

Staplehurst Parish Council

PARISH COUNCILLOR CHRIS RHODES

WRITTEN STATEMENT

I have been living in the village for almost 15 years now after moving here to be with my wife. I have two daughters one of which is currently at Staplehurst Primary School and the other a former Staplehurst student now at Mascalls.

I work for a company that manages vegetation on the railways overseeing most of the southern counties so have a background in tree and vegetation management and ecology having to deal with the issues this brings daily, formerly I did this on the highways in the Medway area. This led me into becoming a member of the Staplehurst Emergency Help Team lending any time and skills I have in helping with issues in the village and often out at call outs or down on our stand at the village markets promoting what we do and looking for recruits.

I am heavily tied in with Girlguiding in the village, courtesy of being a work from home parent, my younger daughter attending Rainbows and being recruited by friends who happen to be leaders of units, at the Kathie Lamb Centre volunteering at several units and where I have also become the representative voice for Girlguiding in several working groups meeting with the parish council regularly.

With my experience of meeting with the council for the last few years and working with several of the volunteer groups in the village joining the Parish Council.