

POLLING DAY

In Onchan you can cast one vote each for up to 7 candidates. Simply place an X next to the names of the people you would like to see elected.

It's your village, make your choice count!

If you have difficulties getting to the Polling Station on April 24th I would be happy to arrange a lift for you.

If you are not on the Island on April 24th you may cast your vote in advance via an absent voter form. I would be happy to supply this form to you and help explain it to you.

Unfortunately I may not be able to speak to everyone in the village in person. If you would like to speak to me directly please call or e-mail me, I will be happy to arrange a time to come to see you directly.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Why I'm standing as a Liberal Vannin Party Candidate

The Liberal Vannin Party offers a unique framework for people around the Island to work together to achieve more than they can do alone. A Liberal Vannin Candidate is more than just one person - they are supported by a growing network of experienced and skilled people who can help and advise on a broad range of issues.

Put simply, the Liberal Vannin Party believes in working together, as a team, in order to help you and your local community create a policy for the future benefit of all.

The Liberal Vannin Party believes in honesty, fairness and accountability throughout Government. These are ideals I strongly support.

The Liberal Vannin Party offers representation from local to national level without the normal rivalry and one-upmanship of Manx politics.

Unlike independent candidates, as a member of the Liberal Vannin Party I am accountable not only to you, but also to our central branch which meets monthly. This means I will be regularly and publicly challenged to be sure I keep the promises made in my manifesto.

Steve Babb



Peter Karran, MHK
Leader of the
Liberal Vannin Party

Steve Babb has impressed me in the way he understands how we need to ensure we have a more transparent system of Government if we are to protect the social improvements made over the last 20 years.

His experience of working in both the public and private sector should be a real asset to him as a Commissioner as well as his sincere commitment to the future being a young family man.

Onchan Parish Election

24th April 2008

VOTE



Steve Babb

VOTE Steve Babb



Representation of the People Act 1995 - published by Steve Babb,
7 Buttermere Drive, Lakeside Gardens, Onchan.

Bringing politics back to the people

Dear Voter,

Thank you for taking the time to read my manifesto.

My name is Steve Babb. I am 35, married to Louise with two children, Charlotte (4) and Thomas (1).

I grew up in Onchan, went to Onchan Primary School which Charlotte now attends and following a period of time living and working in the UK, Louise and I chose to return here to bring up our children.

I work for a local life assurance company as a project manager and have previously worked for the Water Authority as part of the project team delivering the new water treatment works on Glencrutchery Road.

I am sure that many of you can easily name the three MHKs who represent Onchan, but how many of the ten Commissioners can you name?

During the past four years, the Commissioners have had a number of major decisions to make, including:

- merging the rural and urban areas of the village
- reducing the number of Commissioners from 10 to 7, meaning a majority of 4 is required to pass proposals in meetings
- rates have gone up this year by 9%, spending by 18%
- an offer of a very large investment in the village by Manx Sport & Recreation was turned down
- the cost of the redevelopment of the Pennington Hall facility has run to over £500,000

So, how do you think they have performed? If, like me, you don't think the current Commissioners have always made the best decisions over the past few years, then you will understand why I have chosen to stand for election. I am not content to simply sit back and complain that things aren't going right.

If elected, I promise to always work to protect and improve the quality of life in Onchan, to be accountable to everyone in the village and, most importantly, to listen and be honest.

Steve Babb

Issues I intend to tackle

Rates Increase:-

People managing finances must stick to one simple rule - don't spend more than you have. At the recent requisition meeting, a number of Commissioners explained that the rate increase was necessary because there isn't enough money to cover costs. Yet spending does not appear to be reducing, costs are rising, so what lessons are being learned? People who can least afford it are being asked to pay for the financial mismanagement of previous years. ***Something has to change - it's time for that change now.***

Reduce unnecessary spending:-

I would look to get greater value for money from investments, in particular ensuring a robust tendering process is used. Onchan would benefit considerably from joining a collective purchasing scheme with other Commissioners, reducing costs through bulk buying and resource sharing.

Improve communication:-

We all benefit from good communication and receiving updates on what is happening within the village. I would encourage local businesses to sponsor a regular village newsletter and expand the Commissioners web services with regular email newsletters and updates on popular social networking sites.

Reduce the environmental impact of the village:-

DOLGE is introducing kerbside recycling later this year. I believe Onchan Commissioners have a duty to do as much as possible to help us all reduce our impact on the environment through schemes such as allotments, composting and rainwater collection. I would welcome advice from groups such as Friends of the Earth and the Wildlife Trust on how to best manage our assets.

Encourage community activities:-

Onchan is a very nice place to live and it is up to all of us to do as much as we can to continue that. I see the role of the Commissioners as pivotal in encouraging and promoting activities that bring the community together. Encouraging local farms and small businesses to sell their produce and services at regular village markets is one example.

Issues I intend to tackle

Improve car parking and traffic management:-

The roads around the village are becoming busier and busier. I would welcome the opportunity to work towards improving traffic management in and around Onchan. I would promote resident parking schemes and look at ways to reduce the number of commercial vehicles parked in residential areas. I would work with local residents, the police and DOT to develop a sensible Onchan traffic management plan.

Much of the traffic that passes through the village is from the North. I would work with Ramsey, Laxey and Lonan Commissioners and central Government to jointly promote traffic reduction schemes such as car sharing and increased use of public transport.

Improve and promote sports facilities:-

As a hockey player and coach, and having represented the Island in a number of sports, I strongly believe in the benefits of sport within a community. I would lobby for the provision of an all weather multi use pitch, encourage and support local sports clubs such as Onchan squash club, Onchan AFC and Onchan Bowls Club and invite MSR to re-present plans for major investment in and around Onchan park.

Manage housing:-

The new development on Johnny Watterson's Lane shows that it is possible to work with private sector firms to deliver mixed public sector and private housing. I believe that we need to carefully manage the growth of the village and to ensure that there is more first time buyer property and public sector housing, particularly single occupancy property and sheltered accommodation.

As the largest single landlord in the village, the Commissioners can demonstrate how to make positive changes to our homes, such as promoting the use of low energy products, improved insulation and investigating solar and wind energy schemes.

VOTE Steve Babb 

A Liberal Vannin Party Candidate
www.liberalvannin.org

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