

UPTON NEWS

Sir Michael Spicer
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I was so pleased to hear once again of the tremendous success Upton enjoyed in the Heart of England in Bloom competition this year. It really is a great tribute to all those involved with the competition that the town was awarded a gold award again in the large village category, as well as winning the category. The judges cannot fail to have been impressed by the imaginatively themed displays and the way many local residents joined in making the town so colourful over the summer. Such success as this is indicative of how the town continues to thrive.

I share the concern of many residents regarding the future of the High Street public lavatory. Although a reprieve has been granted by the District Council following their decision to close these and other conveniences in the district, it really is unacceptable for such a move to have been considered. Upton is an important tourist location and many people rely on such amenities. I believe one of the basic tasks of a local authority should be to provide public lavatories for the use of residents and visitors alike. I was pleased to be able to write to the Chief Executive of the Council expressing my concern on behalf of local residents and was very impressed by the petition organised by Mary Wilkinson and others against this unwanted move.

It is always good to hear of the initiatives of local groups and their active involvement in the community. Plans to revitalise the area around the abandoned railway embankment, propositions put forward by Upton's Community Pride group, are very welcome. We live in such a beautiful part of the country and I do hope these plans to create a tree-lined walkway through the playing field to the embankment with new planting and sculptures will find favour. I am pleased that this proposal has been in response to the recent town plan questionnaire and that local residents are able to see positive action being taken on the issues and concerns they have raised.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any local or national issue of concern. I can best be contacted by writing to me at the above address or by attending one of my monthly interview sessions at the Memorial Hall in Upton. Details can be found in the local press, by calling 01684 573469 or logging on to my website www.sirmichaelspicer.net

Sir Michael Spicer MP
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