

**RAE LEIGHTON - CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE**  
**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 4<sup>th</sup> June 2009**  
**BLYTHING DIVISION**

**Rae Writes :-**

Dear Electors,

I am proud of the successes achieved by the County Council since a Conservative administration took over control in 2005 after 12 years of joint Lib/Lab profligacy and huge Council Tax rises. The modest increase of 2.45% this year is the result of imaginative and radical changes to the way we conduct our business, and to astute and careful financial management. In March the Audit Commission awarded us '4 Stars' and graded us 'Excellent' and improving for the work of councillors and staff in serving the people of Suffolk.



I strongly believe that local government is about the survival and integrity of our small towns and villages as much as the larger centres of population. In the Blything Division I am pleased to have been able to support many enterprising local initiatives by means of my Locality Budget.

We live in an environmentally sensitive area which needs to be protected from unwarranted development and increasingly, from coastal forces and flooding. At the same time we need to be able to travel safely on well maintained roads with adequate transport systems. We need to have housing that we can afford and employment that is meaningful; we need to have an education system that enables our children to achieve the highest possible standards and lead to the best opportunities.

With your support I want to continue our success after 4th June

Rae Leighton

**About Rae**

Rae Leighton and his wife Elizabeth have lived in Walberswick since 1982. He served in the Army for 33 years commanding his Regiment and an Artillery Group of regiments before becoming a Bursar of a state-maintained boarding school.

He represented the Walberswick and Wenhaston Ward on Suffolk Coastal District Council from 1991 until 2007 on a range of committees and as a Cabinet Member for planning and the environment.

He became a County Councillor representing the Blything Division in 2002. When the Conservatives took control of the Council in 2005 Rae became Assistant to the Portfolio Holder for Childrens' Services. He is now Chairman of the Children, Schools and Young People Scutiny

Committee which monitors and evaluates the decisions taken by the Executive and the Council. He is a member of the Development Control Committee and of the Scrutiny Management Board.

His other responsibilities have included being the Chair of working groups examining the internal reorganisation of the working of the Council and the role of sport and recreation in the health of the County. Living on the North Sea coast he has a great interest in the sea and flood defence issues, being a member of local authorities' Blyth Strategy Group.

As an 'old soldier' and with a serving daughter, Rae is a member of the Suffolk County branch of the Royal British Legion and a supporter of SSAFA.