

Poundstock Packet Extra - June 2010

Message from our local MP, Dan Rogerson

Well, the election is over. I'm delighted that local people have re-elected me to stand up for them in Westminster. It's an absolute honour and a privilege to serve as the Member of Parliament for my own home constituency.

As I went round on the campaign trail, I met so many familiar faces and made many new friends too. Naturally an intensive campaign of that kind is exhausting, but it is also rewarding. I was overwhelmed by the number of people I met whom I'd been able to help over the course of the previous five years. Dealing with individual cases where an MP's intervention can make a difference is one of the most important parts of my job, and I was really touched to see how hard work had some times paid off.

All over North Cornwall from the most rural hamlet to the more urban centres, people came together to support some of my key campaigns to stem the growth of second homes and to reduce Cornish water bills. There was firm support, too, for our plans to reform the tax system nationally, to give a fair deal to people on low and middle incomes by closing loopholes at the top for the very wealthy. Those plans are now set to be put into action by Liberal Democrats in government.

The new government in Westminster is not just a change in some of the faces at the Cabinet table. It is a new *kind* of government, too. I've long argued – along with Liberal Democrat colleagues – that the British political system should be more consensual: it should encourage parties to work together. For decades, we've endured single-party government after single-party government all taking in turns to stop listening to the public, and to make the same mistakes as their predecessors. The new coalition government is controversial. It is uncomfortable, particularly for people like me who've fought Conservatives all their political lives. But if you look at the coalition agreement – as I know many constituents have – you'll see that it is also a big opportunity to build the greener, fairer Britain that I have long believed in. There will be difficulties and disagreements along the way, but I hope you'll agree with me that it is worth working through those to try and get things done.

As ever, I look forward to working with people in Poundstock and the surrounding area – and from across the whole of North Cornwall. My number one job is still to listen to you and stand up for you. I can do that job best when I hear from you, when I know about the successes and the challenges in every community. To those who supported me in the election, thank you. To those I didn't persuade this time, I want everyone to know that I see it as my job to represent the whole constituency and all its residents.

I look forward to working with you over the coming months and years.

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