

Introducing the election candidates...

Queen Edith's has five candidates to be its new city councillor, and they introduce themselves on these pages. We are usually the only ward in the city to publish a guide like this, and we hope it's one of the reasons why the turnout here is amongst the highest in the city. Also uniquely, we always organise a 'meet the candidates' evening before every election. So do make the most of the

Thursday
25
April

opportunity and join the audience at **Queen Edith Primary School** on Thursday 25 April, at 7pm, for a fascinating evening. Just like the last few years' events, *Queen Edith's Community News* editor Chris Rand will be in the chair, and as well as hearing from the candidates, there'll be a chance to ask your own questions. No tickets are necessary: just turn up on the night.

- *Queen Edith Primary School is on Godwin Way.*



Sam Davies

Independent
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Not many people in Queen Edith's realise what's about to hit us: developers hoping to build massive estates in the Green Belt just outside the ward, and a huge step up in the traffic going to and from Addenbrooke's and the Biomedical Campus. Unfortunately for them (and us), our councillors are tied up with their political party policies. They can't speak up for Queen Edith's on the really big issues. Nobody is saying what needs to be said.

If the party politicians can't act on our behalf, let me show you how an independent voice can make a real difference. It only takes one person to tell the council and the developers how it is. As a resident, I already put questions to those in charge of planning and transport. As a councillor, they'd have to listen. And – more importantly – give us answers.

I've lived in Cambridge for 30 years, 20 of those in Queen Edith's. If you think this is the one time when the area needs a local voice from outside of the party political system, please vote for Sam Davies (Independent) on 2 May.



Manas Deb

Conservative
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I am a chemical engineer, local businessman, a strong supporter of "Put It To The People" campaign for another EU referendum; I believe the best deal is no Brexit. I live with my wife and son at the heart of Queen Edith's ward in Nightingale Avenue. I regularly visit care homes in Queen Edith's to spend time with dementia patients and old people, and if elected I want to see more affordable low-cost care homes. Housing in Cambridge city has become unaffordable for many and I am campaigning for low cost housing for teachers, nurses, young first-time buyers and care workers. I have been campaigning to scrap charges on disabled people borrowing mobility buggies.

The library is a great place for children to visit and I am campaigning to save local libraries. A community centre is an amazing concept where you can meet people from all backgrounds, and if elected my priority will be to work with the council to build one here. I strongly oppose any cuts to Children's Centres and I am also campaigning against any possible closure of the Haven on Wulfstan Way.



Dan Greef

Labour
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This election is about Queen Edith's, and your local community. About protecting the very best of QE while at the same time finding solutions to problems as they arise. I want to be your local voice, your Labour councillor on the Labour run City Council. A Council that has already delivered 242 new council homes citywide and invested £100,000 in the climate change fund.

Cambridge's growth should never come at the cost of our local community's wellbeing. QE is at the forefront of this change, with challenges including increased parking in residential streets, insatiable housing development and the huge growth of the biomedical campus. I am standing because QE needs a strategy that stands up for local people. I will listen to what you say affects you and so I will work with the Biomedical Campus to reduce traffic and parking congestion. I will stand up to anti-social development that profits at the community's expense. I will fight to protect our green belt land and to be your champion. Together, we will keep the unique and beautiful character of QE.



George Pippas

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It has been a great privilege for me to serve the city of Cambridge and my community of Queen Edith's in eight years as your local Councillor, diligently looking after the interests of the ward. I was the Cambridge Mayor from May 2017 to May 2018, attending over 500 engagements and raising over £15,000 for the Sick Children's Trust at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

For eight years I have been working on improving the Addenbrooke's Hospital roundabout and delivering safe pedestrian crossings on Fendon Road and Hills Road. I am responsible for many improvements in Nightingale Park, and secured over £400,000 to be used for the refurbishment of the pavilion. I also persuaded the council to install rubbish and cigarette bins on streets around the hospital.

If re-elected, I will use my vast experience and the passion for my ward to carry on working towards making Queen Edith's one of the best places to live in. I live and work in the heart of the community; it has always been my priority to make my ward a safer, cleaner and a fairer place.



Elisabeth Whitebread

The Green Party
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As your Green councillor for Queen Edith's, I will prioritise taking action to prevent climate breakdown, improving transport infrastructure, and taking a tougher stance on new development proposals.

The council has paid lip service to the concerns of Cambridge residents by declaring a climate emergency, but has not backed it with action. Without specific targets and a timetable, their warm words mean nothing. I want to support the calls of local people and make Cambridge a leader on climate change, aiming to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Additionally, investment into improving transport infrastructure must be focused on making public transport convenient, affordable and an attractive alternative to driving, to reduce traffic jams and air pollution.

We've already shown the impact of having just one Green on the city council: supporting refugees, divestment from fossil fuels, and market traders. With a Green councillor for Queen Edith's, we could do even more to make local people's voices heard.