

To all Winchelsea Residents,

Winchelsea - A Separate Parish Council ?

From the outset, we wish to make it absolutely clear, that this is not a criticism, in any way, of Councillor Richard Comotto, in fact the very opposite. We are full of praise for Richard's achievements, the Little Shop, the Post Office and the Community Office - these are all down to him and many others, but Richard was the driving force behind these projects.

What worries us is the reason why residents would support a Winchelsea Parish Council - is it because of Richard's past successes, that the path leading to independence is automatically assumed to be the right one for us as a community?

Should we go it alone. The Town has to find seven people to stand for Council. At the last Parish election, there were six candidates, but no election, because two stood down and one failed to register, Even with our poor maths, that is not seven.

What happens if Richard , once he has achieved his aim, gets another project that interests him more and stands down - or even leaves the Town - is there anyone who has the driving force to take on the Council in his place? It is all very well sitting on the Council, but to take the place of Chairman is a very different kettle of fish - it is a full time job. The Town would then find itself in a very serious position - it would either collapse completely, or it would flounder on in a half hearted way, with Councillors resigning and standing down , rather like the recent Winchelsea Town Plan Steering Committee and Working Groups where over half the Committee members resigned .

We want you to think seriously about this whole situation from all points of view - particularly the manning of a separate Parish Council. If it fails we alone could fall flat on our faces, but as a member of Icklesham Parish Council we do have the support (hopefully), of the other 3 wards.

14th June 2006

The Silent Majority of Winchelsea