

## PARISH COUNCILLOR COLIN BOWDEN

### WRITTEN STATEMENT

I was born and raised in London, but have lived in Kent for most of my life and have been a resident of Staplehurst for over 18 years. I have numerous interests including sailing, gardening and bellringing.

I am now semi-retired from a full-time career in consultancy as a Chartered Engineer having been involved in civil engineering and structural projects including surface water drainage. I currently advise Building Surveyors on basements and other structural works in connection with the Party Wall etc Act 1996.

As a newcomer to the Parish Council I am looking forward to working with other Parish Councillors in a number of areas where I hope to make a valuable contribution, including the Planning Committee and the Community Enhancement Group. I am an active member of the Neighbourhood Plan Review Group and will continue in this role which includes liaising with surrounding villages and understanding how their aspirations and future development interact with our own and with the Maidstone Borough Council Local Plan. I also attend the Staplehurst Emergency Help Team meetings and the Resident's Surgery at the Library.