

# Jerry LUDFORD-BROOKS



**Castletown Town Commissioners Election**  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021**

**The Polling Station is located at**  
**Castletown Civic Centre**  
**Open from 8.00am to 8.00pm**

**Open Local Government** I continue to be concerned that most of the Commissioners business, in representing you is undertaken in private sessions. I know that many residents are concerned that they are not aware of what is being undertaken in their name nor are they aware of the views of their elected representatives when they are deciding matters that affect them, their families, and our town. If re-elected I will endeavour to rectify this situation by promoting a more transparent process so that the residents of Castletown are more aware of what the Commissioners are doing and what and why matters are decided. I also feel that presently the Commissioners are being overly reliant on the internet and Facebook for advising residents on matters, especially as many residents still do not use such facilities. I will therefore promote the additional and greater use of more traditional methods of information.

## **About Jerry Ludford-Brooks:**

I have lived in Castletown since moving to the Island with my family over 31 years ago and I am married to Margaret.

I have served as a Castletown Town Commissioner for 9 years.

I was Vice-Chairman of the Commissioners in 2010.

I was Chairman of the Commissioners in 2011.

Member of Castletown Town Commissioners to-date.

## **Community voluntary involvement to-date:**

- Royal British Legion Castletown Branch - Treasurer.
- Castletown Festival – Treasurer.
- Friends of Castletown Station – Treasurer.
- Castletown & District Over 60's Club – Executive Committee member.
- Castletown Heritage – member.
- Friends of the Manx Diabetic – Chairman.
- Friends of Castle Rushen High School - Chairman.

**If you require a large print copy of my Manifesto or require a car to take you to the Polling Station, please contact me on 497568.**

**Our town.** Castletown is a beautiful and historic town, and as guardians we have a duty to safeguard it.

The town has many important historical buildings and much history which benefit the town, attracting many visitors from both on and off the Island, which benefits our town.

I continue to be most concerned that Manx National Heritage continue to restrict the opening of the 12<sup>th</sup> century Grammar School throughout the summer months. I also fully support MNH being required to return the historic yacht 'The Peggy' at an early date back to its historic home within the Nautical Museum in Castletown.

## **Southern Swimming Pool**

Due to Government making no plans or financial provision to provide a replacement community Swimming Pool at Castle Rushen High School, I initiated a proposal through the Commissioners, that was unanimously supported, to bring all the Southern Local Authorities together to develop a strategic coordinated policy to enable us to collectively seek Government investment for replacing the existing community Swimming Pool whilst a replacement School is being built.

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### **Housing for Castletown:**

I am delighted that after many years of work and planning that the redevelopment of the Commissioners School Hill housing estate including Coronation Terrace is now underway. This substantial redevelopment will provide modern, efficient environmental houses for our residents for long into the future.

Whilst the redevelopment provides for some first-time buyers housing, I believe we must continue to try to increase the number of first-time houses within Castletown over the next decade, to meet the future needs of our residents, especially the young people, which would stem the flow of the town's residents having to leave the town to find housing within other areas of the Island.

I believe that this can only be done by lobbying Government.

Also, there is a need for Government to provide a better Mortgage support system for first-time buyers to provide opportunities for them to be able to afford buying their own homes in the town. I am also pleased to welcome the new housing development taking place at Victoria Road, which will provide some additional houses in the town.

The Castletown land review needs determination to provide appropriate development opportunities, and importantly to remove the uncertainty that presently prevails. The Commissioners need to strongly pressure Government to bring the matter to finality.

### **Castletown's Roads and pavements:**

I continue to be disappointed at the state of our roads, I think it is fair to state that the maintenance of our roads and pavements have never been so poor with most of our roads suffering from potholes and many are breaking up and in need of major repairs.

It is my view that the Commissioners need to be more forceful in getting the Department of Infrastructure to undertake a proper planned programme of road works, including the pavements, to ensure they are maintained, including weeding, to a reasonable and acceptable standard. I would also like to see the early introduction of a safe pedestrian crossing on Alexandra Road for residents, and especially children, who cross this busy road to access and egress Poulson Park, and I will if elected pursue this matter through the Commissioners to seek that such a crossing is implemented.

### **Castletown Harbours:**

The present condition and painting of the railings of the harbour bridges in the town is unacceptable, and I believe the Commissioners should be more active in securing a better maintenance regime by the Department of Infrastructure. The bridges are important gateways into our town, and they should be maintained in good order.

**If I am re-elected, I can only promise you that I will do my best for our town and its residents. As always, I will make myself available to assist residents.**

**Poulson Park** which was gifted to the town in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century is an important recreational facility for our town.

Whilst some recent improvements have been made to our park, I continue to be concerned at the ongoing lack of maintenance and upgrading to ensure the park is kept in good order, and that it can be enjoyed by all age groups.

There is a need to repair the paths, and to replace the climbing frame that was removed a few years ago.

I support investing in our town's park to enhance the enjoyment of the facility and for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.

### **Town businesses:**

The town's businesses, especially the retailing sector, have gone through a difficult period in the last few years. I believe the Commissioners should do what they can to help improve the present situation.

I will continue to support enhancing and expanding our town business sector to provide opportunities, and to build on what we have as it is vital to retain and expand the town's retail sector.

### **Supporting Local event organisers –**

I continue to support the Commissioners assisting our town event organisers, who consist of resident volunteers providing events for the benefit and enjoyment of our community. I am concerned that most of the Commissioners are not of this view. More support should be provided by the Commissioners in support of our town

**Transference of Government costs onto the Ratepayer:** this matter is a cause for real concern and is adding a substantial and unfair cost onto the town's ratepayers. If elected I will continue to oppose any such further costs being inflicted by Government on the ratepayers.

**On 22<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2021**

**VOTE - LUDFORD-BROOKS**

**for CASTLETOWN**

**My election colour is Gold.**

*Thank You*