

Report 28-19
Appendix A

**South Downs National
Park Authority**

APPOINTMENT OF PARISH MEMBERS

ELECTION STATEMENTS

East Sussex Constituency

East Sussex Parishes Election Statements 2019

Mr Donald McBeth
Member of Ditchling Parish Council
Nominated by Ditchling Parish Council

I understand and love the South Downs National Park, as a rambler I have walked 2000 miles within its stunning beauty.

Many of you know me as an experienced councillor, as I was for many years Chair of the Lewes District Association of Local Councils, and board member for both the East Sussex Association of Local Councils, and the Sussex and Surrey Association of Local Councils.

I am currently Chair of Ditchling Parish Council, where we enjoy the protection of our Neighbourhood plan. The plan took us five years to produce, and as a result I am passionate about this and all other Neighbourhood and Local Plans, which in my opinion must be protected in the fight against the scourge of speculative development

If you vote for me as a member of the National Park Authority, I promise I will continue the fight to protect our cherished land

Mr Timothy Bryant
Member of East Dean and Friston Parish Council
Nominated by East Dean and Friston Parish Council

I have been put forward for nomination as a Parish Member of the South Downs National Park Authority by my local Parish, East Dean and Friston. I am presently Chairman of their Planning Committee and through this I have experienced first-hand the amount of pressure on the fabric and resources of the National Park. It is therefore imperative to make every effort to preserve this irreplaceable landscape while retaining access for visitors and maintaining the functioning of historic communities.

Given the challenges of the geographic spread of the National Park, I am keen to make sure the voices of those situated at the Eastern end of the Park are heard

Mrs Catherine Mary Gallagher
Member of Telscombe Town Council
Nominated by Telscombe Town Council

I am Catherine Gallagher and am a member of National Trust and Woodland Trust.

As a Townee originally from London who moved to the Telscombe area 30 years ago, I have a growing certainty of the importance of the South Downs National Park.

I am a Councillor on Telscombe Town and Peacehaven Town Councils and am Chair of their joint Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

For 12 years I have been actively involved with Saltdean Residents' Association. I am Treasurer of Greenhavens Network which is an umbrella group for community volunteers and Council representatives working on greenspace initiatives.

Telscombe has Telscombe Tye in its boundary, the only common land area going from chalk cliffs to the Downs within SDNP. The cliffs and sea are part of a Unesco biosphere area, SSSI. I have planted trees, cleared footpaths and produced a circular map to encourage access from the cliffs to the SDNP.

Mrs Vanessa Rowlands
Member of Cuckmere Valley Parish Council
Nominated by Cuckmere Valley Parish Council

I have been a resident of Litlington village for the past 16 years and have recently been elected onto the Cuckmere Valley Parish Council. In the recent local council elections, I stood as a candidate for the South Downs ward in Wealden District, motivated by the lack of representation that we had over the past 4 years.

The Seven Sisters County Park, Cuckmere Haven and Beachy Head are consistently the most visited parts of the SDNP, but being at the tail end of the park, we can feel disconnected from Midhurst. I aim to bridge that.

I am particularly interested in heritage landscapes and how future conservation of them will have to balance the reality of climate change and support biodiversity alongside tourism demands. I am looking forward to exploring these issues within the Heritage MA I start at Sussex University in September.

Mr Richard Waring
Member of Lewes Town Council
Nominated by Lewes Town Council

I live on the South Downs Way, just below New market Woods outside Lewes. For the past 8 years myself and my partner Anni have been volunteer rangers looking after the route from Housedean to Southease. I have also attended many training events as well as contributing to the magazine. I am passionate about the downs and want to preserve their inherent nature. With this in mind we have re-established a 2 acre nature meadow. Myself and Anni are very keen to make the Downs accessible to all and are looking to establish routes that are disable