



# PORT ERIN

LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTION

VOTE  
FOR  
HAYLEY  
FOX

CAST YOUR VOTE BETWEEN 8AM-8PM AT  
PORT ERIN COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

**8<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2022**

# Contents

About Me	3
Housing & Regeneration	4-5
Younger Resident Facilities	6
A Village For All	6
Retail & Business	6
Community Issues	7
Future of Port Erin	7
Election Day Contact Point	8

## Firstly Thank You

*I would just like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has offered support and advice since I decided to take on this challenge. From putting posters up in windows to assisting with deliveries it has been hugely appreciated.*

My name is Hayley Fox and I am standing for a seat on the board for Port Erin Commissioners in the upcoming Local Authority Election.

I have spent most of my time on the Island living in or nearby Port Erin, I was educated at Castle Rushen High School and I am a chartered member of the Institute of Housing, following a period of three years study.

I have also, more recently obtained a project management qualification after studying with the Association for Project Management. My working history includes both private and public sector job roles since 2003 to date. In my spare time I enjoy history, music and exercise especially with my rescue dog, Norris!

I have decided to stand for Port Erin Commissioners as I truly feel I would be an asset given my lived experience as a young person growing up in Port Erin further assisted by my 4.5 years working for Port Erin Commissioners in my role for them.

# About Me

**I feel the board would benefit from younger members to give a more balanced, modern approach to decision-making and problem solving to the advantage of the village.**

I am hugely passionate about housing given my years working in the sector both at central and local government level. Housing is a core part of any community and having access to good quality, affordable housing has a positive impact on physical and mental health and wellbeing. I have been lucky enough to meet many amazing people over my career so far and nothing gives me greater satisfaction than seeing people happy and thriving in their lives.

Port Erin is a beautiful place and every effort should be made to keep it that way. On-going maintenance of common areas and shared spaces makes it a nicer place for everyone to enjoy!

I feel we need to be focused on how to ensure the successful future of Port Erin considering the current economic climate with rising costs of living and climate change concerns.

Ensuring there are stimulating facilities and safe places to go for the village's young people is important and we should be investing in our youth as they are our future!

Making Port Erin a destination for visitors and new businesses is important to securing a thriving future for the village. However, the focus of the board should first and foremost prioritise Port Erin residents and existing businesses, ensuring their views are represented.

Feedback from, and engagement with, stakeholders is key to delivering solutions which are relevant to those affected. If elected, I would champion more liaison between the ratepayers of Port Erin so those who wish to voice their opinions are given a platform to do so through public forums or via social media to ensure everyone feels their opinion or concerns are heard.

Value for money has always been important throughout my various working roles, ensuring the most cost-effective solution is reached. Careful and considered budget management is more important than ever and I feel this is something I understand and can bring to the board.

**I hope you all take the opportunity to vote because your voice matters.**

*Hayley Fox*





# Housing & Regeneration

**Any thriving community is naturally established by the ability for people to live affordably in the area. Be it social housing, private rented accommodation or privately owned properties; without people there is no community!**

Having worked initially in a large estate agency, seeing the housing market as a whole and how its changing landscape impacts everyone saw my interest grow from there.

Moving into the Housing Division of central government, I worked to deliver a variety of housing maintenance schemes, regeneration and upgrade projects (such as playparks, parking etc) as well as being involved in the consultation process of the Landlord Registration Scheme and managing a number of grant schemes. Feeling I could have a greater impact at local level I then moved to Port Erin Commissioners. I found this role enjoyably challenging and rewarding before moving once again to Castletown Town Commissioners where I currently work. Moving away from my operational role in Port Erin Commissioners has now allowed me the opportunity to stand as a board member with experience and a transferrable set of skills I feel is unique.

## Working Together With Government

The engagement between central and local government needs to be improved to deliver a joined-up standard approach to the delivery of not just housing but in many areas. Having worked within both levels of government, I am well versed in the limitations and issues faced from both perspectives. As a board member I am confident I would be able to provide a link to ensure better working relationships. I feel local authorities provide vital perspective on key issues, seeing and understanding issues from the grass roots level as people engage directly with their local offices in the first instance oftentimes.

## Policies & Procedures

Whilst I am aware legislation and policy are ultimately controlled at central government level and disseminated to local authorities as statutory or best practice, there is opportunity to influence from local authority level which I would ensure was done if elected. Moreover, there is also much autonomy at local level in terms of internal or discretionary policies. I feel I would be able to assist and support officers within Port Erin Commissioners in this area as a board member. I would also ensure that the views of those whom the policies affect would be able to have input and contribute to the decision-making process where possible.

## Social Housing Investment

The housing stock of Port Erin Commissioners needs some significant investment via capital and planned maintenance schemes. For example; Edremony, as the 'gateway' to Port Erin would benefit from an external refurbishment scheme and improve the aesthetic of the main route into the village.

The other housing estates are also in need of various refurbishment projects which should be planned as part of a longer term programme of work, giving careful consideration to budgetary constraints and rising costs of materials and labour. I feel I would be able to work at board level with officers to support the development of these projects to improve the quality of housing for the 200+ households.

## Wider Property Market

Given the changing landscape of housing, in particular the rise in private rentals costs, increasing interest rates and higher demand for public sector housing, I feel there needs to be more work done to investigate other options of tenure for people to access. For example, working with central government to provide a mid-rent scheme would provide a 'stepping stone' option for those outside of the parameters of social housing whilst being an affordable option to allow for saving towards buying their own property, especially given the sharp rise in private rent. This would have a wider economic impact and could see more younger people being able to afford to buy their own home. I really care about the future of housing particularly for younger people and even from local government level I feel there is some option for influencing positive change.

## Engagement/Feedback

There needs to be more engagement from all residents, including tenants, to better understand aspirations and needs. Talking to those affected by matters both positive and negative gives constructive feedback. Seeking opinions from the right people provides valuable insight meaning solutions are better tailored to meet the needs of people. Another key benefit of participation from individuals or groups is a greater understanding of organisational limitations and can remove some of the 'us and them' friction which invariably comes during decision-making as some outcomes are not satisfactory to all concerned.

# Younger Resident Facilities

There is real opportunity and an identified need to improve facilities in Port Erin could for young people to create places where they are safe and able to just be young! Whilst there has been some great investment and development in Athol Park and the multi-use games area at Breagle Glen, much of these facilities are weather-dependent and during the darker, Winter months there is a lack of places for younger people to go beyond the Railway Station area.

To ensure any plans brought forward represent the aspirations of the younger residents Port Erin, they should be given a platform to be able to voice what they want for their village. This type of engagement would then hopefully empower them by involving them in decision making processes, meaning they feel ownership of the outcome and have solutions that meet their expectations. I also would like to see investment in the upgrade of the existing playparks around the housing estates over the coming years. They provide an area for young people to socialise and exercise outside which is key to their development in an increasingly digital age.

# A Village For All

One of the most important objectives of a board is to ensure there is adequate representation, promoting equality for everyone in our community. I feel this can be enhanced by improved communication with the residents in a number of different ways.

Regular public meetings or forums which would benefit those who do not use social media to be heard and represented could be considered. Whereas others may respond more positively to social media engagement. Shared public facilities and community spaces should be designed and maintained to ensure they are suitable for all not just a few.

# Retail & Business

As a board I feel there is a duty to support our local businesses to be able to thrive and be successful, as they provide goods and services to both residents and potential visitors forming a key part of the economy. Hearing their views including issues they are facing is paramount as Port Erin is lucky to have an excellent mix of diverse businesses and I can see this only continuing to grow with the right support.

# Community Issues

Without repeating myself, rising costs of living are on everyone's mind at the moment. As a way to provide support and advice I jointly organised a 'Cost of Living, Help and Advice afternoon' in my current role to provide a 'one stop shop' for residents of the South to discuss their concerns and find out what support is available to them. It is my intention to provide more events of this type going forward as a way to ease people's concerns in these difficult times which affect us all.

Waste management is an important consideration especially given the issue of climate change and the need to move towards more sustainable ways of living. This is an area I am keen on working on more and would be excited to investigate the possible options to support this agenda.

- Roads
- Pavements
- Dog Fouling
- Parking Issues
- Unsightly Buildings
- Overgrown Hedges & Bushes

These issues are always notable within any local authority which I know well from my time working for local government. I would like to see more regular liaison and communication with the relevant government departments to manage these key issues, which I believe need ongoing and effective management, as they have an impact on everyone.

# Future of Port Erin

Working in collaboration with the other Southern Authorities to give a more joined up approach which has both holistic and financial benefit is a topic which I feel needs to be championed.

There are efficiencies which can be achieved through joint-working and sharing costs along with social benefits. Furthermore, moving away from working in isolation or silos is a more modern approach and one I feel we need to continue to build on.

There are many changes coming in relation to new business such as the glamping site, the proposed Marine Biology development and the recent Expressions of Interest exercise of the Fire Station site and with the right consideration and engagement these provide some really exciting opportunities for growth.

**If elected, I will always make sure to put the needs of YOU first to ensure you are listened to, your money is spent well and the village is looked after. I don't have an agenda or all the answers, however I assure you I will listen, learn and engage with you to make sure the right solutions are put forward to make Port Erin the best it can be. Thank you for taking the time to read my manifesto.**



**PORT ERIN**  
LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTION 2022

**08.12.22**



**VOTE**  
**HAYLEY FOX**

If you or anyone you know require any assistance in getting to the Port Erin Commissioners office polling station please don't hesitate to get in touch on 311103