

9th June 2020

22 Hetherington rd  
Charlton Village  
Shepperton  
Middx

TW17 0SP

Dear Ajaz,

It is with regret that I have to write this letter.

I am resigning as a member of the Conservative Party as of the date of this letter.

The Spelthorne Conservative Assn is no longer an organisation that supports all of its councillors.

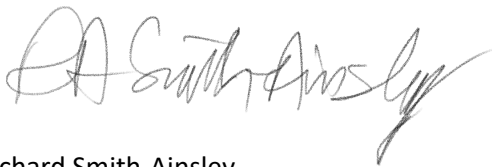
I have been intimidated and bullied by the Assn Chairman who singled me out to be targeted by Association officers in November 2019 regarding a malicious and baseless complaint posted on the web site of an individual who has been declared vexatious by the council. The complaints had been investigated by the council Head of Corporate Governance and had no basis in fact. The determination of the Association Chairman to find some fault with me was shocking and did not result in any fault being found. No complaint had been made to the Association and yet the Chairman decided to suspend me from the Conservative Party. I was only reinstated because the Surrey Chairman instructed the Spelthorne Assn Chairman to do so.

I have represented the Party at Spelthorne Council for some 25 years and was appalled at this treatment by the Assn Chairman.

The Conservative Group at the council has deteriorated rapidly over the past two years with many of the remaining members led by the new Leader of their Group being continually offensive and abusive towards other members of the Group whilst acting outside of the mandatory Rules under which the Group operate.

Despite many complaints about the abusive, intimidatory, bullying behaviour by both the Chairman of the Association, and the the members of the Conservative Group mentioned above, no firm action was taken by the Conservative Party or the CCA to censure and stop the behaviour of those parties.

I am therefore regrettably submitting my resignation as a member of the Conservative Party.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Smith-Ainsley', written in a cursive style.

Cllr Richard Smith-Ainsley

Cc Alfred Friday, Vice President Spelthorne Conservative Assn