

## **MINI BIO FOR DUNSFOLD PARISH COUNCIL**

### **JONES Rupert.**

With his wife, Sheila, Rupert has lived in Dunsfold for almost 37 years bringing up their four children in the village. Rupert was first elected a parish councillor in 2015 and was elected Vice Chairman in May 2019. Sheila is currently a Churchwarden.

Rupert is a retired solicitor having worked in the City of London for 43 years specialising in the real estate, planning and environmental law aspects of complex commercial transactions as well as advising charities and high net worth individuals. In June 2019 he completed his year as Master of the City of London Solicitors' Company and President of the City of London Law Society. As a Past Master and current Treasurer he remains actively involved with the Solicitors' Company.

Rupert has a particular interest in planning, having founded in 1988 the planning law practice group at a leading City law firm. He has been a member of the City of London Law Society's Planning and Environmental Law Committee since 1997 including ten years as chairman. Local government is very much in his blood: his father was a local government officer for over 50 years including 25 years as town clerk or chief executive.

With the never ceasing development pressures on the village, particularly under the planning policies imposed by Waverley Borough Council, Rupert believes that the status quo is not an option. However, he also believes that the continuing imperative is for the Parish Council to ensure a proper balance between development, including new housing, and protecting and enhancing those aspects which make Dunsfold the very special village it is.

Rupert believes that it is important for parish councillors to be experienced in, and knowledgeable about, the wide range of issues and challenges which the Parish Council will face over the coming four years. If re-elected he will bring his knowledge and experience to the Parish Council for the benefit of our village.

**April 2023**