

POLITICAL LIFE **ISSUE 44**

Our Magazine is published every other month and is freely available to our members

**Dec 2017 -
Jan 2018**

www.cenca.co.uk

Stay 'In Touch' with the
Corby & E Northants Conservative Association

Published by RM Boyd on behalf of Corby & E Northants Conservative Association and Tom Purslove, all at CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby, NN17 1SZ
Printed by Contract Printing Services Ltd., Unit J, Cavendish Courtyard, Sallow Road, Weldon North Industrial Estate, Corby, NN17 5DZ



WISHING ALL
MEMBERS AND
FRIENDS A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW
YEAR

**In Corby & East
Northants,
there are 708
fewer people
on out-of-work
benefits than
in 2010**



 **Conservatives: building a
country that works for everyone**

Source: ONS, 15 Nov 2017

Figures released show that 708 fewer people in our Constituency are relying on out of work benefits, meaning they can provide a better future for themselves and their families.

More people in Corby & East Northants have a regular pay packet, helping to build the sort of country that we all want to live in.

708 fewer people in our Constituency are relying on out of work benefits. Not just statistics – many more families can look forward to a better future.

Conservative Association Chairman's Report to Members

Cllr Helen Harrison (Association Chairman)

Nov 2017

My last Chairman's report came just before I headed off to Manchester for the Party Conference.

One of the things that I was not looking forward to, was the vile, vicious ranks of protesters, hurling insults at us as we went to and from the Conference venue. I'm not easily intimidated, but the experience we all had had in Manchester two years before was extremely unpleasant.

As it was, this year, the police managed the protesters well and we were able to go about our business free from intimidation.

Abuse from the Left has, however, continued apace. If you are a Tory at university, you are routinely told that you are an evil human being. Reasoned debate barely exists, it is easier to just keep quiet about your political beliefs.

The worst place for abuse is on social media, and it is here that the new brand of Corbynite activists ply their trade, trolling and intimidating anyone who expresses even a mildly Conservative view.

The aim is to shut down debate, make people afraid to speak up and silence us.

To a point, I think they are succeeding. Why bother to put your head above the parapet when the response could include the threat of violence against you?

However, we must push back. We cannot allow these people to shut down debate. We cannot allow them to dominate the agenda, by bullying and intimidating us. Now, more than ever, we need to fight our corner.



We saw how far Labour, under Jeremy Corbyn, came in the General Election. We can't sit back and let get him all the way to Downing Street.

To the voting public, our Party looks directionless, as if it is careering from one crisis to another. It is easy to get despondent and lose motivation

under these circumstances. But, despite all this, we are basically neck and neck with Labour in the polls – that is significant! Under these circumstances, they should have a large lead in the polls.

So, don't lose heart!
Keep up the good fight!
Be proud to be a Tory!
and shout about it from the rooftops!

Sincerely

Helen

BUDGET NOV 2017

Source: CBI Industrial Trends Survey, 21/11/2017

**UK Manufacturing
Order Books at
highest level
since 1988**

Meaning more people
with the security of a job

Conservatives

TOM PURSGLOVE

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

PPS to the Secretary of State for International Trade and
President of the Board of Trade



Nov 2017

I was delighted recently to have been asked by the Editor of the *Northamptonshire Telegraph* to write a monthly column for the newspaper - a vital source of local news for local people across North Northamptonshire, and so I was obviously more than happy to oblige. For my debut piece, I decided to write an update on the Corby Urgent Care Centre issue, which has been of such concern throughout this year, and I thought members would be interested to see what I wrote:

"Throughout 2017, my top priority as the MP for Corby and East Northamptonshire has arguably been the campaign to save the Corby Urgent Care Centre, which is supported by huge numbers of local people from across North Northamptonshire, and in particular, the superbly organised Save Corby Urgent Care Centre group.

Along with many others, I have worked tirelessly on this issue, and continue to do so. Over the past few months, I have organised a Westminster Hall debate on this issue, presented a petition signed by thousands of Corby and East Northamptonshire residents on the floor of the House, which was organised by the Save Corby Urgent Care Centre group, as well as raising the Urgent Care Centre in many questions and interventions on the floor of the House. In my contributions, I have reiterated how local people rely on this fantastic facility to ensure their healthcare needs are met, and emphasised the overwhelming strength of local feeling on this issue.

That is why I was delighted when, in September, it was announced that agreement had been reached between NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Group and Lakeside+ Ltd on a contract extension for the Urgent Care Centre, on a four month rolling basis which started on the 1st October. This was extremely welcome news, given that it took the 30th September cliff-edge out of the equation, which we all so feared. I certainly did not want to see a situation where the doors were shut, given how hard we all know it would be to get them reopened.

That said, the announcement by the local commissioners only dealt with the short-term, and longer-term, we must continue to make the case for Urgent Care facilities in the town - half the battle has been won, but we must soldier on and I will certainly be continuing to raise the Urgent Care Centre whenever I get the opportunity in Parliament, not least because Corby Clinical Commissioning Group is in the process of launching a public consultation about the facility's long-term future.

I would urge everyone across North Northamptonshire to make their views known as the facility is vital to us all, given its significance as part of the health infrastructure of the whole county, and

Continued>>>>

Tom Pursglove, MP—continued>>>

most notably in relieving the pressures on the A&E at Kettering General Hospital – a point my two North Northamptonshire colleagues, Peter Bone MP and Philip Hollobone MP, continue to join me in stressing. On the much debated issue of cost, I am convinced that this can be addressed by improving access to existing GP services in Corby, by ensuring more residents are able to see their doctor on the same day – in turn reducing the cost of providing the Urgent Care Centre service, by reducing the number of those needing to use it. The two issues cannot be treated in isolation.

I am hugely proud of the genuine community campaign we have seen to secure the immediate future of the Corby Urgent Care Centre, but of course, our efforts must not end here. I will be meeting with the CCG in the next few weeks to obtain a full update on their ongoing consultation work, and at that meeting, I will again reiterate my adamant position: that we must retain urgent care facilities in Corby.

As that process evolves, I would urge all local people to make their views on the Urgent Care Centre known to both their local MP, and to the Corby CCG – together, we must make the case and leave the commissioners in no doubt about the path they should take."

Finally, I just wanted to take this opportunity to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and to thank everyone for their hard work and support throughout this year - after a rollercoaster political year, you all deserve a few welcome days of rest and relaxation with your loved ones!

Onwards to 2018!

Tom

Tom Pursglove, MP for Corby & East Northamptonshire

TOM PURSGLOVE, MP's WEEKLY ADVICE SURGERIES

As your local MP, Tom believes it is extremely important to be as accessible as possible, in order to be able to best help with any problems or concerns that constituents have. As such, unlike most MPs, he holds weekly advice surgeries, both in Corby and in East Northamptonshire. The venues for his surgeries are:

Corby: Corby VCS, The TA Building, Elizabeth Street, Corby, NN17 1PN

Irthlingborough: Irthlingborough Children's Centre, Scarborough St., Irthlingborough, NN9 5TT

Raunds: The Hall, Thorpe St, Raunds, NN9 6LT.

Oundle: Oundle Baptist Church, 1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle, PE8 4BG

Thrapston: Thrapston Library, High Street, Thrapston, NN14 4JJ

To book an appointment, please telephone 020 7219 8043, as Tom has decided to operate his surgeries on an appointments basis, in order to ensure that constituents do not have to rush through their concerns. This approach also allows Tom to provide immediate help - he often makes a start on casework matters prior to an appointment, to try and resolve concerns more quickly, whilst it also allows him to seek any appropriate advice, or obtain clarification on technical points, in advance of the meeting.

CONSERVATIVE POLICY FORUM (CPF)

The Conservative Policy Forum was designed to allow members to have some input regarding Party Policy but the last election campaign seemed to indicate that little note appeared to be made of our discussions. This has led to some who attended our meetings becoming disillusioned. This is a shame as in the past some good discussions were held.

So members may be wondering what has happened with the Forum meetings. These have been on hold for the last couple of years and the process has now been changed. It has become digitalised and is somewhat more complicated to organise.

Cllr Helen Howell has taken over from George Whittaker as CPF Chairman and she is trying to get a meeting arranged for interested members.

Your Association contact details:

Tickets for all events can be ordered through the Conservative Association Office (Ann)

Phone: 01536 200255

Email: office@cenca.co.uk

Mail: CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby, NN17 1SZ

Web: www.cenca.co.uk

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A COUNCILLOR?

Although the County elections have just ended we still need volunteers to stand as councillors for the next elections.

It is likely that a number of Wards may become vacant due to retirement or relocation and it is very important that we have good members, who are able to act as part of a team, to step in to these wards.

The Conservative Councillors Association holds regular training sessions to keep councillors updated on current events and they even give assistance in learning public speaking.

It can be very rewarding to be a councillor. You will take part in making decisions which will affect your community as well and you can help local people with their problems.

The numerous surveys taken over many years mean that we have an extensive data-base of likely supporters in all wards ready for the next election campaign.

We know that there are places where Labour have dominated for many years but the County elections and the General Election showed us that support is growing for our Party - we are gradually gaining a foothold in those hard-to-win areas.

Councillors receive remuneration to cover their expenses so you will not be out of pocket.

If you would like to learn more then just contact Ann at the office and she will put you in touch with the Management Team.

We have already had a number of names submitted and all of these plus any further names will be examined by the selection committee. All will be advised of the process in due course .

Our webpage is at www.cenca.co.uk
and contains the latest news about our Party.

Our candidate, Tom Pursglove, has his own website: www.vote Pursglove.co.uk

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SOME OF THE NOVEMBER BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS

More money for the NHS and schools than ever before



NHS

Conservatives

Source: Autumn Budget 2017

6699

This is a **business-friendly Budget**.

The Chancellor's vision for an inclusive economy includes a set of measures that will **boost confidence** across the small business community.

MIKE CHERRY OBE, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
FEDERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES



We'll deliver **300,000 new homes on average every year** - the biggest annual increase in housing supply since the 1970s

Conservatives

Source: Autumn Budget 2017



We're helping people buy their first home

by abolishing stamp duty for over **80%** of first-time buyers

FROZEN FUEL DUTY

We've frozen fuel duty for the longest period in 40 years - saving the average car driver £850 since 2010

Source: Autumn Budget 2017



We're taking action to cut down on single-use plastics that harm **our marine life**

Conservatives



6699

We must invest to secure **A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR BRITAIN** and at this Budget that is what we choose to do.

PHILIP HAMMOND, CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

THE BUDGET 2017

Since 2010 we have cut the deficit

by **three quarters**

Source: Autumn Budget 2017

OTHER BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE FEATURED ELSEWHERE IN THIS MAGAZINE

Rupert Matthews

Conservative MEP for the East Midlands



Nov 2017

DRIVERLESS CARS



As the Energy Spokesman in the European Parliament one of my interests is technology and how the industry is developing regarding sustainable energy and driverless cars. I am particularly interested in how this developing industry will affect people in the East Midlands including you in Corby.

Experts have predicted that they could be on our roads by 2021. With this in mind it is vital that we make the necessary investments in research technology and to support development. It is also necessary that the right regulations are in place to ensure high quality and safe vehicles are on our roads.

The UK government with the able support from Corby's own Member of Parliament, Tom Pursglove, has invested over £100 million in Research and Development which has been matched by the industry. These projects involve more than 150 individual organisations from SMEs to global companies. We are also investing £100 million again matched by the industry to support the creation of test facilities for driverless cars.

Both members States and the European Union have been working with international working groups to revise regulations for developing automated vehicles. In the Horizon 2020 Transport research programme the EU has been funding research regarding automated roads.

Within this there have been debates regarding cyber security and data protection ensuring this is secure along with issues such as liability.

It is vital that the right regulations are in place in order to address these issues and ensure people's safety, however we must seek to ensure businesses and projects are not over burdened with regulations which could hinder development.

With this in mind the UK government have been working hard to ensure Britain could become a global leader in the design, development and use of these vehicles. But only if we enjoy the right conditions to encourage that business to grow. They have already introduced the Automated and Electric Vehicles Bill to make sure the UK is prepared for the changes that driverless cars will bring.

Nissan and Volvo have already decided to test autonomous driving technology in the UK because of the positive steps we are taking and we hope that soon we start to see these developments in technology reach the roads in Corby. These developments are among reasons why I believe that Britain has a bright future.

With opportunities like these we shall thrive.

Rupert Matthews, MEP

Do keep in touch with me via [email](#), [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).

rupert.matthews@europarl.europa.eu <https://twitter.com/RMatthewsMEP>

You can also write to me at: 1a King Edward Court, King Edward Street, Nottingham, NG1 1EW
If you go to my website at <https://www.rupertmatthews.org.uk> you can opt-in to receive my monthly bulletin by email

A READER WRITES

Well here we are edging towards another Christmas in Corby and I do hate to think what rubbish is going to be dumped onto our streets in Corby afterwards. We already have tons of rubbish, household goods, dog mess and general litter each day that Labour's Corby Borough Council do not remove on a regular basis. I do not know how this dumping of white goods started in Corby that hopefuls put out hoping that the 'Scrap Man' will collect and deal with. Assorted stuff is left in the streets for someone to report or remove. Yes, there are those who may find some of this stuff useful but the majority of it is not. Just two roads away from me I have seen a complete 3 piece suite, a double and 2 single beds and a fridge/freezer. I guess it is someone who has moved out or done a 'Moonlight' and can't be bothered to take it to the tip. I wonder if any one saw these people dump this rubbish and reported the offender or has everyone just given up as C.B.C just do not want to know about it. We and some neighbours have complained to our Labour councillors and been labelled 'Trouble makers', But how can decent people ever get areas cleaned up as when you next contact the counsellors, they then totally ignore you?

Worst of all is the complacency of our COUNCILLORS not bothering to walk around their elected wards in the town to see the state of the dumping/bad roads, pavements, disgusting attempts of grass mowing, dog mess, bins full to overflowing (not many people use bins any more), the churned up grass areas caused by cars driving over any piece of pavement & grass because they are too lazy to walk to their vehicles. Some responsibilities are down to the County Council but if our own County Councillors for Corby do not 'Kick off' at their County meetings then N.C.C won't do anything for Corby. SHAME ON THEM ALL.

I have been discharged from K.G.H recently after 6 days following emergency admittance, but I am still unaware of the exact problem I have, SO ARE THEY, because they needed my bed I was discharged before having further procedures to get to the bottom of my pain. In A & E I was dealt with very fast and well, being admitted at just after midnight as a scan etc gave cause for concern. From that point I was given understanding, help, care from all the ward medical staff. I cannot fault any one of them for my treatment and it was so obvious how hard worked and stressed they all are in this wonderful job they do.

I am afraid I cannot say the same for the various registrars/doctors that came to see me (with the exception of one British doctor). Language was a huge problem for them as well as myself, they couldn't express in English, I couldn't understand them. When I asked questions most of the time I was given blank looks, no answers.

In the area I was treated in I was told by two different members of staff that 8 had left that area alone in the last month, only ONE staying in the medical profession, as frustration is high and morale low!

I will now have to wait 4-6 weeks for another consultation as an outpatient, if I am lucky? Then it is likely to drag on for perhaps years or until I am seriously ill. Because I have been discharged does not mean my medical problem has gone, they know what is wrong - how it can be fixed -but beds are required.

This is not just down to people living longer as is always stated, but, too many people in Britain and more coming every day. Time those in Government had the honesty to say so.

Denise Sellars [Member]

The writer's comments are obviously their own opinion which do not necessarily reflect the views of other members, the Association or its management.

LEAVE OR REMAIN?

Has the NHS in England really been losing EU nationals from its staff since Britain voted to leave the EU?

* Foundation years 1 & 2

**Scientific/Therapeutic & Technical.

Source: *The Spectator* 18/11/17 an NHS Digital

	In post 30 Jun 2016	In post 30 Jun 2017
Doctors	9,695	10,136
Registrars	3,190	3,215
Trainee Doctors *	779	950
Nurses & Health Visitors	20,907	20,618
Midwives	1,220	1,247
Ambulance Staff	250	386
Other **	6,112	6,957

TOM PURSGLOVE MP

*Member of Parliament
for Corby & East
Northamptonshire*



CONTACT TOM

Write to me:

Tom Pursglove MP
House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

t: 020 7219 8043

e: pursglovet@parliament.uk

f: [fb.com/TomPursgloveMP](https://www.facebook.com/TomPursgloveMP)

I also produce a fortnightly electronic Westminster Report, outlining my work both locally and in Parliament – please email me if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

*I hold weekly advice surgeries
in both Corby, and in
East Northamptonshire in
Irthlingborough, Raunds,
Thrapston and Oundle, offering
help and support to local people.*

*To arrange an appointment,
please email me, or call:*

020 7219 8043

RAY JACKSON - REJUVENATION

Nov 2017

When Theresa May came to the Conservative Club a few years ago and mingled with the crowd we were all impressed by the detailed knowledge of the issues we raised with her. There was none of the sweeping generalisations or avoidance of the difficult parts of the answer. She played it straight, with charm and clarity. It was enough for me to shortlist her as a party leader after my favourite at the time, Ken Clarke. My respect for her has not changed and I am not surprised to see her now slugging it out in Parliament keeping our grip on power. There was a self inflected electoral wound and mistakes arising from character flaws of some senior politicians around her whose lack of decency and judgement have played straight into the hands of those who prefer to advertise their presence rather than get on with the hard job of running the Party agenda with a small majority.

The next few months are going to be hard. I have tried for my own benefit to assess the likely outcome by examining the positive attributes we have as an Association and whether they are sufficient to beat a strong Labour attack.

We have a very determined leader who is very strongly motivated to compensate for her mistake in calling an election and misjudging how many of Nigel Farage's people would return to our colours. We must resist those who call for her replacement. There is not anyone else. She is strongly motivated and is able enough to redeem herself. Then we have a very good member of Parliament, a man who has never ceased in expressing his genuine pride in holding his office, who works untiringly on his communications with us long after the honeymoon following his election and, because of his energy and charm is increasing his number of contacts in the constituency. He is the rock on which we must build our defences.

After 30 years working in the Constituency and having been disappointed so often, it is a great comfort to know that at last we have a first class MP.



Ray Jackson

Secondly we have a sound, if imperfect, organisational structure. The Management Committee and the Executive meet regularly with full programmes for debate. It seems to me that usually everyone present has something to say. We do not have many shrinking violets. About half the Management Committee has been changed in the last few months. The Executive Committee rarely has a full attendance, but we are never short of people with views. As the battle with Labour hots up, we may have to meet more frequently to dip and dive in our opposition and to hear the ideas of member.

Thirdly, and here I am quite weak. There must be young Conservatives somewhere. Jeremy Corbyn seems to have attracted many young Labourites, but there must be many other young people who can see the difference between childish idealism and the practical world where wealth has to first be earned before it can be distributed. Our keen, young and new Deputy Chairman, Political, Harriett Pentland, on the Management Committee believes there is a lively group of youngsters in Finedon and I bet she is right. She is planning to bring them together. If ever there was a time to come to the aid of the Party and to help to Harriett, this is it.

Tom got his 'Curry Suppers' going at the Club and as he gets busier and busier in the 'House', we should try to take them over. The diners were keen and generally not the usual familiar faces. We have always gone on about increasing our social activities and not really done much about it.

Continued>>>>

Ray Jackson continued>>>

Now necessity urges us to make a move.

Fourthly, voluntary organisations generally are in decline and we all know this. A common reason is that people can be attracted away by social media. We need to set up and use a website, Twitter, Facebook, Linked In and whatever else keeps people in contact with us. We need to set up a couple of experts for the next few years or so to go through all the political news and relay that which is relevant to our young people.

We need to tell them about what the Conservatives are doing about educational grants, housing availability, transport costs, saving schemes, job opportunities and so on. We need a small communications hub for social media with the aim of collecting and disseminating news.

Obviously Tom's office would be a regular source of information as would our local councillors. There maybe some costs, some subsidy to make this happen, but we may find that not only do we get more young people to listen to us. They may also begin to tell us what they expect from an active, keen and rejuvenated local Conservative Association – even if it is driven by necessity.

Ray Jackson

If you would like to comment on Ray's thoughts you can email the magazine editor and your email will be forwarded on to him

A USEFUL REMINDER FOR YOU

Now that the old round tax disc is no longer used it is easy to forget about your MOT (most people MOT their car at about the time their tax is due).



A new service offered by the DVLC is that they are able to send you a reminder by email about the MOT renewal date.

Go to: <https://www.reminders.mot-testing.service.gov.uk/> and sign up for free reminder of your MOT date from DVLA.

An interesting aside: George Osborne's plan to save £10M by getting rid of the car tax disc has actually seen three times the number of untaxed cars on the road resulting in a loss of £107M to the Exchequer.

BUDGET NOV 2017

Britain's
economy has

GROWN

by 15.8%
since 2010

Source: Autumn Budget 2017

**CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE FOR
CORBY CONSERVATIVE CLUB**

WWW.CORBYCONSERVATIVECLUB.NET

200 Club Monthly Draws

Monthly Prize - £30

January	44	David George
February	115	Roy Davies
March	77	Mrs Rosemary Grove
April	45	Ray Jackson
May	75	John Miley
June	74	Andrew Howard
July	81	Mrs Una Roe
August	125	Mrs Isobel Richardson
September	135	Christopher Cater
October	19	Mrs Mary Shirville
November	101	William Roe
December	31	Mrs Penny Escombe

The draw for the big Annual Prizes will be made at the Christmas Lunch

A note from Councillor Rob McKellar.

"As you may be aware, I stepped down as Leader of the Conservative Group on Corby Borough Council to pursue a career opportunity. I am delighted to announce that Cllr Kevin Watt has been elected as our new leader and that he has taken up the role from 1st November 2017.

We have chosen an extremely talented and able new leader and I have absolute confidence that Kevin will make a colossal success of the job. Huge congratulations to him and I wish him every success in the role.

Kevin has my full and unwavering support, and the whole Conservative Group is standing united behind him."

Cllr Rob McKellar

You can read Kevin's first report elsewhere in this issue of the Magazine.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Members will need to have renewed prior to the next AGM in order to be able to attend that meeting. If any member is in doubt as to whether their membership is up to date please contact the office. Members can contact the office for a printable pdf form as an attachment to be sent to them via email. Forms are also available by post. A form for payment by S.O. can also be supplied on request.

Anyone who is interested in joining the Association is invited to contact the Association Office and request a membership form or go to the Conservative Party website and join via their pages.

Please note that as the changeover to CCHQ administration of membership takes over members will begin to receive renewal notices from that office. If you still have a paper membership card you should contact the office regarding payment.

BUDGET NOV 2017

A typical taxpayer pays

£1,075

less income tax

than they did in 2010.



Dear Member,

As this government gets on with the business of leaving the European Union, I want to make sure that the road ahead is clear. As the EU Withdrawal Bill enters Committee Stage in Parliament, we want to put the precise date and time of our exit on the first page.

On 29 March 2019 at 11pm, the United Kingdom will leave the EU.

This date and time is being put into law. Which means that from 11pm on 29 March 2019, the UK will no longer be an EU Member State. Our laws will once again be made in our country. And the courts that interpret those laws will sit here in Britain.

It also means that the existing body of EU law will become British law. So this provides certainty and clarity for all businesses and families across the country from the very moment we leave the EU.

However people voted in the referendum, I believe that the country now wants all parties to come together and negotiate the best possible Brexit deal for Britain.

And let me be clear. We will not tolerate attempts to use the passage of this Bill as a way of slowing down or blocking our withdrawal from the EU.

The British people were clear. And this government is clear. On 29 March 2019 at 11pm, the United Kingdom will leave the EU.

Sincerely,

Theresa May
Prime Minister and Leader of the Conservative Party

8,020

**NEW APPRENTICESHIPS
IN CORBY & E NORTHANTS
SINCE 2010**

 **Conservatives**

Source: DfE, FE data library: apprenticeships, 14 September

Corby – officially the greatest town in the UK and Ireland!

Nov 2017

Corby has officially beaten all other places in the UK and Ireland to be named as the Great Town for 2018 in the Academy of Urbanism Awards, held on 8th November 2017 in London.

Corby made the finals, alongside strong competition from Coventry and Milton Keynes, for the Great Town Award 2018.

On nominating Corby, the Academy wrote:

'Corby is a town being transformed. Still barely halfway through the 30 year growth plan set out in the Regeneration Framework in 2003, its revival has been phoenix-like, emerging from post-industrial decay following the closure of the steelworks and the loss of 11,500 jobs in 1980. Corby demonstrates what can be achieved through civic ambition and a commitment to growth and today is the fastest-growing borough outside London.'

'This has been achieved through a coordinated programme of regeneration, renewal and reinvention and partnership working. It is more than a regeneration programme but a unique vision that is creating a modern living and working environment. Housing and commercial growth, new and improved infrastructure and public facilities demonstrate how Corby is challenging old perceptions and creating a vibrant town.'

'Over the last 20 years, Corby has seen the highest proportion of new home sales over anywhere in the UK. The town centre now boasts the new International Pool, the Corby Cube, Willow Place shopping centre and a remodelled pedestrian friendly environment.'

'The opening of the railway station has put the town within an hour of London St Pancras'

How Members Can Help the Party

1. Join the Patrons' Club
2. Join the 200 Club
3. Support our functions
4. Stand for Council
5. Volunteer to help
6. Attend our Task Force meetings

The Patrons' Club costs £120 p.a. for single membership or £180 p.a. for joint membership.

The 200 Club costs £15 per number p.a. The monthly draw is for £30 and the annual draw has two prizes of £100 and £50.

Full details available from the office

The Task Force meets regularly with Tom Pursglove, MP who gives Westminster and local updates followed by campaigning

BUDGET NOV 2017



We're investing
£44 billion to
support Britain's
housing market

And we'll deliver
300,000 homes
on average per year

Corby Council Update from Kevin Watt the Conservative Group Leader.

Over the past few years Corby Borough Council's finances have moved to a healthier state. This thankfully is due to Conservative measures.

Firstly, we requested the involvement of the LGA to review the internal processes and decision making within CBC. This need was highlighted by the Audit Commission's criticism of CBC on 4 points. The Cube (obviously) Tesco Land sale, Kingswood Regeneration and acting as loan guarantor to a private company.

Secondly, the '*elephant in the room*' when Labour councillors are excitedly slapping each other on the back congratulating themselves on how splendidly they have turned around the council's finances is the *New Homes Bonus*. Without the Conservative New Homes Bonus of over £3million per year CBC would be in very severe financial constraint. It would have difficulty funding the repayment of the debt it ran up as the result of bad decisions and poor democratic oversight.

The 100% overspend of the original £25million Cube budget, failure to insure against losing a litigation case and failure to secure reasonable reparation for the Tesco land had run up debts never seen before by Corby.

Corby had gone from having cash in the bank to owing tens of millions. Granted that there have been Formula Grant reductions from Central Government but the Conservative New Home Bonus has enabled CBC to pay down its general fund debt and boost its savings.

Future division of the New Homes Bonus may change as the County Council tackles the

increasing cost of adult social care and require more funding. At present it's right that CBC are saving some of the New Homes Bonus in preparation for a potential change.

CBC also continue to diversify their property portfolio to bring in funding that will support services to our community. The purchase of the Innovation Hub is an example of this.

The irony of these Conservative measures is that Corby Labour Group is off the hook for its previous financial mismanagement, services are not being squeezed as they are at County with its reduced central government funding. But county council funding is a topic for another time.

Ellie Kevin Watt

Leader of the Conservative Group

BUDGET NOV 2017



“”
We must invest to secure
**A BRIGHT FUTURE
FOR BRITAIN**
and at this Budget
that is what we choose to do.

PHILIP HAMMOND, CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

THE BUDGET 2017

Just a thought: Wonder why the Brexit process is becoming so tortuously difficult? Recently, a prominent Eurocrat gave me his view, painting a clear and unequivocal picture of the mindset in Brussels. '*The Empire does not tolerate dissenters,*' he explained. '*Britain cannot be allowed to leave the EU. And if you do, we will make sure we destroy you to make an example.*'
Sarah Vine in the Daily Mail: 15/11/2017

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Nov 2017

Northamptonshire County Council has reached a crossroads concerning funding. It has been obvious for the past few years that we would reach the point of having to present to the public a harsh picture over continuing to provide non statutory services. This does not mean that the services people want to continue have to stop – it just means there has to be found another way to fund them.

Northamptonshire currently has 3 tiers of local government and if we all find a way to work together I hope we will be able to save at least some of the services. We are in a consultation phase at present on part of the 2018/19 budget but there is still some way to go before the final budget is approved in February.

On a more positive note I am delighted that the move of 2000 staff from 12 old offices in various parts of Northampton into one modern office is not only producing large monthly savings in running costs but it is stopping silo working and we will reap the benefits of staff working much closer together thus reducing costs over the next 12 months. Some of that benefit will show when the final draft budget is produced in December.



Cllr Heather Smith

There has been very public criticism of the way Northamptonshire County Council is run and it is vital that all parts of the layers of governance gain an understanding of the costly and complex services the County has to run before making public statements. Apart from looking after

children in care and many with severe mental issues we also have a large cohort of individuals with both learning and physical difficulties to care for throughout their lives. Our current top priority is to assist our hospital colleagues to get patients out of hospital as quickly as possible and back into their homes with support whenever possible.

My final plea is the County needs many more individuals to form part of home care teams as frequently we cannot return patients home if there are insufficient carers to keep patients safe. As always we also need many more foster carers and NCC would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in becoming a foster carer. If you check our website at:

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk you will find how to register your interest.

Heather

*Cllr Mrs Heather Smith, Chartered MCIPD
Leader of the Council
Northamptonshire County Council*



COMMUNITY JUSTICE SECURITY

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER STEPHEN MOLD



Nov 2017

As Police and Crime Commissioner I meet with many groups and people across communities throughout our county. A lot of people mention the contact they have with the Force's Control Room and I think it is important to understand what a good job they do given the immense pressure they face each and every day.

The Force Control Room answers 90% of all 999 calls within 10 seconds and 80% of non-urgent 101 calls are answered within 30 seconds. In the last eighteen months the Northamptonshire Police Control Room has received more than 613,000 calls, of which 184,000 were 999 calls. In addition, the Force also provides a backup service for Leicestershire Police, answering their 999 calls when call volumes are high.

People calling 999 and 101 rightly deserve a good service when calling the police. The last thing you want when you call 999 is to be left waiting. I'm very pleased that here in Northamptonshire we are one of the best in the region for answering emergency calls promptly.



We know there is huge pressure on control room staff across the country as call volumes rise and requests for help from the police increases. Officers and staff in Northamptonshire should be commended. They have worked really hard to successfully manage demand, prioritising calls and putting an effective triage system in place so that emergency calls are responded to quickly. Taking just 10 seconds to answer 90% of 999 calls is impressive.

The public can help the Force by making sure they only dial 999 in an emergency and calls to 101 are usually answered within 30 seconds. The Force also double check that these calls do not require an emergency response before they prioritise them. They also try to deal with non-urgent queries as promptly as they can so people are not left hanging on the line for too long, however their priority will continue to be answering 999 calls as speedily as possible.

I am very proud of the work our force undertakes and our police officers and police staff in Northamptonshire do an incredible job, with some often putting their own lives at risk to keep us safe. The announcement of a pay increase for officers is certainly well-deserved and very welcome. All police personnel should be recognised and rewarded for their hard work. However, I am concerned about this being announced without the government explaining how this additional pay expenditure will be funded.

Continued>>>>

Stephen Mold— continued>>>

Without further monies coming from the centre we will be left with a financial shortfall. We need a fair funding formula for policing otherwise we will continue to see inequalities and forces will carry on experiencing underfunding. The funding formula for Northamptonshire has long been an issue which really needs to be addressed.

I have spoken to the government and I hope ministers recognise that although a wage rise is greatly supported we need to understand exactly how it's being funded, as it cannot be delivered within existing budgets without very real risks to policing.

The next financial year will undoubtedly be a challenging one, but I am confident that by

working together, we can get our message across to central government to ensure they recognise the growth of our county and the pressure this is putting on all public services.

As ever, I am always happy to provide any help or assistance and can be contacted at: Commissioner@northantspcc.pnn.police.uk

And finally, it may be a bit early but can I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Stephen Mold

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire

The Corby Conservative Club now has a new website which contains lots of information about what is happening at the Club.

Go to www.corbyconservativeclub.net to learn more about the Club. At the website you will find a copy of the Club's magazine 'Club Life'. The magazine has details of forthcoming events and will let you know of other organisations which use the Club such as 'Weight Watchers'.

A copy of the Club magazine is also on [our](#) webpage at www.cenca.co.uk and you can see a copy by clicking on the tab 'Corby Conservative Club'.

The Club has free wifi. Just ask a member of staff for the login code.

The Club operates a fine restaurant from Wednesday to Sunday - why not pop in and enjoy a good meal or bar snack when in the area? The Restaurant is open to non-members.

Of course, Party members are very welcome to join and support this excellent Club!



If you are in Corby shopping and looking for somewhere to eat why not try the Corby Conservative Club. Lunchtime snacks available from Wednesday to Sunday for under £7. Non-members welcome. Phone 01536 203711 for details.

THE MISERABLE OLD GIT - 'THE BUBBLE, BUDGET AND BREXIT'

Hello everyone,

Well, I thought that I would wait until after the chancellor's Budget to write my regular article. I did and what a 'damp squid' that was I really expected Mr. Hammond to lay forth the Conservative Party's agenda in Government for the next few years and what I got was a nondescript piece of proposed legislation which would not excite even the most boring of individuals - were they to be 'excitable!'. It is with heavy heart that I must report that the UK economy is predicted to rise at just over 5% over the next four years.

I have however had one brilliant idea - for the renaming of an ancient, trustworthy and venerable document. Instead of the daily goings on in Parliament being called 'Hansard' I think it should be retitled the manual of 'Sex, Power and Money'. What a sorry time we have witnessed in the last month or so with all the shenanigans in the House and that's not all; we appear to have lost three Cabinet Ministers, at a time when they are so few and far between.

Please tell me - what happens to people when they get to Westminster? Do their personalities change when they enter that bubble. For sure the goings on of the last two months or so have done nothing to endear their employers - the voting public - to them. Indeed, if half of what goes on in Parliament happened in the Company I worked for then there would have been fewer staff immediately. I really thought that the expenses scandal had sorted this problem out but how wrong I was.

On another connected subject how can it be that some MPs require enormous expenses and copious numbers of staff to complete their job and other MPs (doing exactly that same job) spend almost nothing and employ no staff. Surely it's now time for a general rule or two to be employed in both expenses and staff employment and both these activities need to be under independent and very public scrutiny. I would volunteer to be part of that body!



Now my last point - Brexit. Well that's all I really need to say isn't it. We are no further forward, in fact I believe we have gone into reverse. Where in normal life is there an agreement signed to say that at termination there is a 'divorce bill' to pay. If there is one for Brexit then I for one would like to know who signed that pre-nuptial contract. They should have lost their job years ago. Our negotiation skills appear to be poor to say the least and I have no hope of us earning the clean, fast and effective Brexit we were promised.

That's all for now but I have one last unpleasant prediction - I believe we will have a new Prime Minister by summer 2018. Mrs. May cannot survive the back-biting and in-fighting of her present Parliamentary Party. Shame to say but her leadership skills are not what they should be. Mrs. May - do not allow your Parliamentary Party to shoot you and this Country in the foot.....

MOG

MOG is not a member of our Association and his comments are obviously his own opinion which do not necessarily reflect the views of our members, Association or its management.



JEREMY CORBYN CLAIMS WE 'UNDERFUND' THE NHS

"The UK is spending what we would expect given its wealth... the argument that we should spend more simply because we spend much less than the rest of Europe isn't enough any more."

FACT CHECK

Professor John Appleby and Mr Ben Gershlick, Nuffield Trust, 4 August 2017

FACT: We spend a higher proportion of our GDP on Health than many other European countries including Finland, Spain and Italy.

Copy for the next issue must be received by 10th January please.

Contributions and letters from members are welcome but some editing may be necessary by the editor.

You can email the editor, Ray Boyd at

ray.boyd@talktalk.net

All emails will be acknowledged.

The Association of Conservative Clubs



The ACC takes an active role in

Fundraising
National Draws Society
Membership • Campaigning
Constituency Accommodation

Join your local Conservative Club
and help the ACC support the Party

Chairman: Rt Hon Alistair Burt, MP
Chief Executive: Lord Smith of Hindhead, CBE

www.toryclubs.co.uk 0207 222 0843

POLITICAL LIFE

Our magazine is available as a small printed booklet. For some time now issues have also been made available in a format suitable for reading on ipads and this version is emailed to members.

A copy of the last few magazines is also available on our website at

www.cenca.co.uk

Printed circulation is restricted to Conservative Party members.

Non-members who would like to receive our magazine regularly will need to join the Association. Please contact Ann at our office by email at office@cenca.co.uk or telephone 01536 200255.

Our address is
CENCA, Cottingham
Road, Corby,
NN17 1SZ