

I am seventy years old and retired.

My wife, Liz, and I moved to this area in November 2017, after living in Norfolk for the previous thirty three years. Before that I lived in London and Liz lived in north Kent . Most of my working life was spent in credit management, in various companies in the building, meat and fruit and vegetable trades (during the early 1980s I was credit manager for Aaronson Bros PLC, the London-based company that owned the chipboard factory in South Molton).

For the last thirteen years of my working life I was a customer service adviser for a telephone company.

After retiring at sixty I was a volunteer at a Cheshire Home for seven years, and was also employed there as part-time volunteer coordinator for two years. Liz and I now volunteer for the Calvert Trust.

I feel privileged to live in such a beautiful place and want to play a part in protecting the quality of life we enjoy here. The challenge is to allow enough change to enable the area to flourish without spoiling that which makes it special.

I have seen the ravages caused by development in areas of Norfolk and, before that, in Kent and other counties within commuting distance of London. We have a growing population which needs homes and jobs but we must ensure there remain places of beauty such as ours, not just for us, but for those who can only experience it as a visitor.

As an "incomer" I have the deepest respect for those whose families have lived here for generations and look forward to learning as much of the local history as possible.

Whether long established or recent arrivals we all have a future to share and work together to make it a bright one.