

David May: Nomination to be a Conservator of Therfield Heath and Greens

As an active member of the local community, I see Therfield Heath and Greens as playing a vital part in the life of Royston and the local villages. Whether you are just wanting to walk and enjoy the scenery or take part in sport, the Heath's management is fundamental to the continued enjoyment by all. Ensuring the balance of all the users of the Heath is critical to improving the state of the Heath as an SSSI and as a focal point for sport and recreation of all types.

With an expanding town, how we meet these pressures is becoming more challenging and I am keen to contribute my time to the development and delivery of a strategy which seeks to balance these needs. The task of moving the SSSI from in places an "Unfavourable" condition to a "Favourable" one is critical to enhance the landscape and improve the biodiversity of the Heath. The availability of sports and leisure facilities for the town is crucial but it is important we develop these on the Heath in a sympathetic way. All these tasks need funding, and I will work with the other Conservators to look at opportunities for funding outside of the existing streams. I am happy to act as a Trustee of The Therfield Regulation Trust.

As Chair of Royston Cricket Club and Therfield and Royston Sports Association (TRAKSA), I have a keen interest in how the Heath and Greens are managed for the benefit of the people of Royston and Therfield. In these roles I have worked hard to improve the facilities at Therfield Recreation ground, which is owned by the Conservators, and to provide a place for the people of the town and surrounding villages to play sport as well as use the area for general recreation.

As a horticulturalist and former Deputy Director of Lincoln Institute for Agrifood Technology, I bring a professional understanding of the land and awareness of potential funding streams from Government. I will look to bring my knowledge and experience to support the Conservators staff and volunteers.