

## HELEN SIMPSON

I'm a local girl, although from just across the county line – I grew up in Great Bedwyn and went to school at St John's in Marlborough. Since then, I have lived in Hungerford for 29 years.

At 16 I became a full-time apprentice for Roberta hair salon. I left Roberta having gained my City & Guilds and moved to be a customer services adviser in a mail order cosmetic company based here in Hungerford before eventually moving to Hypertec, an IT memory manufacturer, starting in reception then moving into sales and finally marketing. I met my husband Dean whilst working at Hypertec. We have two sons, Alex 20 and Adam 16, who have both attended Hungerford schools. I returned to work part-time at Montague's hair salon, I loved being back in a role that was customer facing. Sadly I was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis a chronic condition that sadly meant I had to retire from hairdressing; as a result I understand the problems faced by other people with a long-term illness.

I have always loved living in Hungerford – we are so lucky to live in a town like this. I joined HTC in May 2016 to give something back to the community.

I had so many mistaken views about HTC; I believe many others still do. I hope to reach people who currently feel (as I did) that they have no voice within the town. I want to be an approachable councillor who cares about the community she lives in. I want to work closely with the HTC team and be as proactive as I can be. Specifically, I'd love to see a cleaner, smarter high street with some free short-stay parking. I'd like more facilities for the younger members of our community. I'd like to engage the whole town more often on important town issues. We also need to make sure our town continues to thrive and grow in this sometimes difficult environment whilst continuing to protect the diverse and unique place we are lucky enough to live in.

Please follow this link to read an interview Helen did for Penny Post – local community online newspaper:

<http://pennypost.org.uk/2017/06/interview-councillor-helen-simpson-deputy-mayor-hungerford/>