

**From Cllr Colin Davis, Cllr Mark Francis & Cllr Jean Pinkerton OBE  
Election day is 7th May 2015**

### Councillors fight floods

It hardly seems a year since your Conservative candidates (pictured) threw their time and effort into serving and assisting those affected by flooding throughout the borough. It is worth noting in Staines-upon-Thames that flooding blighted not only riverside areas but other areas with no tradition of flooding at all. Whether it was assisting leaflet delivery, filling sand bags, calling upon flood-bound residents, or lobbying for much needed facilities - we were there. Cllr Mark Francis recalls, "working with local volunteers and the emergency services was a richly rewarding experience, although filling sand bags is demanding work!"

Cllr Jean Pinkerton OBE states "I've lived locally most of my adult life and never experienced anything like the conditions we had to contend with."

Cllr Colin Davis contributed "what struck me more than anything else was the incredible stoicism and wonderful Dunkirk Spirit of those worst affected. It made me feel very humble."

Spelthorne Borough Council is supporting a number of relief programmes locally aimed at ensuring that the events of last February do not repeat themselves.



Cllr Jean Pinkerton OBE



Cllr Colin Davis

### A new gateway for Staines upon Thames

Despite opposition objections, the aging and unsightly Bridge Street car park, located beside Staines Bridge, is to be sold and the land redeveloped to provide much needed family homes. We should emphasise that we have been at pains to ensure that there will be no loss of parking for town visitors as our existing ground level car parks away from the river will be increased in capacity.

Part of the Staines-upon-Thames initiative, Councillors Davis and Francis have been intimately involved in the project since its inception and both were involved in considering bids submitted by competing developers. Although final plans have yet to be published, Cllr Davis states "this gateway development is of immense importance to the town, we will make sure that the people of Staines-upon-Thames are provided with a significant voice in relation to the design and build. It is anticipated that Councillors and the proposed developers will conduct meetings to finalise the consultation process over the coming months. If you have views about this already please tell us by responding to this In-Touch".



Cllr Mark Francis

**Local issues, local action, local Conservatives**

**[www.spelthorneconservatives.org.uk](http://www.spelthorneconservatives.org.uk)**

**Are there any issues you would like to mention to us**

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## Housing Problems Tackled

With ever increasing demand for suitable and appropriate housing for families, we have taken innovative steps.

Like other Local Authorities, Spelthorne uses Bed and Breakfast for families who need temporary accommodation. Now the council has put several empty properties back into use at low cost. An example is the empty park keeper's accommodation in Commercial Park. The property has been renovated throughout to provide proper facilities. A park property in Stanwell was given the same makeover to increase our stock.

Forming partnerships with other boroughs to address the homeless situation has also been successful.

Residents have been given support to enable them to attempt to find permanent solutions to their situations.

"Ensuring our assets are well used and resolving housing issues are a high priority for this council. says Cabinet member Cllr Jean Pinkerton OBE.

## Your local Conservative Team

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**Caring and campaigning for the community**