

From: Plummer Neil CC
Sent: 03 August 2010 16:50
To: Burden Neil CC
Cc: Cole Richard CC
Subject:

Dear Neil

It is with regret that after 22 years I must sever my links with the Independent Group at Cornwall Council.

12 of these years were as Vice Chairman of the Cornwall Planning Committee and just one year as Chairman but the majority of the group has obviously decided that I am of little use to them as they appeared to want to control the way I voted.

So I must find a niche where I can find the mutual benefits expected of being in a group.

I obviously have to find a progressive group and the obvious choice not linked to a London Based Political Party must be Mebyon Kernow.

Here I will be able to find trust amongst its members, find at least one Committee position of my choice and to be able to vote independently without repercussions of how I vote.

Sadly I have not found this recently in the Independent group and I felt that I was being watched on every aspect of my voting record and certainly suffered the repercussions as a result of the applications at Davidstow and the absolute shambles with the Penzance Isle of Scilly Ferry link.

The latter application and treatment of Members of the Public who were just trying to express their democratic rights and views freely and were criticised for doing so is one which I have never witnessed on such a scale previously for my entire 35 years in local government. As Chairman on the two occasions that this was dealt with I made sure that the meeting was run in an even handed manner and straight down the line so that all members of the public could express their views.

The decision to leave the group was difficult as especially many of my friends had no knowledge that the independent group were plotting against me either especially having been advised by your email to maintain the status quo.

I have now established links with Mebyon Kernow a progressive group and hope that I have something to offer them and the people of Cornwall in the fight for devolution of the powers of decision making to Cornwall.

Dick Cole has graciously invited me to join his group and I have accepted. All contact with the press and the necessary work to achieve a smooth transition of committee seats will be done by him as my new leader.

Regards,

Neil