this as a Parish Councillor.

### **George Cooper**

I am a hard working father of 2 young girls both at the local primary school in Cambourne. I have lived in Cambourne for the past 7 years and been actively involved in the development of the settlement for the last 10. I am interested in ensuring that the community have a voice on how Cambourne grows and changes over the coming years. I'm conscious that the community and the parish council are at an important milestone, as the local plan for the area is under review. I believe local people should have a clear voice in their own future and have access to quality representation in their parish councillors. I understand the original ideas of the settlement and the important of the masterplan vision for Cambourne, and think that this needs to be considered carefully in future plans. It is vital that any new housing coming forward is supported by the necessary infrastructure to make it sustainable and it is important that the parish has influence over the package. I believe a parish should have clear and ambitious strategies/priorities, that every resident should be provided with a decent quality life which enhanced by the physical and social surroundings.

### **Sarah Lewis**

My name is Sarah Lewis and together with my husband and two sons have lived in Cambourne for the last 8 years. In that time we have seen Cambourne grow to include the Village College which my youngest son is now attending and has done since it first opened.

When we first moved here I worked at Monkfield Park Primary School and more recently secretary of the Light Up Cambourne Committee as a way of becoming involved in the community. I would now like to become involved with Cambourne's future development and be able to have a say in the things that happen here.