

RODWELL & WYKE

ELECTION SPECIAL

GREEN MATTERS



SPRING 2024

Dear Resident

Elections to Dorset Council will take place Thursday 2nd May. In our ward, you will have the opportunity to vote for **3 candidates**. You can find out more about us on page two.

In May 2019 you elected two Greens, Clare Sutton and Brian Heatley – who is leaving Weymouth with his wife Nicky to be closer to family in London, and will be greatly missed. Brian and Clare have helped residents with a huge range of issues and played key roles in several local campaigns, including fighting FOR reopening the **Underbarn Walk** and AGAINST the **Portland Waste Incinerator**. The Green Group has also made a big impact on Dorset Council, including:

- Proposing a motion committing Dorset Council to working with central government and water companies to **clean up our water**, which was passed with cross party support
- Playing a central role in securing more funding for **Dorset's Youth Clubs**

Our values include:

- Working hard to resolve your issues, but being honest with you when we cannot help
- Working closely with councillors from all parties, irrespective of party politics
- Only standing candidates who we know will do a really good job!

Dorset wide, our top four priorities are public transport, housing, children & young people, and adapting to our changing climate. You can read our manifesto here: <https://tinyurl.com/DorsetManifesto> or - **if you're not online** - we can deliver a copy to you. Our priorities in Wyke and Rodwell include tackling sewage discharges, better social care for the elderly, and ensuring that North Quay is sympathetically developed.

With a General Election looming, many residents will be considering whether to vote Labour, Conservative or Liberal Democrat. But it's a different story locally. On May 2nd you'll have the opportunity to vote for the three candidates who you think will represent you best on Dorset Council. We hope you will agree that's us!

With all good wishes

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Val Graves, Claudia Webb and Clare Sutton



Dorset Council election results
Rodwell & Wyke 2019: first 4 candidates



Meet your three Green Candidates!

Clare Sutton



Clare with Helen Toft & Claudia at Chapelhay 'Apple Day'

Clare was the first Green elected to Dorset Council, in 2015. She set up **Chapelhay Community Playgarden** in 2005, which she still chairs, is the longest serving trustee of **STEPS Youth Club**, and was a founder member of **Friends of Castle Cove**.

Clare says:

"I grew up in Weymouth and moved back in 2005 to bring up my children in a place that I love. It's been a massive privilege to represent Rodwell and Wyke residents on Dorset Council and I have some proud achievements, but they've always been about working with others. Val and Claudia have huge integrity and ability and our complementary skills and experience make us a great team."

Val Graves



Val with Chair of FoCCB Charity Steve Elsworth

Val worked as an **NHS physiotherapist** for twenty years and then as director for NHS community health services both in London and Dorset. She was a founder member of **Friends of Castle Cove Beach Charity (FoCCBC)** and has been its Treasurer from the outset. She has supported primary school children in improving their reading and is an **NHS Volunteer Responder**.

Val says:

"If elected I would commit the time and energy needed for representing local voices and increase the impact the Green Group has already made on Dorset Council."

Claudia Webb



Claudia with fellow FoRT committee member Luke Wakeling

Claudia has managed **Ingleside Residential Home** in Weymouth since 2021 and previously supported the town as Chief Operating Officer at **We Are Weymouth**. She has been a Friends of **Rodwell Trail (FoRT)** Committee member since 2013, including two years as Chair, and is a **volunteer Police Cadet leader**.

Claudia says:

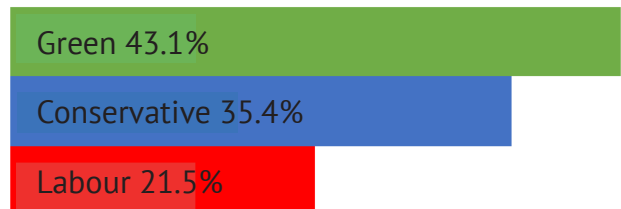
"The opportunity to serve the area in which I live and am passionate about is truly exciting and I would work hard and with honesty to support all local residents with the issues that matter to them."



Councillor Brian Heatley writes: *"I have known Clare for fourteen years and Val and Claudia since 2014. Clare has been an inspiration and a pleasure to work with over all these years. And it's great that I can be followed by two younger, very able and more energetic candidates in Claudia and Val. Together, Clare, Val and Claudia will make a formidable team who I know will work brilliantly for Wyke and Rodwell."*

Most recent local by election: Wyke Regis 2022

Helen Toft elected to Weymouth Town Council!



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