



Vision Group for Sidmouth

INSPIRING PROJECTS • GENERATING IDEAS • FOR THE FUTURE

## PRESS RELEASE

START

### **Sidmouth General Election Hustings Update:**

**Conservative Candidate Simon Jupp has cancelled his previously confirmed attendance at the Sidmouth Hustings.**

**The event will be held at All Saints Church Hall in All Saints Road, EX10 8ES on Friday 6th December starting at 7.30pm – with doors open for questions to be pre-submitted from 7.00 pm.**

Mr Jupp's campaign Manager, Dan Hallet had initially responded to the Vision Group's invitation to all candidates with a firm acceptance on 15<sup>th</sup> November: "Simon will definitely attend the event scheduled for Fri 6 Dec at 1900", after which a confirmation and agenda was sent out to all candidates and released to the Press and online.

Hustings Chairman Peter Murphy said "We were rather surprised then when we received a further email on November 24th from Mr Hallet who wrote to say: "

"I have double-booked Simon to attend late night shopping events and canvassing sessions in the constituency. Out of all the planned hustings, regrettably this is the only one he is unable to attend. I hope you understand.

He has already been canvassing and meeting the people of Sidmouth a great deal and will continue to do so throughout the remainder of the campaign trail."

Mr Hallett was invited to reconsider as the event had already been publicised, but replied that Mr Jupp's campaign diary for the 6<sup>th</sup> of December was fully committed:

"Thank you for the email and kind offer of flexibility for Simon participate. Regrettably he is full booked and unable to attend - its both Sidmouth late night shopping and Exmouth Christmas Fayre."

Mr Murphy said "Clearly we are disappointed that, for the first time we won't be fielding all election candidates, but obviously are respectful of Mr Jupp's decision. Mr Hallett has confirmed he will send a statement to be read out live at the Hustings"

The following candidates have confirmed they will attend:

**Peter Faithfull (Independent)**

**Henry Gent (Green Party)**

**Eleanor Rylance (Liberal Democrats)**

**Dan Wilson (Labour Party)**

**Claire Wright (Independent)**

The event will be open to all registered voters in the Sid Valley. All Saints Hall can accommodate approximately 300 people, and there will be a limited number of seats provided.

### **How will the hustings be conducted?**

7.00 pm Hall opens; submission of questions using forms provided.

7.30 Introduction from the Chair, who will introduce each candidate

7.35 Each Candidate will have five minutes to introduce themselves and their campaign.

8.00 Chair will select representative questions from those submitted online or on the door.

9.00 The meeting will draw to a close.

### **Submitting your questions:**

Hustings present an opportunity to find out where candidates stand on issues you care about, and their ability to communicate effectively.

Only questions submitted beforehand can be considered. It would be helpful if you could give your question a topic for reference so that similar questions can be consolidated.

**Online:** Submitted through the contact form on the VGS Website:

[www.visionforsidmouth.org/contact/](http://www.visionforsidmouth.org/contact/)

**At the door:** Forms will be provided with a cutoff time of 7.30pm. Please arrive early if you wish to submit question at the door.

**END**

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Press Liaison Office, Sidmouth Vision Group: [press@visionforsidmouth.org](mailto:press@visionforsidmouth.org)

Tel: 0755 222 4802

### **Additional Information:**

The Hustings will be chaired by Sidmouth resident Peter Murphy, a senior member of the Vision Group, and former member of the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.