

CLlr Richard Wallace – Biography

I was brought up in Middlesex and settled in Folkestone around 1986. I am a retired Chartered Surveyor, I worked on valuing commercial and domestic properties for many years in Folkestone and before that in Brighton. I was elected to the Town Council in 2004 and have been re-elected ever since for Morehall and then Broadmead with a Town rather than District-centred view and a particular interest in trees and in planning.

I took the main initiative in setting up a budget specifically for tree planting and a Liaison Committee with the County Council and others in the 2000s because the Town formerly known as 'Floral Folkestone' was being denuded of street trees due to a KCC Highways budget that had little or nothing in it for replanting. This has kept planting in Folkestone streets and, as an occasional help to FHDC, in parks, at a viable level for years. The tree budget has been increased by 50% since 2010. Detailed liaison every year prevents sites being tarmacked over or trees removed by hostile neighbours. I frequently appear for the Town Council and Broadmead at District planning meetings and am the current Planning Committee Chair.