

We need a national purpose that inspires us all and brings us all together as a team, energised by the noble goal of **building a happy society in Britain and making the world a better place.** **We are needed.**

That involves hard work, sacrifice and humble learning to understand the forces at play in the world. Then we should get stuck into the job of influencing world affairs for the better with diligent service and courageous, humble challenge of tyrannies. It means understanding China, Russia, the Middle East, the United States, Africa and world trade and then making conscientious decisions to nurture “Common Good” outcomes that benefit us all.

That kind of country will be an inspiring one to be part of. We will feel that we are members together of a single team doing a really important job. During the Second World War Britain was a team united to achieve an important goal – winning the war and saving the world from tyranny. I don't want another war but I do want the team spirit by which that generation served in their various roles.

It would be a great kind of country to grow up in with an interesting and significant life's work ahead of one. Then in old age we could retire, each honoured for our contribution to a noble goal. There's room in such a team for people of various levels of ability and from different ethnic origins and religions. We wouldn't be competing with each other in such a way that some win and some lose. We'd all be able to win together. It's

an essential part of the answer to the scourge of drugs, crime, litter, depression, loneliness. Our nation needs a purpose. If we embrace this vision it will give us a new lease of life.

If elected, I'd try to serve Allens Cross Ward well and spread this wholesome vision.

Dick Rodgers Common Good

I moved here in 1983 to train as a surgeon at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital and later worked at the Children's Hospital. I'm ordained in the Church of England, active locally. I spent some years working for the release of Soviet Labour Camp prisoners and to end a war in Sudan.

Help appreciated. <http://thecommongood.info/dick@rodgers.org.uk> 0121 476 0789 April 2018

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Dick Rodgers Common Good

I am standing for election as Councillor for the new Birmingham ward of Allens Cross

Election Communication: 3rd May 2018 Birmingham City Council
Election in Allens Cross Ward, Promoted by Richard Rodgers on behalf of the Common Good party both of 63 Meadow Brook Road Birmingham B31 1ND, Printed by Leafletfrog Ltd Waters Meeting Industrial Estate Units 38-39 Britannia Way Bolton BL2 2HH

I represent a small party called the Common Good. I'm not Labour, Conservative or Liberal Democrat. I want to bring a fresh approach, whilst honouring good work done in the past by other parties.

I'm not for the many or the few but for all of us.

I would try to do the following:

1. Diligent casework to understand and resolve the problems of constituents, being available and responding to enquiries.
2. Promote a clean neighbourhood.
3. Get potholes detected and fixed promptly.
4. A scheme to help people to get to know their neighbours and be nice to each other.
5. Public ownership of the buses.
6. Bus fare 50p.
7. Cheap multi-storey carparks at stations.
8. A coherent mass rapid transit system.
9. Majestic greenhouses with warm climate trees in many parks as a public amenity.
10. New, cheap, safe boating on city lakes.
11. A non-profit regional industrial bank primed with newly created central bank money to foster local industry, infrastructure, interesting jobs and wealth for all - and stop commercial banks from creating money which is why housing is so cripplingly costly.
12. Elected Regional Government, as in all other European Countries, instead of Britain's centralised, forceful way of running the regions from Westminster. Our region would be the same area as that covered recently by the Government Office for the West Midlands, including Stoke, Shrewsbury,

Hereford, Burton and Rugby as well as the WM Combined Authority area.

13. Upgrade the region's transport infrastructure which industry says is a problem causing jams and delays, burdening the WM economy.
14. Truly understand Birmingham's budget.

How will I do all this?

By nosing around the corridors of power and chatting to people. Then:

NHS. Get the NHS back to its original altruism instead of going the way of America's horrible commercial healthcare which bankrupts the sick. Make the Secretary of State fully responsible for the nation's healthcare; at present healthcare is deniable. Divide England into its 9 regions (as in my # 12) each with a "Medical Officer of Health" whose job would be to study the health needs of the region and to provide for them by a non-commercial team effort with everybody being part of the same team not contracted on a complicated commercial basis. Make GPs employed members of this team. Let them concentrate on being doctors, not businessmen.

NHS to cover elderly care. The NHS was founded to relieve people's money worries in the event of illness. The main time you get ill is in old age but care of the elderly is now run by businessmen who want your money and your house leaving no legacy for any children.

No student fees. Education is to grow a wise, skilled population for the *common good*.

Nationalise and electrify the trains, for passengers and for goods. Love the whole system not just HS2 and cut fares right down.

Nationalise utilities – gas, power, water. Nationalise research into how to provide the utilities the nation needs for its life and work.

Dam the Bristol Channel with steel panels held on stanchions, for tidal power generation. If that works, dam the north and south entrances to the Irish Sea (working with the Irish) and generate ample power for both our nations.

Stay in the EU.

The EU is a great idea! It beats killing each other every generation or two which is what Europe did for centuries. How lovely that everyone in Europe can now

settle down in peace and adequate prosperity, can travel and do science together and harmonise our ways of doing and making things. It's a great

project and we as a nation should be part of the team bedding down a lasting peace throughout Europe for all to enjoy even, maybe, Russia!

