

Matt Hartley

I am an architect and resident of Cranbrook since 2003, having previously lived in London. However I have family ties to this district and attended primary school in Tunbridge Wells. I run an architectural practice in Mayfair, designing buildings in the UK and abroad, and employ a diverse and balanced team of people in this office.

My main reason for becoming a Cranbrook parish councillor is to promote high quality sustainable development in the parish, in the interests of its people, both present and future. My architectural knowledge puts me in a good position to make objective assessments of schemes that come forward through the planning process, and I shall demand high standards from developers. The context for new development is a unique and precious medieval town and village set in an exceptional landscape – this heritage must be preserved and enhanced and not harmed or destroyed. As a parish councillor I shall make every possible effort to defend Cranbrook's special qualities for future generations, even if this makes me unpopular with certain vested interests!