

Robert COURTS

A Strong, Effective, Local Voice For
Witney & West Oxfordshire

GENERAL ELECTION: THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER



£102 million extra
for A40 upgrades



£33.9 billion
extra for the NHS
& more money
for every pupil in
every school



20,000 extra
police officers



Conservatives



Dear Resident

It is an honour and a privilege to represent the people of Witney & West Oxfordshire. With your support on 12th December, I will continue to provide the genuinely local representation our area needs and the effective voice in Parliament you deserve.

Nationally, the choice could not be more stark. It is a choice between a moderate Conservative government with aspirational economic policies, or a socialist one which disregards property rights, assaults ambition, and will destroy the economy our public services depend on. A vote for any party other than the Conservatives risks Jeremy Corbyn in 10 Downing Street.

Locally, I am running a positive campaign. I am a genuinely local candidate. My wife is a local primary school governor. We are raising our two young children in Bladon, where we have lived for years. I can be seen all over West Oxfordshire, supporting local causes, listening to and acting on local priorities, all year round - not just at election time.

Above all, I want an end to the division that has disfigured our country over the last few years, to put Brexit behind us with a negotiated deal. All other candidates only promise, in their different ways, ongoing uncertainty and division. I want to move forward; to talk about the things that matter to all of us who live here, such as our local schools, health services and transport.

My offer to you is as a strong, effective, genuinely local candidate, who wants a moderate, compassionate Conservative government to take our country forward.

Robert

Conservative Candidate for Witney & West Oxfordshire



Robert Courts – A strong local voice



◀ A40 SUCCESS

Robert has secured an extra £102 million of government funding for A40 upgrades in the biggest investment in the road for a generation. Delivering on his promise when standing for election in 2017, this investment will ease congestion on the A40 - ending decades of misery for motorists and boosting local business.

▶ RECORD NHS FUNDING BOOST

Working closely with local health bosses and patient groups, Robert has welcomed the record £33.9 billion investment in the NHS. Locally, Robert has brought local councils and health bosses together for the first time to ensure health services are upgraded alongside new homes.



◀ LOCAL RAIL UPGRADES

Robert has delivered significant improvements to local rail services on the Cotswold Line. We now have a new station building at Hanborough, making it a staffed station for the first time in over 50 years – adding to the new world-class trains, car parking and platform extensions already delivered throughout West Oxfordshire.



ce for Witney & West Oxfordshire



◀ BACKING OUR ARMED FORCES

As a strong supporter of the Armed Forces, and a regular visitor to RAF Brize Norton, Robert has quickly gained a reputation in Parliament as an expert speaker on defence – and the leading voice for the RAF in Parliament.

Robert is a leading member of the team campaigning against the spectacle of vexatious historic investigations into our veterans. Robert campaigns tirelessly to protect our veterans and ensure that we protect those who have protected us.



▶ LOCAL COMMUNITY CHAMPION

Robert lives in Bladon with his wife and two young children. His wife is a governor at the local school; Robert has served with the local church for years. The importance of community is therefore deeply ingrained in Robert.

He has supported local community groups and events in all corners of West Oxfordshire - including regularly volunteering himself - and is a champion of the people, charities, environmental groups and businesses that make our community so special.



**It's a hung parliament –
or a Conservative majority.
Your local vote will decide it**



OR

- ☒ Brexit done with a deal
- ☒ £33.9 billion extra for the NHS
- ☒ 20,000 extra police officers
- ☒ More funding for every pupil in every school
- ☒ Ending our contribution to global warming by 2050

- ☒ Vote Lib Dem, get Jeremy Corbyn
- ☒ Five years of arguing about Brexit
- ☒ Propped up by Nicola Sturgeon's SNP
- ☒ Another referendum to break up Britain

Jo Swinson says no to
second Tory alliance

THE HERALD

A Lib Dem-Conservative coalition is not an option.

So your local vote will decide. Another hung parliament – or a Conservative majority.



**£33.9 billion
extra for the NHS**



**20,000 extra police
for safer streets**



**More funding
for every pupil
in every school**



**40 new hospitals
across the country**



**Gigabit broadband
for the whole country**



**£3.6 billion to help
towns invest and
attract new businesses**

Election Communication



Witney

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C64/5463

WITN

Your name and address were obtained from the Register of Electors, provided to me as an election candidate under the Representation of the People Act for the purposes of democratic engagement.

Promoted by Ian Galletley, on behalf of Robert Courts, both at West Oxfordshire Conservative Association, 58-60 High Street, Witney, OX28 6HJ. Printed by Paragon CC, Cheltenham Trade Park, Gloucestershire, GL51 8LZ.

Robert Courts keeps his Witney seat as Conservative win majority



CONSERVATIVE supporters



CONSERVATIVE Robert Courts was re-elected



ROBERT Courts, centre, and his supporters celebrate his victory. Pictures by Ed Nix



LABOUR and Lib Dem supporters

Liam Rice

liam.rice@newsquest.co.uk

ROBERT Courts kept his Conservative seat and stronghold for the Witney constituency in a crushing defeat for Rosa Bolger and the Labour party.

Mr Courts was first elected in the by-election in October 2016, and was then re-elected in the 2017 General Election.

The Witney seat was the only one in the whole of Oxfordshire where only the three long-term major political parties were the ones standing.

The results were announced just after 3am at the Windrush Leisure Centre, following the counting of votes from 89 polling stations in West Oxfordshire.

The number of votes Mr Courts received remained remarkably steady – going from 33,839 in the 2017 General Election to 33,856 this year.

The turnout itself also showed no sign of dramatic change with a 73.5 per cent turnout in this year's election, compared to the 73.6 per cent turnout two years ago.

Upon retaining his position as MP, Mr Courts said: "I remain committed to the issues that matter to local residents."

"It is a massive honour to be voted in the area I love and that is my home."

"Thank you to the people of Witney for returning me again, I'm incredibly honoured to be in this position and will do my best to get out and about and listen to the people of Witney."

"It is a huge honour to make a difference in this town."

Mr Courts was in a jovial mood following his re-election and said he was "looking forward to seeing a bit of [his] young family over Christmas".

He added that he was then looking

forward to getting back to work in the new year.

Mr Courts said he was still committed to tackling the key issues that got him elected – education, health services and transport.

With the national Conservative victory giving the party led by Boris Johnson a big majority in parliament, Mr Courts said: "We now have the ability to move this country forward and end the division."

Mr Courts thanked his parents, wife and children, and his campaign team and volunteers from all parties.

He also paid thanks to the counting staff for their 'smooth running of the evening'.

Ian Galletley, Mr Courts' election agent and a veteran of almost 50 years of elections himself, said: "A seat like this is just a dream for me."

"It's a new experience having always been in marginal seats."

"I'm very much looking forward to working with Robert."

"I'm very impressed by his workrate. I cannot fault his dedication, he's the most conscientious man. He literally knocked on thousands of doors."

On a night when Robert Courts was comfortably re-elected in Witney, the two other candidates were left to reflect on their own campaigns.

Charlotte Hoagland, the prospective Liberal Democrat candidate, spent the night and early hours with her team and husband, Nick.

Mrs Hoagland, who finished behind Mr Courts with 18,679 votes, said: "I'm honoured that the party put their trust in me."

"Seeing my team here is so good, I've got a great team and I'm grateful for the counters' hard work."

Mr Hoagland said: "I'm proud of what she's done to be the strongest Remain candidate."

Meanwhile, Labour candidate Rosa Bolger finished bottom of the trio with 8,770 votes.

Labour fell back behind the Liberal Democrats in Witney following their narrow advantage in 2017 when they had 20.7 per cent of the vote compared to the Lib Dems' 20.4 per cent.

She added: "What's really clear is that it's been a difficult night nationally."

"Unfortunately this election ended up being about Brexit and I'm not sure how we will do that in a Conservative government."

Mrs Bolger also offered her 'huge thanks' to everyone who lent their help at the count.

An election count can be a hectic and frantic setting.

For those who tallied the votes on the eight lengthy tables at the Windrush Leisure Centre in Witney, it was a family affair with parents and children and couples turning out together.

Kayleigh Horne, 33, from Cassington, was there with her mother Moe, 55, and she said: "We've done this before and it's a long day but it's a great way to earn some extra pennies."

"We're not looking forward to a recount however, we'd both like some sleep tonight."

Her mother added: "It's a good life experience and it's really interesting and makes you understand the process a lot better."

Meanwhile, Phil Cox, 48, was there with his partner, Sarah Keane, also 48.

He said: "I work at the council so it's really nice to help out and be involved on the night."

Miss Keane added: "We live locally and it's a good thing to do for the community."

Mr Cox also joked: "We can count so that's always a bonus", whilst insisting the couple were not there on a date night.



CHARLOTTE Hoagland (Lib Dem), Rosa Bolger (Labour) and Robert Courts (Conservative)